

Button Bracelets



Button Bracelets allow children to design a wearable piece of art with lots of color and texture — a new twist on craft bracelets! A leather wristband is used as a base and takes on a very different look when buttons and colorful wire are added.

Start the lesson by discussing the importance of color and texture in creating different moods. For example, dark colors and black create a cool, quiet, somber mood. Bright colors, especially reds, yellows and oranges, may convey the warmth of the sun. Red, white and blue are patriotic American colors. Can your students name other color combinations that represent a mood or feeling?

Designs will vary with each student's skill level, but success will be achieved by all! Each bracelet will be unique according to the amount of wire and buttons that are used, as well as color selections. Note: This project follows a much simpler process than the directions included with the Mystery Bracelet packaging.

Grade Levels 3-6

Note: Instructions and materials based on a class of 25 students. Adjust as needed.

Process

1. Make just one twist of the leather to start the wire and buttons (refer to Mystery Bracelet package instructions).
2. Select a colored Twisteez wire. Do not precut all the wire but begin with a 3-4" length to allow for threading through buttons and winding the excess around the leather strip to attach. Swap and exchange wire colors as needed with other students.
3. Choose buttons and decide on placement. Keep in mind that too many buttons will crowd the design and shorten the length of the bracelet, resulting in a tighter fit.
4. Thread Twisteez wires through buttons to create a pattern. The wires are much longer than needed and can be trimmed with scissors. The button can be threaded

Materials

[Mystery Braid Wristband Quick Kit](#), (63011-1025); share one 25-piece pack across class

[Twisteez](#), 30" (33407-1050); share one 50-piece package across class

[Alphabet Beads](#), Black and White (60773-1030) or Colored (60773-1010); share four packages each across class

[Roylco® Bright Buttons](#), (60975-0001); share two 1-lb packages across class

[Craft Button Assortment](#) (61495-1001); share two 1-lb packages across class

[Snippy® Scissors](#), 12-pack pointed, (57040-2009); need one per student

onto one end of the wire and the wire ends wrapped around the leather to create a design. Although it may be tempting to curl the wire and leave the ends unattached, the buttons and wire should be kept flush with the bracelet to avoid snagging on clothing or objects.

Options

1. Stack buttons by putting small ones on top of larger ones.
2. Make a button pendant by attaching the buttons and wire to a large safety pin and hanging it from a chain or ribbon.
3. Use a large 1-1/2" [Bar Pin](#) (60691-2015), available in packages of 144, to make a pin for a scarf, hat, purse or dress.

Options, continued

4. Make a button ring. Attach a button to a piece of wire. Braid the wire to make a band. Bring the tail of the wire up and around the bottom of the button to complete the ring.

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National Standards for Visual Arts Education

Content Standard #1 Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes

K-4 Students know the differences between materials, techniques and processes

5-8 Students intentionally take advantage of the qualities and characteristics of art media, techniques and processes to enhance communication of their experiences and ideas

Content Standard #2 — Using knowledge of structures and functions

K-4 Students use visual structures and functions of art to communicate ideas

5-8 Students generalize about the effects of visual structures and functions and reflect upon these effects in their own work