

HOW TO MAKE A JEWELLERY BAIL FROM A HEADPIN (by Myléne Hillam)



Drill a hole into the cabochon using a fine drill bit.



The hole should be just large enough to place a headpin through – too large and it will have to much play in it.



Place crystal headpin through the hole.....



and pull it into place.



Grip headpin behind cabochon with flat nosed pliers....



and bend it at a 90° angle.



View from front – the headpin sitting flush, vertically above the cabochon.



From side on you can see that the angle is slightly greater than 90° - this will help the loop sit nicely when you thread it onto your necklace later on.



Grip the headpin above the cabochon so that there is sufficient room to wrap two or three times.

At this point, you need to consider how you will use your cabochon – do you need to have a loop to thread through or will your be attaching the cabochon to a jump ring. In this example, I will be attaching it to a jump ring so my 90 ° angle needs to be to the left or right. If your cabochon will be attached directly to your threading material, you will need to bend the headpin either towards the front or the back of the cabochon.



Bend the headpin at a 90° Angle.



Switch to round nosed pliers and bend the wire over the top jaw of the pliers



Continue to turn the loop around the pliers



Once the loop is formed, wrap the wire around the stem you created earlier.



Use flat nosed pliers to help you wrap the wire around the stem.



If there is any excess, cut it away with flush cutters and then use pliers to flatten it against the stem so there are no sharp bits to poke into your skin.



The completed wire wrapped jewellery bail!