

Wrapped Wire Jewelry Craft

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Unit: Jewelry

Lesson Plan: Wire Wrapped Jewelry

Grade Level: High School

Objectives: Students will

- Create a piece of jewelry using various wrapping techniques
- Create a work of jewelry incorporating the shape and design of the stone
- Exhibit craftsmanship

Instruction/Motivation:

- Show a variety of jewelry pieces using wrapped techniques - demonstrate techniques and have a prepared chart

Materials:

[Round Nose Plier](#)

[Flat Nose Plier](#)

[Needle Nose Plier](#)

[Flush Cutter Pliers](#)

soft wire- [Silver](#), [Copper](#), or [Brass](#) - 20 to 22 gauge

Assorted [Polished stones](#) (irregular shapes)

[Metal files](#) (Cheap paper emery boards will do a good job, too)





Procedures/Resources

Note: If you use anything lower than 20 gauge wire you would need more heavy duty pliers. 22 ga and up, craft pliers from Wal-Mart etc. are OK. Radio Shack has nice flush cutters for about \$ 4.00. One problem on working with wire in a school setting is to have decent tools. The most expensive thing was to have tools for the students and they had to be decent ones or would only last for a few times.

The simplest form of wrapping is what is called a Hippy twist

<http://www.bleilysgems.com/hippytwist.doc> 

Especially good for wrapping crystals - Then there is a simple wrap

<http://www.bleilysgems.com/simplewrap.doc> 

For wrapping rings

<http://www.geocities.com/my4jewels/wirewrappedringtutorial.html> (Archive)

For wrapping, a good basic tutorial

<http://www.conniefox.com/Education/WireSkills/Basic%20Wire%20Skills.htm>

Spirals are easy to make, however, pliers will leave marks and need to be padded with a good wrapping of masking tape.

It is best to just start out by doing a simple 'spiral' (see Connie Fox tutorial). This is used to finish so many things. It's good training to work with pliers. Once the students have the 'hang' of it, wrapping a project does not take too long and can be easily achieved within a class period.

Encourage students to bring junk jewelry from home, that could be taken apart for new assembly into earrings and necklaces.