

Simple Loop - Beginning Jewelry

Making a Simple Loop

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::: Materials :::

- Headpins, precious metal
- Headpins, plated
- Wire, Sterling Silver-Filled, round
- Eyepins
- Round-nose pliers
- Bent-nose pliers
- Side-cutting pliers

STEP 1



Using round-nose pliers, grip the wire above the last bead added in your design or about 3/8-inch down from the end of a length of wire. Bend the wire to a 90-degree angle.

Forming the first loop:

STEP 2



Grip the tip of the wire with the end of the round-nose pliers, leaving very little wire peeking through the barrels of the pliers.

STEP 3



Rotate your wrist away from your body, while using the tip of your thumb on the other hand to push on the wire below the pliers, forming a loop. *The placement of your thumb will help keep the angle sharp and the loop circular.* Turn the wire into a loop.

STEP 4



If necessary, adjust the loop so it is centered.

Forming the second loop:

STEP 1



Slide bead(s) onto your created eyepin from step 4.

STEP 2



Using your bent-nose or chain-nose pliers, bend the wire to form a right angle as close to the bead as possible.

STEP 3



Using side cutter pliers or the cutting part of your rosary pliers, remove any excess wire, leaving approximately 1/4-inch of wire.

STEP 4



Examine the tips of your round-nose or rosary pliers. Find the area that is approximately 1/8-inch away from the end. Depending on how fine or thick of a point your round-nose or rosary pliers have, you might need to adjust the distance in order to achieve the same size loop.

STEP 5



Grab the very end of the wire at a point approximately 1/8-inch down from the tip of your round-nose or rosary pliers.

STEP 6



Roll the wire around the tip of the round-nose or rosary pliers to form a complete circle centered over the wire stem.

STEP 7



To open or close a loop, using your bent-nose or chain-nose pliers, gently lift the loop up from the closed side making a small space to insert your next loop. Do not pull the loop straight out or the round shape will be distorted.

STEP 8



Insert another loop or earwire. Close the loop back to its closed position using your bent-nose or chain-nose pliers.

STEP 9



To make sure the tip of the wire forms a secure loop, use your bent-nose or chain-nose pliers and gently squeeze the loop to ensure it is securely closed. Or if you have them, you can use a pair of loop-closing pliers. This ensures the loops won't separate while you're wearing your design.

Helpful hint: to make the piece look more finished, make your loop so it closes on the same side as your original loop when using eyepins.

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