Low Cost Clothing CRAFTS

Sweaters, T-Shirts, Scarves, Hoodies, Shoes, Belts, Purses, Jewelry and more!
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Letter from the Editors

Dear Reader,

Great style can be achieved with a little creativity and no need to empty your wallet. With clothing and accessory crafts, you can save money and create one-of-a-kind fashion truly representing your personality. At FaveCrafts.com, we have a great collection of low-cost craft projects to make your own clothing, jewelry and other accessories, or reinvent something you already own. If you crochet, sew or do neither, we have great low-cost crafts using scrap or inexpensive materials. Even those plastic tags from bread bags can be turned into hip jewelry with a little paint. For those crafting for kids or grandkids, we have a special section just for you.

Have a ball and do some low-cost clothing craft today!

You can find more low-cost craft projects, great activities for kids and extensive decorating ideas at www.FaveCrafts.com.

Our eBooks, like all our craft projects, are absolutely FREE to members of our crafting community. Please feel free to share with family and friends and ask them to sign up at our website for our free e-mail newsletter.

Sincerely,

The Editors of FaveCrafts

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Low-Cost Accessories Craft

Guest Project: Flower and Feather Accessories

By: Ann of Still Dottie

Embellished headbands can be made so many ways; you can use different fabrics for flowers, add feathers as a base or use pearls or beads on the top of each flower. There are also a million ways to get those pieces to stay in your hair; headbands, clips, combs, heavy duty bobby pins or even a couple feet of velvet ribbon. Below is an extended supply list.

What You Need

- pearls or small beads
- linen or other lightweight fabric
- chiffon in various colors
- single feather or large feather cluster
- 1-2 yards 3/8” velvet ribbon
- pin back
- clip or barrette
- headband
- needle
- thread
- hot glue gun & glue

Single Flower Instructions:

1. Cut linen or other lightweight fabric into 8 circles of various sizes for each flower you would like to make.
2. Stack the circles from small to large
3. Thread your needle with a similar color thread & come up through the center of the stack. bring back down & repeat one more time.

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4. Fold the stack in half & thread through close to the fold. This will create some gathering. Fold in the opposite direction & repeat.

5. From the bottom, come up straight through the stack & thread the cluster of beads, one at a time. For chiffon or silk flowers I prefer to skip the beads, this allows the flower to become poofier or more 3 dimensional.

6. After beading the center you may find that the flower is laying flat again. You will want to bring the needle through various sections & numbers of the circles to gather them together (avoid the top one so that you don't see the stitches). This will create some random scrunching & volume.

7. Repeat steps 3-6, to create the number of flowers desired.

Creating a Cluster:

1. Assemble the three flowers in a pattern that you want them clustered. Connecting two at a time, tack them together through the bottom two layers of the flowers. Make sure that your tacking doesn't appear on the top of them.

2. Cut a piece of linen or stiff cotton that will cover the tacking & stitched centers of each flower. For lighter colored flowers use white & darker use black.


4. Dab glue on each flower center & in the middle of the cluster. Place fabric backing over the back of the flower cluster, let the glue dry.

Adding Feathers:

1. Once your single flowers or clusters are assembled and dry, choose a large feather cluster or single feather to use.

2. Using your hot glue gun, place the flower(s) at the base of the flowers or however you'd like to arrange them.

3. If necessary you can reinforce the two with simple tacking (if the feather has a backing).

4. If your feather does not have a backing, you may choose to repeat steps 2-4 in the creating a cluster section for the flower/feather combo.

Attaching to Barrette:

1. Position the clip & begin sewing the narrow end through the first couple layers of the flower cluster. Maybe 5 loops for each side of the clip.

2. Staying under the fabric backing, pull the thread to the opposite side of the clip.
3. Secure the back of the clip by stitching underneath the top piece & under the full clip. Loop around 6 times.
4. Tie off the loop & knot your thread.
5. Reinforce by gluing the back portion of your clip to the fabric backing.

**Attaching to Pin Back (for Broach):**

1. Place the pin back on the fabric backing of your flower, flower cluster or feather backing.
2. Using a needle & thread, secure to the backing. Make sure that your stitches are not affecting the flowers or showing on the opposite side.
3. Reinforce the back to fabric backing with hot glue.

**Attach to a Headband:**

1. Put the headband on & get a feel for where you’d like your flower, flower cluster, or feather/flower combo.
2. Attach to headband with hot glue & let dry.
3. Stitch around the headband & cluster backing to secure.

**Helpful Hints:**

1. H&M has great woven headbands for about $3 that you can stitch through in the last step.
2. Use two or three types of beads or pearls to create the center piece of the flower.
3. Rest the headband upside down for a few hours (& store that way) to allow the feathers to shape around the curve of the headband. That way it will lay on your head better.
Remember that you can add anything you want or attach the flowers to anything you want! Try adding a barrette & pin back to your cluster, making it super versatile! These clusters have multiple uses: pull back one side of your hair for a dramatic look, attach to your favorite cardigan or blazer, or find a pretty piece of velvet ribbon & create a belt to go over your favorite simple tank or dress. For a picture led tutorial - click here, the beginning is for the flower & feather headband, clusters are at the end.

I hope that you enjoyed the post and I look forward to many more adventures here on FaveCrafts and don't forget to visit Still Dottie to see what I'm up to next.
Felted Mini Handbag

By: Amy Law for Kreinik

Choose autumn colors to make this trendy mini bag perfect for cool nights out on the town or day-trips to the store.

Materials:

Bag:

- Carded wool (color optional)
- Curly merino locks, dyed gold and brown white & copper silk wool yarn (rust colored)
- Large piece of plain fabric (like muslin)
- Safety pins

Strap:

- Two shades of wool yarn cording drill & weight 1 spool of Serica, 7136 Dark Mocha Needle

Steps:

1. Begin by laying out your fabric on your work surface. Your fabric piece should be big enough to fold in half around your "batt" (the flat layer of wool that will serve as your felt base) like an envelope, and extend past the edges as well. Keep in mind that your finished felt piece will be about 2/3 of the size of your unfelted fibers, so for a 5" x 5" finished bag, you will need to start with an 8"x 15" batt of wool and an 18" x 17" piece of fabric.

2. Begin laying down horizontal strips of roving as your base. Pull a piece of roving the length you want (about 15") and use your fingers to gently tug the fibers, widening the piece of roving until you can see through it. Lay it down on the bottom half of your fabric. Pull another piece and do the same, laying it down parallel to your first piece so that they overlap slightly. Continue until you have your first 8" x 15" layer.

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3. Next, create your second layer of wool. This layer should be 8" strips of roving, laid down vertically (perpendicular to the direction of the first layer.) This will make your felt piece sturdy like fabric. When that layer is finished, create a third layer of fibers running horizontally again (like your first layer.) Once you have finished your third layer, you are ready to create your design.

4. Using your Merino locks, silk, and bits of yarn, create a design on top of your layered batts. The silk can be spread out like your wool roving, or made into small puffs like cotton for dots or circles. You can overlap your yarn with other things (like the locks or silk) for a dimensional effect. When finished arranging your design, add a VERY thin layer of wool over the top (so thin you can barely see it) to help hold everything in place.

5. Fold your fabric over your design. Using the safety pins, begin pinning through the "sandwich" of fabric and design, starting in the middle. Make sure your pins go all the way through! Continue pinning, adding a pin every 2" or so, all the way out to the edges. Fold the extra fabric over at the edges and pin them. Your design is now ready to be felted.

6. Before you get started with felting however, you need to make the strap for your bag. Decide how long you want the strap to be, then multiply that by four. Cut two pieces of wool yarn to that length and tie them together at each end. Pin one end to something heavy (or have a friend hold it) and loop the other end around the hook on your cording drill. Follow the drill's instructions to make your cord. Tie the ends together when finished.

7. You're ready to begin felting! Place your cord and your bag design in the sink. Wearing a pair of rubber gloves to protect your hands, begin soaking your projects in alternating hot and cold water. First run the hot water over them, as hot as you can stand, and then switch to cold while gently wringing and kneading the pieces with your fingers. (Be careful of the pins!) This agitation and the shock of alternating temperatures is what causes the fibers to felt. Continue this process for about 5-10 minutes, long enough for your design to begin to interlock. Then, place your design and cord in your washing machine on the gentle cycle with a little gentle detergent (like Woolite). You can then throw the pieces into the dryer as well, or air dry them.

8. Remove the pins from your design- you now have a large piece of felt from which to make your bag! Fold the piece in half. Lay your corded strap down around the bag so the strap is the length you want. (The excess cord will be stitched down the sides of your bag and the remainder can be couched onto the surface of the bag (as we did) or trimmed off.) Tie a knot (for reference) in each end of the cord where it will meet the bottom corner of your bag. If you want to couch the remaining ends onto your bag, do that now before you sew up the sides.

9. Begin sewing the sides of your bag. Using a needle and thread (we used Silk Serica), stitch along each side of your bag, sewing around and through the cord as you go to hold it in place. Your bag is now finished!
Guest Project: T-Shirt Scarf

By: Paul Overton of DudeCraft

This project falls into the "easy" category, even for beginners. If you can sew a relatively straight line and can use straight pins without putting your eye out, success is all but guaranteed.

Step One - Select two old t-shirts.

Step Two - Cut the T-shirts into strips. I made mine 8" wide, but you can use any width you want. Also, I cut my strips horizontally to highlight the t-shirt's designs, but cutting vertically will work just as well.

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Step Three - Select two strips to begin with and pin them right side together on one of the short sides.

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Step 4 - Sew along the side you pinned.

Step Five - Keep repeating this process until you have two pieces that are the length that you want the scarf to be when it is finished.
Step Six - With right sides facing each other, pin the long sides of the two pieces together and sew, making sure to leave the ends open.

Step Seven - Turn the scarf right side out and stitch the ends closed about two inches from the bottom. In this photo, my pieces are two different lengths. I cut the green piece to even them up after I sewed the end shut. No worries!
Step Eight - Make fringe at the end simply by cutting slits with your scissors.

Congrats. You're done! Wear and enjoy!

Paul Overton is the creator of DudeCraft

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Painted Scroll Belt

By: Lori Bergmann for Krylon

A plain black belt gets a little glitz quickly and easily with metallic spray paint.

Materials:

- Krylon Brushed Metallic - Nickel (#51255)
- Krylon Easy-Tack™ Repositionable Adhesive - Clear (#7020)
- Fleur De Lis stencil set (Delta Creative)
- Plain black leather belt
- Plain scrap paper (with no printing or color on it — white copy paper works great)
- Painter’s tape

Steps:

1. Spray back of stencil with Easy Tack.
2. Starting at the outside tip end, press long border area of stencil firmly to belt, making sure it stays consistently down the center. Mask off areas you do not want painted with paper and painter’s tape.
3. Spray over stencil with Satin Nickel paint, then carefully remove and let dry.
4. Repeat Steps 2 through 3 until entire belt has been painted.

For more project ideas, please visit www.krylon.com/projects.
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Green Shimmer Clutch Purse

By: Amy Law for Kreinik

Here's a fast no-sew project when you need a dressy purse (it's all taped together with the super-strong Treasure Tape). This little design can hold your keys, money and drivers' license as an envelope-style purse.

![Image of Green Shimmer Clutch Purse]

Materials:

- Fabric scraps in 2 coordinating colors (we used shades of pale green)
- Lining fabric (black)
- 2 8x10 Treasure Tape sheets
- 1/4" Treasure Tape
- Diamond Beadlets
- Green Vintage Finds, Treasure It
- Kreinik #12 Braid 087C Meadowgrass
- Kreinik 1/8" Ribbon 102C Vatican Gold Cord
- Cardstock

Steps:

1. Peel the white back off one of your 8" x 10" tape sheets. Apply strips of your fabrics to the tape, in vertical rows. For a shirred look, make folds in the fabric as you tack them down. Overlap by 1/4" between strips. When your entire piece of tape is covered, trim any stray threads at the edges.

2. Fold your taped fabric into four sections: 3", 3", 1", and 3". Crease the tape and fabric at the folds between these sections. These sections will be your flap, back, bottom, and front. Cut out two 6.5" x 2.75" cardstock inserts. These will give your bag some form and stability. Unfold your tape and peel back the red liner from the "front" section. Center your first piece of cardstock along the fold on that section. Peel more of the tape back and center your second piece of cardstock along the fold between the back and bottom sections.

3. Cut a 7" x 9" piece of your lining fabric. Center the lining on the inside of your tape, over the cardstock inserts. Press with your fingers to smooth out any air bubbles. Cut diagonally across the corners of your outside fabric and fold each side over the edges of the liner. If your top and
bottom edges are rough, you can cover them with strips of tape and embellish with ribbon.

4. Begin to embellish. Add a few stripes of 1/4" tape to the outside fabric. Using your braid and ribbon, embellish the tape. We used simple stripes and wavy lines of braid. Finally, cut a wiggley shape out of your second sheet of tape. Peel back the white liner and place it on the corner of your "flap" section (the top left corner of the outside.) Arrange your Vintage Finds on the tape, and embellish with your Meadowgrass Braid.

5. When finished embellishing, place your design in a shallow tray or ziplock bag and pour Diamond Beadlets over the exposed tape areas. Swirl with your fingers to cover fully and tap to remove excess beadlets.

6. You are almost done! Just add two strips of 1/4" tape to the inside edges of your "front" section. Remove the red liner and fold your front section up to form your bag. Use an iron to set the bond.

Kreinik threads available through needlework stores or www.kreinik.com.
Low-Cost Crochet Patterns

Pretty Empire Waist Tank

By: Lion Brand Yarn

The bodice and skirt of this pretty empire-waist tank are made separately for an interesting two-directional look. The bodice is crocheted side to side, while the skirt is crocheted in the round. For information regarding the soft, lightweight yarn used in this easy crochet pattern, please visit Lion Brand's website.

Materials:

- 910-146 Microspun Yarn: Fuchsia 4 balls (4, 5, 5, 6)
- Lion Brand Crochet Hook - Size H-8
- Large-Eye Blunt Needle

Size: Small, Medium, Large, 1X, 2X

Finished Bust 32 (34, 36, 38, 40) in. (81.5 (86.5, 91 1/2, 96.5, 101.5) cm)

Finished Length 23 1/2 (23 1/2, 23 1/2, 26, 26) in. (59.5 (59.5, 59.5, 68.5, 68.5) cm)

Note: Pattern is written for smallest size with changes for larger sizes in parentheses. When only one number is given, it applies to all sizes. To follow pattern more easily, circle all numbers pertaining to your size before beginning.

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**Gauge:**

18 sc + 16 rows = 4 in. (10 cm); 18 dc + 8 rows = 4 in. (10 cm). BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR GAUGE. When you match the gauge in a pattern, your project will be the size specified in the pattern and the materials specified in the pattern will be sufficient. If it takes you fewer stitches and rows to make a 4 in. [10 cm] square, try using a smaller size hook or needles; if more stitches and rows, try a larger size hook or needles.

**Notes:**

1) Top is made Bodice first. Bodice is made side to side. Underarms are worked after Bodice is complete. Skirt is picked up along lower edge and worked in rounds to lower edge. Tie is threaded through stitches below Bodice.
2) All stitches in Bodice and Skirt are worked into the front loop only. Work the last stitch of each Bodice row and the joining stitch of each Skirt round into both loops of stitch or ch.

**Instructions:**

**BODICE**
Shape Shoulder
Ch 105 (105, 105, 119, 119).
Row 1: Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across - 104 (104, 104, 118, 118) sc.
Row 2: Ch 1, turn, working in front loops only, sc in each sc across.
Rep last row until piece measures 3 (3 1/2, 4, 4 1/2, 4 1/2) in. (7.5 (9, 10, 11.5, 11.5) cm) from beg, end with a WS row.
Shape Front Neck
Row 1 (RS): Ch 3, turn, working in front loops only, dc in first 34 (34, 34, 41, 41) sts; leave remaining sts unworked.
Note: Continue working in front loops only throughout Bodice.
Row 2: Ch 3, turn, dc in each dc across. Rep last row until Front neck measures 7 in. (18 cm), end with a
WS row.
Shape Back Neck
From RS, skip center 36 sts along last row of sc, join yarn and ch 3, dc in last 34 (34, 34, 41, 41) dc across remaining sts of last sc row.
Next Row: Ch 3, turn, dc in each dc across. Rep last row until piece measures same length as Front neck, end with a WS row. Do not fasten off.
Shape Shoulder
Row 1 (WS): Ch 3, turn, dc in 34 (34, 34, 41, 41) dc of Back neck, ch 36, dc in next 34 (34, 34, 41, 41) of Front neck - 104 (104, 104, 118, 118) dc.
Row 2: Ch 1, turn, sc in each sc and ch across.
Row 3: Ch 1, turn, sc in each sc across.
Rep last row for 3 (3 1/2, 4, 4 1/2, 4 1/2) in. (7.5 (9, 10, 11.5, 11.5) cm), end with a WS row.
Shape Underarms
Row 1: Ch 3, turn, dc in first 20 (20, 20, 23, 23) sts; leave remaining sts unworked.
Row 2: Ch 3, turn, dc in each dc across. Rep last row for 3 (3, 3, 3, 4) in. (7.5 (7.5, 7.5, 7.5, 10) cm). Fasten off.
From WS, join yarn in first free loop on opposite side of foundation ch.
Next Row: Ch 3, dc in free loops of first 20 (20, 20, 23, 23) ch.
Next Row: Ch 3, turn, dc in each dc across. Rep last row for 3 (3, 3, 3, 4) in. (7.5 (7.5, 7.5, 7.5, 10) cm). Fasten off.
Fold Bodice piece in half along Shoulders and line up lower edge. Sew side edges of underarm pieces to lower side edges of Back.

SKIRT
From RS, join yarn at center of underarm.
Rnd 1: Ch 1, work 144 (154, 162, 172, 180) sc evenly spaced around lower edge of Bodice; join with sl st in first sc.
Rnds 2-10: Ch 1, working in front loops only, sc in each sc around; join with sl st in first sc.
Note: Continue working in front loops only throughout Skirt.
Rnds 11-15: Ch 3, dc in each sc around; join with sl st in top of beg ch-3.
Rep Rnds 2-15 until Skirt measures 12 (12, 12, 13, 13) in. (30.5 (30.5, 30.5, 33, 33) cm). Fasten off.

FINISHING
Tie
Make a chain 54 (56, 58, 60, 62) in. (137 (142, 147.5, 152.5, 157.5) cm) long.
Row 1: Sc in 2nd ch from hook and each ch across. Fasten off.
Weave tie through sts in first row of Skirt and tie in a bow. Weave in ends.
A T-Shirt with Crochet Edge

By: DMC

Add a pretty crochet edge to any plain and boring T-shirt with this free easy crochet pattern. This is a great look for the warmer months.

Materials:

- Crochet hook size B (2.25 mm)
- 1 blue t-shirt
- Sewing pins
- Sewing needle
- Sewing thread to match Traditions color

One size fits all

Stitch Gauge
1 pinwheel = 1”
3 rows of edging = 1”

Instructions:

This pattern consists of crocheting an edging and then sewing it to the hem and sleeves of a purchased t-shirt.

Before beginning, wash and dry the t-shirt.

Edging
Ch a multiple of 6 for each inch of edging needed + 2.
1st row: Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in ea ch across, ch1, turn.
2nd row: Sc in 1st st, *skip 2 sc [tr, ch 1] 4 times in next st, tr in same st, skip 2
sts, sl st in next st, rep from * across to last st, sc in last st, ch 1, turn.
3rd row: Sc in 1st st, *[sc, ch 3, sc] in next ch 1 sp, sc in tr, rep from * twice, [sc, ch 3, sc] in next ch 1 sp,
sc dec in next 2 tr, rep from * across, ending with sc in
last st. Fasten off.

Assembly
With t-shirt right side out, pin row 1 of trim along existing stitches at bottom hem. Sew into place with
sewing thread and needle. Remove pins. Repeat for each sleeve edging.

Abbreviations
ch = Chain
cont = Continue
pat st = Pattern Stitch
rep = Repeat
sc = Single Crochet
sc dec = Sc Decrease
sl st = Slip Stitch
sp = Space
st = Stitch
tr = Triple Crochet
Scrap Yarn Crochet Slippers

By: Judy Longstaff

These easy slippers, perfect for beginners are very warm and very comfortable. I've been making them for years, and have many family and friends that request a pair at least once a year if not more. These slippers can be made so that they cover only the ankle or past the knee and any length between. Senior citizens like the warm up to just below their knees.

These slippers end up oversize. Wearers often find this very comfortable, due to their toes not being squeezed. Sock stays up and with the 2 strands they last forever.

Use 2 strands at a time. A quick pattern of 4 pieces (2 socks and 2 toes), often done in a weekend, depending on the size desired.

Materials:

- Size "F", "G", or "H" needle is recommended.
- Any amount and any color or type of yarn

Tips:

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Sock

Measure from back of heel up the back of leg to the desired height of the 'sock' part of the slipper.

Using 2 STRANDS of yarn, leave a foot long or longer tail and chain the desired length. (i.e. 2 inches above my ankle, i chain 80 3 for turning). Turn and dch each row, adding 3 chain for turning. Depending on foot length, normal is 9 rows. Tie off, leaving a tail long enough to reach the other end of your crochet piece. This piece will cover ankle from back of heel to arch, with the fold at the bottom of your foot. Repeat for second foot.

Toe

Measure bottom of foot, from heal to longest toe(s), for 'toe' part of slipper.

Chain 5, sts into 1st chain.
Row 1: Chain 3, and then double crochet 12 stitches through the center of circle. Slip stitch into 1st stitch, chain 3.
Row 2: double crochet 2 x in each stitch, making 24 stitches around.
Slip stitch into 1st stitch, chain 3.
Row 3: double crochet 2 x in 1st stitch. double crochet 1 x in next 2 stitches. double crochet in 4th stitch 2x. Follow this count around to last stitch. Slip stitch into 1st stitch, chain 3.
Row 4: double crochet 2x in 1st stitch. double crochet 1x in next 9 stitches. Follow this count around to last stitch. Slip stitch into 1st stitch, chain 3.

If toes fit into this crochet without causing crowding, go to row 5. If toes are crowded, repeat Row 4.

Row 5-9: double crochet in 1st stitch, and 1x in each stitch around to last stitch. Slip stitch into 1st stitch. Chain 3, except in row 9.
This is very versatile. a short foot may only need 8 rows, or a long foot may need 10 rows.

Row 9 (last row): at the end, tie off leaving a tail that is longer than the size of the circled crochet piece.
Repeat for second foot.

**Put It Together**

First, using the tail from the initial chain, put first stitch and last stitch together, and pull tail through. This will hold the back of the slipper together, and ensure you don't overlap the sides of the slipper. Pulling the tail around the next stitch, continue stitching sides together until you reach the fold. Separate the ends and pull to the inside through different stitches but close enough not to cause gap. Tie off, weave through. Cut.

Turn the 'Toe' inside out, and push into the 'heel', so that the edges match. Long tail of the toe should be at the bottom. Separate the 2 strands and begin pulling around stitch after stitch. 1 strand goes to the right and 1 goes to the left. Strands will meet at the top of the toe. Pull through.

At the top of the sock, pull the tail through the first stitch of the other side, and continue around each stitch until you meet where the toe is added. Pull all tails (4 strands) through to the inside, and tie off with each other.

Push toe out to front.

**Variations:**

1. Do not close front side of sock, allowing for fold over. This may be an option for taller 'socks', and a long chain piece added as laces, hand stitch Velcro pieces so the sock can be wrapped around. For this you may need to add an extra row.
2. Have fun with this pattern. Each pair can be unique for each wearer.

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Easy Pullover Sweater Free Crochet Pattern

By: Bernat

With a turtle-neck and long body, this soft pullover sweater is a great way to warm up in the winter. The boucle yarn is perfect for a comfortable and non-itchy sweater.

Materials:

- Yarn: Bernat Soft Bouclé (5 oz / 140 g) Sizes XS–4 balls; S–4 balls; M–5 balls; L–5 balls
- Crochet Hook: Size 6.5 mm (U.S. K or 10½) crochet hook or size needed to obtain tension.

TENSION: 13 sts and 12 rows = 4 ins [10 cm] in pat.

SIZES: Finished bust measurement
Extra Small 35 ins [ 89 cm ]
Small 39 ins [ 99 cm ]
Medium 42½ ins [ 108 cm ]
Large 45 ins [ 114.5 cm ]

Instructions:

The instructions are written for smallest size. If changes are necessary for larger sizes the instructions will be written thus ( ).

BACK
**Ch 58 (64-70-74).
Foundation row: (RS). 1 sc in 2nd ch from hook. *Ch 1. Miss next ch. 1 sc in next ch. Rep from * to end of
ch. Ch 1. Turn. 57 (63-69-73) sts.
1st row: 1 sc in first sc. 1 sc in next ch 1 sp. *Ch 1. Miss next sc. 1 sc in next ch 1 sp. Rep from * to last sc. 1 sc in last sc. Ch 1. Turn.
2nd row: 1 sc in first sc. Ch 1. Miss next sc. 1 sc in next ch 1 sp. Rep from * to last sc. 1 sc in last sc. Ch 1. Turn.
Last 2 rows form pat.
Cont in pat until work from beg measures 15 ins [38 cm] ending with RS facing for next row and omitting turning ch at end of last row.

Shape armholes: Next row: Ss in each of first 3 sts. Ch 1. Pat to last 3 sts. Ch 1. Turn. Leave rem sts unworked.
Next row: Draw up a loop in each of first 2 sts. Yoh and draw through all loops on hook – sc2tog made.
Pat to last 2 sts. Sc2tog over last 2 sts. Ch 1. Turn.
Rep last row once more. 47 (53-59-63) sts.**
Work a further 23 (25-25-27) rows even in pat omitting turning ch at end of last row. Fasten off.

FRONT
Work from ** to ** as given for Back.
Work a further 13 (15-15-17) rows even in pat.

2nd row: Sc2tog. Pat to end of row. Ch 1. Turn.
3rd row: Pat to last 2 sts. Sc2tog. Ch 1. Turn.
Rep last 2 rows once more, then 2nd row once. 12 (15-17-19) sts.
Work a further 4 rows even in pat omitting turning ch at end of last row. Fasten off.

1st row: Pat to last 2 sts. Sc2tog. Ch 1. Turn.
2nd row: Sc2tog. Pat to end of row. Ch 1. Turn.
Rep last 2 rows once more, then 2nd row once. 12 (15-17-19) sts.
Work a further 4 rows even in pat omitting turning ch at end of last row. Fasten off.

SLEEVES
Ch 34 (34-36-36).
Proceed in pat as given for Back for 4 rows.
Next row: (Increase row). 2 sc in first st. Pat to last st. 2 sc in last st. Ch 1. Turn.
Work a further 5 rows even in pat.
Rep last 6 rows 6 (8-7-9) times more, taking inc sts into pat. 47 (51-51-55) sts.
Cont even in pat until work from beg measures 18 (19-19½-20) ins [45.5 (48-49.5-51) cm] ending with RS facing for next row and omitting turning ch at end of last row.

Shape top: 1st row: Ss in each of first 3 sts. Pat to last 3 sts. Ch 1. Turn. Leave rem sts unworked.
2nd, 3rd and 4th rows: As 1st row.
5th row: Ss in each of first 3 (3-3-4) sts. Pat to last 3 (3-3-4) sts. Ch 1. Turn. Leave rem sts unworked.
6th row: Ss in each of first 3 (3-3-4) sts. Pat to last 3 (3-3-4) sts. Leave rem sts unworked. 11 (15-15-15) sts. Fasten off.

FINISHING
Collar: Sew right shoulder seam. With RS of work facing, work 12 sc down left front neck edge, 13 (13-15-15) sc across center front neck edge, 12 sc up right front neck edge and 22 (22-24-24) sc across back neck edge. 59 (59-63-63) sc. Ch 1. Turn.
1st row: (WS). 1 sc in first sc. *Ch 1. Miss next sc. 1 sc in next sc. Rep from * to end of row. Ch 1. Turn. Pat is now in position.
Cont in pat (as given for Back) until Collar measures 6½ ins [16.5 cm] omitting turning ch at end of last row. Fasten off.
Low-Cost Jewelry Crafts

Bread Tag Jazzy Jewelry

By: Heidi Borchers of Inspired at Home

Instead of tossing those plastic bread tags, turn them into jazzy jewelry with a bit of paint and this idea from Heidi Borchers of Inspired at Home. Every little bit helps when reducing your amount of household plastic waste. Best of all, when people ask you where you bought your fantastic jewelry, you will have some fantastic bragging rights!

Materials:

- Aleene’s® Super Thick Tacky Glue™
- White paper scrap
- 33 plastic tabs from bread bags in assorted sizes
- Acrylic Paint – black
- Paintbrush
- Tulip® 3D Fashion Paint: silver, gold, bronze
- Needlenose pliers
- 44 gold finish jump rings
- 28 size-10 brass snap swivels
- 2 size-7 brass snap swivels (available wherever fishing tackle is sold)
- 1 pair fishhook earrings

Instructions:
Cut 2 tiny strips of paper for each of 23 plastic tabs. Glue 1 strip to each side of 1 tab to cover slit only. Let dry. Repeat for each of 22 more tabs. (This step will help to keep the jump rings from pulling through the slit in the tabs.)

Paint both sides of each tab black. Let dry. For necklace charm, glue 5 tabs together, using 1 tab with paper strips at top of charm (see photo). Let dry. In the same manner, glue 4 tabs together for each earring. Referring to photo for design inspiration, paint 1 side of each tab, necklace charm, and earring design with metallic dimensional paint. Let dry.

Using needlenose pliers, attach 1 jump ring to each of 20 tabs. Attach 1 jump ring to necklace charm. Attach a second jump ring to each jump ring. To assemble necklace, link together all size-10 snap swivels. Attach jump rings to necklace. For each earring, remove snap from each size-7 snap swivel. Using needlenose pliers, attach 1 jump ring to each earring design. Attach jump ring to 1 end of 1 size-7 swivel. Attach fishhook earring to other end of swivel.

Repeat for other earring.

Heidi’s Designer Tip: For added strength, be sure to add a dab of dimensional paint over area where you glued strip of paper. This will give added strength to this area where the jump rings are attached.

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Recycled Belt Leather Bracelets

By: Barbara Matthiessen for Earth Safe Finishes

Recycle thrift store or old belts into fun and funky bracelets. You can make 3, 4 or even 5 bracelets from a single belt and give them all different personalities with earth friendly paints, chains and beads. Why not make a batch of these for gifts or to coordinate with every outfit you own?

Materials:

- Leather or leather like belt
- Opaque Shimmers from Earth Safe Finishes in your choice of colors
- Toggle or hook clasp
- 1” chain or 22 GA wire to match clasp
- Strong scissors or leather shears
- Leather/belt hole punch
- Paintbrushes, liner for details
- Jewelry making tools, pliers and wire cutters

Optional extras:

- Additional chain
- Beads
- Metal tags
- Kevlar thread or wire to attach the above

Instructions:

1. Cut your belt section 1”-1 ½” shorter than your normal bracelet size depending on how loose or tight you like to wear them. (Don’t worry about the existing belt holes you can either ignore them or bead through them later.) Trim corners round, on a diagonal or leave straight.
2. Punch holes on both ends about 1/8” in.

3. Paint your belt using Shimmers and your choice of colors. Some are a random splash of colors, some use the existing embossed pattern and some are freeform patterns. You may also choose to use a stencil or rubber stamp to create your image. Allow the paint to dry.

4. Attach your closure with jump rings or a combination of chain, jump rings or wire. The following photos show how easy it is to use what findings you have on hand. If you are using a toggle make sure to add in some small chain on the bar end to make it easier to attach the bracelet.
5. Embellish more if you like!
Stitch on beads, charms, buttons or trinkets using Kevlar thread. Knot on the back then dot each knot with a dab of glue when you are done.

Wire on tags by using a flat bead with a head pin run through it on the underside. Wrap the ends of the head pins around holes in the tag, secure with more wraps then trim the ends.

Add sections of chain by attaching chain ends to jump rings on each end.

There are a million and one ways to make this bracelet so try it out today!
Faux Forged Foil Bracelets

By: Heidi Borchers of Inspired at Home

Turn regular aluminum foil into bracelets with the look of forged foil. The look is chic boutique, but for a fraction of the price. For help with creating forged foil from aluminum foil, check out this tutorial. This project comes to us compliments of Heidi Borchers for Inspired at Home.

Materials:

- Thin flexible cardboard scraps - one 1-1/2” x 9-1/2” strip for wide bracelet, one 1” x 9-1/2” strip for narrow bracelet
- Aluminum foil
- Aleene’s® Super Thick Tacky Glue™
- Toothpick
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Waxed paper
- Paper towels
- Acrylic paint – black
- Paint brush – one for glue, one for paint
- Clear brush on (or spray-on) sealer finish
- Black flat-back jewels (plastic, glass or stone)
- Clothespins

Instructions:

1. For wide bracelet, draw star pattern on cardboard scrap and cut out. Center and glue star to 1 side of 1-1/2” x 9-1/2” cardboard strip. Let dry. Cut 1 (4” x 10-1/2”) strip of foil.

2. For narrow bracelet, cut 2 (3/4” diameter) circles and 1 (7/8” diameter) circle from cardboard scraps. Center and glue larger circle to 1” x 9-1/2” cardboard strip. Glue 1 smaller circle on each
3. For each, spread a coat of glue with brush or finger on right side of cardboard strip. With shiny side up and edges of foil extending beyond edges of cardboard, press foil into glue. Smooth foil with fingers, molding foil over cutouts. Fold excess foil to back of cardboard, overlapping edges, and glue to secure.

4. Use a toothpick to gently imprint design into foil. Be careful not to press too hard or foil may tear. Let dry.

5. To antique bracelets, pour a small puddle of black paint on waxed paper. Add a small amount of water to paint. Brush thinned paint on design. Immediately wipe off excess paint with paper towel, leaving paint in crevices to highlight imprinted design. Let dry. Apply 1 coat of sealer to design.

6. For wide bracelet, center and glue jewel to star. Let dry. For narrow bracelet, center and glue 1 jewel to each circle. Let dry.

7. For each, curve bracelet into a circle, overlapping ends ½” (or adjust overlap to suit your wrist size). Glue ends together. Use clothespins to hold ends together until glue is dry.

Heidi’s Designer Tips: For a different look, try foiling with colored florist’s foil (without paper or plastic backing). Some of these foils come in beautiful colors and textures that enhance the look of your look of forged foil project.
Guest Project: Pink Passion Flower Earrings

By: Lauren Anderson, The Chain Maille Lady

The step-by-step photo project to make these stylish pink and black earrings comes to us from an expert in chain maille jewelry, Lauren, The Chain Maille Lady. The earrings have a bit of 80s chic, which is so hot right now.

Materials:

- 28 Black EPDM 18g 3/16” (4.76mm) rubber jump rings
- 48 Pink Enamel Coated Copper, also known as Artistic Wire, 19g 1/8” (3.18mm) jump rings

Steps:

1. Open all 48 pink jump rings. Take an open pink ring, add 4 black rings, close pink ring. Add another pink ring in the same manner.

2. Take an open pink ring and add it to one of the sets of black rings, before closing, add 2 black rings, double the pink ring.
3. Using the open pink rings, add 4 more sets of black rings to the center black rings, forming a flower.

4. Join 2 petals together using 2 pink rings.

5. Continue joining petals together until all the black petals are hooked together.

6. Add ear wires directly to one of the black petals (L) or add additional pink rings to join the flower to the ear wire (R).
Low-Cost Clothing Crafts for Kids

Fun Foam Flip Flips

By: Heidi Borchers of Inspired at Home

Using inexpensive craft foam, add a frog or lizard to boring sandals or flip-flops for kid-approved summer shoes. Kids can help create these cute flops.

Materials:

- Aleene’s® Foamtastic™ Glue
- Clothespins (to help hold pieces while drying)
- For frog flip-flops: 1 pair flip-flops
- Fun Foam: green, yellow, black
- Opaque shrink plastic (this is the plastic that starts opaque white and shrinks to white)
- Craft knife
- 2 (3/4”) wiggle eyes
- For lizard sandals: 1 pair sandals
- Fun Foam: purple, yellow, pink
- Hole punches: ¼” diameter, 3/16” diameter, 1/8” diameter
- Patterns

Instructions for Frog flip-flops:

Transfer patterns to Fun Foam and cut 2 heads, 2 faces, 4 eyelids, and 4 feet from green; 2 tongues from yellow; and 2 bugs from black. Transfer wing pattern to plastic and cut 4. Referring to photo as guide,
glue 2 wiggle eyes and 2 eyelids in place on each face. Let dry. With bottom of face aligned with placement line, glue 1 face on each head, sandwiching straight end of 1 tongue in between. Glue 1 bug and 2 wings on each tongue. Let dry.
For frog feet, cut 1 (3/4”-long) slit on each side at toe end of each flip-flop, using craft knife. Squeeze glue into each slit. Insert straight end of 1 foot into each slit. Glue 1 frog in place on each flip-flop. Let dry.

Instructions for lizard sandals:

Transfer patterns to Fun Foam and cut 2 lizards from purple, 5 diamonds from yellow, and 2 diamonds from pink.

From pink Fun Foam scraps, punch 2 (1/4”) circles, 4 (3/16”) circles and 4 (1/8”) circles. From yellow Fun Foam scraps, punch 2 (3/16”) circles. Measure ankle strap of sandal. Using pattern and ¼” hole punch, cut 1 pink diamond and punch 1 yellow circle per inch to decorate ankle strap of each sandal.

Referring to photo, glue 5 yellow diamonds in place on each lizard, trimming 2 diamonds to fit tail. Let dry. Beginning with diamond nearest lizard’s head, glue pink circles on yellow diamonds in the following order: 3/16”, ¼”, 3/16”, 1/8” and 1/8”. Glue 1 (3/16”) yellow circle on top of each of 2 pink diamonds. Let dry. Glue 1 lizard and 1 pink diamond with yellow circle on instep of each sandal. Let dry. Glue remaining pink diamonds and yellow circles alternately around ankle strap of each sandal. Let dry.

Heidi’s Designer Tip: To make it easier to glue Fun Foam together, I always use clothespins to hold my pieces while the glue is drying. Another tip is to apply the glue and let it sit for a few minutes before joining the pieces together.
Baby Bear Onesie

Dye a onesie with Tulip® One-Step Fashion Dyes™, apply an adorable Tulip® Baby Couture™ Iron-On Appliqué™ and glue felt accents with Aleene’s® Fabric Fusion™ to a headband to make a beary, beary cute outfit!

Materials:

- Aleene’s® Fabric Fusion™ Permanent Dry Cleanable Fabric Adhesive™
- Tulip® One-Step Fashion Dyes™
  - Black
- Tulip® Baby Couture™ Iron-On Applique™
  - Bear Skull
- Iron/ Ironing board
- Trash bags
- Felt, black stiff
- Felt, brown
- Onesie, white
- Headband, black
- Pom Pom, large light brown
- Tailor’s chalk
- Scissors

Steps:

1. Prewash onesie to remove sizing. Do not use fabric softener or dryer sheets.

2. Cover work surface with trash bags. Lay onesie on prepared surface.

3. Wearing rubber gloves, add water to dye bottle. Replace cap tightly. Shake until dye is dissolved.

4. Dye onesie solid black.

5. Cover onesie with trash bag. Let sit 4-6 hours. Wash in a large load of water with a small amount of laundry soap. Line dry.

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6. Place appliqué on front at top middle. Iron following directions on back of packaging.

7. Squeeze a dot of glue on one side of pom pom and place pom pom on back of onesie. Refer to enlarged photo.

8. Place large ear pattern on black stiff felt. Trace around pattern twice with chalk and cut out.

9. Place small pattern on brown felt. Trace around pattern twice and cut out.

10. Apply glue on one side of black pieces. Squeeze ear over headband. Repeat for other ear.

11. On front of ears, glue brown felt matching up bottom edges. Refer to photo.

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Go Fish'n

This adorable fish pattern will make a great addition to any toddler's attire.

By Lalo for Uchida of America, Corp.

Materials:

- Denim Overalls
- MARVY® DECOFABRIC MARKERS - item #222: 1ea
  - Col #0 - white, Col #2 - red,
  - Col #3 - blue, Col #GLD - gold,
  - Col #BRZ - bronze, Col #7 - orange,
  - Col #6 - brown, Col #5 - yellow,
  - Col #CPR - copper, Col #10 - lt. Blue
  - Col #1 - black
- MARVY® ERASABLE FABRIC MARKER - item #422
- Paper Towels

Steps:

1. Cover work area with plastic or news paper.

2. Pre-wash fabric

3. Transfer drawing onto denim with The Erasable Fabric Marker.

4. Lightly draw over image with a white DecoFaric Marker and fill in entire area(this will act as a primer). Let the area dry before proceeding.

Note: paint from light to dark and let each color dry

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5. If necessary add a second coat.

6. When finished, let dry overnight.

7. Heat set is recommended. Use iron to heat set design. Put a cotton cloth over the design and iron it. Use fabric's recommended temperature setting for ironing to set design.

8. When washing or drying use delicate cycle (mild detergent).

Fish Template:

Print out pattern and trace it on to your fabric. For larger image use copy machine to blow up image. Use color chart below to fill out numbered and lettered areas of the template.

Click here for a template: Fish Template
Print pattern. For larger pattern, enlarge on a copy machine to wanted size.

0-white, 1-black, 2-red, 3-blue
5-yellow, 6-brown, 7-orange, 10-lt.blue
GLD-gold, CPR-copper, BRZ-bronze
Dyed School Hoodie

Dye this cute hoodie in your school colors with Tulip® One-Step Fashion Dyes™ and add colorful accents with Tulip® 3D Fashion Paint™ and Glam-It-Up! Iron-On Crystals™.

Materials:

- Tulip® One-Step Fashion Dyes™
  - Blue
  - Yellow
- Tulip® Fashion Form™
- Aleene's® Clear Gel Tacky Glue™
- Tulip® 3D Fashion Paint
  - 65000 White
- Tulip® Glam-It-Up!™ Iron-On Crystals™
  - 300 Clear Pack
  - 300 Multi-color Pack
- Scratch paper
- Crayon
- Pencil
- White chalk
- Plastic garbage bags, 2
- Scissors
- Paper towels
- Hoodie, white, 100% cotton
- Large spray bottles, 2
- Silver lame fabric, ¼ yard

Steps:


2. Insert Fashion Form into hoodie. Draw desired sized letters on scratch paper. Cut out. Arrange letters where desired on the front left side going down. Then on the back arrange them on the top middle. Refer to photo. Lightly trace around each letter, using pencil.

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3. Snip tip from Clear Gel Tacky Glue, using scissors. Apply a bead of glue just inside pencil line on letters on front of hoodie. Apply a random pattern of squiggles as a resist. NOTE: When dye is applied, where resist was applied will remain the color of the hoodie. Repeat procedure for all letters. Let dry.


5. Wearing gloves, fill One-Step Fashion Dye bottles with water to line indicated. Shake until thoroughly mixed. Pour each color of dye into a separate spray bottle. Spray Yellow onto lower section of hoodie and onto lower section of sleeves. Carefully turn hoodie over. Repeat procedure to spray Yellow onto back of hoodie.

6. Spray Blue onto upper section of hoodie, allowing colors to blend at edges. Carefully turn hoodie over. Repeat procedure to spray Blue dye onto front of shirt. Cover with garbage bag. Let set 4-6 hours.

7. Wash in full load of water with small amount of laundry soap – this will remove resist. Dry in dryer.

8. Start flow of 3D paint on paper towel, using even pressure on bottle for a smooth line. Outline each letter on front of hoodie. Add another line about ¼” inside first line. Let dry.


10. Trace football and letters onto paper. Turn paper over. Re-trace lines, using chalk. Place paper chalk side down onto back of hoodie. Run fingers over lines to transfer pattern.

11. Apply a thick, even, line of 3D Fashion Paint along chalk lines of word. Let dry.

12. Prepare Cordless Heat-Setting Tool. Press tip of crayon onto top of a 4mm AB crystal. Set into place at edge of a letter. The crayon will hold it just long enough to set in place. Set crystals about a ¾” apart to outline large letters.

13. Gently touch tip of tool onto top of each Crystal for 5 to 6 seconds to adhere. Let crystal cool. Touch with fingernail to check that is has adhered. If not adhered, heat a few seconds more.


15. Wait 72 hours to wash. To launder, turn inside out and machine wash warm on gentle cycle. Do not use harsh detergents or bleach.

16. Remove promptly and dry flat or line dry. To iron, turn garment inside out, being careful not to touch design with iron. Do not dry clean.

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Low-Cost Knitting Patterns

Guest Knitting Pattern: Roman Holiday Fingerless Mittens

By: Natalie Jacobs of Organic Stills

This fantastic pattern comes to us from Natalie Jacobs of Organic Stills. In addition to fantastic knit and crochet items, Natalie offers a range of beautiful, original photographs in her Etsy shop.

I lost the tag for the yarn that I made these from, but I remember the color way was called Audrey Hepburn, which inspired the name for these.

These fingerless mitts are a good beginner project with an easy to remember pattern stitch. They work up quickly so they are a lovely idea for a last minute gift. As the pattern stitch is worked all the way around, there is no difference between the left and right hand mitts. The cables can easily be done without a cable needle, or using a spare double pointed needle, if you don't want to use a cable needle. I designed these on double pointed needles, but this can easily be adapted for any other method that you prefer.

Yarn: Approx 100 yards of worsted weight
Gauge: 12 stitches and 12 rows = 2" in pattern stitch
Needles: 5mm (Size 8 US) double pointed needles
Notions: Stitch marker, small amount of waste yarn in contrast color
(Note: The mitt will seem narrow, but stretches once put on. The gauge is based on the size of the mitt before it is stretched.)

Abbreviations:
C4B: Slip next two stitches onto cable needle and hold at back of work. K2 from left needle, then 2 from the cable needle.
C4F: Slip next two stitches onto cable needle and hold at front of work. K2 from left needle, then 2 from the cable needle.

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Make two mitts as follows:
CO 36 stitches. Place marker and join in the round being careful not to twist.
Work K2, P2 ribbing for 10 rows.

Begin pattern stitch:
Row 1-2: Knit
Row 3: C4B, K2 repeat around
Row 4-6: Knit
Row 7: K2, C4F repeat around
Row 8: Knit

Repeat rows 1-8 of pattern stitch three times. (Do 2 repeats for shorter mitt, or additional repeats for longer mitt).

Create space for thumb:
At beginning of next row, knit first 6 stitches onto waste yarn.
(Note: I recommend using a yarn that is a very different color from your main yarn so that it is easily visible.)

Put the 6 stitches just knit onto the waste yarn back on left needle, as if starting the beginning of the row.

Using main yarn, knit rows 1-8 of the pattern stitch once more.

Work K2, P2 ribbing for 4 rows and bind off loosely.

Work thumb:
Carefully pull out the waste yarn and place the 12 live stitches back on your needles.

Pick up one additional stitch in each corner (14 stitches total) and arrange evenly on the needles.

Join main yarn and knit around for 6 rows.

Bind off loosely and weave in all ends.
Easy Striped Scarf

By: Bernat

Keep warm in the winter with this classic striped scarf. This scarf is quick and easy to make and is a practical and essential addition to your winter wardrobe.

Measurements:

Approx 10 x 60 ins [25.5 x 152.5 cm].

Materials:

- Bernat® Super Value (197 g / 7 oz) or yarn of your choice.
  - MC: #07421 (Black) -1 ball.
  - A: #00610 (Royal Blue) -1 ball.
- OR
  - Bernat® Berella ‘4’ (100 g / 3.5 oz).
  - MC: 1 ball, A: 1 ball.
- Size 5.5 mm (U.S. 9) knitting needles or size needed to obtain gauge.

Gauge:

17 sts and 23 rows = 4" [10 cm] in stocking st.
Pattern:

With MC, cast on 38 sts.
Knit 5 rows, noting that first row is WS and inc 4 sts evenly across last row. 42 sts.
**Next row: (RS). With MC, knit.
Rep last 2 rows 11 times more.**

With A, rep from ** to ** once.***
Rep from ** to *** until work from beg measures approx 59” [150 cm], ending with RS row and dec 4 sts evenly across last row. 38 sts.
With A, knit 4 rows. Cast off knitwise (WS).
Knit Shoulder Shrug

By: Bernat

This lightweight shoulder shrug is a great way to cover up in the warmer months. Use this shrug knitting pattern to create the pretty shrug with soft natural yarn made from cotton and corn.

Materials:

- Yarn: 3 balls of Bernat® Cot’n Corn (60 g / 2.1 oz) #19417 (Nectarine).
- Knitting Needles: Size 4.5 mm (U.S. 7) knitting needles or size needed to obtain gauge.

Gauge:

21 sts and 26 rows = 4" [10 cm] in pat.

Measurements:

Approx 14 x 36" [35.5 x 91.5 cm].

Size:

One size to fit average lady.

Pattern:

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Cast on 73 sts.
Rep last 2 rows until work from beg measures 36 ins [91.5 cm], ending with a 2nd row. Cast off in pat.

Finishing:
Sew side edges tog for 8" [20.5 cm] from cast on and cast off edges to form Sleeves.
Low-Cost Clothing Sewing Projects

Scrap Fabric and Button Brooch

By: Chasity of Belle and Burger

Chasity of Belle and Burger shares this cute sewing project using scrap fabric and vintage buttons. These brooches make great gifts, as for upcoming Mother’s Day. Create a whole bunch as Thank You gifts, like Chasity did.

Materials:

- fabric scraps
- fusible interface (optional)
- round template (i used a jar bottom)
- felt
- 1” bar pin (jewelry notion)
- glue gun
- thread
- needle
- button(s)
- sewing machine (optional)
- Iron

Directions:

1. Trace and cut out your pattern from the felt (backing) and one piece of fabric with interface attached to it.
You can use any pattern you would like for your brooch. I decided to use a circle. I wanted it to be easy to repeat and versatile, since I was making 5. I used the bottom of a pickle jar for my template and just traced it directly onto my fabric (the back of course) with chalk.

2. Sew the bar pin to the back of your felt piece. Think about where you want the location of the pin to be when you wear it. Make sure the opening of the pin is facing up so when you put it on it is easy to use.

3. Design your brooch with fabrics and buttons. Figure out where you want everything.
Then start attaching each item from the bottom layer up.

It helps to use your iron here. Iron all the scraps first. Then and if you want add interface to the back of them. Iron the entire brooch after you attach each layer; this keeps everything nice and flat. I like to add decorative stitching to the final layers. Then I arrange a few buttons, or just one special button.
4. Decide which way you want the brooch to be worn and where the pin should be located in relation to that.

5. Apply Glue to the back piece. I like to go around about a 1/4 " away from the edge of the brooch with a thin line of glue. Then sort of zig-zag in the middle. Then gently and evenly apply the top piece to the backing. Take care not to squirt excess glue out the sides.

6. Trim any excess fabric
7. ......Tada!
Quick and Easy Half Apron

By: Ashley Johnston of Make It and Love It

Quickly sew up a half apron in your favorite fabric with this easy tutorial from Ashley Johnston of Make It and Love It. The pocket is a cute touch and a handy place to stash those teaspoons. This simple sewing project is great for beginners, but also makes a quick gift for Mother's Day, birthdays and more. For a touch of personalization, try embroidering the monogram of your recipient.

Materials:

- 1 piece of fabric 18 x 25 inches (main piece)
- 1 piece of fabric 4 x 25 inches (waistband)
- 2 pieces of fabric 4 x 35 inches (ties)
- 1 pieces of fabric 6 x 8 inches (pocket)
- coordinating thread
- scissors, sewing machine, etc.

Use 1/2 inch seams unless otherwise noted.

Instructions:

1. Start by making the ties. Sew along the long side, with right sides together. Curve your seam at one end, if you want, to give it a more finished look.

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2. Like this. Then trim. Turn them both right side out. Iron flat.

3. Top-stitch really close to the edge, all the way around both ties.
4. Next, fold over the long edges of your waistband, about 1/4 inch. Iron. Then fold over the ends a 1/4 inch and iron.

5. Then fold the whole waistband in half lengthwise and iron.

6. Next, your going to sew around 3 edges of the main piece. The 2 sides (shorter sides) and the bottom (one of the longer sides). Turn under each edge a 1/4 inch, and then 1/4 inch again. Sew.
7. See all 3 sides that are sewn?

8. Next, lay your main piece right side up with the unfinished edge at the top. Align your waistband up at the top.
9. And fold the other half of the waistband over the top. Pin in place and sew close to the bottom edge, leaving the 2 ends open.

10. Next, you're going to attach the 2 ties to each end. But first, you'll need to fold each unfinished end just a little bit so that it will fit nicely into the opening. If you'd rather not do this, just make your strips 4 x 34 inches (instead of 4 x 35) and they should slide right in without folding. I just like the look of it.
11. Then sew close to the edge to secure the ties in place. Cute, right?

12. Lastly, the pocket. Fold over the top edge (one of the shorter ends) 1/4 inch with wrong sides together. Then flip that sewn edge back and fold over 1 inch with right side together. Sew along the edge, 1/4 seam allowance. Trim the corners.

13. Then turn that section right side out. This is the top of your pocket. It makes it all nice and neat looking.

14. Now fold the 2 sides in 1/4 inch and then fold the bottom up 1/4 inch. Iron into place.
15. Then pin your pocket onto your apron. (You'll notice my ties aren't sewn on yet. I did it in a different order.)

16. Now, sew around the sides and bottom of the pocket to secure it to the main section.
How to Make a Fiber Scarf

By: Lynn Koolish for C T Publishing

Often used for machine embroidery, water-soluble stabilizer can also be used to make interesting fiber scarves in just a few hours. You can use a mix of soft and coordinating ribbons, fabric strips and yarn to make these scarves. Host a party to create these scarves and trade materials! The idea for this project comes from All About Machine Arts: Decorative Techniques from A to Z. For more information about C&T Publishing, visit their blog.

Materials:

- 2 pieces of water-soluble stabilizer in desired size of your scarf (two pieces of 6 inch wide x 6 feet long stabilizer for a scarf that size, or 12 inch wide to fold in half lengthwise)
- Fiber- Yarn, Ribbon, Fabric Strips, etc.
- Fringe- Simply left the fiber hang over the edge of the stabilizer.
- Pins
- Sewing machine

Instructions:

1. Place 1 piece of stabilizer on the table.

2. Lay the fibers the length of the scarf. You can use a lot of fibers to make a thick scarf, or use fewer fibers to make a thinner scarf. You can place the fibers in a very orderly manner, or you can just let them wander and twist.

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3. After all the fibers are arranged to your liking, place the other piece of stabilizer on top (or if you have a wider piece of stabilizer, you can fold it in half).

4. Pin it well to keep everything in place.

5. Stitching is what holds everything in place. It’s best to start by stitching a grid—it’s essential that the stitching cross so be sure to stitch in at least 2 directions. It’s easiest to stitch the short way first, then stitch the long way. After you have a grid you can add more stitching if you like. I find it easiest to do free-motion stitching. The stitching doesn’t show much, so this is a good place to practice if you are new to free-motion.
6. After stitching, place the scarf in warm water and soak and/or gently rub or agitate until the stabilizer is dissolved.

7. Wrap the scarf in a towel to blot, then hang it to dry.

8. Wear with pride, or give it as a gift.

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Place Mat Purse

By: Vanessa of MaxxSilly

Turn an inexpensive place mat (perhaps a spare from your dining set) into a fun and functional clutch purse with this great tutorial from Vanessa of MaxxSilly. This easy sewing project makes a great, quick gift.

I enjoy crating crafts out of already existing things. It must be the Maria Von Trap in me – ripping down curtains to make dresses for the children. I enjoy using bed sheets, pillow cases, dishtowels and other materials to create. It helps you to look at things in a whole new way and cuts down on waste when you repurpose what you have. Not to mention save money!

While wandering through Home Goods I spotted a beautiful place mat on clearance. There were not enough to set the table and for $2 I knew I could make it into something. A book cover? Pillow? The pattern screamed summer so I settled on a little summer clutch.

For this craft you want a stiff placemat - one that can fold and bend but will be sturdy enough to carry your things. Last thing you want is all your things falling out and all over the place. The good thing about a clutch you make your self is that you can decide how big you want the pouch to be. You can fold everything evenly or you can have your flap be a little smaller so you can carry more – that is what I did.

OK – Here we go:

1. Lay your placemat on a flat surface and decide how big you want your pouch to be. Fold the right sides together and pin along the edge.

2. My place mat was “hemmed on all four sides. I sewed in from the hem you can choose based on how big you want your bag to be.
3. Turn the bag inside out. Be sure to push out your corners.

4. On the flap – fold in and again sew in from the hem or so it is lined up with the pouch.

5. I used a clip on earring that I took apart and sewed on for a little decoration on the front. You can add a snap, ribbons or whatever you want – be sure to make it your own!

6. Fill it with what you need for a night on the town and enjoy!
Low-Cost Shirt Crafts

Fleur-De-Lis Tee

By: Lori Bergmann for Krylon

For a look that’s at the top of today’s fashionable trends, try your hand at painting this stylish tee.

Materials:

- Krylon Indoor/Outdoor Paint - Black (#51601)
- Krylon Easy-Tack™ Repositionable Adhesive - Clear (#7020)
- Fleur De Lis stencil set (Delta Creative)
- Silver Studs (The Vintage Workshop)
- Grey cotton t-shirt
- Plain scrap paper (with no printing or color on it — white copy paper works great)
- Painter’s tape
- Thick cardboard sheet (approximately 13” × 17”)

Steps:

1. Spray back of stencil with Easy-Tack.
2. Place cardboard sheet inside shirt and carefully fold excess fabric underneath. Press fleur de lis area of stencil firmly to upper center portion of shirt. Mask off areas you do not want painted with paper and painter’s tape.
3. Spray over stencil with Gloss Black paint, then carefully remove stencil and let dry completely.
4. Embellish design on shirt with iron-on metallic studs (or you could use glue on accents or pronged rhinestones)

For more project ideas, please visit www.krylon.com/projects.
Guest Project: Give Old Clothes a New Life

By: Linda LaSala of Girlawhirl

This guest project comes to compliments of Linda LaSala of Girlawhirl. She shares her ideas on updating old clothes with simple changes to give them new life. You'll feel as though you have brand new clothes, without the cost!

Ribbon Sweater Before

I don’t know about you, but I’ve definitely cut back on frivolous fashion purchases. Just a couple of weeks ago I went though a drawer full of sweaters and tops that I rarely wear, thinking that I could sell some of them at my local consignment shop and clean up a bit, making the drawer available for things I wear more often. But instead of ditching everything, I found a few items that just needed a quick face lift to turn them into special pieces it’d reach for again and again.

I swapped the basic white buttons on a sleeveless cashmere sweater for some pretty pewter ones I had purchased in Paris a few years ago (before and after below), and covered the beige ribbon on the creamy white sweater above with a gorgeous velvet ombré that I found in my local stationary store. I love the way the sweater looks with a black skirt or pair of skinny grey pants!
It’s as if I got some new clothes – and all I did was re-work some items that I had in my wardrobe but wasn’t wearing. As spring rolls around I intend to liven up some of last year’s clothes using the same principles. Maybe I can add some white topstitching and colorful buttons to an old jacket, or create a pair of slim ankle length pants from an old pair of boot cut ones. I could use a printed scarf to create a cowl to compliment a colorful V neck sweater or just make an inset that looks like I have a pretty camisole on underneath.
Guest Tutorial: Guitar Reverse Appliqué Shirt

By: Melissa Bocclair of Three Prince Designs

This fantastic tutorial for a rocking reverse appliqué guitar shirt comes to us from Melissa Bocclair of Three Prince Designs. A long-sleeved striped shirt shows through the guitar shape in the t-shirt on top for a very cool look.

To do this shirt- I took 2 shirts that we already had. The striped long sleeve shirt was looking worn on the front and the plain light blue t shirt was a little dull!

So first find 2 coordinating shirts (preferably one with long sleeve and a pattern on it if possible). Next place the patterned shirt inside the other shirt and line up all seams, shoulder, and neck.
Next print off your guitar pattern and cut out the 2 pieces along the solid lines. (To open full-sized pattern in browser window, click image and print.)

Next pin the guitar pattern on the shirt in the direction you want. Pin thru the paper and top 2 shirt layers.

Next sew about a 1/8 inch along the outside of the paper template. Only sew thru the top 2 layers of the shirt.

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After sewing along all the edges- remove the pins and paper. Next carefully cut out only the top shirt fabric inside the guitar pattern you just sewed on. Cut close to the thread- but make sure not to cut thru the thread!!

Next sew a zigzag stitch with coordinating thread all around the cut edges. Next take the small piece of pattern you cut out earlier and pin in place. Zig Zag Stitch around the edges to hold in place.
Redesign Old Clothing

By: Sue Stover for Jacquard Products

What started out as a plain solid black tank top can be easily transformed into a beautiful unique garment in just an hour or two! This project takes no time and very little in materials.

Materials:

- Black tank top from Dharma Trading Co.
- Jacquard Discharge Paste
- Foam stamps
- Masking tape
- 1" sponge brush
- Iron
- Newspaper

Steps:

1. Lay the shirt out on a flat surface with a layer of newspaper inside of the shirt.

2. Put some of the Discharge Paste onto the sponge brush and dab it onto the foam stamp that is your bottom border. Make sure all of the stamp is covered.

3. Press the foam stamp onto the fabric at the bottom edge of the shirt. Continue stamping all around the bottom edge of shirt in this manner. It may be a little difficult to see your pattern as the Discharge Paste is clear. Let dry for a few minutes.

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4. Iron the bottom of the shirt to make the discharging process take place. You should be able to clearly see the pattern now. Be sure to work in a well ventilated space.

5. Place 2 lines of masking tape above the bottom pattern leaving about 1/4" in between the lines. Paint with the sponge brush some of the Discharge Paste in the 1/4" space. Remove tape, let dry and iron.

6. With the leaf stamp, stamp an all over pattern on the rest of the shirt. You may want to mask out areas that you don’t want the Discharge Paste to go. For example, use the masking tape around the neck and arm holes to keep the binding all black and use tape or scrap paper to cover the bottom border while stamping the leaves.

7. Iron the rest of the shirt. Wash it and it’s ready to wear!
Low-Cost Shoe Craft

Bohemian Flower Pumps

By: Amy Law for Kreinik

Create the look of embroidery on a pair of shoes without the hassle. Iron-on thread and sequins make this fashion statement simple. Use this Bohemian technique for costumes too!

Materials:

- 1 pair of plain shoes
- Fabric: 2 green prints for leaves, 1 color for flower
- Kandi Crystal- 2 (7mm) Clear
- Kreinik Iron-On #16 Braid 6200 Daffodil
- Kreinik Iron-On 1/8" Ribbon in 6500 Hydrangea and 6300 Meadow
- Fusible Webbing or Treasure Tape
- Iron
- Teflon presscloth
- Scissors
- Fabric pencil

Steps:

1. Turn on your iron to it’s highest setting and allow it to heat up. Cut out your fabric pieces: three leaf shapes and two simple daisy shapes (4 petals each).

2. Use your Iron-On Ribbon to edge each of your fabric pieces: lay the thread at a starting point, cover with the Teflon press cloth, and press with your hot iron for several seconds until the thread adheres. Use the 6300 Meadow Green 1/8" Ribbon around the edges of each leaf shape and add one stripe of thread down their centers. Use the 6500 Hydrangea 1/8" Ribbon around the edges of your flower shapes.
3. To create the yellow stamen detail on your flower, use a piece of scrap fabric. Iron down the very end of your 6200 Daffodil #16 Braid. Fold the thread end into a closed loop and iron in place. Gently pull off the fabric while still warm. Cut the end leaving a 1" tail. Make 4 of these.

4. Begin assembling your flower. Iron your 4 stamen pieces onto your top flower shape, leaving the curled ends loose. Iron your crystal onto the center of the flower. (Place the crystal on your design and cover with your presscloth. Press with the iron to heat the crystals until they fuse with your fabric.)

5. Cut your fusible webbing or Treasure tape to the size of your leaves and flower pieces. Apply to the back of your fabric. Attach your two flower pieces together, so that the bottom petals show between the top petals. Decide how you want to arrange your leaves and flower, then iron them onto your shoe.

6. Repeat these instructions for your second shoe and get ready to step out in style!

Kreinik threads available through needlework stores or www.kreinik.com.
Fab Summer Flip Flops

By: Heidi Blankenship for Spellbinders

What a treat for your summer toes. Use Spellbinders Die Templates and fun foam to enhance an inexpensive pair of flip flops. Wear them to the beach and even the sand will be envious.

Materials:

- Spellbinders Die Templates S4-072 Flower Creations 2, S4-101 Flower Creations
- Glue Dots
- Beacon 3-In-1 Glue
- Buttons
- rhinestones

Steps:

1. Create a pair of matching flowers by cutting Flower Creations (S4-072), Flower Creations 2 (S4-101) from each fun foam color: Yellow, Lime, Pink and Orange.

2. Using Glue Dots, create 2 matching flowers, layering all four colors in a variety of petal shapes.

3. Add a button to the center of each.

4. Using 3-IN-1 Glue adhere a tiny flower on top of the button.

5. Then using Gem-Tac add a large rhinestone to the center of the flower. Let dry.

6. Use 3-IN-1 Glue to adhere the flowers to the flip flops.

7. Add some of the small foam circles to the straps.

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Beaded Black Dress Shoes

By: Amy Law for Kreinik

Get the perfect dress shoes for proms, parties or a night out on the town by doing your own embellishments. You can decorate them in any colors to match your dress. Then you can truly say, "These shoes were made just for me!"

Materials:

- Black shoes or similar dress shoes
- Treasure Tape circle shape sheet
- Kreinik Japan #7 001J Silver
- Diamond Beadlets
- Small flat-backed diamond-like cabochons or sequins
- Shallow pan or tray

Steps:

1. Lay the Treasure Tape circles randomly on your shoes. Peel off the red liner to expose the top sticky area.
2. Lay the flat-backed cabochons in the center of each circle.
3. Lay the silver Japan thread in swirls around the cabochons and on the tape circle.
4. Lay the shoe in a shallow pan or tray and cover remaining sticky areas with Diamond Beadlets.

Kreinik threads available through needlework stores or www.kreinik.com.

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