

Sawing Exercise for Metal

In this exercise your mission is to master the sawing out of all elements in the exercise and at the same time respect the integrity of the negative material surrounding the elements. In other words, the negative shapes should be regarded as positive shapes, and all elements regarded as essential to a successful accomplishment of the sawing exercise. This may require you to do this exercise repeatedly until you can produce the final result (see Step 9).

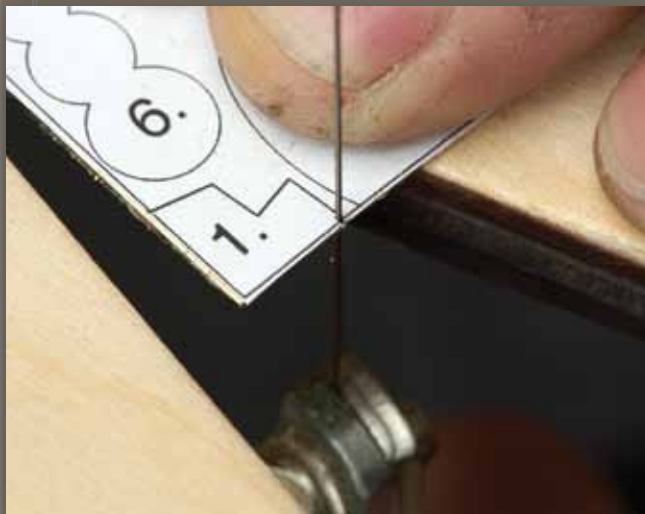
If you follow the numbered progression of shapes in this exercise (as printed on the pattern), they will

lead you through a variety of sawing arcs and angles. Use a no. 52 drill bit to drill holes within the small circle at the tops of Items 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 before you saw those shapes out, and you'll end up with four little charms that could be used in some jewelry application. When you're done, you should be able to fit all of the pieces, which you've precisely cut out, back together to see how good you've gotten in the process.

Want more sawin' practice? Go to thomasmann.com and download the Doggit Sculpture.

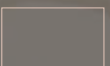
WHAT YOU NEED

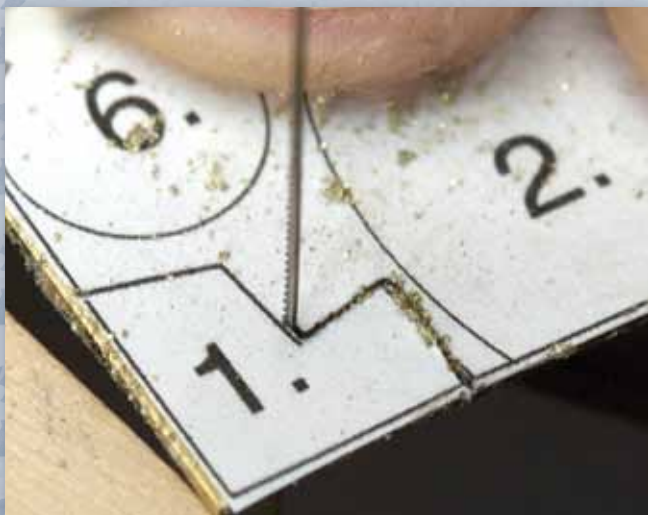
- 20g or 22g brass or bronze metal sheet, 2" x 3" (5cm x 8cm)
- Sawing Exercise for Metal pattern (page 45)
- rubber cement
- jeweler's saw
- 2/0 saw blades
- drill with no. 52 bit



1 Begin by adhering a copy of the pattern to the metal sheet, using rubber cement, and then sawing out shape no. 1. Using the bottom of the blade, place the blade's smooth area against the work face at the line for the shape and draw your frame downward with NO forward pressure. The saw blade will make its own little starting notch. On the next stroke, add a little forward pressure and you'll be Sawin'Where Y'at!

2 Your first corner turn approaches! Remember, the trick to turn a corner is in the slight backward pressure on the blade from the frame and pivoting the saw blade in place as you notch out clearance for the blade to turn into. (See page 24 for more on Turning a Corner.)





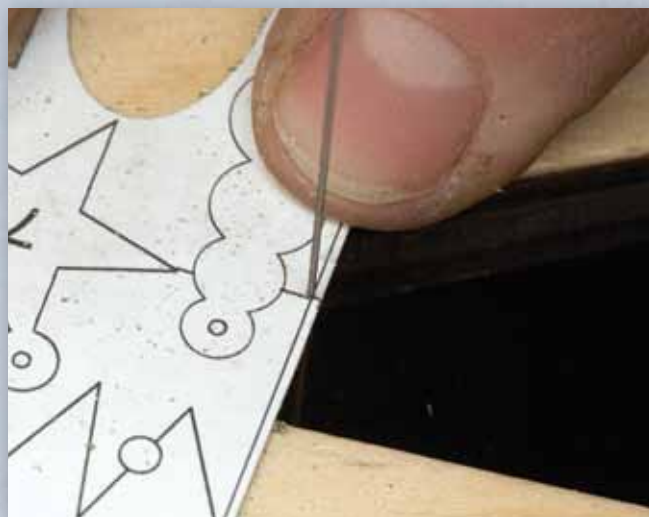
3 Continue through all corners of the shape.



4 Saw out through the edge of the sheet.



5 Continue through shapes number 1–5.



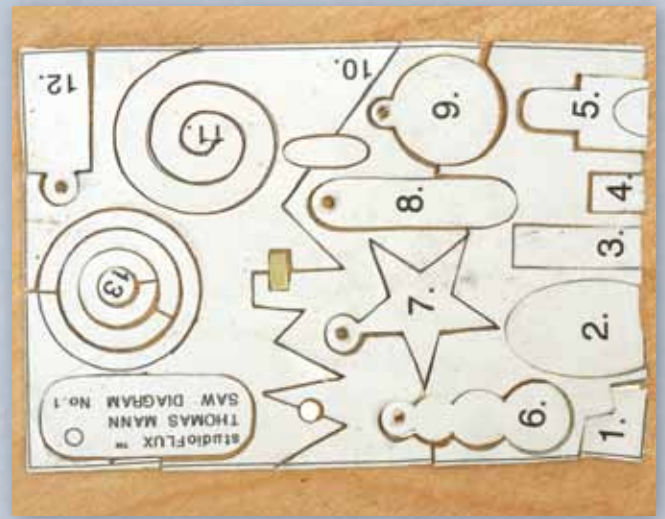
6 Shapes number 6–9 and number 12 are charms. Though it's not pictured here, I recommend that you center punch and drill out the jump ring connection holes at the top of each charm with a no. 52 drill bit before you saw the charms out of the sheet.



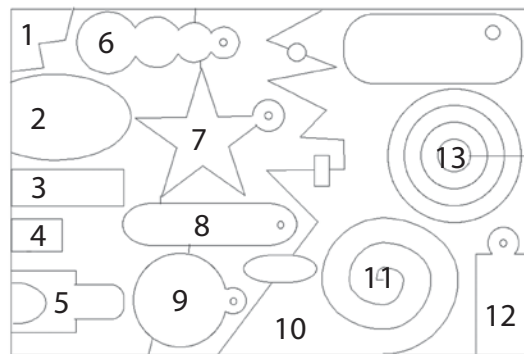
7 Continue sawing out the charm series.



8 If you have been supporting the work face effectively throughout the sawing exercise, all parts—both positive and negative—should be nice and flat.



9 When all of the elements are sawn out, they should fit back together like a jigsaw puzzle. When you can achieve this outcome, you'll be ready to move on to more challenging projects.



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