

Techniques

How to use French Bullion

Professional Tip: Handle French Wire with care, it is a fragile coil that is mainly decorative rather than protective.

French Bullion or Wire

This small wire coil was mainly used to finish fine pieces such as pearls strung onto silk beading thread. It's function is to protect the cord but since it is rather delicate it really is more decorative (use wire protectors for more durability). French Bullion Medium is perfect for size #2 and #4 silk cords.

To use:

1. Your silk cord should be prestretched, ready to use. Cut 1/4" of the French Bullion. String it onto the cord, carefully taking it to the non-needle end, leaving at least 4" of the silk at the end. (You could place a clip like a Beadstopper© to prevent items from coming off the thread).
2. String on your clasp, then one bead (make sure its hole will allow the thread pass through it twice). Take off the clip, if using, string on a twisted wire needle.
3. Pull the needle along with thread through the strung bead creating a neat loop of the French Bullion. Knot the thread around the cord, glue the knot. (If wanted, you may leave more thread and pass through two more beads, knotting each time) Trim any excess cord.
4. Repeat on other end after knotting the rest of the piece. No need for an extra needle, just use attached.

