

# Techniques

## Haven't got a headpin?

**Professional Tip:** Enhance your designs by using creative options when making earrings or other dangles.

### Headpins

A short piece of wire (typically 2" with some sort of end that will prevent your beads from coming off. Sometimes you may need other options. Here are some suggestions to either solve your problems or jazz up your designs.

1. Have a Bench Block, Chasing Hammer and wire (20-24 guage, sterling silver or gold filled). Practice hammering one end of the length of wire you need creating a paddle end.
2. Charms and small dangles can be turned into a great decorative eyepin. Make a loop at one end of your wire then hang a dangle from it.
3. Brush up on your wire skills. Try creating spirals, stars, or other fun shapes with wire using them as the base of a self-made fancy headpin.
  - a. Start by making a loop with Round Nose Pliers
  - b. Holding the loop with Chain Nose Pliers, use your opposite index finger to push the wire around the loop. Continue turning it until you get your desired sized spiral.
  - c. The uncurled wired should be bent at a right angle making a headpin.
  - d. Hammer the decorative design (optional).

