

Sew on Flat and Shank Buttons

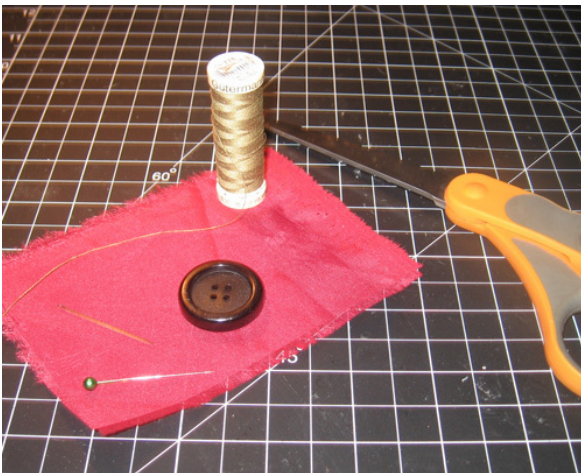
By: BurdaStyle

<http://www.burdastyle.com/techniques/sew-on-flat-and-shank-buttons>



Whether you lost a button from your favorite coat or you are sewing a new blouse from your favorite BurdaStyle pattern, sewing on a button is a skill you can master quickly and can easily be learned!

Step 1



Your materials: needle, thread (button and carpet, upholstery, or topstitch thread is better because it is thicker), a pin or toothpick, buttons, scissors. Optional: for shank buttons, you can use a small flat button (either clear or to match the fabric) to make the shank button more stable

Step 2



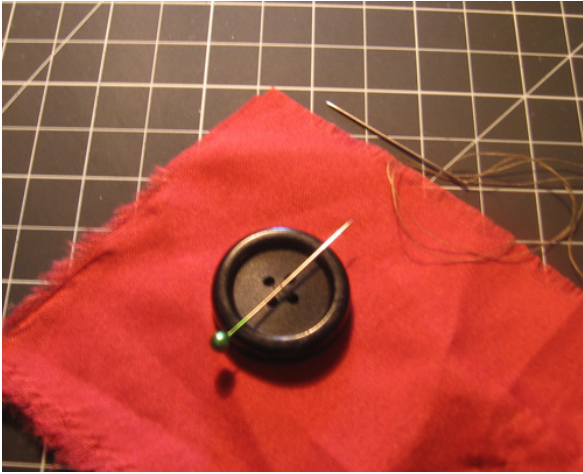
Thread the needle and knot one end of the thread. Decide where your button will be placed, and pull the needle through from the wrong side to the right side, so the knotted end is on the wrong side. Make two to three stitches in this place to anchor the thread. Place the button on top of these stitches.

Step 3



Bring the needle up through the button, from the back side.

Step 4



Lay the pin or toothpick over the button. This will be used as a spacer.

Step 5



Take the thread over the spacer and back through the opposite buttonhole. Repeat about 6 times. For a 4-hole button, repeat these steps for the other two holes.

Step 6



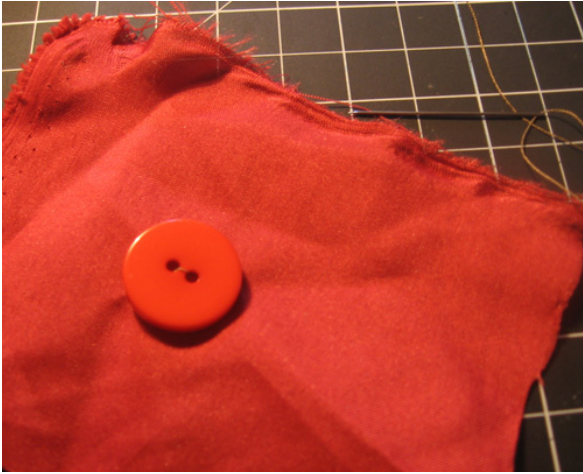
Bring the needle and thread to the back and knot and trim the thread. Remove the straight pin. Now you've sewn on your flat button!

Step 7



To attach a button with a shank, begin with steps 1 and 2.

Step 8



Place the small button over the anchoring stitches, and attach it to the wrong or inside of the garment. This is optional- to add sturdiness to the shank button.

Step 9



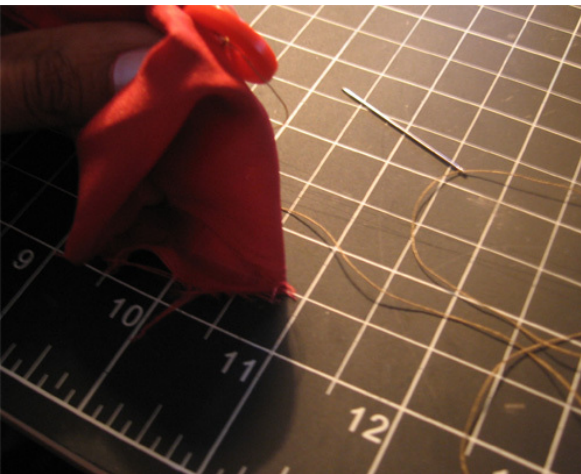
Bring the needle to the right side and through the shank button. Bring it back out through the small button. Continue doing this until you have about 6 stitches holding your shank button in place.

Step 10



Bring the needle and thread up to the right side of the garment, under the shank button. Wrap the thread around the stitches holding the shank, creating a loop around the shank. Do this about three times.

Step 11



Bring the needle out to through the back and tie off the ends. Trim so the thread stays underneath the smaller flat button.

Step 12



Now you've got a sturdy shank button on your garment!

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