





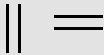





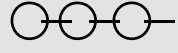


Jump-Ring Jewelry: Basic Jump-Ring Weaves and Notation

One look at the any of the chain maille/body armour web sites on the Internet will probably give you an idea of the passion that most of us chain mailers apply to our craft. This passion is tied to the immense satisfaction that derives from "weaving" little loops of metal wire (aka jump rings). Some advanced chain maille (also known as chainmail) pieces, especially body armour, make take a multitude of hours, even weeks, to complete. Such pieces take intense focus and are not for the faint of patience. However, in the sub-category of "jump-ring jewelry", there are an endless number of designs that can be completed in as little as a few hours, depending on how agile you become at twisting jump rings open and closed.

However, before you can work on such projects, you need to know some basic jump ring "weaves". If you are not already familiar with jump ring weaves, please read the rest of this sidebar before continuing on to the first project.

JUMP RING WEAVES/ NOTATION	
	Open jump ring, facing forward
	Closed jump ring, facing forward
	Closed jump ring, edge on, vertical
	Closed jump ring, edge on, horizontal
	Closed jump ring, edge on, angled right, down]
	Closed jump ring, edge on, angled right, up
	Two closed j.r. (jump ring), edge on, parallel, etc.
	Three closed j.r., edge on, etc.
	Two closed j.r., face forward
	N closed j.r., face forward
	Two perpendicularly-linked j.r. [“1+1” weave] => Start with one open ring and one closed ring. => Thread the closed ring onto the open ring. => Close the open ring and you will have the configuration in the 1st diagram at left.
	Four segments of the “1+1” weave. => Slip a third ring (open) through closed 2nd ring (above). Before closing, thread a 4th ring (closed) onto the third ring. Now close the third ring and you will have the configuration in the 2nd diagram at left. => Thread the closed ring onto the open ring. => Close the open ring and you will have the configuration in the first diagram at left.
	Repeat this process once more and you will have the configuration in the 3rd diagram at left. After 3 or more segments, this link structure is called a “1+1 chain”. You can finish the chain with either an edge on or forward ring.

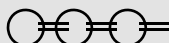
JUMP RING WEAVES/NOTATION (cont)



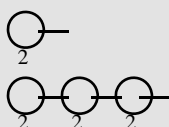
Three linked j.r. ["1+2" weave]
 => Start with three rings; one open ring and two closed.
 => Thread the two closed rings onto the open ring.
 => Close the open ring to get the configuration in the 1st diagram at left.



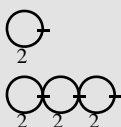
Four segments of the "1+2" weave
 => Open one ring and close two.
 => Thread the two closed rings onto the open ring.
 => Now thread the open ring through both closed rings from the 1st diagram at left.
 => You will have the configuration in the 2nd diagram at left.



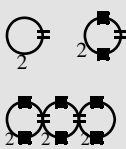
Continue the process above to produce a "1+2" chain.



2+1 weave; 2+1 chain. If all jump rings are of the same size, then this is essentially the same as a 1+2 weave or chain.



2+1 weave; 2+1 chain. In this case, the connector rings (edge on) are smaller than the primary (face forward) rings. Notice that the resulting chain is denser because the rings are tighter together.



2+2 weave; 2+2 wv with seed beads; 2+2 chain w/ seeds (aka omega).
 Once again, the connector rings are smaller than the primary rings. Because we are using two connector rings per segment, the weave is even denser than 2+1.



A single closed jump ring with a seed bead (preferably #6) threaded on.



1+2 chain (3 segments long) in vertical configuration).

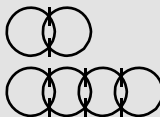


1+2 chain, 3 segments, vertical, with seed beads on primary rings. Note that the top bead only goes on the top ring, despite appearances.

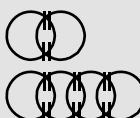
JUMP RING WEAVES/NOTATION (cont)



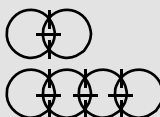
1+2 chain, 5 segments, vertical, with seed beads on primary rings. Repeat the process to get longer chains. This formation is sometimes called an "alpha" chain.



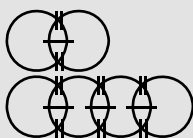
Caterpillar weave and chain. Note that the two primary rings only overlap. They do not thread through each other.



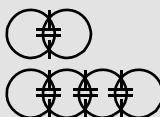
Centipede (double caterpillar) weave
 Centipede chain



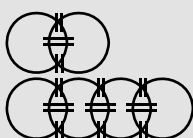
Spiny caterpillar weave
 Spiny caterpillar chain



Spiny centipede weave
 Spiny centipede chain



Double-spiny caterpillar weave
 Double-spiny caterpillar chain



Double-spiny centipede weave
 Double-spiny centipede chain



Caterpillar chain with 2 seed beads per primary ring. Sometimes called a "cleopatra" chain.



One variation of an alpha-caterpillar combination chain, in vertical configuration.



Ring threaded with round bead. Round hematite beads of 4-6 mm give a nice contrast to nickel, antiqued nickel, and silver jump ring weaves. Hollow round metal beads