

# Jewelry Making for Beginners:

## 11 Beginner Jewelry Projects



***Jewelry Making for Beginners: 11 Beginner Jewelry Projects***  
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### Beginner Wire Wrap Earrings

By: Megan from The Art of Megan

Basic wire wrapping is used in so many jewelry projects, so it's definitely a technique you'll want to master early on if you're serious about learning how to make jewelry. This beginner tutorial is the perfect way to get a little practice in with basic wirework skills while making a pretty pair of classic dangles! Learn how to make your own wire wrapped headpins and eye pins as you create these lovely earrings.



#### Materials:

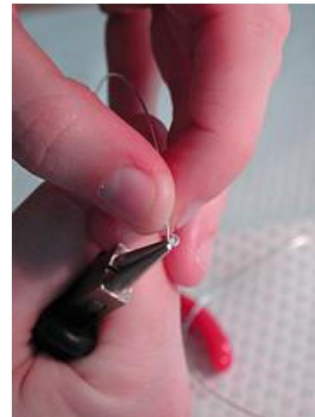
- needle nose pliers
- round nose pliers
- flat nose pliers (optional, but very handy to have)
- wire cutters
- Sterling silver wire (I used 22 gauge half-hard here, but for the most part any gauge and hardness will do, though I suggest not using full-hard.)
- two sets of three complimentary beads
- two earring wires

#### Instructions:

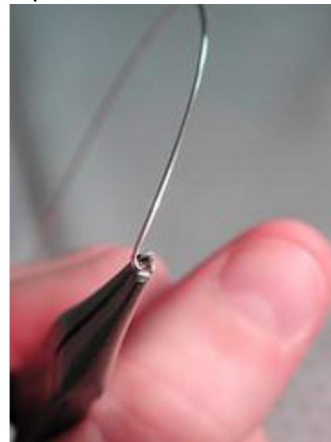
Creating the headpin:

*I'm really big on NOT purchasing headpins when I can make my own for most projects for much less expensive. If you figure you spend an average of 21 cents per 2-inch Sterling silver headpin, you can save around 10 cents per pin by using the same 2 inches of sterling silver wire purchased 5 feet at a time. And that's assuming you use the full two inches of wire, which in most situations, you end up wasting when you use the pre-cut headpins.*

1.) First, create a tiny loop at the very end of your wire.

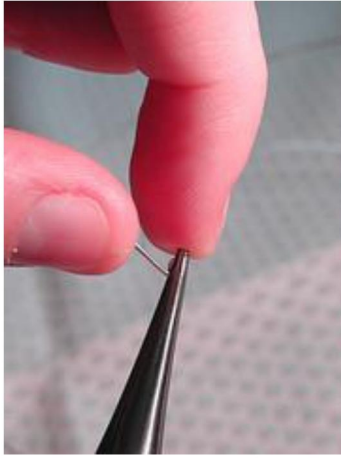


2.) Flatten this loop closed against itself with your needle nose pliers. You may need to start at the bend in the loop and work in towards the end to get it nice and tight. This is going to create the beginning of the spiral base that will be our headpin.

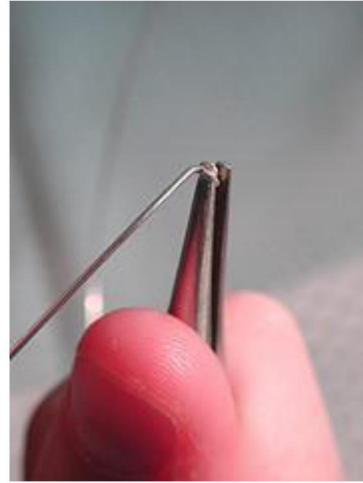


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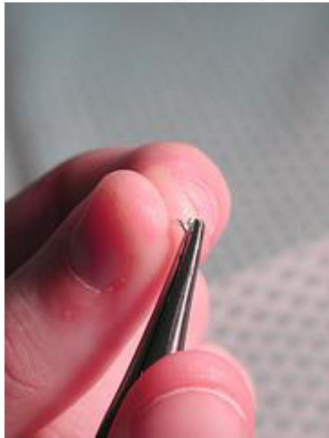
3.) Grasping the flat area of the spiral with your needle nose pliers, continue the wire around until you are on the opposite side of the first end, which is now tucked neatly in the center.



6.) Center the edge of your pliers across the back of the now-folded-over wire and the middle of the spiral. Bend up 90 degrees so the wire is coming up out of the center of the spiral.



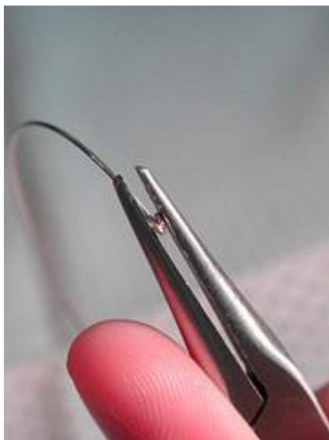
4.) Bring your pliers to the edge of the spiral and bend the wire 90 degrees up from the base.



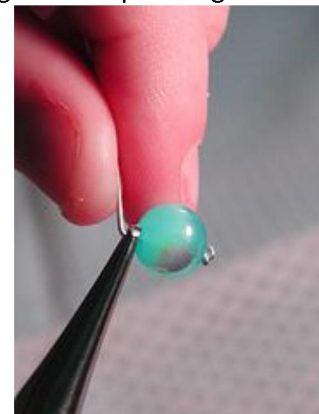
7.) Place your bottom bead onto your newly created headpin.



5.) Flatten the wire across the center back of the spiral by squeezing it over with needle nose pliers.

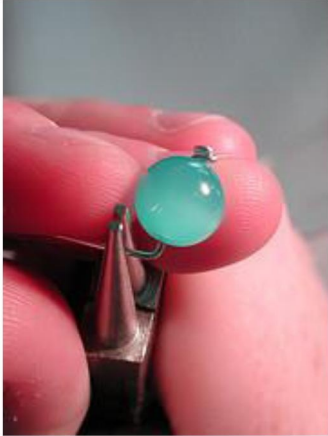


8.) Grasp directly against the bead with your needle nose pliers; then bend the wire 90 degrees against the plier edge.



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9.) Grasp the wire about 1/8th of an inch (or somewhere around 2mm) away from the bend with your round nose pliers.

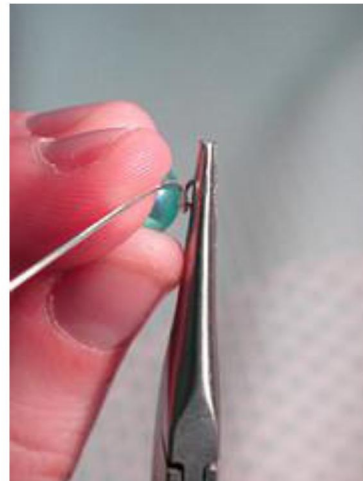


*Note: if you do not want to wrap your loops, this is where you cut your excess wire. However, I prefer the stability of wrapped loops on anything less than 18 gauge wire when working with Sterling silver or gold-filled wire.*

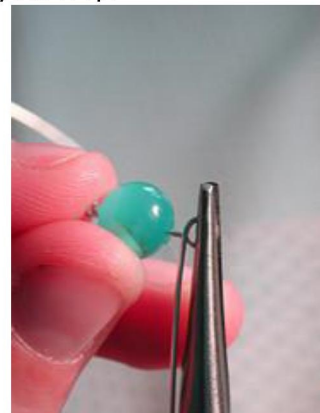
12.) Begin wrapping your loop by bringing your wire around the shank of the eye. If you keep your head and eye pins attached to the mass of your wire while creating them as I do, you can use the remaining length of wire for stability and tension as you wrap your loops.

Coil the wire a few times around, until there is very little space left between your coils and your bead. Be sure to leave a little space to push your wire end into.

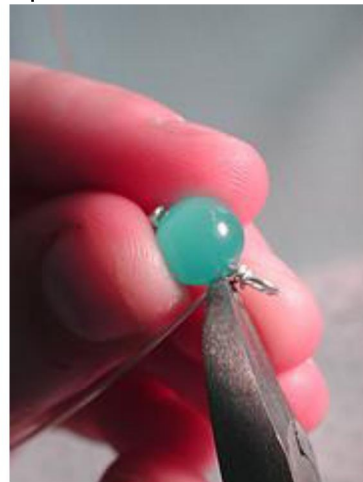
10.) Rotating your wrist toward the bead, begin to create the eye loop. Finish the loop by pushing the bead back toward your pliers.



11.) Hold across the flat part of the eye loop with either your needle or flat nose pliers. This is going to put you in the position to begin wrapping your loop.

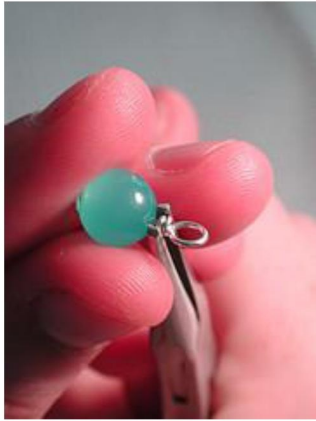


13.) Cut the excess wire from the wrapped coil, pushing the flat back end of the wire as close to the coil as possible.



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14.) Tighten up your wrapped wire by pushing your wire end around and flat against the shank of your head pin with your needle nose pliers. Squeeze the cut end tight, tucking slightly into other wraps to avoid the sharp edge catching on anything.

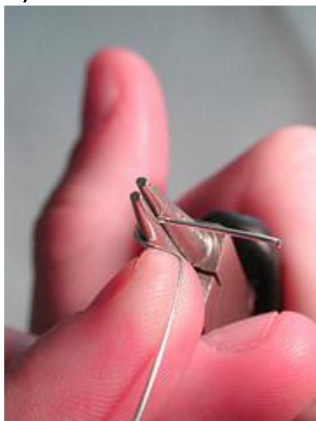


Creating a wrapped eyepin:

15.) Begin by bending your wire 90 degrees, about an inch from the end.



16.) Grasp a small distance from the bend; create your eye loop and wrap loop as before. Cut away any extra wire.



17.) Place your second contrasting bead onto the eyepin, keeping in mind that this will be your next section up from the bottom.

I try to make a variation in shape or color here and have an element that ties the top and bottom two beads together. In this case, I'm using similar blue tones, while keeping the bottom and top beads round. The square bead in the center picks up on these blue tones, but the shape adds interest. However, all in all the design elements are strictly up to you.

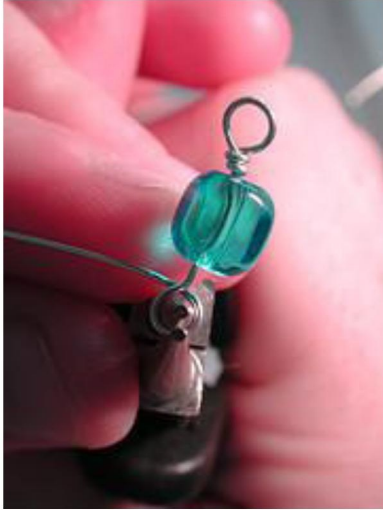


18.) Create a bend next to the bead as before, placing your needle nose pliers directly against the bead and placing a 90 degree bend against the other edge.



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19.) Make an eye loop with your round-nosed pliers, being careful to keep the size of the loops as close to the same as possible. Don't wrap this loop until you attach it to the next link.



20.) Before wrapping your loop, slide your previously wrapped headpin onto the eye. Then, grasp across the flat area of the eye loop, wrap end around shank of eye pin, cut your excess wire, and flatten your end.



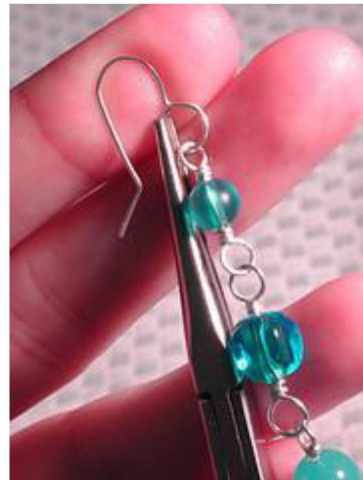
21.) *(Optional)* Continue making links until you're happy with the length of your earring dangle. In this case, I created one more beaded eyepin.



22.) Repeat all steps to make a second identical earring.

23.) Open ear wire loop by twisting loop open, not pulling loop apart. This maintains the original shape of the loop and makes it easier to get a tight closure.

Hang earring body off ear wire loop. Twist loop shut tightly. Repeat for other earring. Wear and enjoy!



### Glass Pearls and Crystals Bracelet

By: AlishaMichelle from Cook, Love, Craft

This pretty pearl bracelet is a classic piece that uses classic jewelry making techniques. By following this tutorial, you'll learn how to make basic bracelets using beading wire and crimp beads. Once you master this project, you can make pretty much any bead bracelet you can think up!



#### Materials:

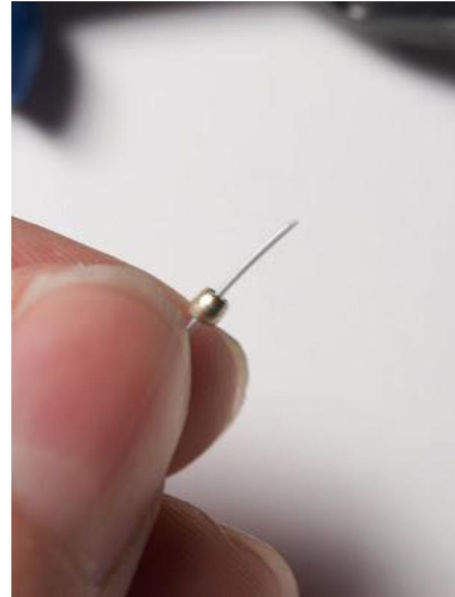
- 8mm-10mm strand of glass pearls
- 15-20 4mm Bicone Swarovski crystal beads (number depends on how long you want your bracelet to be)
- toggle clasp set
- beading wire
- crimp pliers
- crimp beads
- wire cutters



#### Instructions:

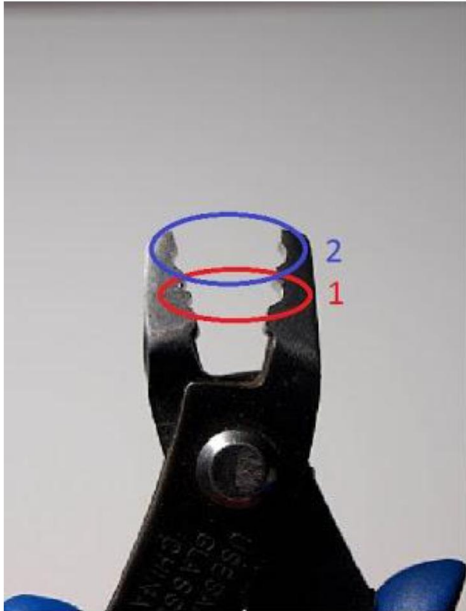
1.) Cut about 9-11 inches of beading wire from spool using cutters. You'll want to have a few extra inches of wire beyond your wrist size. I have really small wrists, less than 7 inches, so I usually cut about 9 inches off. You'll want to do more for larger wrists.

2.) Thread crimp bead through one end of wire. Follow by adding one side of toggle clasp. Thread wire through crimp bead again, making a loop around toggle clasp. See pictures.



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3.) Use crimp pliers (location 1) to secure crimp bead. The crimp bead will look like it has been bent in half. Turn crimp bead 90 degrees and use location 2 to compress crimp bead. This will result in crimp bead folding over on top of itself where the original bend was formed.



4.) Add beads. I did a simple pattern as you can see, but if you want to do something a little more unique, go right ahead. Continue to thread beads on until it fits your wrist. You can check by looping the unfinished bracelet around your wrist to see if it will fit; just be careful to hold onto the unfinished side so the beads don't fall off. Remember that the addition of the rest of the crimp bead will add on a few centimeters.



5.) Okay, this is the most difficult part. When you're done threading your beads, add a crimp bead onto the end, followed by the other piece of the toggle clasp. Just as in step 1, loop around the clasp and back through the crimp bead.

Here's the trick: You don't want to crimp it too tight. If you do, you'll have a couple problems. First of all, your bracelet will be inflexible and a bead might crack or break when you try to wear it. Second of all, you won't be able to tuck the end of your wire into a bead resulting in an unsightly wire sticking out of your bracelet. So, you'll need to leave a little room. I try to leave about 2-3mm between the last bead and where I secure the crimp bead.

6.) Using the steps outlined in step 3, secure the crimp bead with a small amount of space left between last bead and crimp bead. Use cutters to trim wire so that there is about 3mm of wire left. Tuck wire into bead at end of bracelet. This is difficult, but keep trying until you get it in there. If you have a pair of chain nose pliers, you can use them to make this step easier by grabbing the end of the wire and forcing it down into the bead hole.

The photo below shows what it should look like after you trim the wire. Note that it looks as if there is no space between the crimp bead and the crystal bead but there actually is. The beads have just loosened up to fill the whole space, but they are still movable enough to push down and shove the wire into the last crystal bead.



Once the wire is pushed in, you're done!



## Easy Turquoise Bead Necklace

By: Sada from Casa de Lewis

Necklaces don't have to be complicated to make a statement. This simple bead necklace couldn't be easier to make, but it has such an attention-grabbing effect. Learn the basic steps behind replicating this simply chic necklace design, and then make one in all your favorite colors! It's a staple piece that will go with any outfit, and you'll learn some staple jewelry making skills along the way.



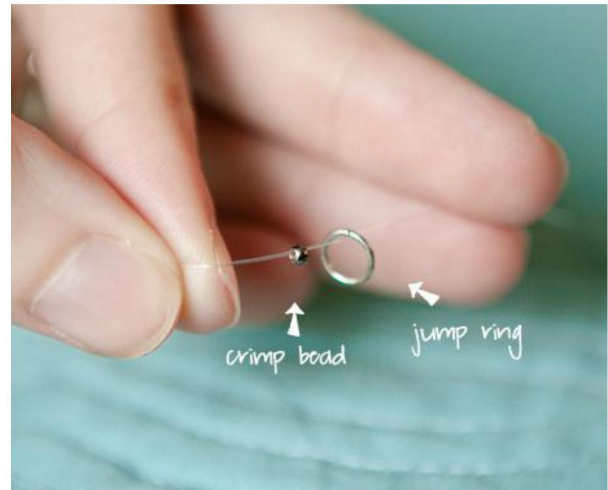
### Materials:

- clear jewelry wire
- teardrop beads (or beads of your choice)
- necklace chain
- crimp beads
- jump rings
- clasp (optional)
- wire cutters
- pliers



### Instructions:

1.) Depending on how many beads you have, cut a length of your jewelry wire. String one jump ring and one crimp bead through the wire as follows:



2.) Then take the end of your wire and loop it over the jump ring and back through your crimp bead.

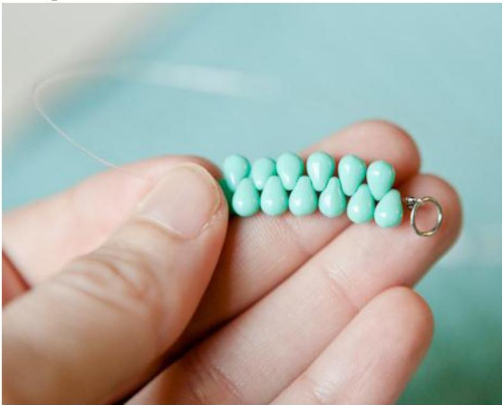


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3.) Take your pliers and clamp the crimp bead shut.



4.) Now start stringing on your beads! Once you have all your beads on the wire, repeat the process of steps 1-3 to close off and secure your beading.



5.) Use your pliers to slightly open the jump ring.

6.) Attach one end of your chain and close the jump ring.



7.) Here is where I just started to wing it. I wanted the length of my necklace to be pretty long so I just played with it while looking in the mirror. Once I decided on the length, I used the wire cutters to cut the chain and I attached that end to the other side of the beads. Since it was long enough to slip over my head easily, I decided to forego adding a lobster claw and just kept it simple!



*Note: For my particular beads, I ended up using a bit of Tacky Glue and a tooth pick and putting a small dab of glue in between each bead so that they wouldn't rotate around.*



### Snake Bead Bracelet

By: [Erin from Thanks, I Made It](#)

Stretch bracelets are some of the easiest both to make and to wear. Simply slip some beads on your stretchy string and slip these pieces on your wrist for instant style. Any beginner beader will have a blast making these. The use of various bead types makes these bracelets so interesting, you'd never guess they took just a few simple steps to make. This tutorial shows how to make designer-inspired pieces for a fraction of the price.



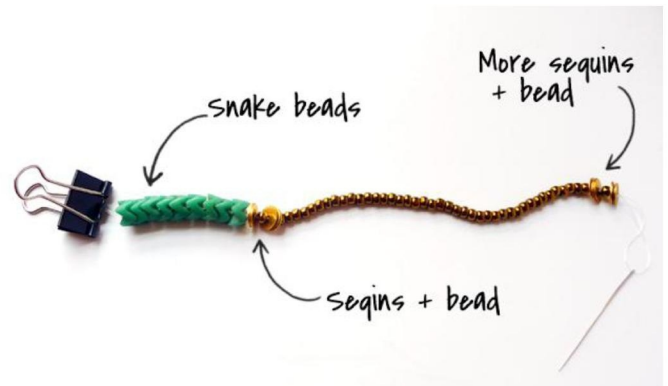
#### Materials:

- stretch beading string, .5mm
- scissors
- binder clip
- small beads/seed beads
- loose flat sequins
- snake beads



#### Instructions:

- 1.) String about 20 inches of the stretch string through the needle, doubling it.
- 2.) Clip the loose ends with the binder clip.
- 3.) Begin stringing on the beads, like pictured below.



- 4.) Unclip the string and carefully tie each end together in a triple knot.



- 5.) Trim the strings-- the knot will be concealed by the snake beads.



### Beaded Hoop Earrings

By: Steph from The Silly Pearl

Making your own hoop earrings is easy, as this handy tutorial will demonstrate. The basic methods used here can be applied to all kinds of hoop earring designs, so feel free to experiment with bead types and styles once you get the steps down. For a variation on dangle earrings, learn how to make hoop earrings with this beginner project.



#### Materials:

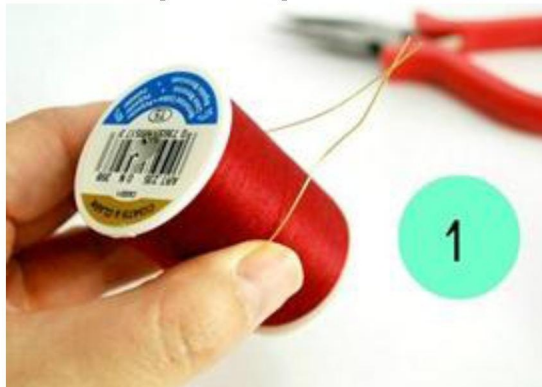
- a variety of beads, depending on the look you're going for (I have a large focal bead in the middle, so I have two of those. Then I have three other types of beads symmetrically strung on either side.)
- two pieces of jewelry wire cut to 6 inches each (I used Beadalon 24-gauge round wire. I would not go any thinner than 26 gauge or thicker than 22 gauge—thin might break with wear, and thick is too hard to work with.)
- a cylindrically shaped object, like a spool (This will be your template for bending the wire into a round shape. The finished diameter of the earrings is about 1.5 inches, so if you want bigger/smaller, then use a bigger/smaller template.)
- a pair of ear wires
- jewelry making tools. (I used flat nose pliers, round nose pliers, and wire cutters.)



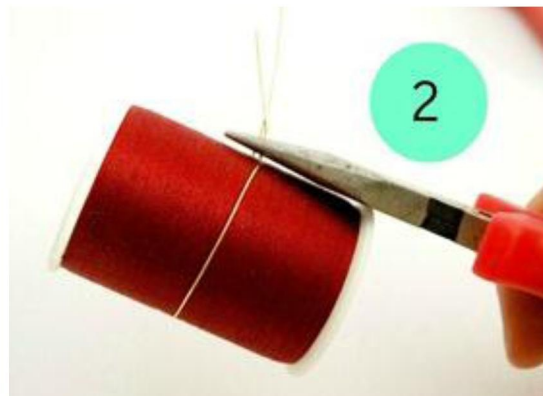
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### Instructions:

1.) To form the hoop, wrap one piece of wire around the spool so that there is an equal amount of length sticking out on each side.



2.) Pinch the wire together so it's the same circumference as the spool. You'll be left with a little less than 1 inch on both ends.



So when you remove the wire from the spool, it will look like this, with two kinks in the wire.



3.) Now it's time to start threading on the beads. By hand, gently straighten one of the kinks enough to allow the beads to thread on. If you're using a focal bead in the middle, thread that on first.

4.) Thread the small beads on one side of the focal bead until there are enough beads to reach the kink.



5.) Repeat the same pattern on the other side, again straightening out the kink a little bit so you are able to thread on the beads.



So when you have all your beads threaded on, it will look like this. For the next few steps, get your round-nose pliers ready...now I'll teach you how to wire wrap, but you'll be wrapping both those end strands (instead of just one strand as usual).



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6.) Grasp both strands with the round-nose pliers.



9.) Wrap the wire under the round-nose pliers. Remove your pliers from the loop and insert only the bottom point of the round-nose pliers into the loop.



7.) Twist your wrist to one side, bending both wires at 90 degrees.



10.) Now start wrapping the ends around the base of the loop to secure the loop. Grasp both ends with flat-nose pliers while you still have the round-nose pliers inside the loop, as described in step 9.



8.) Using your fingers, grab both the ends and loop them around the top of the round-nose pliers.



11.) Wrap the wire around the base of the loop (there should be a teeny length of vertical wire at the base of the loop where you formed the kinks earlier, which is where the wire will wrap around).



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12.) Keep wrapping a few more times until...



13.) You are left with a short length of the wire ends. Next you'll use your wire cutters...



14.) ...to cut off these ends as close to the base of the loop (i.e., where your wrapped wire is) as possible, without snipping anything else!



15.) Then use your flat-nose pliers to flatten and tuck in those ends so you don't have anything scratchy or pointy sticking out.



16.) You can also use the flat-nose pliers to neaten-up the loops, which you want to try to make as uniform as possible, but it doesn't always happen! It's ok...it looks rustic, right?



17.) Repeat for the second earring, and you're done.



## End of the Rainbow Necklace

By: [Divya from Jewels of Sayuri](#)

This playful necklace is as much fun to make as it is to wear. Get some practice with basic stringing and wirework while getting the hang of using your essential jewelry tools. This colorful necklace leaves plenty of room for creativity. Play around with color palettes and add charms for some extra detail if you like!



### Materials:

- rainbow-colored beads (I used wooden beads—two plain and the rest were ridged)
- one gold bead
- one brass head pin
- two brass flower bead caps
- brass wire (16 or 18g)
- brass/gold non-soldered link chain (required length of necklace +2.5 inches)
- jump rings, clasp
- round nose or looping pliers, cutters

### Instructions:

1.) String all your beads onto the wire. Leave around 4cm extra and cut the wire. Make loops at both ends. (I usually work with wire from the spool without cutting). Gently curve the wire with your hands.

2.) Cut the extra 2.5 inches from the chain.

3.) Add a gold bead to the headpin, followed by the flower bead cap. Using your pliers, make a loop. Cut off the extra wire. Before you close the loop, add it to the end of the cut chain from step 2.

4.) Add the second bead cap to the other end of the chain with a jump ring and close. Your dangle charm (AKA pot of gold) is now ready.

5.) Open one loop of the bead strand and put on the gold charm. Add the rest of the chain onto the loop and close. Add the other end of the chain to the other loop.

6.) Add clasp and jump rings (if required) for the closure at the middle of the chain (back) by opening and closing the links of the chain.

**GOLD** at the end of the **RAINBOW** necklace  
*Jewels of Sayuri*



### Shirley's Simple Stretchy Bracelet

By: [Gloria from Domestic Diva](#)

This super simple stretch bracelet pattern was designed for those who want to make jewelry without having to use all those fancy tools, making it perfect for beginners. The most complicated part of this project will be picking out your beads! After that it's all smooth sailing; you can string up this simple design in a matter of 30 minutes or less.



#### Materials:

- four Bead Gallery silver/gold 3/4-inch beads
- 16 Bead Gallery .5-inch flat back beads
- 1mm Stretch Magic Cord
- super glue



#### Instructions:

1.) Cut two pieces of clear stretchy cord 12 inches long. As you can see, the silver/gold beads have four holes in them. Feed one cord through two black beads and then through the top holes of the silver/gold bead. Do the same with the second piece of cord, this time feeding through the bottom holes.



2.) Keep adding until you have 16 black beads on the cords and all four silver/gold beads.

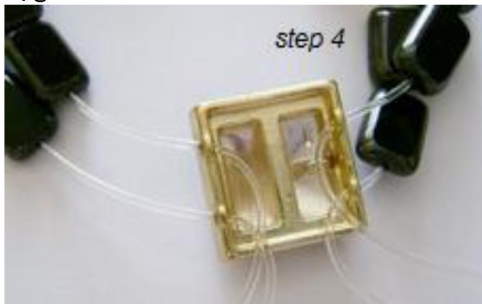


3.) You're ready to finish the bracelet by tying the cords together. But if you tied the cords right now, you'd end up with a visible knot between the last silver/gold bead and the black beads. To prevent that, remove the two cords from the top and bottom end hole in the silver/gold bead as shown below.

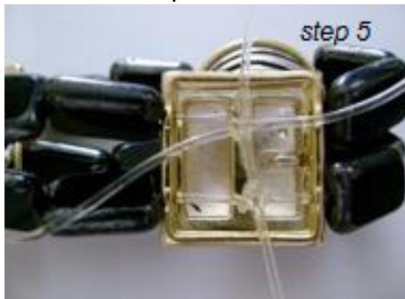


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4.) Feed the two cords from the black beads into the empty holes. When you tie the cords together, the knots will be hidden behind the silver/gold bead.



5.) Tie the top cords together with a double knot. Dot the knot with super glue. Repeat with the bottom cords. Clip off the cord tails.



## Mobius Flower Earrings

By: Marilyn Gardiner

Chainmaille patterns can be a bit intimidating at first, but this earring tutorial is made for beginners. Learn the ropes of weaving jump rings by making these simple yet stunning Mobius earrings. Once you've learned this Japanese 6-in-1 weave technique, you can then carry it over into other chainmaille jewelry designs. It's a classic weave that you'll definitely want to master.



### Materials:

- large jump rings are made from 1mm diameter (18 gauge) round sterling silver wire
  - inside diameter (ID) of the rings is 6 mm
  - quantity: 12 rings
- small jump rings are also made from 1mm (18 gauge) sterling wire with an ID of 4mm
  - quantity: 8 rings
- one pair of earring findings (french wire, post, lever-back, clip on)

### Instructions:

1.) Close one large ring and open five large rings. Open four small rings.

Insert a large ring through the closed large ring and close it. Slide the two rings together so the top of ring #2 lies behind ring #1. Keep holding...



2.) Put ring #3 through the center of the first two rings, close it, and slide it sideways so the top of ring #3 lies behind ring #2.

If you MUST set the cluster down, do it carefully so the order of the rings stays the same. I have been known to drop it on the floor, and I've found that it's faster to start the cluster over from scratch than try to put the rings back in the right order.



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3.) Put ring #4 through the center of the first three rings, close it, and slide it sideways so the top of ring #4 lies behind ring #3.



4.) Follow this pattern to add rings #5 and 6. This completes one Mobius ball or flower.



5.) Insert a small ring through the center of the Mobius ball and close it. (Now the cluster is secure & the rings are locked into position!)



Add a second small ring.

6.) Insert two small rings into the previous small rings. This is the partial segment for one earring. Repeat steps 1-6 to make another segment for the second earring.



7.) Now it's time to join the two segments to the earring findings. Carefully open the loop on an earring finding. (Remember to use two pairs of pliers and open it the same way you would open a jump ring.) Slide the open loop around the two top rings and then gently close it. Finish the second earring the same way.



## Vintage Chandelier Crystal Necklace

By: [Erin from Thanks, I Made It](#)

When you have basic wire-wrapping skills in your bag of tricks, almost anything can become a pendant—even a piece of an old chandelier! This helpful tutorial will show you the fundamental wirework techniques behind creating a simple pendant. Learn this essential skill and soon you'll be turning every plain chain in your jewelry box into a pendant-adorned statement piece.



### Materials:

- crystal
- wire clippers
- round nose pliers (exact type not pictured, I was making do with my dad's tools)
- long gold chain (I went with about 28 inches)
- beading wire



### Instructions:

1.) Clip off any old wire from the crystal.

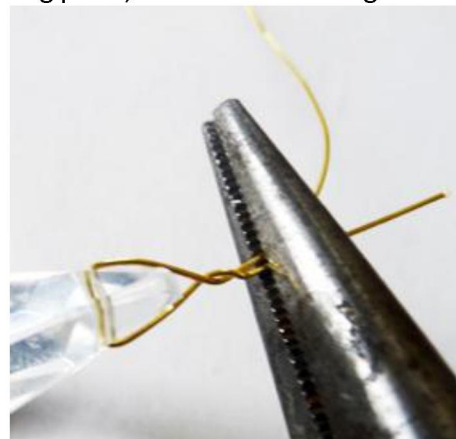


2.) Cut a long piece of beading wire (at least 12 inches).

3.) Slide wire a few inches through the hole in the crystal and bend up both ends of the wire.



4.) Using pliers, twist both wires together.



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5.) Fold short end of wire into loop and twist excess around first twist.



8.) Tuck bent end of wire into the crystal's hole.



6.) Begin wrapping the long end of the wire around the twists and down around the crystal.



9.) Using the pliers, open up one of the end links on the chain. Add pendant and link on other end of chain to the link and close with the pliers, making a continuous chain.



7.) Once you get near the hole in the crystal, clip the wire and bend into a right angle.



## 5-Minute Simple Drop Earrings

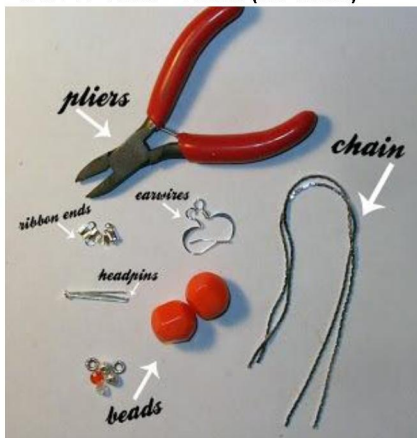
By: [Allison from The Quiet Lion](#)

Once you start making jewelry more often, you might end up with random odds and ends that you don't know what to do with. This earring tutorial is a great way to use up some old scrap supplies you have lying around. These earrings are so easy to make yet turn out so chic that they are sure to give beginner beaders a boost of confidence. Adjust the length of chain to suit your style and make them your own!



### Materials:

- pliers
- four ribbon ends
- earwires
- two headpins
- beads/crystals (whatever you have lying around)
- box or snake chain (no links)



### Instructions:

1.) Cut two equal lengths of chain. Attach ribbon ends to each end, using super glue on the inside of the ribbon ends for extra hold.

3.) Attach an ear wire to each chain.



4.) Arrange beads on your headpins. Make a loop and insert it onto the other end of your chain.



6.) Repeat for second earring. How easy was that?!



## Two-Step Crystal Bracelet

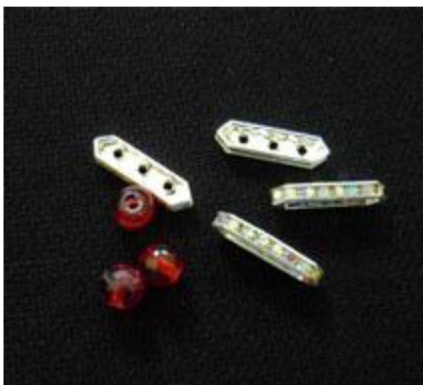
By: [Gloria from Domestic Diva](#)

It doesn't get any easier than a two-step bracelet pattern. String the beads; tie the cord. That's it! This is another beaded stretch bracelet project that takes mere minutes to put together, which makes it great for beginners. Just because it's easy to make doesn't mean it isn't stunning! The double-strand design and slanting Swarovski spacers keep this bracelet interesting.



### Materials:

- 42 round 6mm beads
- 1mm stretchy cord
- super glue
- 14 Swarovski three-hole crystal spacers



### Instructions:

- 1.) Cut two pieces of stretchy cord 3 inches longer than the size bracelet you need.
- 2.) Thread the top bracelet row first. Put the stretchy cord through two beads. Add a spacer to the cord. (You won't be using the holes in the center of the spacers for this project.) Add one bead to the cord, followed by a spacer.



- 3.) Continue adding beads and spacers until you have the length you need for your bracelet.
- 4.) Create the bottom row following the same instructions, but start with one bead instead of two. Follow that with a spacer and two beads, etc.



- 5.) Tie the cord ends of the top row together, closing tightly with three knots. The knot will be hidden in the indent of the spacer. Place a dot of glue on the knot to secure it.
- 6.) Tie the cord ends of the bottom row in the same way.

*Jewelry Making for Beginners: 11 Beginner Jewelry Projects*

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