

**Elevate your Metal Clay Creations
with
Handmade Sterling Silver Earring Hooks**

You will need-

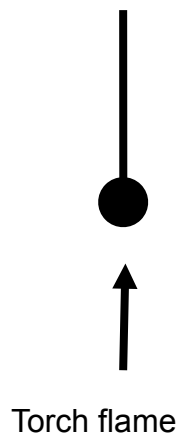
0.8mm round Sterling Silver Wire * Pliers and snips * Tweezers * Flat File
Small butane torch * Safety Pickle or dilute Sulphuric acid * Brass or steel brush

Method-

Start with 0.8mm round sterling silver wire.
Cut two 7cm pieces

Make balls on the end of each wire-

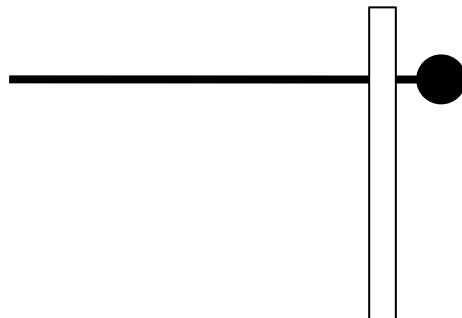
Take hold of the wire using tweezers. Hold the torch so the flame is pointing upwards; melt an equal sized ball onto the end of each length of wire.



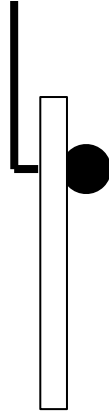
You will notice that the sterling silver goes black or 'oxidises'.

'Pickle' the wire to remove the oxidization by placing it in an acidic solution.
Remove, rinse and brush the wire with a brass bristle brush until shiny.

Thread the wire through the hole in the earring so the ball is on the front



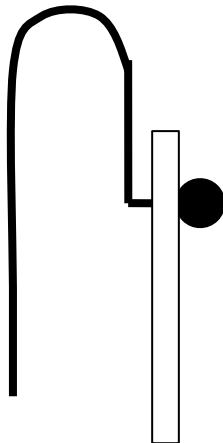
Handmade Sterling Silver Earring Hooks continued



Holding the ball tightly to the front of the earring, bend the wire upwards behind the earring.

(Alternatively if the hole in the earring is too big and the ball slips through; make an attractive loop so the ball sits above the edge of the earring)

Using half round pliers, bend the ear wire backwards to form the part that goes through the ear. Make sure this part is wide enough to comfortably fit through the ear. Continue bending the ear wire down parallel to the earring.



Cut the wire to the required length. Using the half round pliers, bend a small 'kick' in the end of the ear wire. File the end of the wire to ensure it is smooth.

