

The Arts Link Us All Together

HIDDEN BEAUTY DESIGNS

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This tutorial will help you make the earrings featured. Yours may not come out exactly like mine, but rest assured I never get the same results each time either. Wire made jewelry has a way of taking on a life of their own. Like our children, all we can do is guide them down the right path and hope things turn out as planned.



Necessary disclaimer

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As with all jewelry artists, if you learned something from me, a simple thank you or letting people know you learned the technique from this tutorial is a great ego booster and good karma.

What you will need

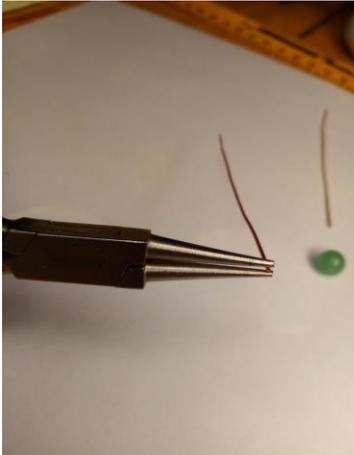
- 2–4-inch pieces of 20 gauge round copper wire, half hard (*cut 2 more at 3 inches each if you are going to make ear hooks. 21 gauge is preferred*) (*silver is optional*)
- 2- 8mm round beads. Can be gemstone, glass, plastic, it's up to you.
- 2 accent beads optional. Can be metal or stone, your choice
- 2 ear hooks (if you don't have any, I have a section that shows you how to make them at the end of this tutorial.)
- Needle nose pliers
- flat nose pliers
- wire cutters



To make ear hooks

- 2- 3 inch 21 or 20 gauge round copper pieces
- bail maker (*optional*)
- Jewelry hammer and block (*optional*)
- Metal File



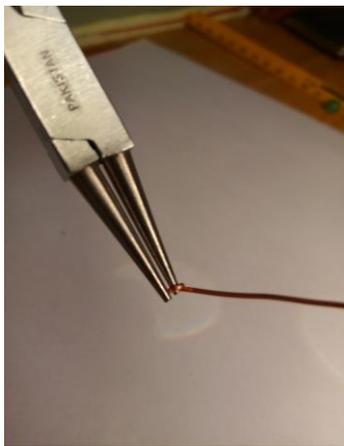


STEP 1

First thing is to cut 2 wires at 4 inches in length. Work on both earrings at the same time to make sure they stay looking as identical as possible.

Next is to place the very tip of one end of the wire at the tip of your needle nose pliers. This is the part that is top of the bead

You need to straighten them out to look like a eye hook as seen below



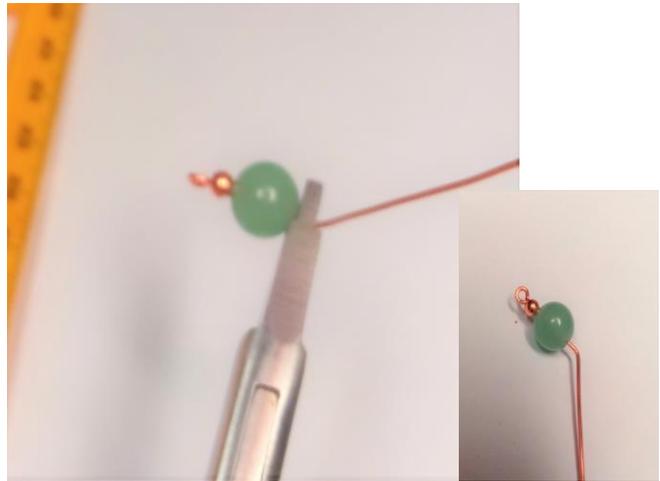
STEP 2

If you are going to add an accent bead to the top of your focal bead' add that now followed by your focal bead.



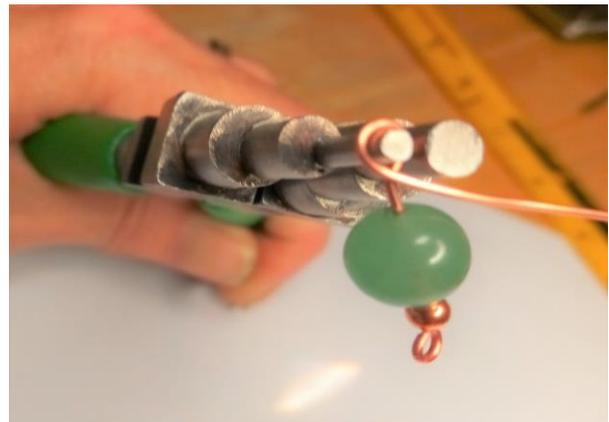
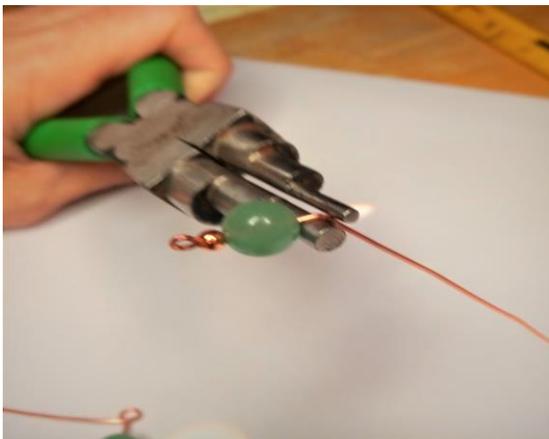
STEP 3

Next is to add the top loop by taking your flat nose pliers and hold the wire about 1/8 of an inch from the bead and bend the wire at approximately a 45° degree angle.



STEP 4

In this step I use my bail maker to ensure both earrings have identical loops at the bottom. You can use needle nose pliers. Place the pliers on the bend as seen in the photos, Bend the wire all the way around. You'll need to adjust your pliers in order to complete the loop. Bring the wire straight across.



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P 5**



Wrap the wire around 2 times. Stop when the wire is even with your loop. Then turn the earring so the wire is now at the bottom.



STEP 6

Have a firm grip on your bead and shape the wire around it. About a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch past the center point, begin to swoop the wire upward. Give it a little push, very lightly, downward to give it a pot-belly effect if you want. Then gently pull the top part of the wire up and back the other way so it's even with the loop. Or as close to it as possible.



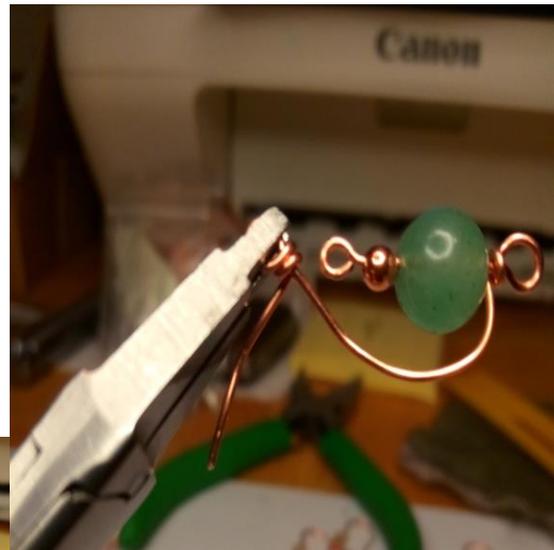
STEP 7

Take your flat nose pliers just above the bend in the wire then with your needle nose

make a loop as if you were making an eye hook. Same method as the loops on the bead.



Finish by wrapping the wire around 2 times then cut it. Using your flat nose pliers, make sure to tuck the cut end in.



STEP 8



You might need to do a little adjusting to straighten them up a little but now they are ready for ear hooks.

Look below for a short tutorial on how to make ear hooks for these.

I hope this tutorial has helped you make these earrings. They are a simple design with so many different possibilities, See a photo below of a few I have done while making this tutorial.



BONUS EAR HOOK MAKING SECTION

- You need needle nose pliers
- Flat Nose pliers
- Bail maker (*optional*)
- 2- 2.5 inch 21 gauge half hard copper wire
- file



First thing, if you don't have 21-gauge wire, 20 gauge is fine. If dead soft is all you have, remember to hammer the curved part very gently.

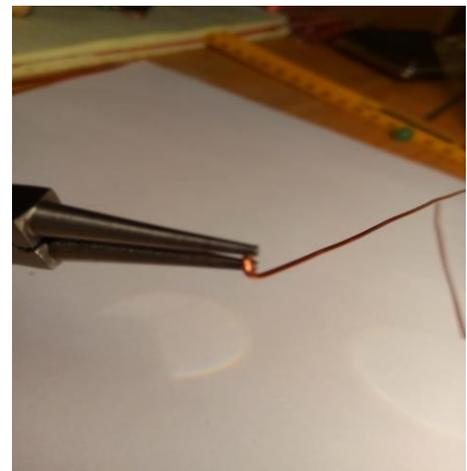


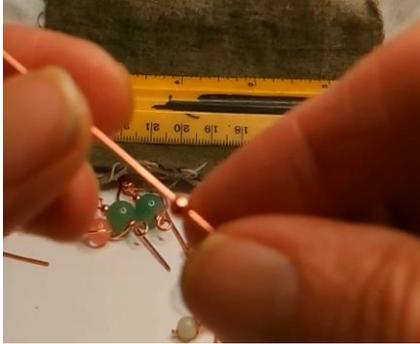
Cut 2 pieces of wire at 2.5 inches long. Take your file and smooth the burrs and sharp spots down so the tip is smooth when you touch it to your ear.



Next step is to loop one end as if you were making an eye hook.

Bend the eye out so they are nice and straight.



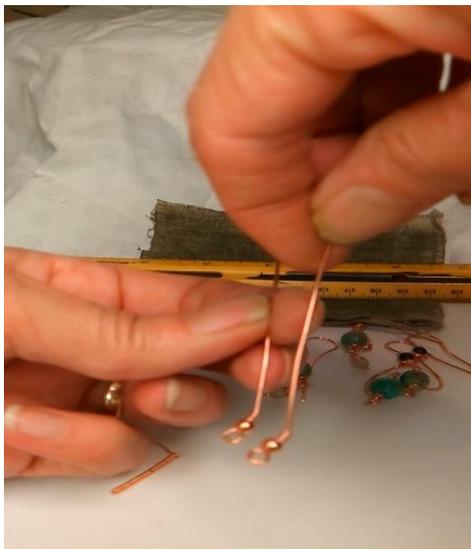


Add a small bead and bring it all the way to the end of the hook. To the loop.

Coil some 26-gauge wire around a piece of 20 gauge wire about 10-12 times. This is optional. The coil is a typical part of ear hook



decoration.



Now place your flat nose pliers against the top of a coil and bend the wire so it looks like a hockey stick.

Be sure the opening of the loop is facing outward (upward) so it's easier to add your earring to the hook.

I'm using a bail maker because it has the size I'm looking for in the loop and keeps all my ear hooks uniform in size.

Place the wire so the bent side is facing away from you. Take the wire and wrap it all the way around to the other side until you touch the bead



Slowly slide your hook off the tool. There it is.

To open it and add decoration (earring), use your flay nose pliers and gently bend the opening in one direction. **DO NOT STRETCH IT TO OPEN.** They don't go back together as easy.



Thank you very much for your purchase! I really hope this tutorial helps you make amazing earrings for yourself and friends. Remember, all sales are to help support live music inside Second Life and around the world! Look us up and see how at MJ's Blues or visit our venue in-world at SecondLife.com

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