

Documentation for: (Example) Silver Trichinopoly Chain
Date: March 28, 2005
By: Dyrfinna The Wanderer (Diane Standen)
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		Source(s)		
What? <i>What is this that you created?</i>	Silver Trichinopoly necklace	Figure 1 & Figure 2		
Where? <i>In what part of the world was this thing found/made? Burials?</i>	Throughout Northern Europe in silver hoards and burials	(Stevens)		
When? <i>During what period was this item used? Was it common or unique?</i>	During the Viking Age. Not commonly found compared to other silver jewellery in the same period and location. More labour intense with having to draw the wire down to a small diameter first.	(Fitzhugh), (Bjornsson) & (Stevens)		
Who? <i>Did only the rich use/wear it? Men or Women or both used/wore it?</i>	Has been found in a male grave, but never in a female grave. Most likely only a wealthy man wore it.	(Graham-Campbell) & (Stevens)		
Why? <i>What is the purpose of this thing?</i>	Show wealth and/or hang Thor's hammer and other pendants of significance to the owner.	Figure 1 & 2		
How?	What I did/used	What was done/found in Period	Source(s)	Reason for deviation from Period
Raw Material <i>(Sterling Silver, Silk, Wool, barley, honey, etc.)</i>	24 gauge sterling silver	24, 26, 38 gauge (with several fragments with un documented wire thicknesses.) Analysis on some of the silver indicated the silver content was closest to sterling silver.	(Graham-Campbell)	N/A
Treatments & Preparation <i>(Annealed, washed, spun, dyed, crushed, mixed, etc.)</i>	Half Hardened	Unknown. Silver is work-hardened from being made into chain so analysis will show a varying hardness along length.	None found	Easier to work with half hard wire than dead soft. Fewer kinks to give a much better final product.

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Pattern (<i>number of loops, length, width, height, geometric shape, recipe, etc.</i>)	7 sided, double looped using the Trichinopoly technique	3, 5 and 7 sided. Single, double and triple looped. Trichinopoly and Loop-in-loop technique found in period. Both produce similar final product from a distance, but construction is very different.	(Walton) & Figure 3	
Construction (<i>tools, loom, stitches, piecing, baking, fermenting, etc.</i>)	1/2" Allen/Hex key used to keep working diameter even. Needle nose pliers with cutters to grab short ends of wire and to cut new lengths of wire. Red Oak draw plate to draw the working chain through smaller and smaller holes to get final diameter of chain.	Unknown tools and actual technique. Trichinopoly is the technique known to produce an identical chain. Potential bone drawplate found in grave.	Figure 4, 5, 6 & 7	Wood much cheaper and more familiar with than bone.
What Would You do Differently Next Time?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only do 5 sides as the chain could only be drawn down to 11/32", which is not as narrow as liked.• Use 26-gauge wire instead of 24 for 7-sided chain work.•			

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Figures:

Include any references that add visual clarity to what you have described above. A picture of the final product as well as at various stages through production is always desirable. The more pictures the better!



Figure 1: a silver hoard from 10th Century Denmark, WOV 5059, contained the above necklace made using the Trichinopoly technique (Bjornsson)



Figure 2: Soapstone mould for Thor's hammers and crosses as well as a Trichinopoly chain (Sawyer)



Figure 3: Example of 7 sided Trichinopoly (Stevens)



Figure 4: excavation of the Viking Age harbour at Fröjel on the island of Gotland produced this bone artefact

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Figure 5: Before being drawn the diameter was $5/8$ " and the total woven length was 20.25"



Figure 6: After being drawn the diameter was $11/32$ " and the total woven length was 30.125"



Figure 7: The final product made into a necklace with Thor's hammer pendant purchased from Ragweed Forge

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Appendixes:

Include the step-by-step instructions in an appendix along with other people's reports that contain important information or interpretations.

Appendix A: Step-by-Step instructions on How to do Trichinopoly provided by Danr Bjornsson

Appendix B: Lora-Lynn Stevens Article on Trichinopoly Research