

# TECHNICALLY

## Speaking...



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*Technically Speaking* features in-depth tutorials for beading techniques that you can adapt to your own creations.

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## Knotting with a Bead Knotter™ Tool

By Tamara Honaman for  
Fire Mountain Gems and Beads®

### Materials:

- Silk thread (lightweight, #1)
- Beads of choice
- Earring findings
- Bead tips
- G-S Hypo Cement

### Tools:

- Bead Knotter™
- Chain nose pliers
- Scissors
- Twisted beading needle

### Instructions:

1. Cut a length of silk thread. (You'll need about five times the desired length of your finished piece; for each earring shown, you'll need about 26 in.) Thread on a needle. Fold the thread in half and tie an overhand knot with the ends of the thread. Put a drop of glue on the knot to secure and trim the ends close to the knot (Fig. 1).

2. String on one bead over both strands and slide it down to the knot.

3. Make a loop around two fingers with the thread; drop the end of the thread into the loop to make an overhand knot. Insert the awl (long tip end) of the

Knotter into the loop, making sure you're pointing the sharp tip *away* from your hand. Tighten the knot around the awl.

4. Slide the knot all the way down so it rests against the base of the Knotter. Hold the Knotter in one hand and place your thumb under the tab. Place the working thread over the fork on the Knotter (Fig. 2), then pull the working thread with your other hand so the knot is pulled snugly against the bead. Push the tab to raise the fork so the knot slides up and off the awl. (The knot should be flush against the last bead.)

5. Repeat Steps 3 and 4 until the strand is the desired length.

6. Cut the thread at the needle, and then remove the needle. Using both ends of the thread, tie a knot and add a drop of glue. Lay the knot into a bead tip. Use chain nose pliers to squeeze the bead tip closed (Fig. 3).

7. Slip the open loop of the bead tip into the loop of the earring finding. Close the loop.

If you have questions concerning this tutorial, contact the editors of *Bead Unique Magazine*.

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Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Bead Knotter™