TotallyBeads
The Best Things in Life are Handmade

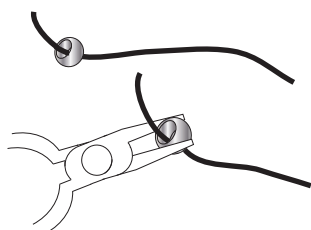# Working with Tigertail

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.
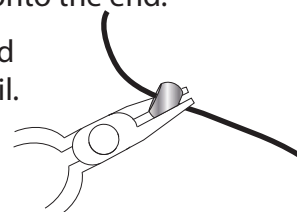
How To Attach Crimp Beads

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.

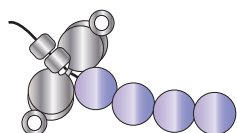**Step 3.** Squeeze the crimp flat, trapping the Tigertail inside the crimp.

How To Fit a Calotte

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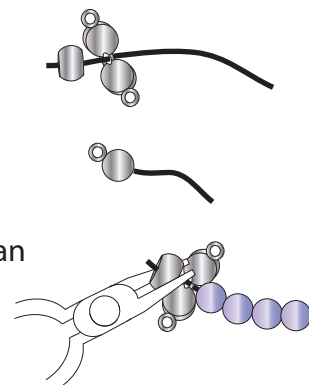
Step 2. Now, take the Calotte and slide it onto the Tigertail, pulling the secured crimp inside the Calotte. Trim excess Tigertail close to the crimp.

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.
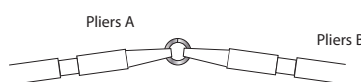
Tip. If you have a particularly heavy necklace, it is worth double crimping your necklace for extra strength. Make sure the first crimp you secure is as far into the calotte as possible and then secure another crimp directly above it.
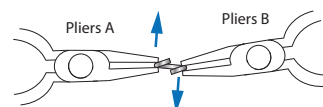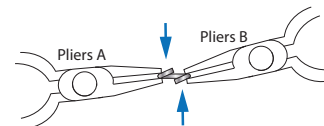
Opening and Closing a Jump Ring

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.

Pliers A   Pliers B

Step 3. With pliers in the same position, reverse the action in Step 2, pulling pliers A towards you and pushing pliers B away from you.
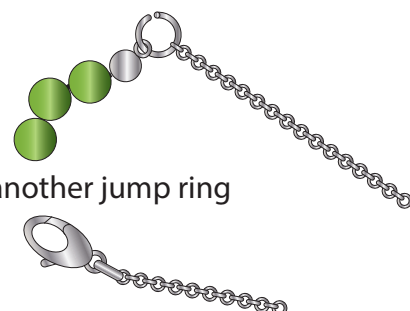
Attaching findings to a chain.

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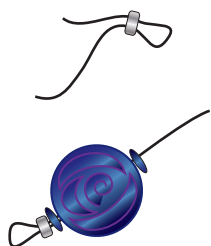
Step 3. Decide how long you need your chain and cut to length, then attach another jump ring to the the other end of the chain.

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.

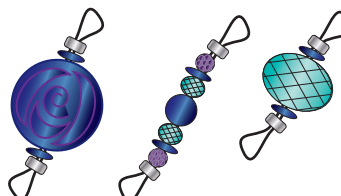# Working with Tigertail Fringe and Link Jewellery

Long Necklace with bead sections...

Step A. Cut 9 lengths of tigertail, approx 8cm long. Slide on a crimp bead and take 1 end back through the crimp bead to create a loop, then secure crimp. Repeat this with all 9 lengths.

Step B. Slide your beads onto the tigertail, ensuring you trap the end of the tigertail into your beads at your crimped end.

Step C. Slide on another crimp and take the end of your tigertail back through the crimp, creating another loop and secure the crimp. Again, make sure you take the tigertail back through some of your beads to hide the end. Trim the tigertail and then repeat this step with all 9 lengths.

Step 2. With your pliers, open the end link of your longer piece of chain and slide on your 1st beaded section, close the link. Then take a smaller length of chain and attach this to the other end of your pin.

Step 3. Repeat Step 2 with all your beaded sections and lengths of chain. When you come to your last beaded section, open the link at the other end of your longer piece of chain and slide the beaded section onto the link to complete the necklace.
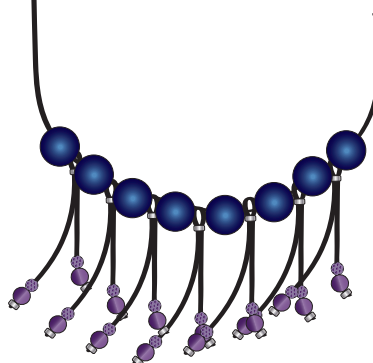
Creating little fringe with tigertail

Step 1. Take a piece of tigertail. Depending how big you want your fringe, you could even create different sizes and string them onto your necklace in size order, with a bead between each fringe. So take one about 10cm long fold it in half and slide a crimp bead onto it. Crimp the crimp bead from about half a cm from the top creating a loop.

Step 2. Then separate the 2 ends of the tigertail add some beads to the bottom and secure them on with a crimp bead.

Then string on your beads and the fringes onto your tigertail and finish your necklace as normal with calottes, cimp beads and with a clasp of your choice

Create Long necklace with bead sections – either with amended head pins or tigertail.

Enjoy

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