

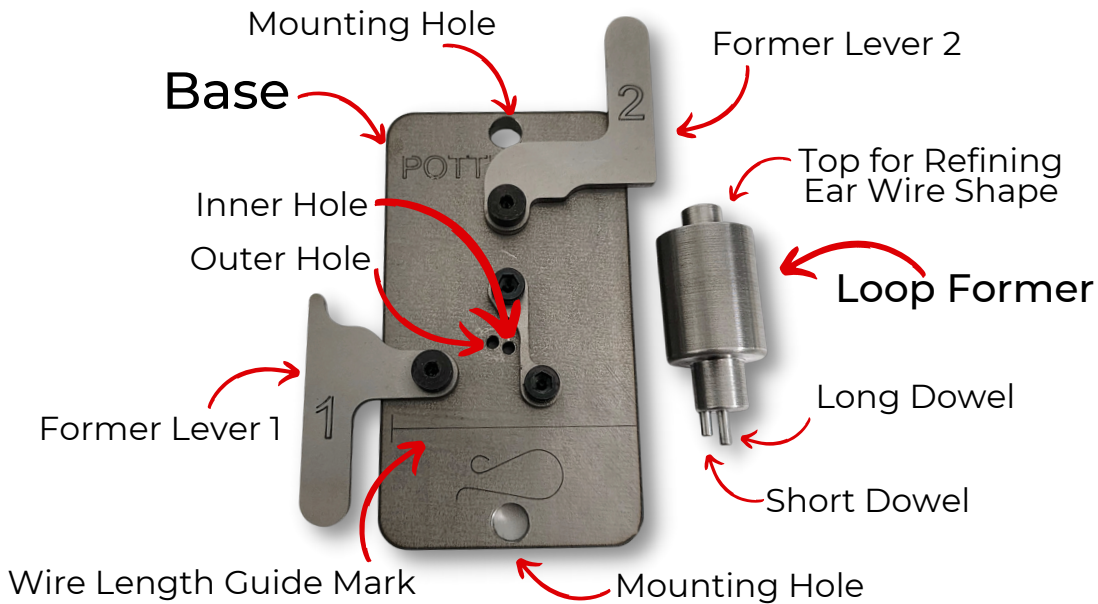
# Ear Wire Former No. 1

This easy-to-use ear wire jig makes it easy to create repeatable, consistently sized shepherd's hook-style ear wires.

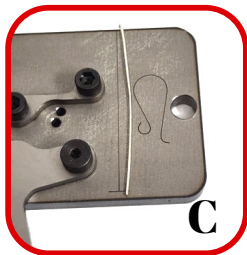
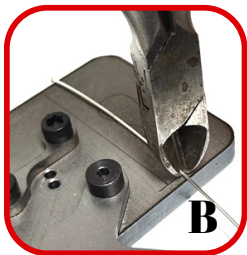
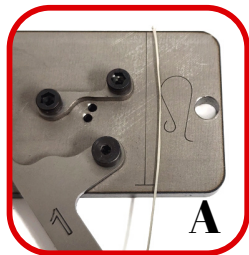


*The finished ear wire is approx. 22mm long, 10.5mm wide.*





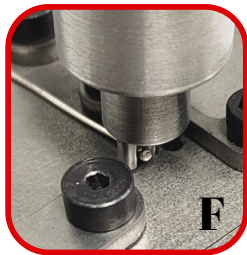
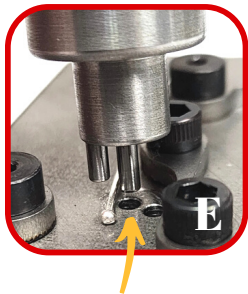
**Before You Begin:** Secure the Base in a vise, or use the two mounting holes and screws/bolts (not included) to attach the base to a sturdy work surface. This former works best with half-hard 20g wire that has a balled-up end, but you can use plain wire, as well.



1. There is an engraved line on the Base. This is the length of 20-gauge wire needed to make this ear wire. Place the balled-up wire on the engraved line with the balled-up end resting just beyond the far edge of the Base [A]. Use flush cutters to trim the wire at the marked end of the engraved line [B][C].

**NOTE:** It's best to cut the wire too long than too short. If in doubt, cut the wire a millimeter or two longer than needed and trim it after forming the ear wire.

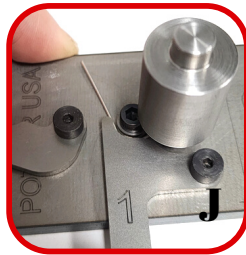
2. Locate the end of the Loop Former with the two dowels. Note that one dowel is longer than the other [D].



3. Insert the longer dowel into the outermost hole in the base. The short dowel should be toward the outside of the base, rather than aligned with the second hole in the base.

4. Insert the wire between the dowels with the balled-up end facing to left, roughly keeping it parallel to the length of the Base [E]. Pull the wire taut, and hold it flat against the base [F].

5. Apply slight downward pressure and twist the Loop Former clockwise (in toward the center of the Base) [G] until the shorter dowel registers in the second hole. Make sure the Loop Former is seated securely in both holes in the Base [H].



6. Lift the end of the wire over and around bolt holding Lever #2 [I]. Hold the wire flat against the Base, and firmly press Lever #1 against the wire and into the center of the base [J].

7. Hold Lever #1 in place, and use your fingers to form the wire down toward the center of the base. Keep the wire flat against the Base, and press Lever #2 and the wire and firmly against the center of the Base [K].

8. Remove the Loop Former and Ear wire [L].



*Ear wire shape  
after Step 7.*



9. To tighten the top of the ear wire into a smaller diameter, place it around the top of the Loop Former [L]. Pinch both ends of the ear wire around the Former [M].

10. Remove the ear wire and use a cup bur, file, or abrasive wheel to round the end that will be inserted through the ear.



*Ear wire shape after Step 7 (left)  
and after tightening the diameter  
of the hook in Step 9 (right).*

**For more information, watch  
Kevin's video in the Potter  
People Facebook Group from  
5/23/23.**

**[\(https://fb.watch/kKe8zegJ8k/\)](https://fb.watch/kKe8zegJ8k/)**

**PotterUSA.com**

