

# (Super & Affordable) Engraved Gifts

Idea Sheet  
by Judy Markwell



Do you recognize these engraved charms? We've used them to make key rings and cell phone charms, but they could also be used for zipper pulls, luggage ID's, I just keep thinking of things to hang these on....

So, have you figured out what they are yet? They're dog tags. I found a great supplier of these, her name is Jen Rossi, and she is a graphic artist so the designs that she can come up with aren't limited to just "pet" type things.

The site is <http://www.rossipettags.com/>, and soon she'll be adding some new designs that are more suitable for "favors" than pets, but if you had an order for a large quantity of them (such as wedding favors or something like that, let Jen work with you - she's really good)



## IDEAS FOR USE

Wedding Favors  
Prom Night Keepsakes  
Graduation Gifts  
Reunions Favors  
Anniversary Gifts  
Thank-You Gifts  
Birthday Party Favors  
THERE'S NO LIMIT

Key Rings  
Phone Dangles  
Zipper Pulls



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Presented by The Beading Emporium

# Engraved Gifts

## Construction Tips:



For this one, I used 20 gauge wire, and did a wrapped loop at the top and bottom.

The silver colored bead came from

The Beading Emporium, and before I threaded it on I put size 6 Miyuki Seed Beads on it. I used bead caps at the top and the bottom, and then wire wrapped both ends, making very large round loops so there would be lots of movement on the key ring. By using the seed beads I was able to add just a touch of color, plus the glass beads keep the large silver colored one in place. Bonus: The large curved bead is massive enough to make the key ring fairly masculine. That's worth the tutorial all by itself - it's so hard to find beading projects for men.



Reverse of Cat

Things to remember:

I used split rings for these pieces - no jump rings anywhere. These are going to get a lot of wear and pulling, and jump rings just don't hold up as well as split rings. If you're going to be making a lot of these, say as wedding favors, invest in a pair of split ring pliers. They will save your fingernails and save a LOT of time.

Use lots of joints in your pieces if you're using wire - these look better if they have a lot of movement.

Remember that these things are going to move around and get banged a lot - painted beads wouldn't be your best choice - same goes for the pearls - use glass pearls, not the painted ones.

Make the round parts of your loops large enough that they actually dangle when on the split ring. These are charms, and movement is what you want.

For the pieces that have long dangles, I used 7 strand Beadalon - wire just isn't flexible enough to hang right.

I start with a crimp bead, and you can simply fold the wire in half and crimp the cord so that you start with a little loop - it's hardly noticeable. Then string all the items that you want on the strand. At the top of each strand I have used a Wire Guardian, so that the wire won't fray as it moves around on split ring.

Another thing to remember is the rule of 3's - you want an odd number of strands dangling from the split ring - I've used 1, 3 or 5 in all of these - for some reason an odd number looks better.

