



Simple Band Ring



Inside Diameter (mm) + Metal Thickness (mm) x 3.14 = Ring Blank Length

YOU WILL NEED:

- Silver wire or sheet metal (D shape around 2mm depth is under £5)
- saw frame and 2/0 saw blade, engineers square, scribe, half round pliers
- file (2 cut)
- Hard solder, scissor shears (or other cutters) soldering brick, jewellers torch, tweezers, flux, brush, quench pot with water, safety pickle in pickle pot
- emery papers, polishing papers
- pendant motor with polishing mop & rouge or tumbler polishing machine



HOW TO MAKE A SIMPLE BAND

1. Make sure one end of your metal is square. File a perfect end (try filing to get just one perfect facet when you shine it the light) From the crisp end measure the length of the silver you need using the formula above. Allow a little extra for wiggle room, 0.5mm works well. Score a mark of the measurement on the metal with a scribe.
2. Cut the side that is away from the metal you intend to use. If you want to texture your metal you need to do this **before** cutting the length as the pressure of a metal hammer on a steel block will stretch the metal.
3. File the freshly cut side for a perfect edge.
4. Create a pill shape so that the metal to be joined is a flat line (not round) this will give a better angle for the two ends to meet. Work the metal back and forward, side to side to line up the two sides perfectly from all angles. Run your saw through the pinched together join. You can then run your saw through the pinched together join to create the perfect match. Alternatively use half round pliers to form a band and use the saw to **file** straight through the pinched together join to make two perfectly flush edges. Alternatively if you are making several rings make a coil and cut through (undo your saw frame, thread the coil on, do up your saw and cut your way out from the inside)
5. Place your ring directly onto the brick, holding a simple band in a third hand only adds to the items you need to heat up and the ring will be perfectly stable flat on the brick.
6. Mix your flux (liquid flux, borax & dish) and paint a small amount just on the area you want the solder to join. The flux allows the surface of the metal to stay clean (not oxidise straight away) and solder wants to flow on clean metal. We want solder in the join not all along the ring. Think “enough solder to make a strong join, but not so much that you need to spend hours filing away unwanted solder”
7. Place a small pallion (solder chip) under the join in the ring, or balance on top of the crack or even pick solder the join. Choose the method you are most comfortable with. If pick soldering use a jewellers torch to form a grain of solder and then pull the heat away at the same time as scooping in with a cold pick - this might take a few rounds of practise.
8. Gently heat the item to dry the borax, allow any bubbling borax to settle down, making sure the solder chip is still in place.
9. Continue to heat the whole ring - I like to stroke the heat once clockwise until just pass the join and then counter-clockwise just pass the join. This allows the whole piece to come up to temperature but concentrating the heat on the area where it's most needed. Make sure to allow the solder to flow, not just 'melt'. Remove the heat as soon as you see the shining flow of solder.
10. Quench, pickle, rinse, dry, inspect and clean up any excess solder. Polish and enjoy!



FURTHER INFORMATION:
www.creativetherapy.space/resources
Instructables: How to make a simple silver band
How to by Kernocraft "band ring"



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