



## Fibula Pin Workshop

**Instructor: Mia Vollkommer**

### Tools:

- **Chain nose pliers** - look like needle nose pliers, but the inside of the jaws is smooth, as opposed to serrated.
- **Round nose pliers** - pliers with smooth, round tapered jaws, for bending wire and creating loops (please do not get the kind with the silicone coated tips)
- **Flush cutting wire snips** - wire snips designed for getting into small places and making precision cuts. Thicker/heavier duty snips are recommended for working with 16g and 14g wires.
- **Curved head chasing hammer**
- **Steel block or anvil**
- **Ruler**
- **Fine Tip Sharpie Marker**
- **Safety glasses**
- **Metal File** (optional but recommended) - a Cut #2 metal file will speed up the process of making the pin stem thin enough for your chosen fabric. Please note that handles for the files are usually sold separately (I personally don't use a handle, but you may want one for comfort).
  - [Flat file](#)
  - [Half Round file](#)
  - [Handle](#)
- **Sanding Sticks** 3 sanding sticks, 1 each in a course, medium, and fine grit sandpapers are recommended. These can be purchased premade, but making your own is more economical in the long run. You'll need sheets of sandpaper from a hardware store (like this [multi-pack](#)), 3 paint mixing sticks, and a stapler (or 6 rubber bands).
  - Check out this **great tutorial** for making your own sanding sticks [here](#).

### Metals:

Sterling Silver, Copper, Jeweler's Brass, Brass, or Bronze wire can be used to make the pins. I'd recommend dead soft for the 16g or 14g wires. 18g-24g can be dead soft or half hard.

### **For the Pins:**

You can use anything from 18g-14g wire for the pins. I'll be showing examples in 18g and 14g in the class. Pins can take from 8"-18" of wire, depending on the complexity of the design. For three pins you'll want to have a maximum of 3ft of 16g or 14g wire, and 12" of 18g.

### **For the embellishments:**

You can embellish the pins using 24g wire, 20g wire, and beads. I'd recommend 4-6ft 24g and 2ft 20g. No set number of beads are needed, but a variety of shapes, sizes, and colors that complement each other are good to have on hand. Note - these pins are a great way to use up odds and ends from other projects!

**CONT. PG 2**

**Resources:**

Local bead shops in the greater DC area are easy to find via Google. I would highly recommend “shopping local” so that you can see what you are purchasing and get design help from store staff. If shopping online, for metals and tools, I recommend [www.riogrande.com](http://www.riogrande.com)

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to email me at [2dotsoverthei@gmail.com](mailto:2dotsoverthei@gmail.com).

I'm looking forward to seeing you in class!  
Mia (pronounced Mya or Maya)

