

# EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WIRE

## Which size wire do I use?

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

- **1-6mm**  
Used to create rings, bangles and bracelets.
- **2-3mm**  
Use to create rings, bangles, and bracelets.
- **1-2mm**  
Use to create rings, bangles, and bracelets.
- **0.8-1mm**  
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.

## 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

Often used 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.

