

Solid Heart

By Linda Jones

This scrunched heart design is a bold fashion statement and can also look beautiful created as a decoration suspended from a ribbon.

For further project ideas why not purchase [How To Make Hammered Wire Jewellery](#) By Linda Jones.



Level of
design:
Intermediate

Step 1

Creating the frames

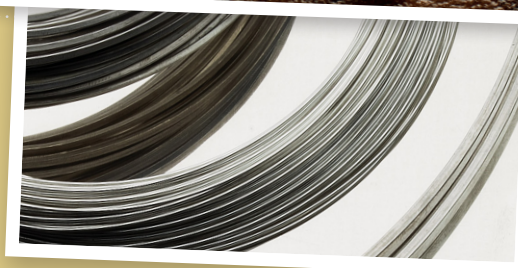
You need to create two different-sized heart frames. Cut 20.5cm (8in) of the 0.8mm wire for the inner one and 25.5cm (10in) for the outer. Find the centre of each wire and fold it, pinching at the centre point with your flat-nosed pliers.



Step 2

Making the heart

Use the circular mandrels to create the heart curves. Don't forget to use the smaller one for the shorter wire. Then, bring the wire round the mandrel twice to create the two lobes of the heart.



What you'll need:

0.4mm Gold Round Wire	HAA 040
0.8mm Gold Wire	HAA 080
0.8mm Silver Wire	HSA 080
Copper Wire	860 242
6.5mm Gold Bead	N2Q 105G
9ct Gold Loose Chain	WBT C00
9ct Yellow Gold Ring And Bar Claps	NBF B03
Round, Flat and Chain Nose Pliers	999 697, 999 696 999 3050
Wire Cutters	999 679
2 Sizes of Circular Mandrel	999 805
Jobbing Hammer and Steel Block	999 89P 999 795

Step 3

And twist!

Bring the ends of the wire together and twist them to secure them, creating the point of the frame. Do not cut the wire off yet.



Step 4

Securing the frames

Place the smaller heart within the larger frame and use the projecting wire to secure the two together. Again, leave some wire projecting.



Step 5

Binding

Cut an arm's length of 0.4mm gold wire and use this to bind the frames together in a free-style fashion.

Step 6

Wrapping and wrapping

Cut two further long lengths of 0.8mm gold and silver wire and wrap each one, starting with the gold, around the frame, covering as many gaps as possible. If the wires protrude or look messy, gently tweak or twist them on the frame using the tips of your chain-nosed pliers to tighten them.



Step 7

Hammering your heart

Place the wire-wrapped heart on your steel block and begin hammering and compressing all the wires together. Increase the blows as you go.



Step 8

Threading the bead

Thread a 6mm bead on the projecting wire at the point of the heart and create a headpin to hold it in place.

Step 9

To finish

Suspend the heart from two jump rings, one on each side of the frame, pushing the rings through gaps in the binding. Attach a ready-made chain and add the ring And bar clasp.



Making The Headpin

If you wish to suspend beads from chains (like charms) or create bead drop earrings, you will only need to create a link at one end of the bead and a headpin at the other, to prevent the bead from sliding off the wire. The simplest headpin should be virtually invisible and is a doubled-up tip to the wire. However, you can be very imaginative and create spirals, freeform shapes or hammered ends.

Step 1

Thread and loop

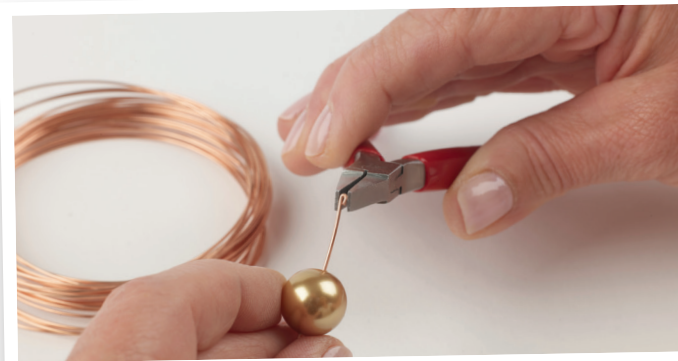
Working from a spool, thread your chosen bead onto the wire and let it slip down, leaving the end exposed. Using the very tips of your chain- or round-nosed pliers, create a tiny hook at the very end.



Step 2

Doubling up

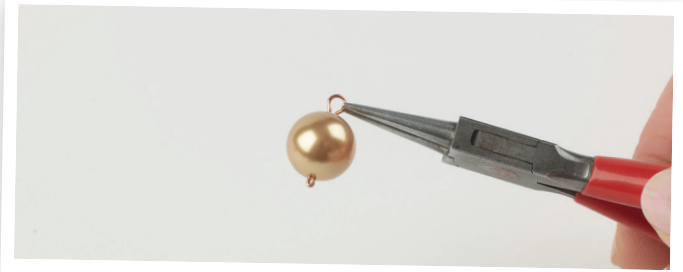
Using the tips of your chain- or flat-nosed - pliers, squeeze the hook to create a knob of doubled wire.



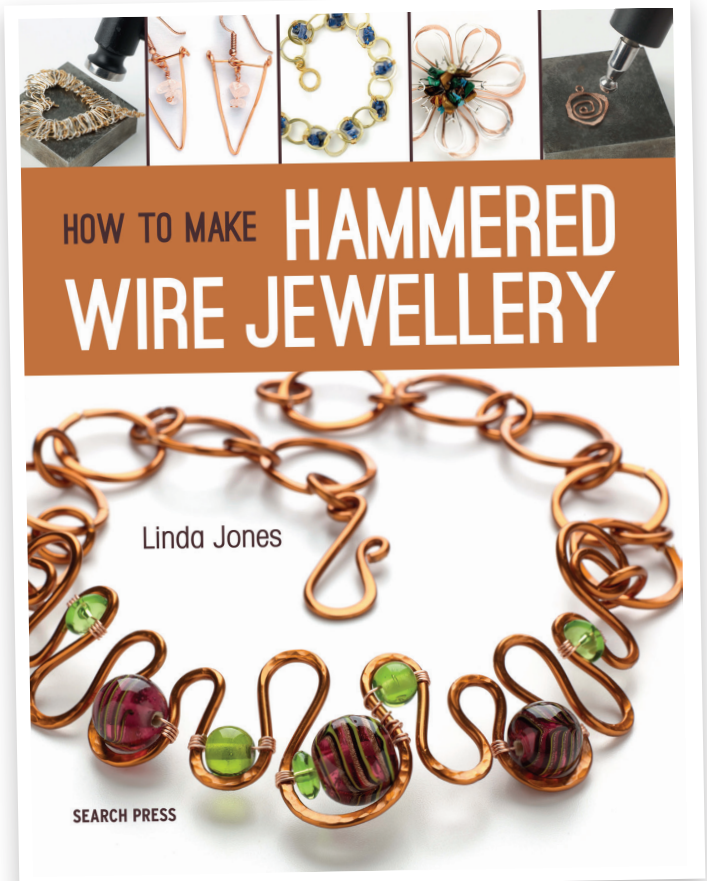
Step 3

And done!

Push your bead right up to the knob of wire and check it doesn't slip off (if it does, bend the knob 90 degrees, like a shelf for it to sit on). Cut the wire from the spool, leaving a stem of about 1cm (½in) and use this to form a link with your round-nosed pliers.



Tip: If your doubled wire end is too long at step 2, you can always cut through one of the wires to remove and shorten the overall length of the headpin.



Project from How to Make Hammered Wire Jewellery by Linda Jones published by Search Press (999 A155)

£12.99

How to Make Hammered Wire Jewellery by Linda Jones demonstrates the process of making beautiful wire jewellery pieces using only basic techniques, suitable for all levels. Hammering wire is an easy process, requiring a few specialist tools but it creates a unique texture.