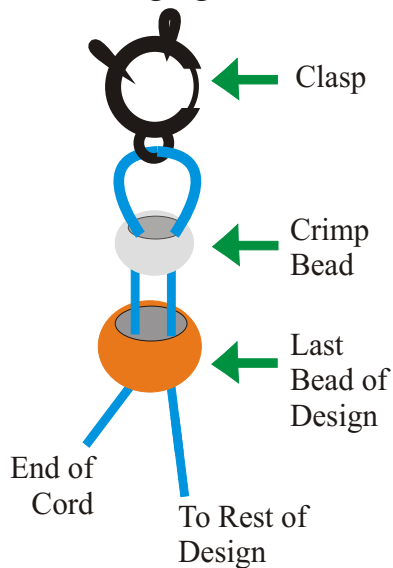


# Crimping Basics

A by Judy Markwell

## Stringing Order



\* This is shown with much more space between the beads than you want - in reality you would want just enough space for your design to flex a little bit..

## Crimping Order

A couple of things for you to remember when you're crimping.

\* Make sure your cord is taut while you're working. You don't want too large of a loop at the top, and you don't want large areas of wire exposed.

\* Make sure your cord doesn't cross over itself inside the crimp. You'll get a much stronger and neater looking crimp.

Step 1: Aligned everything, make sure your cord is taut, and use the back part of the crimping pliers to make a dent in your bead. This is a side view, with the blue dots representing the cord, and the red circle representing the outside of the crimp bead.

Step 2: Move the front of the crimping pliers to the crimp bead and turn it so that the dent you just made is facing the front opening of the pliers and close it again.

Side View of Crimp Bead with Cord Inside



Step 1



Step 2



## Practice, Practice, Practice:

You're going to have to practice to get the feel of this. It's really easy to crimp a bead once you've learned how to. And if I could sit beside you and show you how to do this it wouldn't take me but about two minutes. It's just showing all the little twists that make it hard to diagram, not hard to actually do.

Just practice a few times, get the hang of how hard to crimp at each step.

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## And Just In Case You're Still Having Trouble

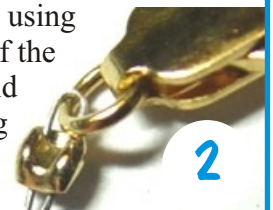
### Here are a Few Photos of the Process



1

Slide the crimp bead on close to the clasp, leaving a small loop at the top.

Put a small dent into the crimp bead using the back part of the pliers. It should look something like this.



2

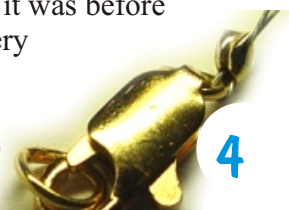
Put the area that you've just crimped into the front section of the pliers as shown. Make sure the crimp is at this angle, with the dimple facing front.



3

Now squeeze the pliers again.

Here's a picture of the final product. The crimp bead has a little fold in it, and is actually smaller than it was before crimping. Very tidy and unobtrusive, and no sharp edges.



4