

Jewelry Supply List

Pauline Dugas Tait

Beads

Tray (or plain towel or placemat)

Tools (needle nose pliers & cutters)

Stringing Material (tiger tail/micro cable; fine, medium or heavy weight depending on beads.

Crimp Beads

Clasp

Jump Rings

Ruler or tape measure

Wire

Craft Wire: good for beginners; available in copper, brass or silver-plated; in various gauges; 18, 20 & 22 gauge; available by the spool or pre-packaged at bead shops or local hardware store.

Silver Wire (& Gold-Filled): available by the foot or ounce at supply shops and some bead shops.
(See Resource List)

18 gauge: for clasps & large jump rings; also used for hammered-silver jewelry.

20 gauge: for earrings & jump rings

22 (& 24): for wire-wrapping bead ends.

Optional

Balpeen Hammer & Anvil: Harbor Freight Tool Outlet

Chains: sold by inch or foot at most bead shops

Standard bracelet: 7-8 inches

Standard necklace: 18 inches

choker = 16 inches

Jewelry Guidelines

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Welcome to the wonderful world of jewelry making! This class will give you enough knowledge to get started, beginning with tools, terminology and basic techniques for stringing beads and doing wire work.

The Basics

Needle-nose pliers- also known as chain-nose are flat on inside, taper to a point. Good needle nose pliers are every jeweler's best friend. Like all tools, you get what you pay for. I recommend those with a very pointed tip to enable you to do the smallest work. Smooth-jawed pliers, instead of serrated jaws, are better for wire to prevent marring.

Round-nose pliers- have tapered cylindrical jaws, used in wire work for making round loops known as "eyelets".

Wire Cutters- used to cut silver, brass or copper wire. Flush cutters (for wire only) give a "sheer cut" so no filing is required. Note: special wire cutters needed for (stainless steel) memory wire.

Many other pliers--niceties not necessities--are available for specific tasks such as:

Crimping Pliers - used for double-pinching or folding crimp beads or tubes.

Split-Ring Pliers- used for opening split rings which resemble key rings.

Plastic-tipped pliers- exclusively for wire work to prevent marring.

Stringing Material

Beading string or micro-cable is also known as "tiger tail"; it is nylon-coated and comes in various widths: heavy, medium & fine depending on weight of beads. Tiger tail can be cut using wire cutters, scissors or nail clippers.

Beads

Hunting for beads is half the fun! It is more economical to buy strands of beads but as a beginner you may prefer to buy them separately. Start with beads you are instantly attracted to and find other in various sizes to compliment them. It's best to buy supporting beads—in same color—to ensure a good match for main beads.

Beads come in every different shape and color from tiny seed beads to chunky semi-precious stones. Beads are made of glass, wood, bone, plastic or naturals like quartz and abalone shell. The endless array of beads is what makes hunting for them half the fun.

Findings- term used for the metal parts that finish your jewelry such as clasp & hook.

Clasps: toggle, lobster claw, spring ring and "S" hook are the most commonly-used types.

Jump Rings: small circles of wire in various sizes used to connect findings.

Split Rings: a more-secure, double jump ring resembling a key ring.

Crimp Beads: small, soft metal beads or tubes used for securing the ends of stringing beads by making a loop at end (of tiger tail) and pinching crimp with pliers,

Head Pins: long, straight wires with a ball or flat disc (head) on one end, used for making earrings or droplets. Head pins eventually become eye pins.

Eye pins or Eyelets: long straight wires with a round loop on one (for earrings) or both ends (for making links) made with round nose pliers.

Rondelles: spacer beads shaped like flat discs (or donuts) often made of silver; common one called "daisy spacer"; also, vintage ones with rhinestones.

Caps: (usually) round-shaped decorative findings added to beads for extra embellishment.

Bead Board: a handy tray/work surface with grooves for holding beads and a measuring device.

Jewelry Resource List

Portland Bead Shops

Dava Beads - 2121 NE Broadway	503 288-3991
Belladonna Beads - 7325 N. St. Louis (off Lombard in St. Johns)	503 283-0661
Beads at Dusti Creek - 4848 SE Division	503 235-4800
Beads Forever - 3522 SE Hawthorne	503 230-2323
Bead Source - 15831 SE Division	503 760-8964
Village Beads - 7807 SW Capital Hwy	503 244-1821
Let it Bead - 1426 NW 23 rd Ave.	503 228-1882

Bead Bullies- 12200 SW Main, Tigard	503 430-5050
Planet Bead- 244 E. Main St., Hillsboro	503 615-8509
Urban Beads- 19297 SW Martinazzi Tualatin	503 612-7700
Bead Happy- 15830 SE McLoughlin Blvd. Milwaukie (next to Harbor Freight)	503 650-7885

Washington

Bead City- 11516 S.E. Mill Plain Blvd, Vanc.	360 253-2256
Main Street Bead Connection- Hwy 78 in JM Plaza, Hazel Dell	360 750-1444

Supply Houses

Ed's House of Gems- 7712 Sandy Blvd. Portland	503 284-8990
Simon Golub & Sons- 2820 SE 8 th Ave. Portland	503 230-9010
Handley's 6160 Hwy. 99 Hazel Dell, WA (exit 78, off I-5)	
Handley's Jewelry Supply - 534 SW 3 rd Ave. Portland	503 241-4306
Manny's- Main St. in Newburg (offers Metalsmithing)	