



Learn to Layer

A multi- necklace chain and charm project

Perfect for gift giving (*and* making and keeping!) this lovely grouping of small charm & chain necklaces is an easy, beginner- level project. Each necklace takes barely an hour to make. What might take the most time is getting them all to lay where you want them. That takes a bit of patience and a little time.

Measure First, Cut Later

Begin by deciding on the chain length to hang your first charm. Always start with the shortest necklace. This is the one that frames your face and sets the stage for everything that follows. Get this one right and the rest is easy. The standard length for a short necklace for an average-size woman is 15-17 inches. Here's the process:

1. Hold the charm up to you and look in the mirror. We suggest putting a small dot on your skin with a non-permanent marker. Position it as close as desired near your collar bone. Remember, you are adding two more necklaces with charms, so that requires additional space.
2. Put one end of the tape measure at the dot and wrap it around your neck and back to the dot. Make sure the tape measure is taught. Where the tape measure meets the dot is the total length of your necklace. Jot that number down on a piece of paper.
3. Depending on the design you choose, the clasp ending will add length to your chain and make your necklace longer so you will want to factor the clasp length into that total number of inches you have for your necklace length. This technique is demonstrated in the steps to each charm & chain kit.

General Guidelines for Necklace Lengths

Everyone's measurements and style are personal. What can look great on one person, can look droopy and out of sorts on someone else. That's why looking in the mirror and getting that first charm placement correct is so important.

We recommend you complete the first necklace and try it on *before* you measure and cut for the second. The placement of your charm can change the length of the chain you use for your next necklace. So, get the first layer made and go back to looking in the mirror for the placement of each charm. Repeat measuring with a tape measure and jotting that measurement down for each successive layer.

The clasp you choose will add length to your necklace and needs to be factored in to that number you jotted down (your total chain length). The finished length must include the length of your clasp.

Here are general guidelines for necklace lengths. Remember, factor in the length of your charm before measuring your next necklace.

Chart for Layering:	Small Boned	Medium Boned	Large Boned
Necklace 1:	14-16 inches	15-17 inches	16-18 inches
Necklace 2:	16-18 inches	17-19 inches	18-20 inches
Necklace 3:	18-20 inches	19-21 inches	20-24 inches
Necklace 4*:	32 inches	34-34 inches	40 inches

* Although this is a bit awkward to say, unless you are fairly flat-chested, charms and pendants should hang above or below the nipple line. If you are doing a long Necklace 3 or 4, it works great with a larger charm and a heavier chain.

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If you are making necklaces for gifts and don't have an exact measurement for your recipient, you can add 2 inches of extender chain, like [Circle Back](#), to the necklace at the clasp. This will allow the necklace to be adjusted to what suits them.