Wire Type	Material & Core	Temper/ Hardness	Tarnish Resistance	Workability	Durability	Typical Uses	Cost Level
Beadalon German Style	Copper or brass core, silver or gold plated, clear coating	Half-hard	Good tarnish-resistant coating	Medium. Holds shape. Some spring-back	Strong, keeps form.	Frames, wire wrapping, rings, earrings, findings.	$ low
Artistic Wire	Copper core, enamel color coating	Dead-soft	Excellent; enamel-coated	Very easy to bend. Ideal for weaving	Softer, can deform	Weaving, wrapping, colourful designs	$ low
Bare Copper	Pure copper	Soft-medium	Poor - oxidizes quickly. Can add patina	Very soft and easy to work with	Moderate - may bend out of shape	Practice wire, rustic jewelry, weaving	$ low
Memory Wire	Hardened stainless steel alloy that holds its shape	Very hard – cannot reshape or straighten	Excellent – highly corrosion-resistant, doesn't rust or tarnish	Very stiff – must be cut with memory wire shears	Extremely high – keeps its round "memory" shape	Bracelets, chokers, and rings that hold their shape without clasps	$ low to medium
7-Strand Beading Wire	7 stainless steel micro-wires stranded together, coated with nylon	Flexible but firm – not meant for shaping. For stringing beads	Excellent – nylon coating prevents oxidation	Easy to handle; must be secured with crimp beads	High – strong and kink-resistant	Necklaces, bracelets, and bead-stringing projects	$$ medium
Brass Wire	Alloy of copper & zinc	Half-hard	Fair - tarnishes to a dull gold tone	Fair. Stiffer than copper	Good strength	Vintage-look jewelry & sculpture	$ low
Bronze Wire	Alloy of copper + tin	Half-hard, stiffer than brass	Moderate, will darken to warm brown	Medium. Can be hammered textured, and work-hardened	High — strong, keeps structural shapes	Sculptural jewelry. Vintage or earthy-style pieces	$ low
Aluminum Wire	Pure aluminum	Very soft	Excellent - resists rust & tarnish	Extremely easy to bend	Low -dents easily	Sculptural pieces, chunky jewelry	$ low

Stainless Steel Wire	Steel alloy with chromium	Very hard	Excellent - corrosion-resistant	Difficult to bend, needs strong tools	Very high - rigid and durable	Men's jewelry, chainmail, long-lasting pieces	$$ medium
Alpaca Silver ie. Nickel Silver	Copper + zinc + nickel alloy, no actual silver	Half-hard	Fair - can dull over time	Medium stiffness	Strong - holds its shape well	Costume jewelry, decorative work	$$ low to medium
Titanium Wire	Pure titanium metal	Very hard	Excellent – completely corrosion-resistant	Difficult – needs specialty tools	Extremely high – lightweight & durable	Hypoallergenic jewelry, modern designs	$$$ medium to high
Niobium	Pure niobium metal	Medium	Excellent – naturally oxide-resistant	Good – easier to shape than titanium	Very high – maintains color & strength	Hypoallergenic, anodized color jewelry	$$$$ high
Sterling Silver .925	92.5% silver 7.5% copper	Available in hard, half-hard and dead-soft	Moderate. Can tarnish over time	Excellent - malleable, solders well	High - strong and long-lasting	Fine jewelry, heirloom pieces	$$$ high
Argentium Silver	93.5% pure silver plus germanium	Available in hard, half-hard and dead soft	Excellent - germanium forms a protective oxide layer that prevents tarnish far better than sterling	Excellent – very malleable, solders easily, can be polished to a high shine.	High – stronger and more resistant to oxidation than sterling; maintains brightness for years.	Fine jewelry, wire wrapping, lasting brightness and minimal maintenance	$$$ high slightly more than sterling
Gold	Gold alloy 10k to 24k depending on purity	Soft to half-hard	Excellent – minimal tarnish (depends on alloy)	Soft and malleable (higher karat = softer)	High – durable and resists corrosion	Luxury fine jewelry, high-end wire wrapping	$$$$ very high
Gold-filled	Brass core bonded with thick layer of 14k or 12k gold	Soft to half-hard	Excellent – outer gold layer resists tarnish	Good malleability - can be hammered	High – much stronger than plating	Affordable fine jewelry, heirloom gifts	$$$ medium to high

Summary
German-Style and Artistic wires are ideal for affordable, beginner projects.
Sterling and Gold-Filled offer a professional, high-quality finish.
Gold, Titanium, and Niobium provide luxury or hypoallergenic options.
Brass, Copper, Aluminum, and Alpaca Silver are great for practice or design experimentation.