TotallyBeads
The Best Things in Life are Handmade

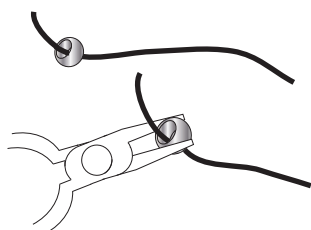# Working with Tigertail

Materials needed for this project
- Beads of your Choice   - Jump Rings   - Crimp Beads   - Calottes
- Clasp of your Choice   - Chain if you want to extend your Jewellery

Before you start....
Have a look through these instructions and learn the basics first. Working with tigertail can be fun, easy and a quick way to assemble a piece of jewellery. Most people use tigertail for a single strand stringing technique, however there is much more to tigertail. It can be used to make workable components to jewellery, it can be woven, used for a floating necklace or even used for multi strand necklaces. Try this single stringing technique first then check out our other projects as well using the tigertail in different ways.
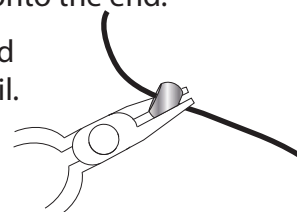
How To Attach Crimp Beads

Step 1. Take a length of Tigertail and slide a crimp bead onto the end.

Step 2. With your pliers, place them around the crimp and position the crimp where you would like it on the Tigertail.

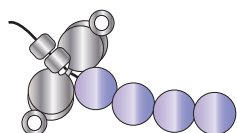**Step 3.** Squeeze the crimp flat, trapping the Tigertail inside the crimp.

How To Fit a Calotte

Step 1. Take your length of Tigertail and attach a crimp bead as above.
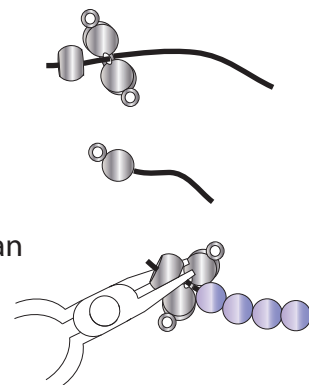
Step 2. Now, take the Calotte and slide it onto the Tigertail, pulling the secured crimp inside the Calotte. Trim excess Tigertail close to the crimp.

Step 3. Gently squeeze both sides of the Calotte together, trapping the crimp inside. Make sure the 2 loops on either side of the calotte are in-line with each other so you can attach a jump ring through both holes.

Step 4. For the other end of your bracelet or necklace, thread on a calotte first, then a crimp. Secure crimp inside calotte with your pliers.
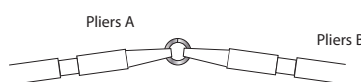
Tip. If you have a particularly heavy necklace, it is worth double crimping your necklace for extra strength. Make sure the first crimp you secure is as far into the calotte as possible and then secure another crimp directly above it.
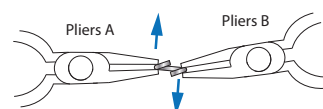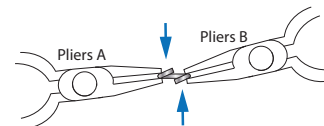
Opening and Closing a Jump Ring

Pliers A   Pliers B

Step 1. Hold Jump ring with 2 pairs of pliers.

Pliers A   Pliers B

Step 2. Gently push the Jump ring apart, moving Pliers A away from you and pliers B towards you.

Step 3. With the pliers in the same position, reverse the action in Step 2, pulling pliers A towards you and pushing pliers B away from you.
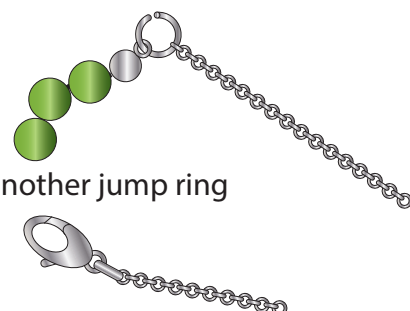
Pliers A   Pliers B

Attaching findings to a chain.

Step 1. Follow the steps to attaching a calotte as above, then take a jump ring and open using your pliers.

Step 2. Slide the jump ring through the holes in the Calotte and then add the last link on your chain. Close ring.

Step 3. Decide how long you need your chain and cut to length, then attach another jump ring to the the other end of the chain.

Step 4. Repeat Steps 1, 2 and 3 on the other side of your necklace, but add a clasp at the other end of the chain.

TotallyBeads
The Best Things in Life are Handmade

Learn the Basics...

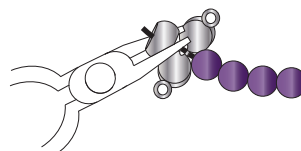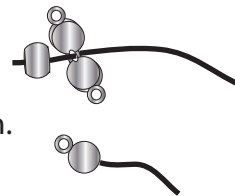### Single strand Necklace or Bracelet

Before you start - Decide if you are going to make a Necklace or bracelet, then spend some time working out your bead pattern. The easiest way to do this is by laying your beads out on a beading mat or non-slippery surface like a table cloth - deciding on your pattern of beads before you start stringing them will save you time and make sure your design looks good and you are happy with your pattern.

Step 1. Cut a length of Tiger tail - approx 60cm for a standard size Necklace or 30cm for a bracelet. Attach a calotte as per the previous instructions.

Step 2. Start threading on your beads until you have strung all the beads in your design.

Step 3. Slide on another calotte and secure with crimp.

Step 4. Attach jump ring on this side and you have completed your Necklace/Bracelet.

Single Strand Necklace with Chain

Before you start - With this design, you are only going to have beads at the front of your necklace. The length of this beaded part is up to you, but approx 8" / 20cm is a good length. Spend some time working out your bead pattern.

Step 1. Cut a length of Tiger tail - approx 30cm, attach a calotte as per the previous instructions.

Step 2. Start threading on your beads until you have strung all the beads in your pattern.

Step 3. Slide on another calotte and secure with crimp.

Step 4. Decide on the length of your complete necklace and from this measurement, take away the length of the beads you have just strung. The measurement you have left is the length of chain you will need to finish your necklace. Either cut or open a link on the chain for the correct length of chain. For example, if you require an 18"/46cm necklace, your beaded section is 8" / 20cm, therefore you need10" / 26cm of chain.

Step 5. Fold the chain in half and divide into 2 separate pieces as you will need to attach each piece to either side of your necklace.

Step 6. Using the chain links or a jump ring, attache the chain to either end of your beaded section and then attach a clasp and jump ring to the other ends.

Enjoy

© Copyright - Totally Beads Ltd - 2019

Hope you enjoyed creating with us. We would love to see a picture of your finished products. Why not email us some pictures - letsmakeit@totallybeads.co.uk

Check out all our Beads, Findings, Kits and Projects on our website. **www.totallybeads.co.uk**

Or sign up to our weekly email newsletter. **Follow us on facebook: Totallybeads Ltd**

Or follow Kitti's personal page on facebook: Kitti Robinson Designs

For some behind the scenes sneak peeks, inspirational ideas, upcoming events and much more!