



The Bead Hold

NEW ZEALANDS PREMIER BEADING SUPPLY STORE

HOW TO: Make a necklace on flexible wire (Tigertail, Softflex etc)



Ingredients

- 60cm of flexible wire (short-ish) or 1m (long)
- 4 x small crimp beads
- 2 x 5mm crimp covers a clasp or toggle for a short necklace
- a clasp
- beads and spacers for the length you want.

Tools Required

1. Chain Nose Pliers
2. Wire Cutters
3. A bead mat to work on

A bead clamp is handy to secure one end as you thread the beads on.

DESIGN TIPS: Use larger beads in the middle, tapering out to smaller around the neck. Using metal spacers and/or beadcaps helps show the beads off and the glint of metal lifts the necklace.

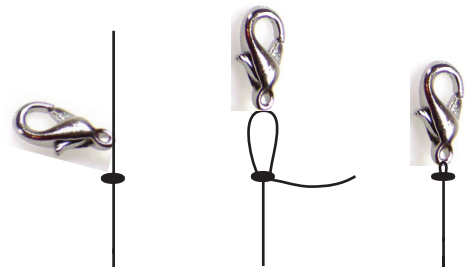
1. First, work out the design of your necklace. Lay your beads out on your bead board or bead mat. Keep in mind that an odd number of larger beads in the middle will sit better than an even number. You can load the front with lovely (and more expensive) feature beads and use smaller (and less expensive) beads around the sides and back. Your necklace can be nice and symmetrical, or it can be deliberately asymmetrical. You may also wish to have a feature clasp that secures at the front - either the side or at the middle.



2. String the beads in your chosen pattern onto your flexible beading wire. You may find that seeing the beads strung helps decide on a pattern or makes you change your mind! Don't worry if you slide your bead combinations on and off several times, this is quite normal. Often it is helpful to string 2 different patterns and look at them side by side to help you decide. Once you are happy with your pattern, check the length in the mirror. Remember that the clasp will add extra length. Adjust the length as necessary.

3. Attach the clasp

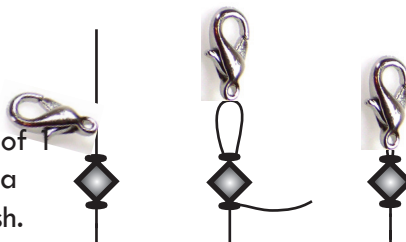
- On the free end of wire, slide down a crimp and one half of your clasp.
- Take the end of the wire, turn it around, and pass back through the crimp. Pull tight until there is just a small 4 -5mm loop
- Squash the crimp firmly with your chain nose pliers.



4. Attach the other side of the clasp as above **with the necklace curved**. If you attach the second side when the necklace is straight it will be stiff and awkward. Trim the excess wire closely.

FOR EXTRA SECURITY . . .

- Use 2 crimps at each end instead of 1
- Use 2 -3 crimps interspersed with a bead for a nicer (and stronger) finish.



FOR A TIDYER FINISH . . .



Use Crimp covers - full details in the How To section of our website.

Instructions Copyright to The Bead Hold. For more projects, beads, findings and kits, visit our website

www.thebeadhold.co.nz