

SIMPLE HAMMERED BAND RING

MATERIALS:

- Silver wire.
- Square, round, D shape, fancy or sheet will be suitable. 1mm – 2mm thickness is easiest to work in.

TOOLS

- Piercing saw
- Ruler or calipers
- Ring sizer
- Files
- Ring or round pliers
- Soldering equipment
- Hammer
- Mandrel
- Emery paper
- Polishing/finishing materials

(From left to right: 2mm square wire, 2mm wide D shape, 8mm x 1mm sheet, 1mm round wire, 2mm round, 4mm D shape)

1. Use a **ring gauge** to measure your finger or a **ring stick** to measure from an existing ring. This will give you the letter size for the ring you want to make. Use the chart to find the internal circumference size in mm. To work out the total length of silver you will need add twice the depth of the silver.

Eg. Size M = 52.5 mm + 2 x 1mm wire = 54.5mm

2. Use a **ruler** or **callipers** to measure the length from your wire. If you are working with a freshly bought piece of wire you may need to trim the cut end away before you measure.

Mark with a **scribe** or **marker pen**. If you use a pen which leaves a wide mark remember which side of the mark to cut. Be as precise as possible.

(If you want to add a lot of hammering and texture to the ring then size down by a millimetre or two. As you hammer and texture the ring later it will stretch).

3. Use a **piercing saw** to cut through the line. Aim to cut a nice perpendicular line. The straighter this line is the better fit your join will have and the less work you will have to do later.

4. Brace the wire vertically against the bench peg and use a **flat file** to make sure the ends of the wire are squared off and remove any burrs from the cut edges.

5. Use round or ring bending **pliers** to bend the two ends of the ring round to meet. Don't try to get a perfect circle. Aim for a squashed oval or D shape. The most important thing is to get the two ends to meet as neatly as possible.

Once you have got it roughly in place use lots of little adjustments to get the final fit. Over bend by pushing the two ends past each other and then snap back into place. This adds some tension to the wire which helps it to hold its shape while soldering.

6. Flux, solder and pickle the join. Rinse in fresh water and dry off.

A l y s P o w e r
J E W E L L E R Y