

Jewelry Making Tools Shopping Guide

Hi! This is **Amy**, from the beading & jewelry making blog amyromeu.com.

I designed this quick shopping guide as a companion to my blog post called [The Beginner's Guide To Jewelry Making Tools](#). You can read that post [here](#). **Print this handy cheat sheet and take it with you** when you go jewelry making tool shopping at Michael's, Hobby Lobby, JOANN's, or your local bead store. (Don't forget to check each store's website for store coupons before you go - you'll easily get a nice savings on your tool purchase!)

GENERAL TIPS WHEN BUYING TOOLS

REMEMBER: Each store has its own large selection of tools to choose from. Try not to get overwhelmed! In all cases, you are looking for tools **that have the same shape and function** as the tools pictured below. Don't worry about the brand. Buy what you can afford, you can always upgrade later.

KEY FEATURES YOU WANT



The two most important features to look for in any tools you are buying are: **cushioned handle grips** and a **spring mechanism**. Both of these elements are super important for comfort and efficiency when making jewelry!

Note: cushioned handgrips are not a deal breaker, but if you can get them, do! However, the spring mechanism is a **MUST HAVE** feature. I don't buy any tools without a spring. The spring helps the plier jaws spring back open after you squeeze the

grips closed. It doesn't sound like much, but it's an important feature, trust me!

The 3 Must Have Jewelry Making Tools

#1 Round Nose Pliers

- Used for making perfect loops
- Have 2 long, cone shaped ends
- Are NOT the same as “looping” pliers (you may want them later, but not yet!)



#2 Flat Nose Pliers

- Also called “chain nose” or “needle nose”
- Have narrow, flat jaws and tapered ends
Narrow ends, not wide ones, are best
- Have SMOOTH jaws (no teeth)



#3 Wire Cutters

- Can cut hard or soft wire
- Should be “flush” cutters (read more about that in [this post](#))
- Will be replaced often, so don't spend a lot



I hope this information is helpful! If you have any questions, feel free to reach out via email at hello@amyromeu.com. For more tips, tricks, and tutorials about beads and jewelry making, be sure to visit my blog, amyromeu.com.