

1412-1

Katie gives an overview of clasps.

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1412-1 Clasps

Clasps can be simple and functional or dramatic and eye-catching. Just like wire – they've moved to center stage and many are actually a feature component and not just a closure.



Here are a few of Katie's favorite basic clasps.

Toggle clasps are available in a wide variety of sizes and styles. They're popular for necklaces and bracelets because they're very easy to fasten. When designing, you'll need to leave an allowance for the length because the bar needs to pass through the ring. Make sure the beads are small enough at the ends to allow the bar to pass through the ring.

Duet clasps look similar to toggle clasps but the two pieces actually fit together as shown with the fastened diamond and circle shapes above. Unlike toggle clasps, you don't have to leave any extra allowances for the length. Duet clasps create very secure closures.

EZ-Crimp™ Clasps are available in a variety of styles, from toggles (shown here) to S-hooks, lobster clasps, and more. The thing that's special about EZ-Crimp Clasps is the way that it attaches to beading wire. Simply place the beading wire inside the end. Squeeze the sides with a crimping tool and the inner coil collapses to hold the wire securely in place.

Multiple-strand slide clasps work well for any type of multiple-strand stringing or knotting design. You can also sew slide clasps directly onto stitched beadwork. This is a good technique for flat strap style chokers and bracelets because the beadwork stays nice and flat.

Stainless steel fold-over clasps work perfectly with polyester chain, flat leather cord, or any other type of thick, flat stringing material. To use a fold-over clasp, place the material under the flaps on each side of the clasp. The center closure is like a buckle that folds over to fasten the clasp.

All of the clasps shown here are from Beadalon, www.beadalon.com.



Place small beads near the ends if you're using a toggle clasp.



Host Katie Hacker