

Materials Workshop

Cold connections in Jewelry and Art projects

By Mary Hettmansperger

When making jewelry, Jewelers primarily build their creations using heat to solder their parts and pieces together. “Cold connections” are just that; Non-heat methods and techniques to connect metal and paper in Art projects. Here are several cold connection techniques: Brads are just like the paper brads to bind several pieces of paper together. This can also be used with metal, fabric, paper of course and surface design. You can flatten them by hammering the top once it is inserted and the prongs are open. Eyelets are also great. They are mainly used for paper or in metal work. In metal work, mini eyelets are especially great as they give the look of a tube rivet. Insert the eyelet, then open the opposite side to connect by gently hammering the tube area open. Traditional rivets and traditional handmade wire rivets are a solid metal piece that is hammered open to create a head, cut at the length desired, then hammer on the other side of the piece you are connecting. These are used in metal smith applications.

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