

Perfectly Twisted Jewelry Tutorial Copyright 2012 Susan Gardner

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French Earring Wires



Materials:

20 gauge, round wire

Tools:

Flush Cutters
Round nose pliers
Dowel (Sharpi marker, pencil, etc
also work)
Hammer and Bench block

Start with 2.5 inches of 20 gauge round, dead soft wires.





Perfectly Twisted Jewelry DIY Earring Wires 4.jpg



Perfectly Twisted Jewelry DIY Earring Wires 2.jpg



Perfectly Twisted Jewelry DIY Earring Wires 5.jpg



Perfectly Twisted Jewelry DIY Earring Wires 3.jpg



Perfectly Twisted Jewelry DIY Earring Wires 6.jpg

Use round nose pliers, grab the end of the wire and turn until the wire end meets the wire length.

This makes a small loop at the end of the wire. Make the loops in both wires, evenly sized.

Tip: Use the Sharpi marker to mark the plier tooth where you will turn the loops. This ensures they are both the same. Align the wire up with the mark on the plier.

Use the body of a Sharpie Marker or a wooden dowel in the diameter that you desire.

8-10mm is good for earring wires. A Bic pen, pencil, chopsticks, all work too!

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Perfectly Twisted Jewelry DIY Earring Wires 7.jpg



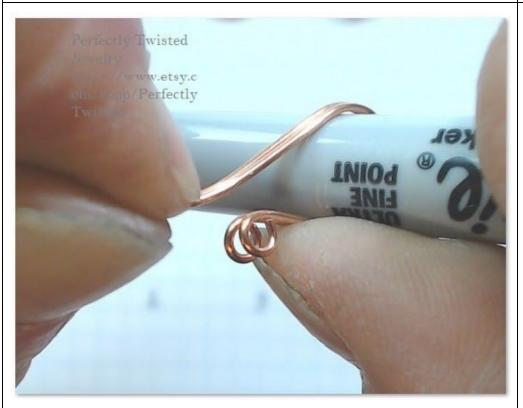
Perfectly Twisted Jewelry DIY Earring Wires 8.jpg



Perfectly Twisted Jewelry DIY Earring Wires 9.jpg

Hold the wires together, loops up about .5 inch.

Put your thumb against the wires to stabilize them and make a bend around the dowel.



Brace your thumb against the loops to hold them steady while you bend the wires.

Bring the wire ends and the looped ends 'almost' together around the dowel...

... then create a slight upward slope near the end of the wires.

Remove them from the dowel. They should be evenly sized and shaped.



Perfectly Twisted Jewelry DIY Earring Wires 10.jpg



Perfectly Twisted Jewelry DIY Earring Wires 11.jpg



Perfectly Twisted Jewelry DIY Earring Wires 12.jpg

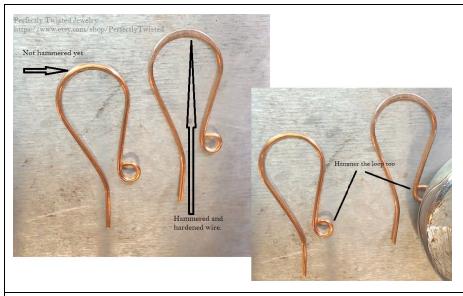
Use a hammer and metal bench block to harden the earring wires.

Hardened wire keeps its shape.

Hammer the upper arc of the wire until it is slightly 'flared' and flattened.

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Notice what round wire does when hammered.... It becomes not only flat, but also hardens.

This curve is an important part of the earring wire since we use it to pull the earring on and off our ear. It must hold this shape.

Another area to harden would be the end loop where the actual earring is attached.

Making this loop stronger ensures the earning will not pull out easily.



After hammering, hold the earring wires together and trim the ends neat and flush if needed.

Tip:

You can use sandpaper or a nail file emery board to smooth the ends of the wire. This makes going in and out of the ear more comfortable!



Perfectly Twisted Jewelry DIY Earring Wires 16.jpg



Perfectly Twisted Jewelry DIY Earring Wires 19.jpg



Perfectly Twisted Jewelry DIY Earring Wires 17.jpg



Perfectly Twisted Jewelry DIY Earring Wires 20.jpg



Perfectly Twisted Jewelry DIY Earring Wires 18.jpg



Perfectly Twisted Jewelry DIY Earring Wires 21.jpg

Use a flat nose or chain link plier to open the loop moving sideways, insert your earring and close the loop.

Enjoy!! Make them in all lengths and sizes for all of your favorite earrings!

See you again soon! Izzy

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