

DIY Orange Shirt Pin

1: Gather your supplies.



- a shirt template (recommended)
- a glue stick
- felt or a similar stiffer fabric (*Pellon® is a stabilizer fabric available at any craft or fabric store*)
- a sewing needle
- thread in black or orange
- scissors
- a pin to glue onto the back
- fabric glue
- orange beads, *size 10 or 11 if using seed beads*

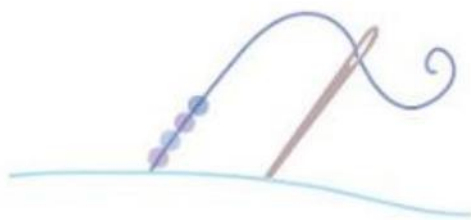
2: Use the glue stick to attach the shirt template to the felt, or whatever material you are using as a stabilizer. Let it dry before you start sewing.

Note: If you already know how to sew and bead, you can *trace or draw the shirt outline with either a ballpoint pen or a thin alcohol based marker and start beading free-hand.*

3: Thread your needle and tie a double knot at the end of your thread. This will keep the thread from being pulled out as you sew.

4: Push your needle from the back of the piece and up through the paper. Pull the thread all the way through until you reach the knot.

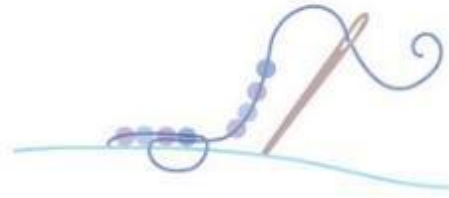
5: Thread on 4 orange beads and push them so they are resting on the line.



6: Push your needle back down through to the stabilizer side. Try not to make it too tight, because you need to sew through the beads again.

7: Push the needle back up through your beadwork, in-between the second and third beads. Pull the needle all the way through.

8: Push your needle through the second and third beads, and pull the thread all the way through. Note the loop in the image below. This loop reinforces the beads.



9: Repeat steps 4-8 until you reach the bottom of the line you are beading.

10: Start your new row by pushing the needle up through the base of the orange shirt going in the direction of the bottom of the shirt. Follow steps 4-8 to complete this row.

11: Repeat steps 4-9 until the entire outer edge of the shirt is beaded and tacked down.

12: Continue to add beads until the template is covered as you like.

13: Once the sleeves and the rest of the shirt are filled, cut off the excess felt or stabilizer. Do not cut too close to the threads, or the beads may fall off.

14: Use a tiny amount of the fabric glue to secure the knot in place.

15: Attach the pin. Some are designed to be sewn onto the felt, and you may need to do so before you begin beading. Some must be glued to a smaller piece of felt and that piece glued to the back of your beaded creation. This step can be done last.

And You're Done!

Here are some examples to inspire you. You can make it as complicated or as simple as you like. Some were made free hand.



****OPTIONAL ADD-ON****

Beading for Littles / as a family

If younger children and those smaller hands want to participate, consider incorporating simpler beading projects and using larger materials such as:

- Pony Beads
- Perler beads, laced or melted
- Pipe cleaners
- Yarn or ribbon for stringing, with tape added on one end to make point



Or using white glue, attach the beads straight to a piece of orange foam or felt

