

# Wire Weaving: Getting Started



## Materials & Tools

16 ga. Wire  
28 ga. Wire  
Size 6/0 seed beads  
Flush cutters  
Round nose pliers  
Chain nose pliers  
Tool magic (optional)

This piece uses only a 5/2 weave. That's 5 wraps around one wire followed by two wraps around both wires.

I'm using different color wires but this isn't necessary. Using a single color can be equally effective. Mine is 16 ga in gold and 28 ga in silver.

Steps 1 - 3 Cut an 8" piece of 16 ga. wire. Using round nose pliers create a loop slightly off center. Cut a 4" piece of 18 ga wire and lash it to the inside of the longer side of the piece with the loop using a 5/2 weave. Repeat the weave 20 times. I like to start and end with the 5 wrap. Notice that the 4" piece is set higher than piece it's being lashed onto. Trim ends of weaving wire. Turn a spiral onto the high end of the 4" piece of wire.



Do not cut the 28 ga. wire from the spool. I find that having the weight of the spool on the end of the wire is helpful. And, you don't waste any wire!

Steps 4 & 5: Slide 8 seed beads onto the second side of the looped wire. You might find a few with holes too small, just set those aside for another day. Cut a 3" piece of 16 ga. wire and lash it to the outside of the piece with the beads. Again it's a 5/2 weave and the 3" wire is set so that it extends over some of the beads. Work 7 sets of 5/2 and, again, I like to start and end with the 5 wrap. Trim ends of waving wire.



Now the work is done and the fun begins!



Step 1. Pull the set of wires with the beads under the other set making a loop out of the length with the beads.

Step 2: Pull the beaded set over the set it just went under and form a closed circle.

Just use your fingers for this, no tools necessary.



Step 3: Turn the piece over and use the unbeaded set of wires to make a loop around the beaded set.





Use your round nose pliers to turn spirals in the ends of the wires on the unbeaded set. Trim if necessary, Photo at left.

I've trimmed the inside wire on the beaded set before turning the spiral. This spiral will go on the front, the other wire will make a spiral on the back side of the piece. Photos at right & below.



All that's left to do now is to turn the loop into the proper orientation for your necklace. I'm using a leather cord for mine.

After the piece was finished I decided that there was too much wire in large spiral on the bottom. All I did was trim the end of the wire a bit and re-turn the spiral.



Tutorial by Anne Dilker

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