Rings Every Day Month

April 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

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Wire Wrapped Bead Ring

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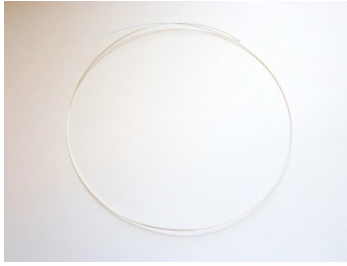
By Kimberlie Burkhart Kohler

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Bead Ring
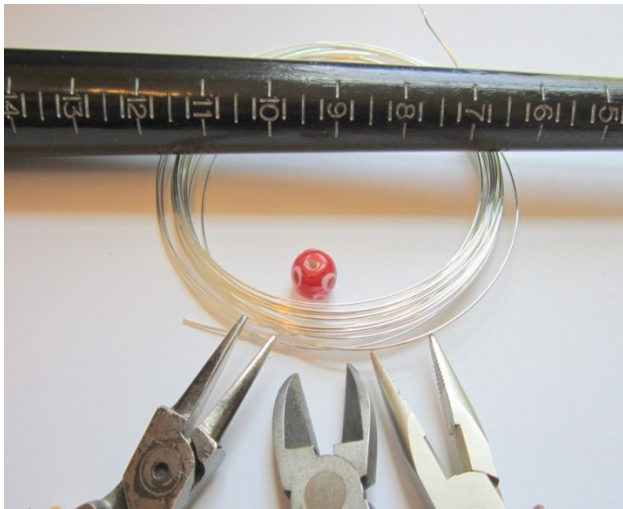
Materials and Tools:
- Bead of your choice
- About 12 inches of wire, 20 gauge, half-hard, round.
- Ring Mandrel
- Wire cutters
- Chain nose pliers – serrated (with teeth)
- Chain nose pliers – non-serrated

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Step #1

Cut approximately 12 inches of wire.

Step #2

Slide the bead onto the wire and center it.

Step #3

Gently pull the wire so it is ever so slightly bent where the bead is

.
Step #4

Get your ring mandrel ready. I work with it in between my knees and that works for me. Plus it's portable!

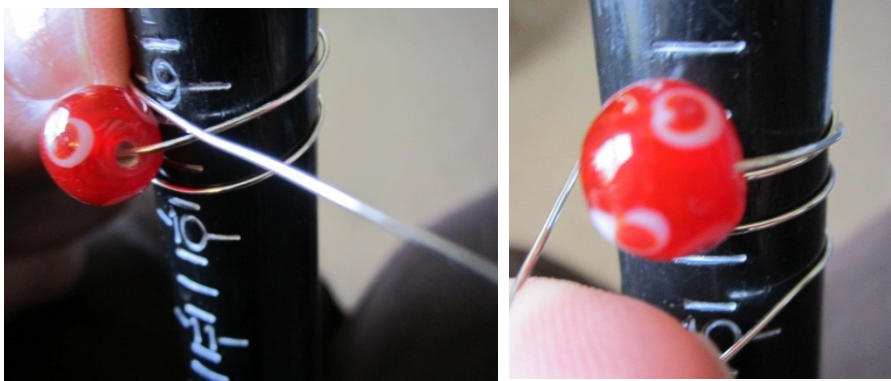It's easier to clamp your ring mandrel on your work table.

Use what you have and what works for you.

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Step #5

Place the bead and wire on the ring mandrel. Start 1 full size larger than you wish to make the ring.

Step #6

Wrap the wire around the ring mandrel. Go around so that there are 4 wires showing in the back. The loose ends will be in the front.
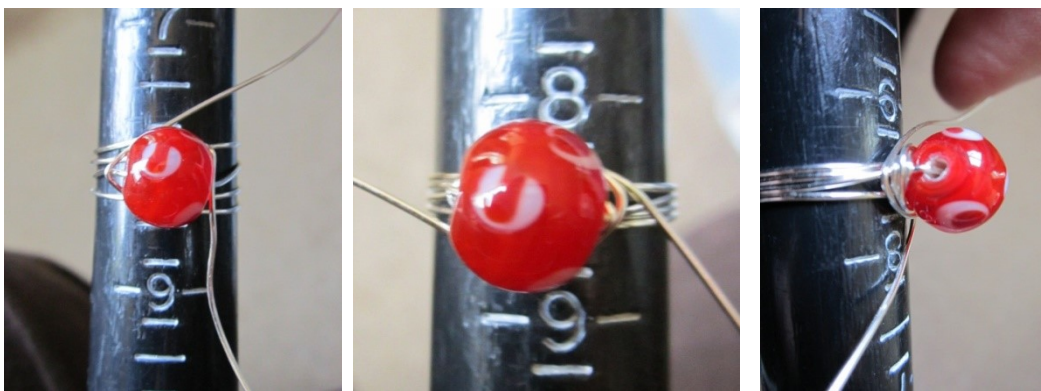
Keep the wraps straight and do not let the wires cross over each other on the back.

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Step #7

Leaving the wire on the mandrel, push all the wires together and move them to a ½ size larger than the size you want to make. (The loose ends will be in front.)

Step #8

With the 2 loose ends twist around the bead. The wires will be very close to the bead and kind of under. Pull tightly as you do so. Go around 3 times, each wrap will go sort of under the wrap before.

I have 1 wire in each hand and wrap them at the same time clockwise.

Step #9

Carefully pull the ring off the mandrel and keep ahold of it. Wrap each end around the ring as seen in the photo. The wires should be going in opposite directions.

Note: if the wires get twisted around the ring, I fix that in the next step. Also, if the wire gets in a weird shape, you can fix that when you put the ring back on the mandrel in the next step as well.

Step #10

Place the ring back on the ring mandrel. When you put it on, straighten any wires that might have gotten twisted. To round out the ring or fix the shape of the ring, push the ring as far down as you can so that they stretch a little bit and get back into shape.

Pull down on the loose end of the wire tightening the wrap you just made. Pull as hard as you can (and be careful, the wire can unexpectedly break) using serrated pliers.

Take the ring off the mandrel, flip it and then do the same to the other side.

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Step #11
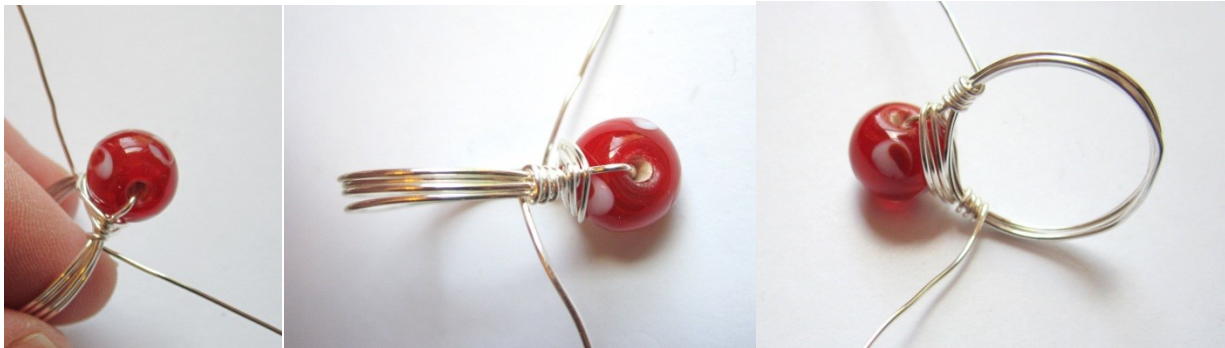
Take the ring back off the mandrel and wrap around the side working in the same direction as the first wrap. Make 4 wraps ending on the outside of the ring.

HINT: If you can fit your finger through the ring, you can just use your finger to do the wraps. If the ring is smaller than your finger can easily fit through, use pliers to do the wraps.
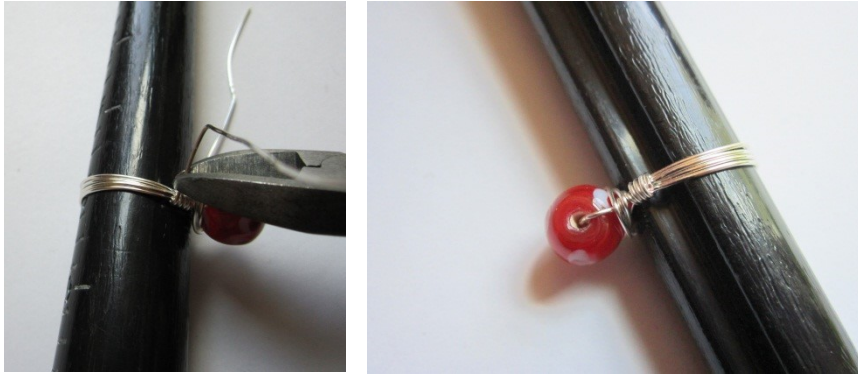
Step #12

Place the ring back on the mandrel. Using serrated pliers pull as hard as you can down to tighten the wraps you just made.

Then pull the wire up as seen in the 2nd photo.

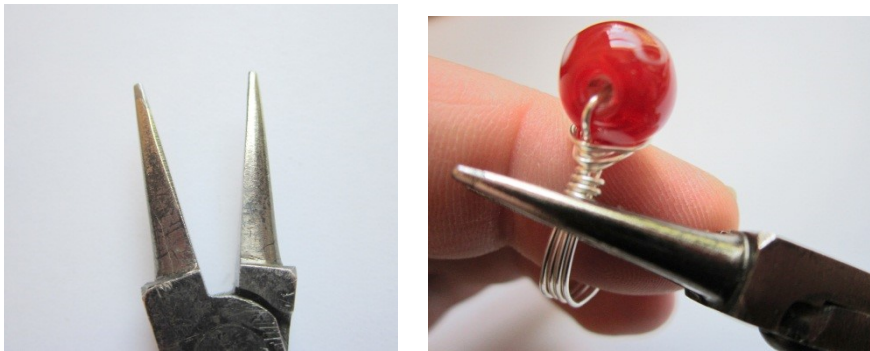Pull the ring off the mandrel, flip it and repeat for the other side.

Step #13

Clip off the excess wire on each side. Try to cut the wire so the end is in the middle of the top of the wires.

Step #14

Using nose pliers, push the end down.

Customize the simple bead ring:

- Once you master this ring, you can use any bead or anything drilled with a hole.
- Use a few beads lined up.
- Use any color or style of bead!
  - Use other types of wire – different metals or different gauges for different looks. You just have to be able to slide the bead over the wire, so make sure your wire isn't thicker than the hole in your bead.

Stuck? Have questions about this tutorial? I'm here to help!

Send me an email and I'll try to help you: Kim@KimberlieKohler.com

Put REDM Help in the subject line for priority response.

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Teaching women to rediscover their creativity through making jewelry.

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