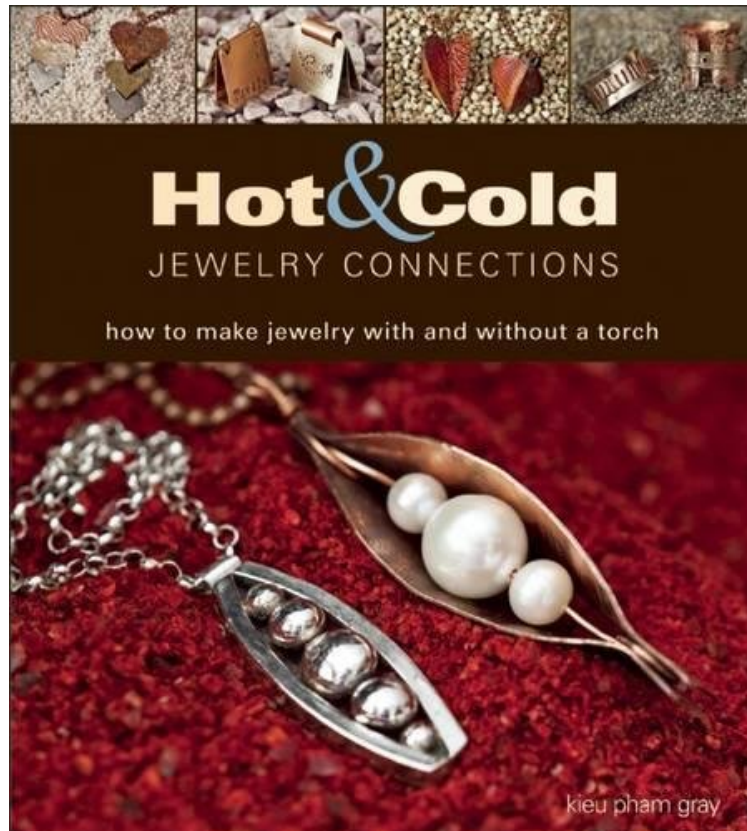


[Download] Hot and Cold Jewelry Connections: How to Make Jewelry With and Without a Torch

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Kieu Pham Gray

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Kieu Pham Gray : Hot and Cold Jewelry Connections: How to Make Jewelry With and Without a Torch

before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hot and Cold Jewelry Connections: How to Make Jewelry With and Without a Torch:

18 of 18 people found the following review helpful. This Book is a Keeper!By WandaNice book. I like that the author has given you the alternative of using a torch or assembling with other methods, such as riveting the metal. Both versions give a nice, finished look. Here, you have the advantage of seeing both hot and cold connections of the same project, before deciding how to proceed with your own project. Great illustrations and directions included. Also a good range of projects. Definitely glad I purchased this!1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. good instruction, encourages flexibility and experimentationBy Sneaky BurritoI'm just teaching myself how to solder with a torch and do some other metal work in my jewelry making. I'm very happy with this book. I learned from my work with another book, "Simple Soldering," that it can be a good idea to make practice squares until you are good with a technique instead of jumping right in. So even though the instructional material in the first part of this book is separate from the projects, I'm OK with that. For example, I have very little experience with riveting. So before jumping right in and making a bracelet or something, I found it beneficial to open this book to the riveting instruction and just tried riveting

some inexpensive copper blanks together -- a great way to practice technique but not mess anything up intended for a completed project. Then when I moved on to the projects, I knew the technique already so I didn't need to keep flipping back. This is a somewhat thin book for a craft book and there is a lot of instructional material at the beginning, so I would likely recommend this most strongly for beginners (maybe people who have done beading and a little wire wrapping but are just starting to get their feet wet with stamping, using dapping blocks, torches, etc.). This includes the standard listing of recommended tools. I like how the author groups this into what is necessary and what is merely nice to have (or perhaps suited to a more advanced metalsmith). She also offers some tips to save money, which is something I don't often see in books like this. It can be expensive to get started with metalworking (trust me, I'm going through that right now) so advice of this sort is appreciated. If you don't already have a torch and solder supplies, you can still get something out of this book, though, and maybe buy a few things on the soldering list at a time until you are ready to jump into that. (I am using a creme brulee torch because I already had it and let's be honest, I have made creme brulee once in the five or six years I've owned the torch. This is a better use for it.) There are also discussions of alternative tools (for example, how to polish without a tumbler), sometimes giving two alternatives instead of just one, so you can really tailor this to your budget and what you already own as well as the volume of stuff you plan to produce. I think the photography is very good. You can see from the cover that the finished pieces are photographed nicely, but I find the instructional photos clear, too. They're somewhat small but not too small for me to interpret with my contact lenses in, and that's saying something (I have a hard time seeing up close with my contacts). I find the print size reasonable as well. The paper is thick and full color and you may find you have to bend the spine to get the book to lay flat while you are working. But most craft books are like this. I found the instructions easy to follow and clearly written and I thought the author's style was approachable. All-in-all, I feel like the book was put together well. As for the projects, I have to say I think the author and I must have similar taste because I love nearly everything in this book. I think the flourish bracelets are amazing. I don't know that I would make them exactly the same way, but I really feel like the author is giving me ideas and techniques that I can then use to go in my own direction. The pod pendants from the cover are also cute. There are not a ton of projects because this is a thin book, but keep in mind that the author has actually written double the number of instructions as there are projects, since she is giving "hot" and "cold" techniques for each one. Some of the adaptations of cold connections to make projects are really clever (I particularly like the way she does the pendulum earrings with a cold connection -- I had fun looking at the picture and trying to figure it out before going on to read the instructions). Do not limit yourself to the materials listed in the example projects. For my part, I decided awhile back just to work with copper and to learn it really well. It is less expensive and widely available in wire, sheet, textured sheet, and pre-cut blank form as well as matching headpins, eyepins, chain, jump rings, and clasps. So instead of silver I might use copper for a piece. I've done a little research on my own so I know about the differences in working with copper versus silver, and I feel perfectly confident in substituting copper for silver anywhere in this book. It works! (For what it's worth, there is some information about pickling in this book. It is a good starting point but you may also want a book specifically about working with copper. There are several good ones out there.) Anyway, I love the projects, I think the instruction is good, I think the photography is great, and I really feel like the author is encouraging flexibility and experimentation, so this was a win for me. 12 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Some like it Hot, Some like it Cold, Everyone making Jewelry likes it WELL DONE!! By K. Kinney While I am not yet into heated connections, this book lets me see the process both ways. I have learned several new techniques and I am encouraged to try hot connections. This book lets me see the best sides of both techniques. I enjoy stretching my ability and acquiring new skills.

Hot and Cold Jewelry Connections is the perfect tool for encouraging jewelry makers to branch out and develop new skills. Kieu Pham Gray's unique approach to metalwork begins with a design concept, then shows how to execute it using either cold connections (riveting, tabbing, wire wrapping), or hot connections (easy soldering with a small butane torch), teaching essential techniques of both along the way. These hot and cold options help jewelry makers understand how to evaluate and choose the right technique for their jewelry pieces based on their desired end result.

About the Author Kieu Pham Gray has been creating jewelry for more than 15 years. Kieu owns and operates two bead stores and also runs urbanbeader.com, an online specialty shop. Kieu teaches a wide range of popular classes at her stores, at the BeadButton Show, and throughout the Midwest and East Coast.