

Chainmail Class: Helm's chain jewelry

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Class fee: \$10

Materials:

- 18 gauge, large aluminum rings
 - 18 gauge, small aluminum rings
 - 18 gauge, small aluminum clasp rings
 - Clasp, earring hooks
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Tools: bring own or use loaner supply

- smooth, needle-nose or cone-nose pliers, 2 pair
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Instructions:

Part 1 - bracelet

1. Close several of the small rings. This can be done all at the beginning, or as you go along.
2. Open a large ring and scoop 4 small rings onto it. Close ring. Double it.
3. Holding the large rings stacked, separate the small rings into pairs on opposite sides.
4. Open a large ring. Weave between the stacked large rings and around a pair of small rings. Note that this is an "orbital" ring and does not go through any other rings. Close.
5. Open a large ring. Weave into one pair of small rings, and scoop two new small rings onto it. Close.
6. Open a large ring. Weave into the same four small rings as step 5, on the other side of the orbital ring from step 4. You now have another stacked pair of large rings, with a pair of small rings on either side.
7. Repeat steps 4 through 6 until the chain is at the desired length, then repeat step 4 once more at each end so that there is a single large ring at either end.
8. Using a small clasp ring, attach one end of the clasp to each end.

Part 2 - earrings

1. Follow the directions as above to start the Helm's weave.
2. Repeat steps 4-6 until you are about to add the fourth stacked pair of large rings. Instead of scooping up two new small rings, connect to the pair of small rings at the starting end.
3. Repeat step 4 to weave the last orbital ring around that starting pair.
4. Use a small clasp ring to attach an earring hook to one of the large pairs. For a more dangly earring, make a simple chain of clasp rings for the attachment.
5. Repeat for the matching earring.