

Choosing Pliers & Cutters

Quality pliers and cutters should work comfortably over long periods of time, serving your efforts like an extension of your hand. With so many to choose from, however, you may need a guide. Here are some tips on selecting pliers and cutters to best serve your needs.

High-end pliers and cutters, such as Swanstrom and Lindstrom, focus on superior ergonomics, with longer and wider handles for your comfort. The steel is harder to withstand more use. Lap joints give you the option of making your tool stiff or loose and adjustable springs can be changed to match your comfort level. **Mid-range** pliers and cutters such as STUSA™ and Rio offer quality steel and ergonomics—an overall good place to start when you get serious about jewelry-making. When you're just starting out, **low-end** pliers and cutters (see the Economy line, #111-909) may satisfy your needs.

For your basic bench set-up, choose one of these plier sets: **Swanstrom** products have precise finishing capabilities and are known throughout the industry as superior, long-lasting tools (see Swanstrom Pliers and Cutter Set, #111-026); **Lindstrom** is also a high-quality choice for satisfactory, sturdy pliers and cutters (see Lindstrom RX Pliers and Cutter Set, #111-057); **STUSA™** and **Rio** pliers and cutters offer both affordability and reliability (see STUSA™ Pliers & Cutter Assortment, #111-059 and Rio's Slimline set, #111-269).



Caring for Cutters and Pliers

Use a lubricant to keep your cutters and pliers in top-notch shape and clean your cutters with a Sunshine® Cloth (#337-038) to remove build-up. Use the jaw-stop on Swanstrom cutters to prevent hard cutting edges from colliding into each other. And to help your cutters and pliers last a lifetime, be sure to wipe them down and keep them oiled.

pliers & cutters

Tube-Holding Pliers (111-194)

- The grooves in the non-marring nylon jaws give plenty of options for holding tube or wire so you can secure it without marring.



Swanstrom Flat-Nose Delrin® Insert Pliers (111-205)

- This plier exemplifies legendary Swanstrom quality: forged and hardened high-carbon, high-chrome alloy steel; antiglare finish; Soft-Touch™ handles; anti-glare; jaw-stops and Scrivet® joints. Plus, the Delrin won't mar the metal you're working with.



Swanstrom Ear Wire Forming Pliers (111-199)

- Quickly and easily form wires of varying lengths and styles—perfect for consistent results!



choosing pliers & cutters, continued

Stepped Wrap & Tap Forming Pliers (111-107)

- Ideal for hollow or patterned stock, these pliers won't mar the metal you're working with.



Prong-Lifting Pliers (113-878)

- Bend prongs back securely and easily during stone-setting—the hooked upper jaw pulls the prong back.



Stone-Setting Pliers (111-173)

- Tighten prongs around stones without damage—no pressure is applied to the table of the stone.



German Stone-Setting Pliers (111-176)

- Grooved and angled jaws uniformly distribute pressure and prevent slippage to hold prongs in position for tightening.



Half-Round Ring-Bending Pliers (111-196)

- The top jaw is curved and the lower jaw has gentle curve, making these pliers ideal for bending.



Parallel-Action Pliers (111-117)

- A basic for any well-stocked bench! The jaws stay parallel as they open, making this plier beneficial for stone-setting or forming work.



Swanstrom Flat-Nose Adjustable Parallel Pliers with Bronze Jaws (111-241)

- Perfect for your workbench, these pliers won't mar soft metals and can be adjusted to fit the shape of your workpiece.



Swanstrom Hole-Punching Pliers (111-786)

- These pliers have exceptional strength and are extremely durable and ergonomically designed.



Swanstrom Double-Flush Shear (111-161)

- Ideal for cutting soft metal sheet up to 20 gauge, these shears feature induction-hardened blades that allow you to cut hard metal sheet up to 24 gauge. They offer precise, repeatable pressure.



choosing pliers & cutters, continued

Forming Pliers with Nylon Jaws (111-613)

- Nylon jaws form wire (22 gauge and up) or flat stock into gentle, uniform curves.



Flat Stock and Wire Shaper (111-629)

- Economical, heavy-duty and specially hardened, this shaper has an adjustable jaw closure that prevents pinching and binding.



German Slimline End Cutter (111-261)

- Forged construction and hardened tool steel ensures sharp, clean cuts.



German 130mm Five-Piece Pliers Set (111-038)

- This basic set of pliers is suitable for all types of bench tasks.



Other items used during this segment include:

Sterling Rectangle Wire (100-582)

Sterling Pattern Wire, Dead Soft (102-110)

Sterling Half-Round Wire (100-408)

Sterling Low-Dome Wire (100-705)

European Deadblow Mallet (112-242)

Plier Holder (112-010)



Products. Service. Know-how.

Sharing your passion for making jewelry.

800.545.6566 riogrande.com