

Jewelry Making

By: Second Grade Student

I chose this topic because I wanted to tell you how to make a bracelet. My aunt got me a jewelry making set for Christmas. This present got me really interested in jewelry making. I've learned so much about it since I got the jewelry making set. Bracelets are my favorite to make. They are easy to make and fun to do. There are a few tools you will need in order to make a bracelet. I will talk about a few below. I will also talk about what type of wire you need, types of beads and what clasps you need, too.

1. What tools do I need?

- **Bead board**

Once you get started you need to know what size to make and how many beads you'll need. So you are going to need a bead board. The bead board shows different sizes, lengths, and how many beads you need. There are grooves in the bead board. The grooves make it much easier to make the bracelet and it keeps the beads in place so they don't roll around. The bead board is a very important tool for making jewelry.

- **Pliers**

Small pliers are great tools for some jewelry projects. You may need a round-nose pliers for forming loops. Also, a needle-nose pliers that is flat on the inside can be used for flattening crimps, opening and closing jump rings, and attaching rings.

- **Wire Cutters**

One tool I think is very useful is the wire cutters. Wire can be hard to cut with a scissors. A wire cutter is able to cut many different types of wire easily. Some jewelry pliers have built in wire cutters.

2. What size should it be and what beads should I use?

- **Size**

Well it depends on how big your wrist is or how long you want the necklace to hang. A bead board will help you figure out the size and how many beads you will need.

- **Beads**

Beads are my favorite part of making jewelry. There are so many different types, sizes, and colors. Some beads are made out of glass, metal, plastic, wood or even crystal. There are many different shapes like little round beads, novelty beads, barrel, and flower beads. Get creative with the beads you choose and make each piece unique.

3. How do you put the jewelry together?

- **Wire**

Nylon-coated wire is made up of fine threads of wire covered by a layer of nylon. It is good for sharp or heavy beads because it won't fray. It is often called tiger tail wire. Memory wire holds its shape. This is a good choice for making bracelets. Some brands are more flexible and less prone to kinking than others.

- **Clasps**

When making a bracelet or necklace you will need to attach a clasp to hold it together. There are several different types of clasps to choose from. Spring-ring clasps are usually used on necklaces. Toggle clasps work great on bracelets and are really easy to use. My favorite is the barrel clasp because I like to twist it together and it stays together really good.

That is how I learned how to make a bracelet. What I thought was most interesting was all the different beads. I also learned that you need many tools. I hope you learned as much as I did and you'll try making a piece of jewelry, too.

Thank you!

List of Resources

1. 20 – Minute Crafts Beading, Katherine Stull
2. Cool Beaded Jewelry, Pam Scheunemann
3. Beading: Bracelets, Barrettes, and Beyond, Thiranut Boonyadhistan
4. [google.com/images/jewelry](https://www.google.com/images/jewelry)