

KEYWORD SEARCH

CRYSTALLIZED™ - Swarovski Elements

- Crystal Beads
- Crystal Pendants
- Crystal Components
- Crystal Pearls
- Crystal Sew-On Stones

GLASS BEADS

- Glass Beads
- Lampwork Glass Beads
- Cubic Zirconia Beads
- Artist Beads

JAPANESE SEED BEADS

- Round Seed Beads
- Seed Bead Shapes
- Delica Seed Beads

NATURAL BEADS

- Semi-Precious Beads
- Freshwater Pearls
- Wood, Shell, Horn, Bone
- Felt and Resin Beads

METAL BEADS

- Alphabet Beads
- Silver Beads
- Gold Beads
- Brass Beads
- Copper Beads
- Thai Hill Tribe Silver

CHARMS AND PENDANTS

- Silver Charms
- Gold Charms
- Brass Charms
- Copper Charms
- Stamping Blanks & Charms
- Pendants
- Buttons

SILVER COMPONENTS

- Findings
- Clasps
- Ear Wires
- Links, Caps, Components
- Bangles and Rings
- Artist Findings

Techniques: Ball Head Pin

A good butane microtorch is a great tool to have on hand. Ball head pins can add an extra element of artistry to your piece of jewelry. Using fine silver wire, you can make head pins with 20 to 26 gauge.

Beading Techniques > Metal Working Techniques > Ball Head Pin



Materials

- 20, 22, 24 or 26 gauge fine silver wire. Fine silver is 99.9% silver, while sterling is 92.5% silver. Fine silver wire does not oxidize the way sterling would.

Tools

- Butane Micro Torch
- Quenching bowl: a heat-safe bowl filled with cold water
- An old pair of chain nose pliers. Do not use your good pliers.

Safety Precautions

- Always point the torch away from you.
- Work on a heat-safe surface and away from any flammables.
- Work in a well-ventilated area.
- Always use pliers to grab the wire. The metal may not be cool even if it looks cool.



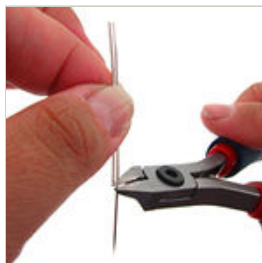
Step 1
To turn on your torch, pull down on the safety to release.



Step 2
Push trigger to ignite the torch. Hold trigger in to keep flame on.



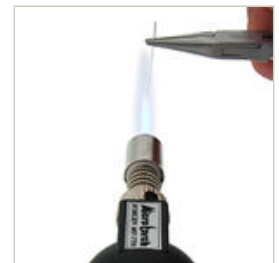
Step 3
For a continuous flame, push the "continuous" button in while holding the trigger in.



Step 4
To make the headpins, cut



Step 5
Turn on the torch, keeping it



Step 6
Grab a piece of cut fine silver

GOLD COMPONENTS

- Findings
- Clasps
- Ear Wires
- Links, Caps, Components
- Bangles

BRASS COMPONENTS

- Findings, Clasps, Earwires
- Links and Components

COPPER COMPONENTS

- Findings
- Clasps
- Links, Caps, Components

BASE METAL COMPONENTS

- Findings

STRINGING MATERIALS

- Chain
- Wire
- Beading Wire
- Beading Thread
- Elastic and Cord
- Wire Lace Ribbon

TOOLS AND SUPPLIES

- Bead Kits
- Beading Tools
- Design Tools
- Storage Supplies
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fine silver wire in equal lengths.



Step 7
 As the wire heats, the end will start to ball up. This can happen very fast especially if it is thin wire.

facing away from you. Using the continuous flame will allow you to keep your hands free.



Step 8
 When you have made the size ball that you want, take the wire out of the flame and drop it into your quenching bowl.
Congratulations - you have made a ball headpin!

wire at the tip with your chain nose pliers. Slowly put the other end of the wire into the flame.

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