

LESSON 1: HOW TO MAKE AN ELASTIC BRACELET

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10 minutes

How to tie an elastic bracelet knot?

If you're a beginner and want to start creating DIY costume jewelry, you've come to the right place! We've put together a series of videos to give you the keys to learning how to make jewelry. With each lesson, we'll share a new technique with you. Ready to go? It's possible to make a bracelet without clasps or jewelry clips! Elastic bracelets are the easiest and most economical way to start making jewelry. That's why lesson no. 1 in our beginner's jewelry training course starts with this technique. You may be thinking that there's no point in making a tutorial to learn how to make this kind of bracelet, that all you have to do is thread beads onto the wire and tie a knot... Think again! Elastic jewelry looks extremely simple to make, but there are several things you need to know and plan for before you get started. Otherwise, your bracelet won't last very long!



1 - Which elastic bracelet wire?

First of all, there are several types of elastic wire with different diameters. We invite you to take a look at our [elastic wire comparison chart](#) for more details on the subject. The elastic yarns we're interested in for our bracelet are Nylon/Silicone/Elasthane and Multistrand.
 • Multi-strand yarn is made up of several individual strands, which are more fragile than Nylon/Silicone/Elasthane yarns. However, if one strand breaks, the others will not break immediately. With this yarn, the beads of your creation won't fall to the ground in a matter of seconds. You'll have time to remake it before it breaks.
 Multi-strand wire is suitable for lightweight creations with beads that don't have asperities inside the hole that could grip the wire and break it.
 • Nylon and silicone wires are stronger, but will break all at once.
 Nylon and silicone wires are best suited to large pearls and gemstone beads. Beware: gemstone and ceramic beads are very heavy and put a lot of strain on elastic threads, so there's a greater chance of breakage.
 For our video, we used 0.50 mm coloured nylon wire.
 The second important point is to choose the thread according to the size of the bead hole. Check the hole size of all your beads every time. This information is given on each product's web page. The thread must pass easily through the beads.
 In addition, at the end, we're going to make a rather large and unsightly knot. To hide it, you'll need to buy a bead with a hole wider than the wire, so that you can slip the knot through. This bead should be threaded first.
 Other finishing methods exist when the knot is not possible (thread too big or knot impossible to hide). But these other finishing systems should be considered as a plan B, as they risk weakening the thread. This is particularly true of the crush bead system, but for this method, you'll need jewelry pliers. We won't go into that here.

2 - Stringing beads on elastic thread

1. Don't cut the wire from the spool, so that you can string the beads without the risk of them slipping off the wire.
2. Pre-stretch the thread. That is, pull on it to loosen it. All elastic threads relax after a while. By forcing it to relax before stringing the beads, you can prevent this from happening once the bracelet is finished. This also allows you to test the strength of the wire you've purchased, checking that it has no defects and won't break at the worst possible moment.
3. String the large-hole bead first.
4. Slide on your beads and measure the length of the bracelet with a ruler as you go. Your bracelet should be at least 2 cm longer than your wrist. So, if your wrist circumference is 15 cm, make a bracelet of at least 17 cm.
 How to measure the wrist for a bracelet? Here's a technical sheet explaining different ways to [measure your wrist circumference](#).

3 - How to close an elastic bracelet without fastening?

1. Cut the thread, leaving a few centimetres of thread on each side of the beads, so you can easily tie the knot.
2. The knot used is called the surgeon's knot. It's actually a simple, basic knot, but you have to wrap the thread around each other twice instead of just once. Tie the knot a second time, or even a third time if you notice the thread slipping and unravelling. Tighten the knot firmly, from the outside by pulling on the thread ends, but also from the inside by pulling on the sides of the thread holding the beads.
3. Cut off any protruding wire ends, leaving 1 to 2 mm after the knot. Apply jewelry glue to the knot, then slide the knot inside the large-hole bead. To do this, stretch your bracelet a little, and with your forefinger and thumb, push the bead over the knot.
4. Wait a few hours for the glue to dry before wearing.

4 - 7 ideas for elastic bracelets going further

Want to try out other elastic bracelet designs while you wait for your next lesson? Here are several elastic bracelet tutorials. If you want to reuse your elastic thread, check that the beads in the other models are compatible.



Which material to use for Lesson 1: How to make an elastic bracelet?

SUPPLIES



Elastic thread 0.5 mm Stretch Magic Griffin Transparent x 25m
Ref. : FCU-726
Quantity : 1



Metal beads 4mm fine Gold plated x20
Ref. : MET-073
Quantity : 2



Rocaille Miyuki Duracoat 8/0 4203 - Galvanized Yellow Gold x8g
Ref. : MR08/4203
Quantity : 1



Heart beads 6mm fine Gold plated x4
Ref. : TAL-277
Quantity : 1



4mm Opaque resin bead - Light Red x15
Ref. : TIQ-930
Quantity : 1



4mm Opaque resin bead - Coral x15
Ref. : TIQ-934
Quantity : 1



4mm Opaque resin bead - Ivory x15
Ref. : TIQ-940
Quantity : 1

SUPPLIES



Jewel Glue Hasulith 30ml
Ref. : OUTIL-007
Quantity : 1

steps

★ Step 1/2

I also offer a variation of this bracelet in different colors, to further personalize your creations. Feel free to explore all the options available to create a bracelet that's uniquely yours! You'll find the three bead colors in the "variation" section of the material list.

For this variation I used :

- Opaque resin beads 4 mm - Fuschia x15 (STQ-418)
- Opaque resin beads 4 mm - Pastel yellow x15 (STQ-158)
- Resin Beads Opaque 4 mm - Duck Blue x15 (STQ-505)
- Rocaille beads Duracoat 8/0 4203 - Galvanized Yellow Gold x8g (MR08/4203)
- Flower rondelle beads 4 mm - Gilded with fine gold x20 (MET-073)
- Heart beads 6 mm - Gold-plated x4 (TAL-277)



★ Step 2/2

To vary the colors, here's a third model of this bracelet. Don't forget to take a look at the variation products to create and personalize your own jewel! You'll find the two bead colors in the "variation" section of the equipment list.

For this variation I used :

- Opaque resin beads 4 mm - Malachite x15 (TIQ-991)
- Opaque resin beads 4 mm - Black x15 (TIQ-933)
- Rocaille Duracoat 8/0 4203 - Galvanized Yellow Gold x8g (MR08/4203)
- Flower rondelle beads 4 mm - Gilded with fine gold x20 (MET-073)
- Heart beads 6 mm - Gold-plated x4 (TAL-277)



Result