

WHAT SIZE OPEN RING SHOULD YOU CHOOSE FOR A PIECE OF JEWELRY?

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Bracelets, necklaces, earrings, or keychains: the open jump ring is that small, discreet component without which no piece of jewelry can truly hold together. It connects a pendant to a chain, a clasp to a bracelet, or a charm to a pair of earrings. Although simple to use, it's still easy to choose the wrong size—especially when you're just starting out. Diameter, wire thickness, shape: here's how to choose the right open jump ring for your project and avoid unpleasant surprises during assembly.

Why does the size of the open jump ring matter?

A ring that's too small won't fit components that are too wide. A ring that's too large, on the other hand, will make the piece look bulky and may warp more easily with use. The right size for an open ring depends on two measurements you should always check before buying:

- the ring's diameter (its overall size, often expressed in mm);
 - the wire thickness (also called wire diameter), which determines the ring's strength and its compatibility with the holes in the components to be connected.
- These two criteria must always be chosen together; never one without the other.

Diameter: Which Size for Which Use?

Open rings come in a wide range of diameters, from the most subtle to the most striking. Here are some useful guidelines:

- 2.5 to 4 mm: ideal for fine, delicate designs (minimalist jewelry, lightweight earrings, thin bracelets);
- 5 to 7 mm: the most versatile size, suitable for most bracelets and necklaces, and for most uses (attaching a clasp, hanging a charm, etc.);
- 8 to 10 mm: perfect for connecting slightly heavier charms or thick chain links;
- 11 mm and larger: reserved for bulky pieces, keychains, or jewelry with a bolder style.

To create a harmonious piece of jewelry, keep the overall style of the piece in mind: delicate elements call for small, discreet rings, while a more structured piece can accommodate larger rings, which then become a true decorative detail.



Wire thickness: an important factor

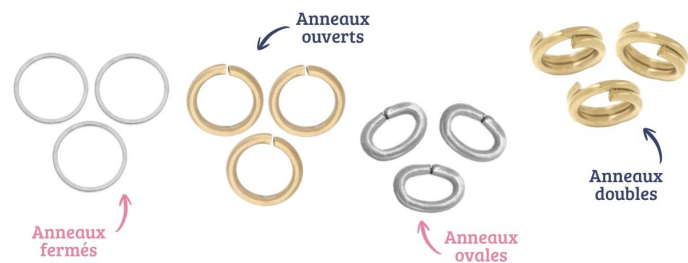
Two rings can have the same diameter but very different wire thicknesses. Yet this detail makes all the difference:

- a fine wire (0.4 to 0.7 mm) is suitable for elements with small holes and lightweight settings;
 - a medium-gauge wire (0.8 to 1 mm) is the most common; it offers a good balance between subtlety and strength;
 - a thick wire (1.2 mm and above) is more often reserved for jewelry that must support weight or withstand frequent handling, such as a keychain.
- Always make sure the wire's thickness matches the hole in the component you want to connect: a wire that's too thick simply won't fit.

Note: The smaller the ring and the thicker the wire, the stronger it will be. The larger the ring and the thinner the wire, the easier it will be to handle.

Round, oval, or twisted rings: the shape also affects the result

Beyond size, the shape of the open ring plays an aesthetic role. The round shape remains the most classic and versatile. The oval ring, which is more discreet along its length, slips easily into a chain link. Twisted or ribbed versions add an extra decorative touch, which is particularly appreciated on visible jewelry such as earrings or bracelets.



Our recommendations based on your project

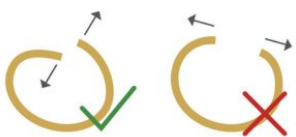
Intended Use	Recommended diameter	Wire thickness	Note
Hanging a lightweight charm	4 to 6 mm	0.6 to 0.8 mm	Ideal for delicate charms on a bracelet or necklace
Hanging a heavy charm	7 to 8 mm	1 to 1.2 mm	Use a thicker wire to prevent deformation
Hanging a pendant on a chain	5 to 8 mm	0.8 to 1 mm	Most versatile size, fits most chains
Attaching a clasp	6 to 8 mm	0.8 to 1 mm	Must withstand repeated handling
Keychain or bulky item	10 mm and larger	1.2 mm and larger	Opt for a double ring for added strength

If you're looking for a solution that's even quicker to use, [double rings](#) or [closed rings](#) may also be suitable for certain designs, particularly for pieces that don't need to be opened regularly.

How to open and close an open ring without deforming it

Once you have the right size, it's time to assemble the piece. The technique is simple but requires a bit of precision to avoid damaging the ring:

- Hold the ring with two [flat-nose pliers](#) placed on either side of the opening.
- Rotate both pliers sideways—never outward—to prevent the ring from becoming oval-shaped.
- To close it, perform the reverse motion until the two ends touch perfectly.



Find complete details on this procedure in our technical guide [on how to open a ring](#). For double rings, which are stiffer, a specialized plier makes opening them much easier.

Result



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