

# Basic Beading Techniques

## Making a Simple Loop

A simple loop can be opened and closed to allow it to be attached or detached as desired.

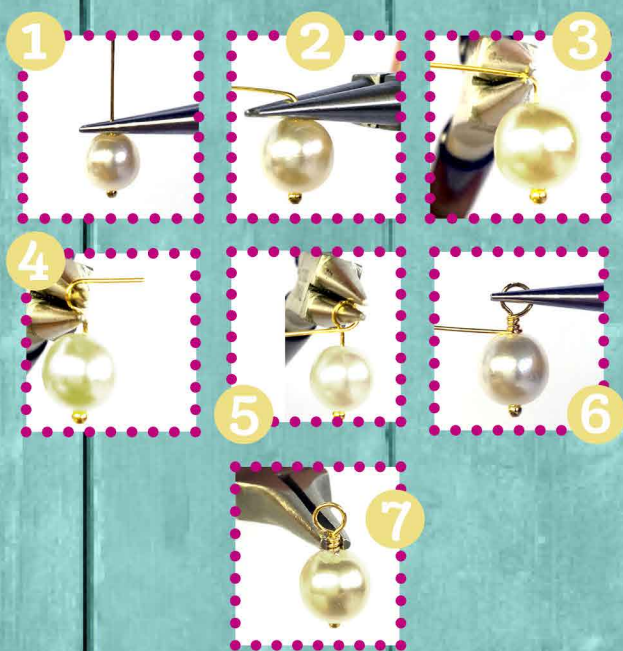
1. Thread a bead onto a head or eye pin. Leaving about 1cm of the pin above the bead, cut off the excess.
2. Bend the pin at a right angle above the bead.
3. Using a round nose pliers, grab the wire tip. Roll the wire to form a partial circle. Release the wire and reposition the pliers in the loop.
4. Continue rolling until the wire tip meets the top of the bead.



## Making a Wrapped Loop

This style of loop is the most secure. The only way to remove this loop is to cut it off.

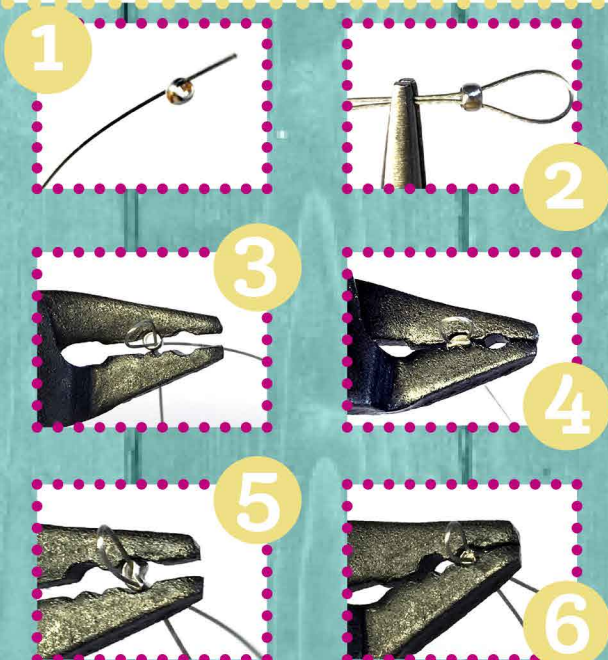
1. Thread a bead onto a head or eye pin. Grip the wire with the round nose pliers right above the bead.
2. Bend the wire above the pliers to a right angle.
3. Move the pliers and place it at the bend.
4. Taking the wire end, wrap the wire tightly around the round nose until you make a complete loop.
5. Using a chain nose plier to hold the loop securely, wrap the wire around the neck of the loop until it meets the top of the bead.
6. Cut off any excess wire, making sure that the flat side of the cutter is facing the wire coil.
7. Using the chain nose plier, push the cut end of the wire into the coil.



## Using Crimp Beads

If crimps are done properly they will provide a strong and secure hold for any type of stringing material.

1. Feed the stringing material into the crimp (1a) and create a loop by threading it back into the crimp bead (1b).
2. Hold the crimp bead in the crimping pliers on the hole that has a round side opposite a "w" shape.
3. Make sure that the bead is sitting straight before closing the pliers. If this is not done properly, the crimp will not close correctly. Press the pliers to squeeze the crimp close.
4. Move the curved crimp bead to the other hole in the pliers that have the two rounded sides. Turn the c-shaped crimp bead so that it is facing the ends of the crimp pliers.
5. Press the pliers tightly. This will push the curved ends of the crimp bead together securing the stringing material.



## Adding a Crimp Cover

Covering crimp beads with crimp covers will give your work a more professional looking finish.

1. Place the crimped bead into a crimp cover. Taking a chain nose pliers, carefully grasp the crimp cover on either side of the opening.
2. Gently press the crimp bead cover, making sure that it completely closes with the sides together.



## Opening and Closing a Jump Ring

It is important to know how to open and close jump rings properly to make sure that they are closed securely. You will need two pairs of pliers with flat jaws.

1. Hold the jump ring with a pair of pliers on either side making sure that the opening is centred at the top.
2. Move one pair of pliers towards you and the other one away. This will keep the jump ring round in shape. Reverse the action to close the ring.

**Note:** If you find that your pliers mar the jump rings, wrap a bit of masking or painters tape around the plier ends.

