

# A Beginner's Guide To Jewellery Making Wire & How To Use It

Get to grips with jewellery making wire and the tools you'll need to perfect your designs.

## WHICH SIZE WIRE DO I USE?

Choose the right wire diameter for your upcoming jewellery making projects.

### Under 6mm

Use to thread small beads and wrap smaller gemstones

### 0.8mm-1mm

A good size to use to produce jump rings and findings

### TOP TIP

Remember when you work with thicker wire, it's much harder to manipulate. So you may need to anneal the wire more often to soften it up.

### 1mm-2mm

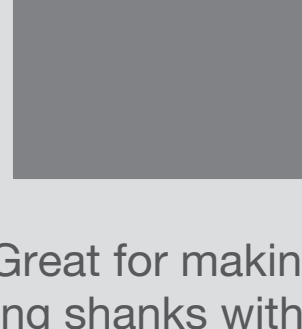
Use to create rings, bangles, and bracelets

### 2mm-3mm

Use thicker wire for bangles and cuffs or to create statement pieces

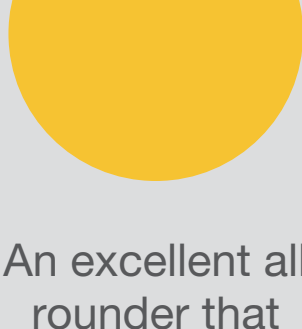
## COMMON WIRE SHAPES

### D-SHAPED



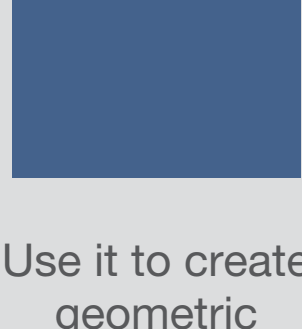
Great for making ring shanks with a unique sloped edge or thin stacking bangles.

### ROUND



An excellent all rounder that works well with most wire wrapped projects.

### SQUARE



Use it to create geometric earrings and rings with sharp angles.

## WIRE GAUGE CONVERSION CHART

Use our handy wire gauge conversion chart in your jewellery studio to help you pick the right diameter for your wire every time.

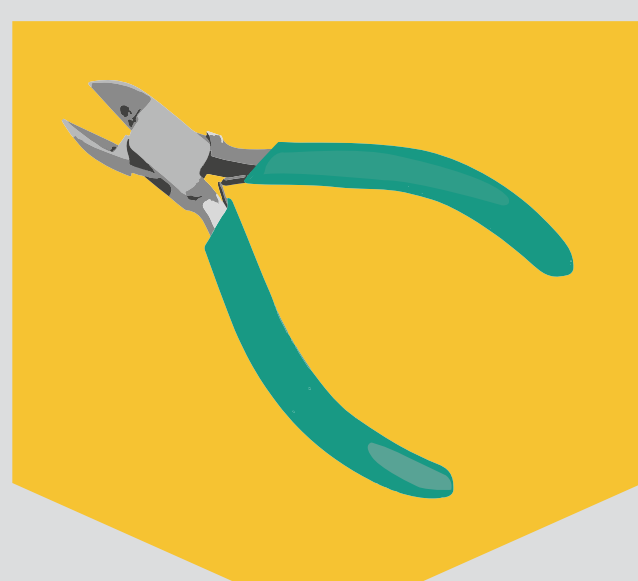
Wire Gauge (AWG)	Diameter (mm)	Inches (SWG)
10	2.59	0.102
12	2.03	0.080
14	1.63	0.064
15	1.45	0.057
16	1.29	0.051
17	1.15	0.045
18	1.02	0.040
19	0.914	0.036
20	0.813	0.032
21	0.737	0.029
22	0.635	0.025
24	0.508	0.020
25	0.455	0.018
26	0.406	0.016
28	0.320	0.013
30	0.254	0.010
32	0.203	0.008

**AWG** = American wire gauge also known as the Brown & Sharpe wire gauge

**SWG** = Standard wire gauge used in UK and also known as the Imperial Wire Gauge

## WIRE WORK HAND TOOLS

### WIRE CUTTERS



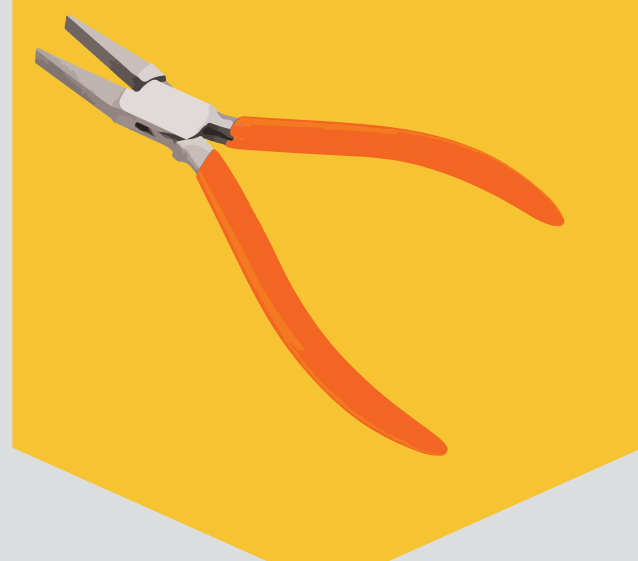
Use the flat side of your cutters to produce a flush cut on your wire and to cut in a straight line.

### ROUND NOSE PLIERS



Feature tapered cone-shaped jaws ideal for creating tight loops and bends.

### FLAT NOSE PLIERS



Use these to grip your wire and create sharp bends. Ideal for opening and closing jump rings and simple loops without distorting them.

Pick up all the jewellery making wire you need at **Cooksongold**.