

Start at home

Metal pendant neckpiece



Image
Tone Vigeland, Norway, born 1938, *Necklace*, from the series *Feathers*, c.1985, Oslo, silver, steel, gold, 35.0 x 14.0 x 0.4 cm; Gift of Truus and Joost Daalder through the Art Gallery of South Australia Foundation 2017, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, Courtesy Tone Vigeland, photo: Grant Hancock.

About the artist

Norwegian jeweller Tone Vigeland was born into a family of artists. Her early work demonstrates the minimal lines characteristic of the Scandinavian style. Scandinavian designers during the twentieth century were efficient with their use of limited materials, and believed that beautiful things could enrich people's lives. Vigeland often employs repetition and repurposes everyday materials, such as nails.

About the work

Necklace, from the *Feathers* series, 1984, is constructed from black iron nails which have been hand-hammered flat. Vigeland explained that flattening the nails gave them 'a lovely character – almost like black feathers...' The hammered nails were then attached to a chain-mail back, allowing them to move and settle organically – like a soft, feathered bird tail.

Be inspired

Necklace from the *Feathers* series is on display in Gallery 8 until March 2019

Materials you need

- Small recycled metal items to use as beads. For example: paperclips, bottle tops or ring pulls, old forks or teaspoons.
- Ribbon or a long shoelace.
- Optional: a hammer and pliers. Ask an adult for help to use these tools.

Create your own work of art

- 1 To create your neckpiece, first look at the form of your recycled metal items. Think about how many items you'd like to use, how you might layer or overlap them, and how you can change the shape.
- 2 Now, bend, twist or flatten the metal items so they look interesting and different. You can try bending or twisting with your hands (be careful of sharp edges). If you have tools, try bending your metal items with pliers, or flattening them with a hammer (remember to ask an adult to help).
- 3 Check the length of your ribbon or shoelace. It needs to be long enough to fit over your head and hang comfortably around your neck, with a bit of extra length at each end to tie it up.
- 4 Plan out your neckpiece by laying your ribbon or shoelace flat and arranging the metal items along the middle. Try out different combinations and spacing until you are happy with your arrangement.
- 5 One by one, thread or tie the metal pieces onto the ribbon or shoelace.
- 6 Adjust the length if you need to and tie the ends together. Try on your wearable art!

We would love to see your work! Ask your parent or carer to post a photo on Instagram and tag the Art Gallery of South Australia. Or you can email your photo to us at public.programs@artgallery.sa.gov.au

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