



Sweater Collar Bracelet

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If you have comments or suggestions about this project, please feel free to email me. I would love to hear from you.

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What You Will Need



If you have an old sweater with an attractive collar, you can recycle the collar to make this exquisite bracelet. Because sweaters come in so many different fabrics, colors, and textures, you can make an unlimited amount of bracelets using this technique.

Materials

Sweater collar with a finished edge, 2 to 2³/₄ inches wide
9 x 12-inch sheet of black glitter craft felt
3/8 inch shank button
Hank of silver lined bugle beads, size 3/0
Black sewing thread

Tools:

Scissors
Ruler
Dressmaker pins
Sewing Machine (Optional)
Sewing Needle
Seam Ripper
#12 beading needle , 1¹/₂ to 2 inches long

Let's Get Started



1. Carefully cut the collar from the sweater, leaving approximately 3/8-inch of the sweater material attached. Cut the collar to a length of 8 inches. The width of the bracelet depends on the size of the collar.

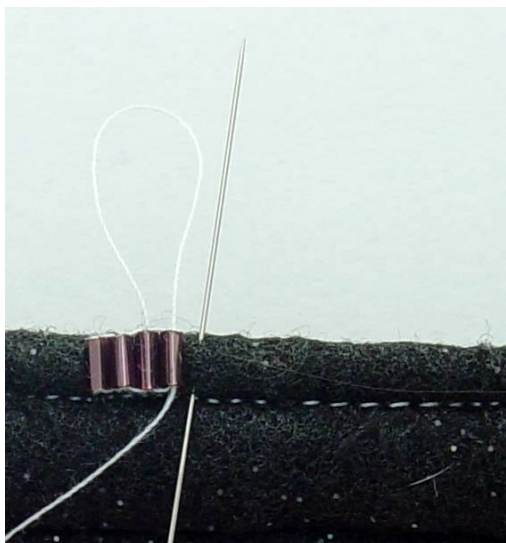


2. Cut two pieces of black glitter felt:
2 x 9 1/2 inches
2 x 4 inches



3. Sew both pieces of felt to the raw edges of the collar, leaving a 1-inch felt tail past the the collar on the finished end. Topstitch the outer edge of the felt with a 1/8-inch seam allowance for this and all sewing. When finished, both sides of the bracelet should look the same. Always use thread that matches the color of your fabric. I used a contrasting color for demonstration purposes.

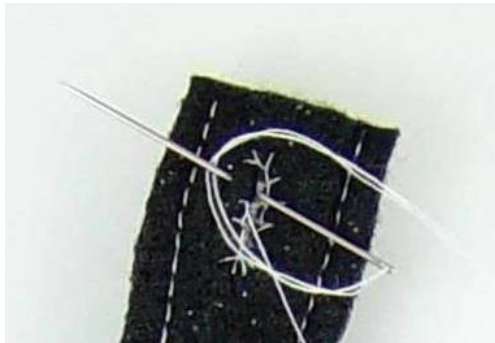
Tip: If the two sides don't match up perfectly and the felt on the back side is uneven, trim the extra material to correspond with the line of sewing.



4. Thread the beading needle with 1 yard of sewing thread. Attach the bugle beads to the bracelet. Start anywhere along the edge of black felt and stitch the bugle beads side by side to cover both the inner and outer edge of the felt using the bugle fence stitch. To do this, stitch through the fabric and then through the beads a couple of times to stabilize the beads and secure them to the felt and each other. This additional stitching will produce a nice straight line along the edge.



5. Attach the 3/8-inch shank button. S 3/8 inch black shank button. Any shank button that compliments your design will work. Stitch the button to the bracelet at the point of where the two black pieces of felt overlap.



6. To make the buttonhole, measure about 1/4-inch from the end of the felt tail and use the seam ripper to cut a slit through both pieces of material. Cut slowly and make sure the button fits through the slit easily, but take care not to cut the slit too long. Buttonhole stitch around the slit to finish the edges. Sew around twice for better support, if desired. Optionally, you can make a buttonhole by machine.