

Loops and Swirls Bracelet Tutorial



Difficulty: Intermediate

Author: Patti Bullard, Ph.D.

Wubbers Featured Tools:

- Baby Wubbers Round Nose Pliers
- Baby Wubbers Chain Nose Pliers
- Baby Wubbers Flat Nose Pliers
- Wubbers Looping Pliers

Additional Tools

- Italian Made Super Flush Cutters
- Ruler

Materials

- 20-gauge, dead soft wire—approximately 7 feet
- Lobster Clasp (12mm) with jump ring
- Rondelle Beads, 6mm x 8mm (12 beads for a 7 3/4" bracelet)



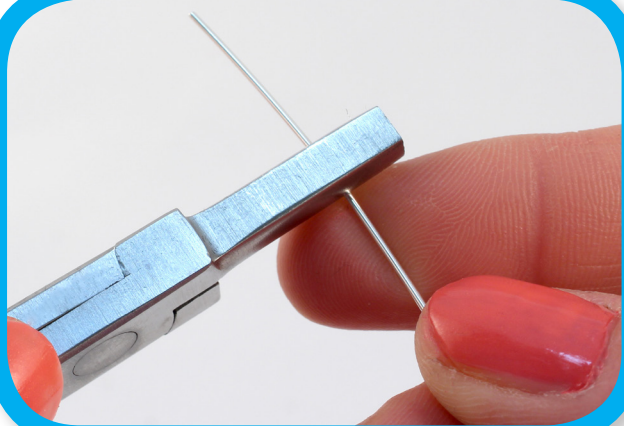
SAFETY WARNINGS

Please remember to always wear safety glasses when working with wire.

Loops & Swirls Bracelet

The Loops & Swirls Bracelet is the perfect project to create with your Baby Wubbers and your Wubbers Looping Pliers, and will make a wonderful accessory that you will find yourself wearing almost every day. Make several of these bracelets in a variety of colors. Then, coordinate two or three with your outfit of the day, stack them on your wrist, and you're ready to go.

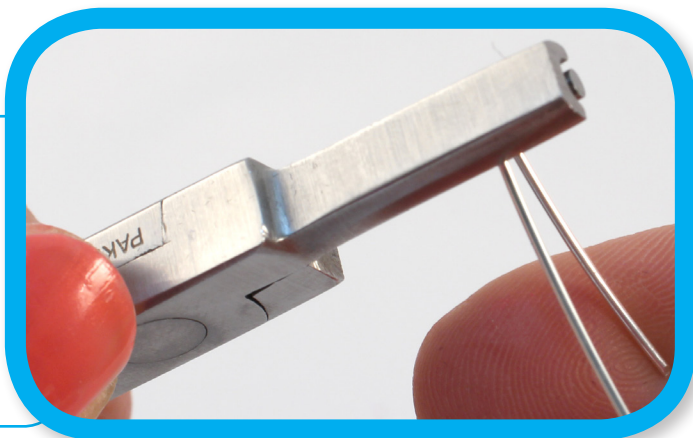
Step 1



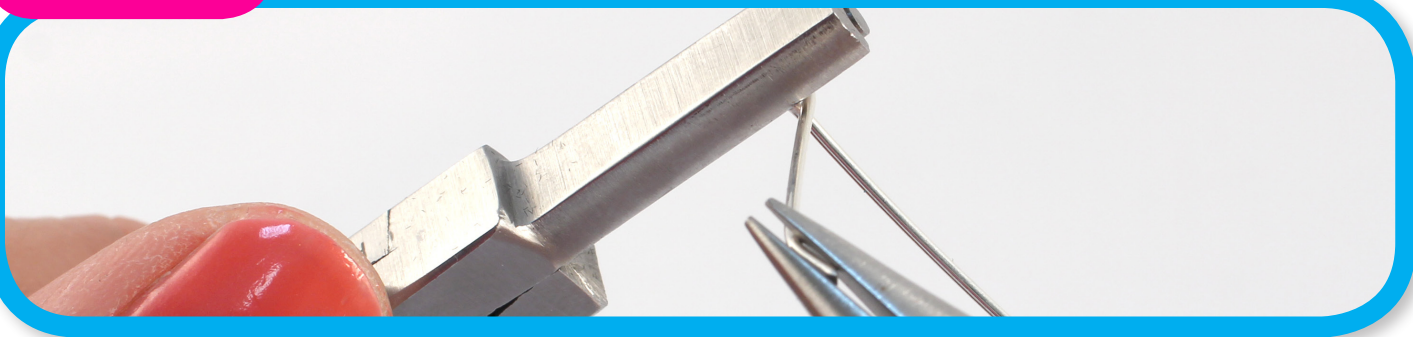
Cut a 2 ½- to 3-inch piece of 20-gauge dead soft wire. With the flat side of the jaw toward you as shown, grip the wire in the jaws of the Wubbers Looping Pliers, with approximately 1¼ inches of the wire extended above the edge of the pliers. Squeeze the wire gently to form a bend.

Step 2

While holding the wire with the pliers, the longer end of the wire should be pointing down toward the floor. Move the shorter end of the wire into position so that it now forms a sharp angle as demonstrated to the right.



Step 3

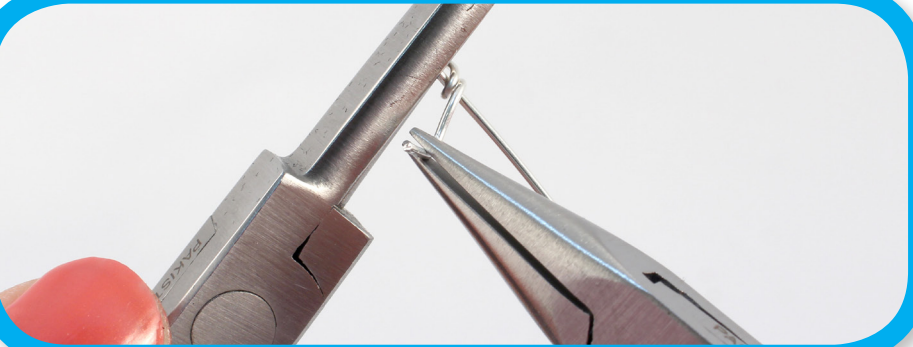


Using a pair of Baby Wubbers Chain Nose Pliers, grip the short end of the wire, cropping as shown. Pull snugly up against the edge of the concave jaw of the Looping Pliers. This will ensure that your loop is properly sized and perfectly round.

Step 3: Continued

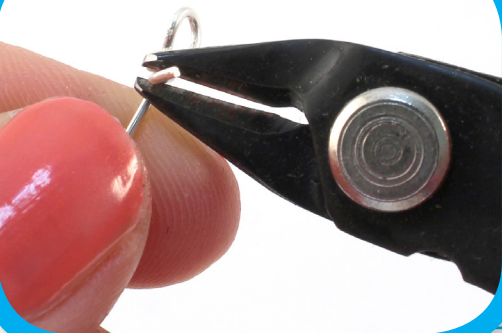
TOOL TIP

Save time and frustration by investing in a quality pair of cutters such as the Italian Super Flush Cutters. A nice flush cut should be perfectly flat, with no points or jagged edges. This will make your finished jewelry look much nicer and will significantly reduce your filing and finishing time.



Holding the wire tight; wrap the short end of the wire around the longer a total of 2 ½ times.

Step 4



Flush cut the short end of the wire, making it as close as possible with no sharp edges.

When finished trimming the loop, it should look like the photo on the right.

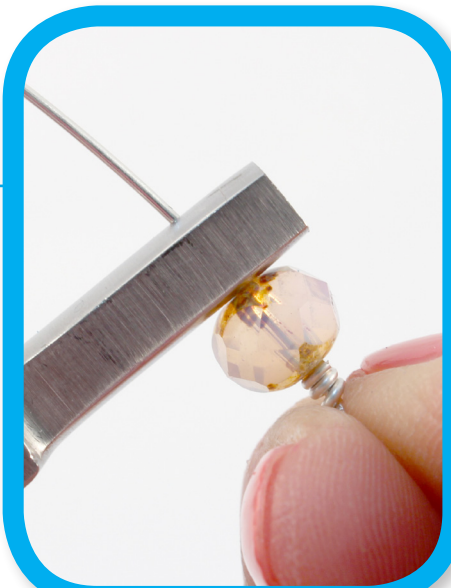


Step 5

Thread a 6 x 8mm rondelle bead onto the wire, letting the bead rest against the wrap of the first loop.

Place the pliers right against the bead, and gently squeeze the wire to make a soft, angled bend.

Using your forefinger, swing the bead toward you until it feels like it won't move anymore. This will center the loop over the bead.



Step 6

Grip the end of the wire and bend it until it touches the side of the bead as demonstrated.

You will notice that the edge of the jaw of the pliers still touches the bead. You will need room to form a wrap, so open the jaws of your Looping Pliers and slide the bead over until you have room to form your wrap.



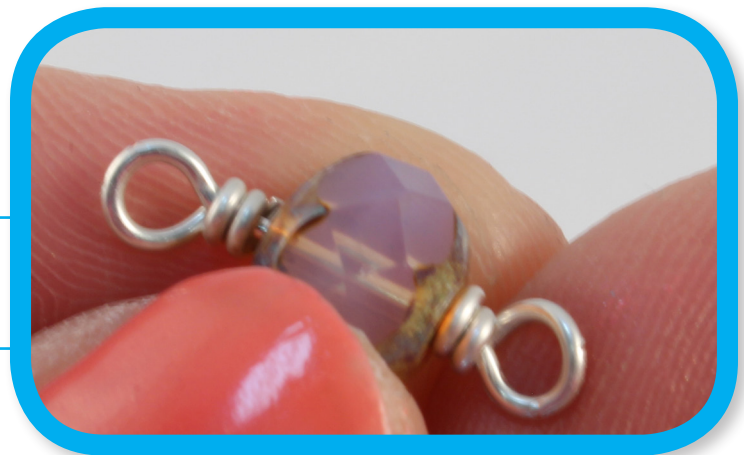
Step 7



Grip the end of the wire with your Baby Wubbers Chain Nose Pliers, cross it up next to the edge of the jaw of the Wubbers Looping Pliers. Keeping the wire taut as you wrap will allow the wire to glide into place, forming a perfect wrap. There should be enough room to wrap approximately 2 ½ times. If a little more space is needed for the wrap, give the bead a quick tug, and this will allow for additional space to wrap.

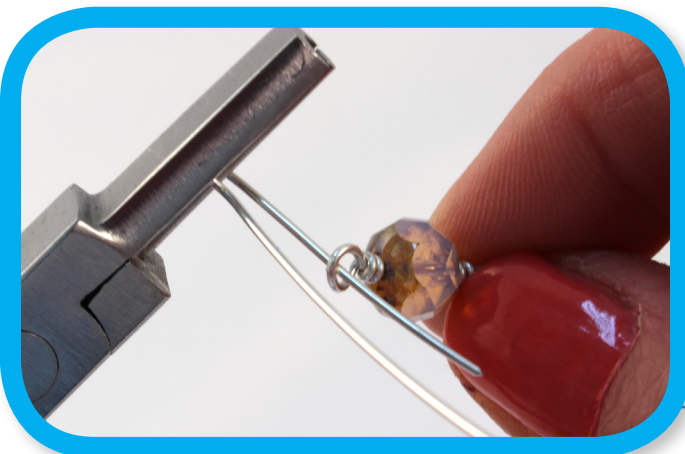
Step 8

Now you have both ends of your first bead wrapped, completing one component of the bracelet.



Step 9

To add a second bead to one of the loops of the first bead component, start by repeating Steps 1 and 2. Before crossing the wire to begin the wrap, slide one loop of the first component onto the wire.



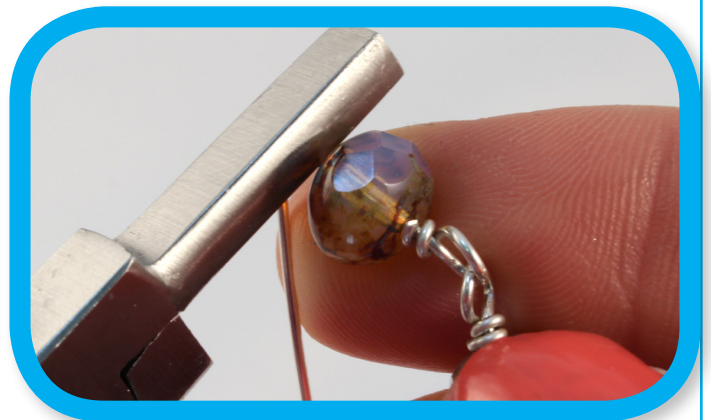
Step 10

Turn your pliers over and hold them at an angle so that the “V” points upwards and the loop of the first bead rests right against the edge of the curved jaw of the pliers. You will hold your pliers in this position until you cross the wire over to begin the wrap. Once that is accomplished, you can return the pliers to their former position and finish the wrap. This step may take a little practice, but will get much easier after you have completed several wraps.



Step 11

Now, repeat steps 5-8 to complete the loop on the other side of the second bead. As you can see in bottom right photo, you now have two beads linked together securely with two consistently sized, beautifully formed loops. Repeat this process until your bracelet is the desired length.



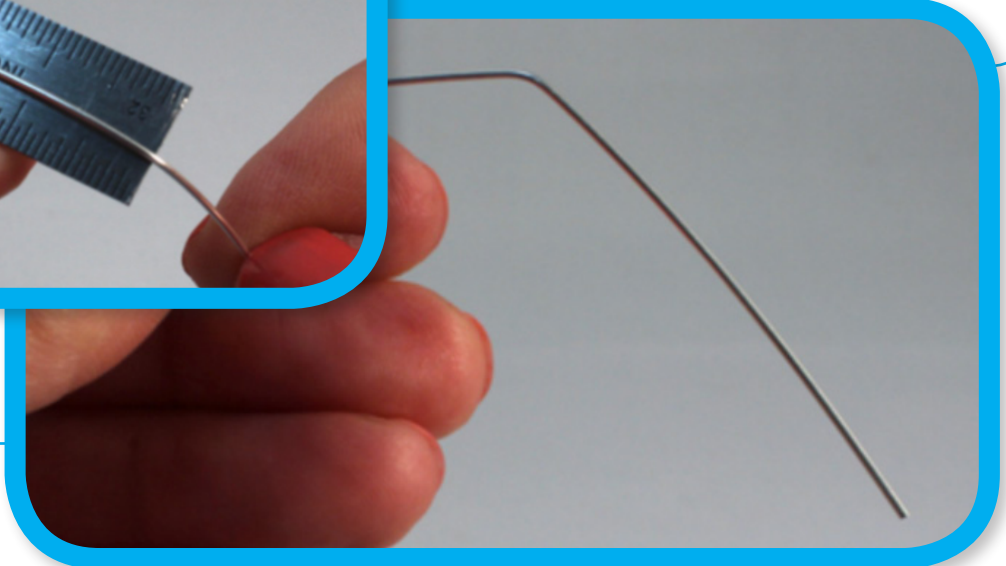
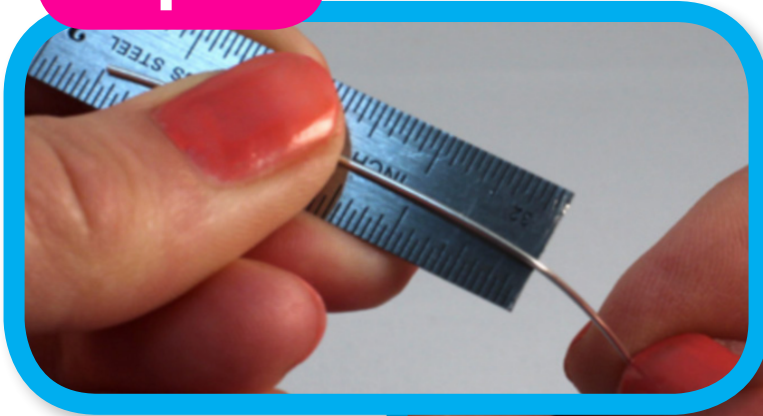
Step 12

Once your bracelet is fitted to the correct size, count the number of beads in your bracelet. You will cut the same number of $3\frac{1}{2}$ inch wires. Starting with a flush cut end, it is quick and easy to flush cut the second end of your wire directly against the ruler as shown.



Step 13

After cutting the $3\frac{1}{2}$ inch length of wire, place the end of the wire on the $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch mark and make a bend in it, which will look like this.



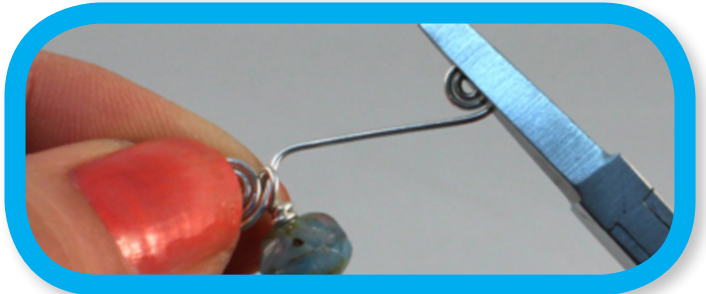
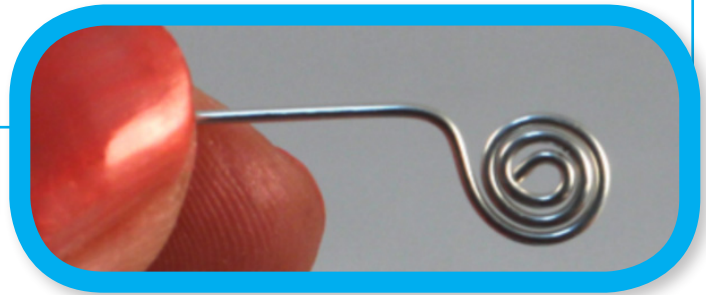
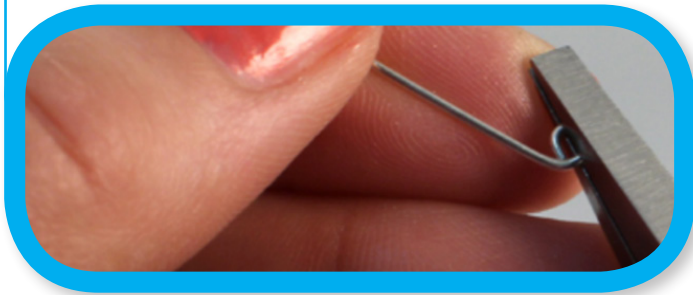
Step 14

Using your Baby Wubbers Round Nose Pliers, begin to make a very small curl on one end of the wire. You will be coiling the wire up towards the bend.

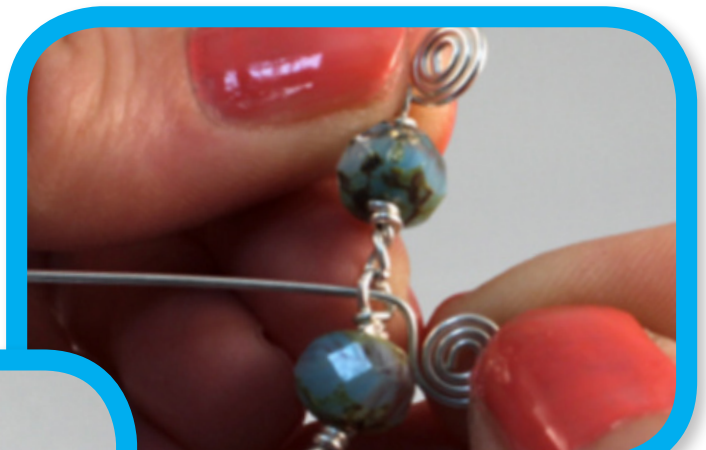
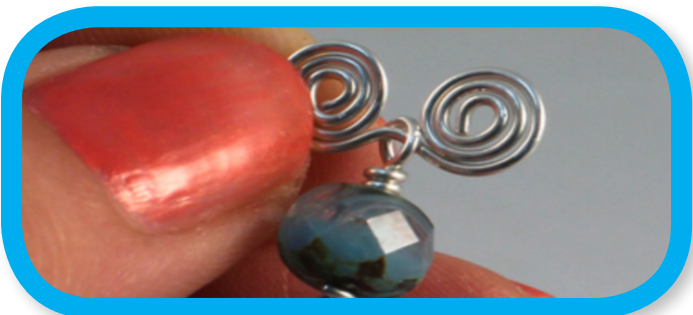


Now, using the Baby Wubbers Flat Nose Pliers, grasp the loop and begin to coil the wire, stopping just short of the bend in the wire. Insert the straight end of the wire through the end loop of the bracelet chain made previously.

Step 15



Coil the second end of the wire, again stopping just short of the bend. You will continue putting one coil in between each two beads. Insert the coil through the loop closest to the second bead as shown. Holding the bracelet vertically, consistently place the coil into the top loop of each consecutive component.



The Final Step

Once all the coils have been added, you will add the lobster clasp to the end of the bracelet where the first coil was attached. The lobster clasp will then hook into the loop on the opposite end of the bracelet.

