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Left Hand Version



By Johanne Brunet

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And do not forget to mention that you have made this jewellery with your own hands, using an original design from Johanne Brunet !

Level: Beginner

Prerequisite: None, but a knowledge of *The Basics of Wire Crochet* is highly recommended.

Requested crochet knowledge: ch = chain stitch
sl st = slip stitch

NOTE : You can zoom in this document at 200%, and still retain a good image definition.

Materials:

- Approx. 7 ft (2.5m) of round wire in 28 ga (0.32 mm) fine silver, sterling silver, Argentium® or 14K gold filled (14/20 G.F.), dead soft temper
- Crochet hook #8 US (1.25mm)
- Cutters or nail-clipper (also works well and takes very little space)
- Round-nose pliers
- Chain-nose pliers
- Cylindrical object like a wooden dowel, a tube of lipstick or mascara, a marker, etc.

To Begin:

1. See sizing chart at the end of this tutorial to determine the number of stitches necessary for the desired ring size. Some experimenting with copper wire might be necessary.
2. Chain 23 for a size 7¼ ring.

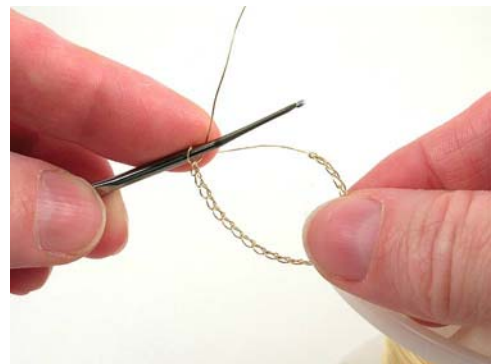


3. Hold your work with the hook pointing upward at one end, and grab the tail end in your other hand.

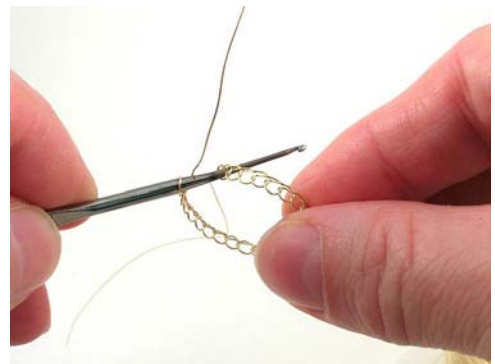


4. Bring both ends up together.

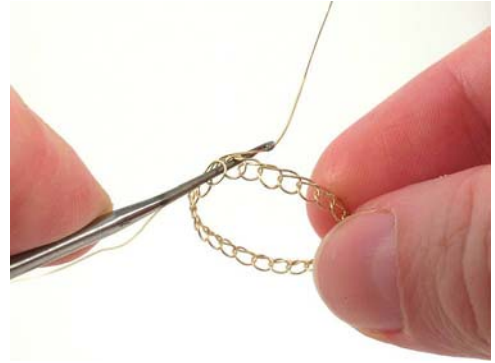
The end with the hook must be placed over the tail end.



5. Insert the hook pointing down through the end stitch of the tail end, from top to bottom



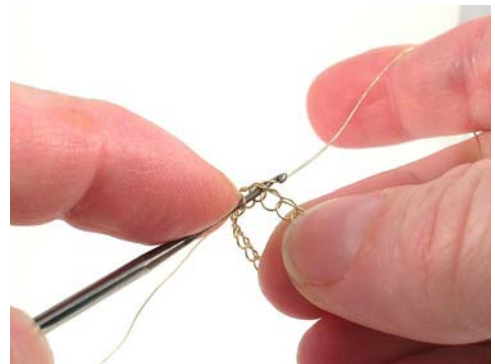
6. Grab the wire right under the stitch as close to the work as you can, while making sure that the two stitches through which your hook is inserted rest against each other as tightly as possible. You want this joining stitch to be as tight as you can while it retains its round shape.



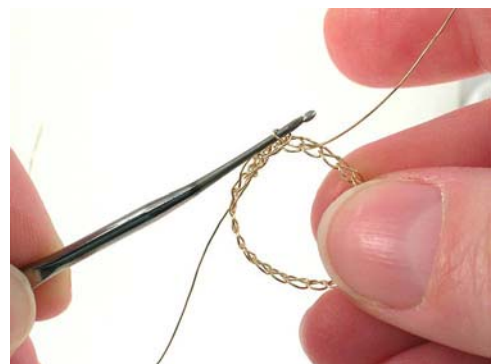
7. Gently pull the wire through all layers, wiggling your crochet until the hook slips easily through the loop without being too loose.



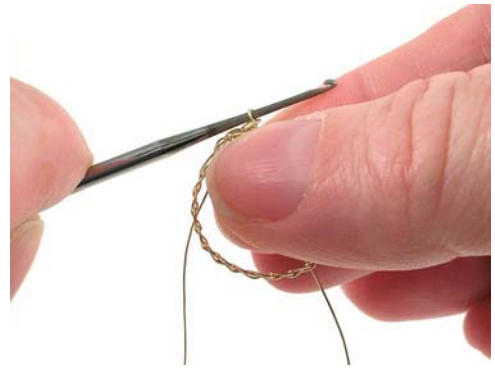
8. Insert the hook pointing down through the next chain stitch.
9. Push the loop on the hook as close to the work as you can, with your forefinger, and grab the wire under the stitch also as close to the work as possible.



10. Pull gently through both layers, keeping it as tight as possible with the tail of the wire hanging down. In the picture on the right, the tail is still pointing up (in my right hand) and needs to be oriented downwards before pulling any further. This will put less resistance on the wire, and prevent it from being overly tortured.



11. Holding the ring between thumb and forefinger, gently wiggle the hook to gradually loosen up the loop on the hook...



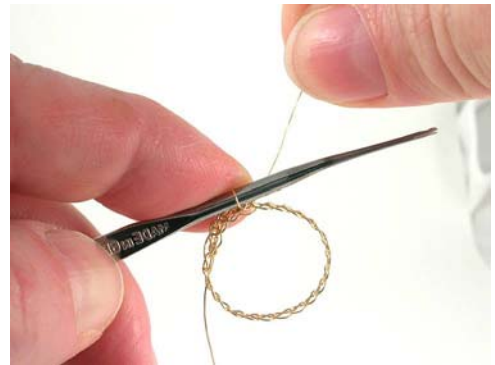
...until it fits snugly on the round part of hook just before the flat part.



12. Bring the tail wire up.

13. Insert the hook pointing down through the next chain stitch.

14. Repeat steps 8 to 11, around.



15. After slip stitching into the last stitch, **do not join!** Cut the wire, leaving a 2-inch tail.



16. Remove the hook from the loop without pulling, and fold the loop forward over the next stitch.



17. Grab the end of the wire you just cut and slip into all layers of stitches, from the inside of the ring to the outside (up), making sure the wire goes through the loop you just folded.

18. Pull tight.



When doing this, your wire might tend to kink, which would produce an uncomfortable pointed stitch in your work. To avoid this, you can slip your crochet hook through the loop while pulling gently to force the wire into a nice round shape. When the loop is tight on the hook, remove the hook and pull some more until there is no more loop and the wire lays flat against the stitches.

(Picture on the right comes from another tutorial, but the method is the same)



19. Go back down outside of the loop that you have folded at step 16.

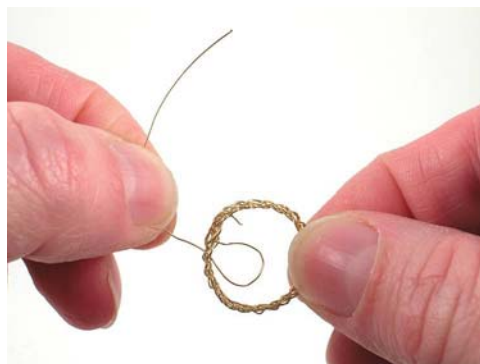
20. Pull tight.

21. Thread back up and down again, to lock securely.



22. Cut the wire to about 1/8 of an inch (about 3 mm).

23. Repeat steps 17 to 22 with other tail wire.



24. Grab the short end with the tip of your round-nose pliers and bend it into a tiny hook.



25. Using the chain-nose pliers, close the hook firmly around another wire or between two wires, making sure that there is no sharp end pointing out to scratch or snag.

26. Now you need to tuck in the remaining tail, as described above.

27. Rub your fingers gently inside and outside the ring to make sure that it is smooth and that no wire end will protrude, scratch or catch on garments.



It must pass the «sweater test» with flying colours!
This test consists in putting on a sweater on without your ring snagging or getting caught in the stitches.

28. Your ring is now finished, but it probably looks like it spent a few hours in the washing machine...

The trick is to flatten the stitches and to roll it to a nice round shape with a household object. You can use any tube-shaped object like a marker, a wooden dowel, a tube of lipstick or mascara. Anything you find that has a diameter slightly smaller than that of your ring will work just fine.



29. Just slip your "tube" through the ring and roll away on a flat and hard surface. It will also harden the ring a little and make it more even and comfortable.

I used a AA battery in the picture on the right.

Repeat this step whenever you feel that your ring needs a little sprucing up, which will eventually happen after wearing it for some time.



30. Voilà! You have made a crocheted ring!

Happy Crochet and don't hesitate to contact me if you have any question about this tutorial.

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RING SIZING CHART

Measures are the interior diameter of ring.

Measures US	# stitches With hook #8 US (1.25mm)	Diameter in mm	French Measures in mm
3½	18	14,45	44 mm
4½	20	15,20	47,8
7¼	23	17,50	55

These are only approximative measures. You will need to experiment to get the right number of stitches for you. That's where copper wire comes in handy!

IMPORTANT : Measures are accurate (US, French and mm), but the number of stitches is approximate for those measures. The tension and stretch factors may occasion a small difference in sizing. In doubt, it is best to choose a size slightly smaller, since **it will stretch with regular use anyway**. It is always possible to stretch the ring a little when wearing it for the first time.