



The Bead Hold

NEW ZEALAND'S PREMIER BEADING SUPPLY STORE

HOW TO: Basic Viking Knitting

Ingredients

- 4 metres of 24 gauge wire (for a bracelet)
OR 12 metres for a necklace piece
- 30cm of 22 gauge wire to match 24 gauge wire
- 2 end cones
- A clasp
- Feature bead/s and headpin if desired



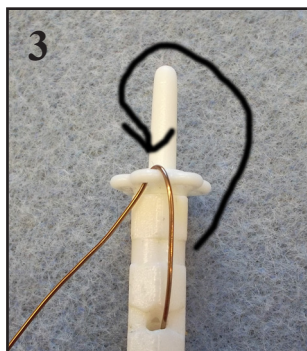
Equipment

- A bead mat to work on
- Viking knitting tool and drawplate
- Wire Cutters
- Chain Nose Pliers
- Round Nose Pliers
- A straight pin

Making the Base

1. Cut 2 metres of 24 gauge wire.
2. Place one end of the wire through the diagonal anchor hole in the knitting tool until you have a 3cm tail. Hold this tail with your thumb.

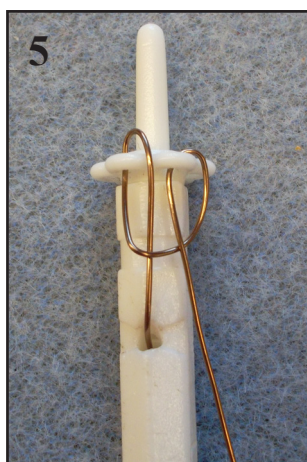
3. Take the long end of the wire DOWN through any one of the loops on the head of the knitting tool. Pull the wire to the left.



4. Pull the wire gently to the right in front of the previous wire to form a loop.

The bottom of the loop should line up with the indent on the knitting tool. (This is to help you get the first row of loops even.)

5. Take the long end of the wire DOWN through the next loop on the head of the knitting tool. You should be working anticlockwise, the next loop will always be on your right. Pull the wire to the left until it is all through.



6. Pull the wire gently to the right to form a loop, using the indent on the knitting tool to make it the same size as the first loop.

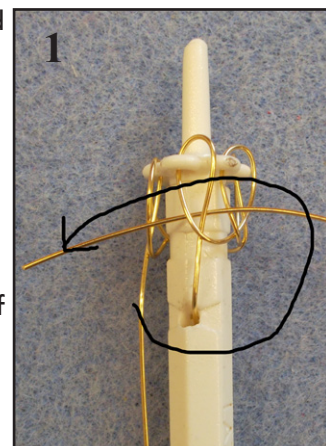
7. Repeat steps 5 and 6 until you have 6 loops. This is your first row.

Weaving the Loops

The knitting tool is hexagonal to make it easier when weaving the wire. Position the first row of loops on each flat side of the hex.

1. Take the wire and thread it underneath the first loop, working from right to left.

2. Pull the wire through to the left and then across to the right to form a loop. A pin can be used to help adjust the size of the loop if needed. It is better for the loops to be a little big than too small and tight.

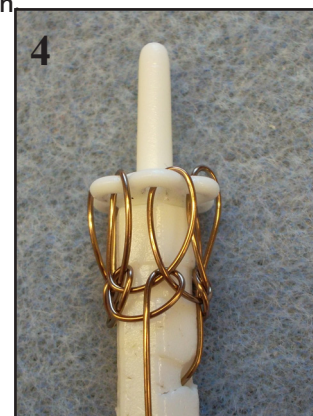


3. Take the wire underneath the next loop, working from right to left.

TIP: Sometimes it may help to use your pin to lift the loops off the base of the tool a little to make it easier to get the wire through.

4. Pull the wire through to the left and then across to the right to form a loop. A pin can be used to help adjust the size of the loop if needed.

5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 around and round until you have 5cm of wire left.



NOTE: After 3 rows of knitting, pull the tail of the wire out of the diagonal anchor hole and trim wire close to knitting

Adding wire

1. Move the last loop you made so that it is sitting over the diagonal anchor hole.
(If needed, you can lift the 'daisy' top from the tool to adjust the knitting to the right place).
2. Thread a new piece of wire (2m long) down through the last loop of knitting and through the diagonal anchor hole leaving a 3cm tail.
3. Knit one row using the new wire.
4. Take the knitting off the tool and bring both tails of the wire together at the front of the tool.
5. Place the knitting back onto the tool and continue knitting with the new wire. For the next 3 rows you need to catch the tails of the wire into the knitting. i.e. When you go underneath the loop, also go underneath both wire tails.
6. After 3 rows remove the knitting from the tool and trim the tails close to the knitting.
7. Continue knitting until you have 5cm of wire left.

For a bracelet: STOP

For a necklace: Keep adding lengths of wire until you are happy with the length. Keep in mind that drawing the knitting will add some extra length.



Does your knitting look terrible and lumpy and uneven . . . in fact, not much at all like the pictures? Don't worry, the drawplate is like magic, it will all smooth and even out - trust us!

Using the Drawplate

1. Take the knitting off the tool and cut the top row of loops as close to the head of the tool as possible. Give it a shake to release the daisy top and the excess wire. Leave a single wire tail sticking out of each end of the knitting.
2. Roll the knitting in a piece of felt on the table to help smooth the it - your bead mat works well too.
3. Grip one end of the knitting with chain nose pliers and pull it through the drawplate, starting at 7/16 or 3/8.
4. Pull through the first hole 2 times, then move the next next smallest hole. Pull through that one 2 times. Continue down through the drawplate until the knitting is the desired width.
5. Take one of the wire tails and thread it around and back through the loop it is coming out of to knot it. Trim excess wire. Repeat for the other end.

Note: The further down the drawplate you go, the more oval your loops will become.

Attaching a clasp

1. Choose an end. Take 15cm of 22 gauge wire and thread it through 2 loops on opposite sides of the knitted tube.
7. Cross the wires firm and tight to make a small loop and wrap one wire firmly around the other wire twice. Cut off ONE wire.
8. Thread an end cone down the 22 gauge wire to sit snugly against the knitting, hiding the 22g wire wraps and make a wrapped loop.
9. Use a jumpring to attach your clasp.
10. Repeat steps 5 – 9 for the other end.

Variations:

- A feature bead can be attached to your clasp to create a fun dangle.
- Seed beads can be placed inside the knitted tube before closing off the second end, to add colour.
- Beads can be chain-linked and connected to the end of the knitted tube with jumprings.

For more tips, tricks, inspiration and tutorials and all your beading supplies visit us at

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