

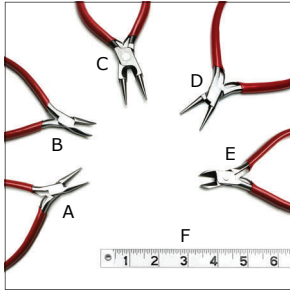
Earring Construction



Skill Level: Beginner
Prerequisite: None

Once you learn how to wire-wrap your first earring, you will be making gifts for all of your friends. Learn the basics of wire-wrapping for earrings.

Ingredients for the Earring Construction



TOOLS NEEDED

- A. Needle-nose chain pliers
- B. Bent-nose chain pliers
- C. Rosary or
- D. Round-nose pliers
- E. Wire cutter
- F. Tape measure (optional)

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

Part 1

- Earring Construction I
- Earring Construction II
- Earring Construction III

Part 2—Technique Review

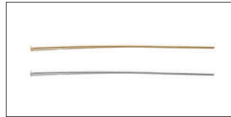
- Learning to Make a Wire-Wrapped Loop



An assortment of interesting beads that fit on head and eye pins



Sterling silver or gold-filled accent and spacer beads



Assorted sterling silver or gold-filled head and eye pins



Assorted sterling silver or gold-filled ear wires



Sterling silver or gold filled earring component if desired



Sterling silver or gold filled chain if desired

Part 1: Earring Construction I



7-Loop Component Earring



Step 1
Slide beads onto pin heads and arrange them in a pattern so the center bead unit is the longest. The number of bead units you need to make depends on your earring component. In our case, we will make seven.



Step 2
Start with the middle bead unit and begin a wire-wrap loop. Open the loop slightly with your needle-nose chain pliers.



Note
If you need help making a wire-wrap loop, refer to page 5 for a technique review.



Step 3
Slide your first bead unit onto your earring component.



Step 4
Grab the opened wire-wrap loop with your needle-nose chain pliers and start wire-wrapping until you have reached the edge of the bead.



Step 5
Snip the excess wire with your wire cutter and tuck the resulting sharp tip with your bent-nose chain pliers.



Step 6
Repeat steps 2-6 for the next bead unit. Continue until you have reached the desired fullness for your earring.



Step 7
Once you have finished the first earring, repeat the same process for the second earring.

Part 1: Earring Construction II



Simple Dangle Earring



Step 1
Slide the beads and spacer beads onto a head pin.



Step 2
Complete a wire-wrap loop. Snip the excess wire with your wire cutter and tuck the resulting sharp tip with your bent-nose chain pliers.



Note
Please refer to page 5 for the wire-wrapping technique review.



Step 3
Grab the loop of your ear wire with a pair of needle-nose chain pliers.



Step 4
Open the loop slightly.



Step 5
Slide in your bead unit onto the ear wire.



Step 6
Let the bead unit hang inside the loop.



Step 7
Close the loop with your needle-nose chain pliers.



Step 8
Once you have finished the first earring, repeat the same process for the second earring.

Part 1: Earring Construction III



Chain Dangle Earring



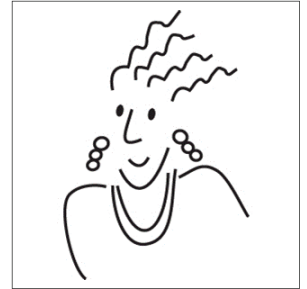
Step 1
Slide the beads and spacer beads onto the head pin.



Step 2
Begin a wire-wrap loop and open it slightly with a pair of pliers. Slide a length of chain into the open loop.



Step 4
Complete a wire-wrap loop. Snip the excess wire with your wire cutter and tuck the resulting sharp tip with your bent-nose chain pliers.



Note
Please refer to page 5 for the wire-wrapping technique review.



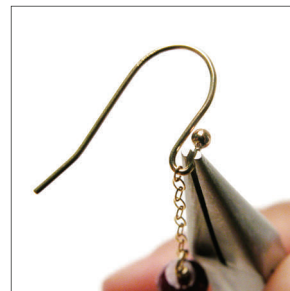
Step 5
Trim off excess chain to reach desire length. Leave about one inch depending on the size of your bead unit.



Step 6
Grab one of your ear wire with a pair of needle-nose chain pliers. Open the loop slightly.



Step 7
Slide the last link of chain from your bead unit into the loop.



Step 8
Close the loop with your needle-nose chain pliers.



Step 9
Once you have finished the first earring, repeat the same process for the second earring.

LEARNING TO MAKE WIRE-WRAPPED LOOPS



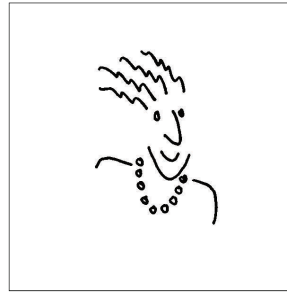
Example of a wire-wrapped loop with two beads and a spacer.

To practice this link, you will need:

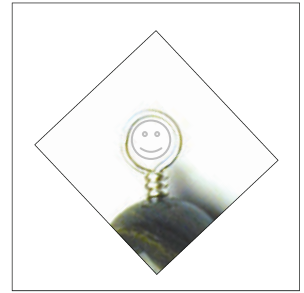
- Bent-nose chain pliers
- Needle-nose chain pliers
- Round-nose pliers or rosary pliers
- Wire cutter

For supplies gather:

- 5" 24-gauge round wire
- 2 Small spacer beads
- 4 8mm Beads



Imagine that the wire-wrapped loop is the head of a little person like me, and the wrap is the scarf.

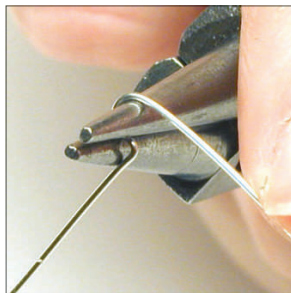


The head and scarf sit on the shoulders of the bead. The first thing you have to do is form my head!



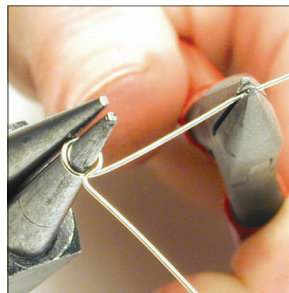
Step 1

- a) Holding the needle-nose chain pliers grab the wire about one inch from the end.
- b) Using your finger, bend the short end of the wire at a right angle.
- c) Switch to rosary pliers.



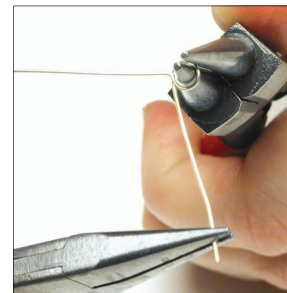
Step 2

- a) Place the tips of the rosary pliers above and below the short wire at the right angle.
- b) Use your finger to begin pushing the short end of the wire over the top plier cone.



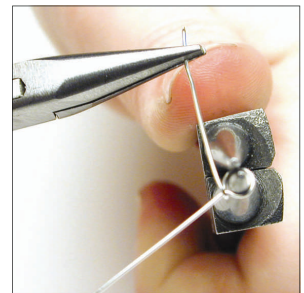
Step 3

- a) Switch the rosary pliers to your non-dominant hand.
- b) Use the needle-nose chain pliers to complete the round loop.



Step 4

Center the loop on top of the long wire.



Step 5

- a) Starting at the base of the loop, begin wrapping the short wire around the long wire.
- b) Complete three full turns of the wire.



Step 6

- a) Using the wire cutters, clip off excess wire.
- b) Using the bent-nose chain pliers, press down the end of the wire so it isn't sharp.



Step 7

Slide beads onto the wire.



Step 8

- a) Use the tip of the needle-nose chain pliers to grab the wire against the bead.
- b) Use your finger to push the wire into a right angle.
- c) Switch to rosary pliers.
- d) Repeat steps 2-4 to complete loop.



Step 9

To link units together, slide one loop into the other.

Don't forget to link wire wraps together before completing the second wire-wrap.



Step 10

- a) Hold the loops steady with the needle-nose chain pliers.
- b) Starting at the bottom of the loop, begin wrapping the short wire around the long wire.
- c) Continue wrapping until you've reached the bead.
- d) Repeat step 6.