

Special Rivets

Rivets can be simple or complex, delicate or bulky, dominant or invisible. By understanding all these possibilities, a jeweler enlarges the range of solutions to any particular joining problem.

Nailhead Rivets

This popular variation on the rivet is useful when a larger head is needed, either for the look of it or because the material being held requires a wider grip. It is also handy when

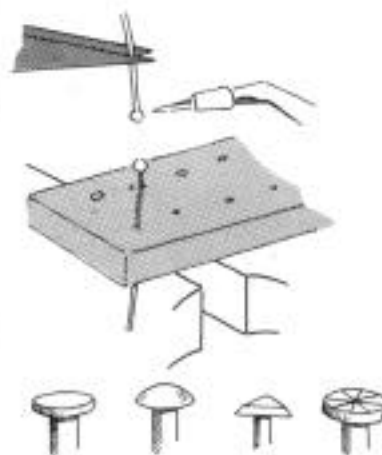
one end of the rivet is difficult to reach, for instance inside a cup, or when the material is fragile enough to warrant minimum hammering.

1. Draw a bead on a wire that fits tightly into the rivet hole. Use a hot, sharp-pointed flame. Gold and silver will form balls more easily than copper or brass.

2. Slide the wire into a tight hole on numbered side of drawplate as it is laid across vise jaws or anvil hole. Strike with a planishing hammer.

3. The resulting nailhead may be shaped with punches or a nail set while still in the drawplate, or removed and filed to a desired shape.

4. Slide the wire through the holes, tap lightly to seat, and form a standard rivet head on the other end.



Nailhead rivets are recommended for 16-24 gauge wire. Smaller wire doesn't leave enough head to show. Heavier wire does not easily form a bead.

Traditional Rosette

These decorative nailheads are made with four angled blows of a ball peen hammer.



Flush Rivets

These rivets are made as described on the previous page (standard rivets) except that the hole is prepared by beveling so that the swell of the rivet is below the surface. If the rivet is made of the same metal as the piece it is holding, the rivet will blend in completely. This is called a *disappearing* or *invisible* rivet.

Any of these tools may be used.



Either or both ends of a rivet may be made flush.

