
Tassel Necklace with Liesl Gibson

Chapter 1 - Introduction

Overview

- I wanted a little bit of color to add to an outfit that I was wearing the other day. And it occurred to me that I could make a necklace with some tassels on it, and that would be just the right amount of color to add. So I want to show you how to make the tassels themselves, how you can put them on a necklace, and I guarantee you're going to be wandering around the house looking for other things that you can put tassels on as well once you've learned how fun and easy it is to do this. ^ (light upbeat music) (musical notes)

Chapter 2 - Materials

Materials

- I'm gonna show you two different methods to attach the tassels to the necklace. The necklace that I'm wearing today, I've actually tied each individual tassel onto a link within the chain. If you choose this method, this is the same way that you would also attach a tassel to something else, say the corner of the napkin like I did here, or to clothing that you've made, something like that. The other method is to actually slide the top of the tassel right onto a chain, and that's great for, this chain doesn't actually have individual links on it, so it's easier to attach it just by sliding the tassel right on. Whichever method you choose to make, you'll still need some thread to use. I'm using a pearl cotton today. If you wanna make a larger tassel, you could also use knitting yarn. If you wanna go really fine, you could use even sewing thread, whichever you prefer. You'll need a hand sewing needle large enough to fit the thread or yarn that you've chosen. You'll need a little piece of card stock. You'll need the necklace chain, some fabric glue, a pair of scissors, and then we'll be all set to go.

Chapter 3 - Create Necklace

Creating Tassels

- To get started you'll want to decide how big your final tassel is going to be. And you can fold a piece of card stock a few times to that same length. You can always trim it down a bit, but I try to get pretty close to the finished length that I want to get started. Once you've done that then you can take your yarn or your thread and start winding it around the card stock. For the tassels that I've been making I've been going around the card stock about 45 times. And my card stock measures about an inch and 1/4. So I'm just going to start winding. Each trip around is one round. So there's 45 times around. Now I'm going to cut this thread and I'll cut another little piece of thread. This one, you want this to be long enough that you can tie around the top and you'll have some extra tails on it, so that if you want to go and attach it to something else, like for this necklace, then you'll have something to tie. The reason I like to use the card stock is that it bends and I can get the end of the thread right underneath all of those loops and pull it through. If you're using cardboard sometimes the cardboard is a little bit stiff and it's kind of hard to get it through there. So I'll pull it tight. And then I'm going to tie it at the end. And you wanna tie this pretty tightly. Be a little careful. The Pearl cotton is a little bit fragile, so don't pull so tightly that you break it, but pull tightly enough that you're really putting a little tension on the top of that to hold that. That makes this part a lot easier. Pull the second one tight, there. If you're making the necklace where you're

sliding the tassels onto the chain this is when you want to put that chain right inside of the loop here. I'll just put it right through the loop and then I'm going to fasten the chain, just to prevent it from sliding back out. Now I can slip that whole wrapped yarn loop right off of the card stock. There we go. Because the chain is in there I'm going to hold onto those two thread tails at the top and I'm also going to hold onto the chain. So the next step will be to wrap the top of the tassel. I'll be holding onto the two tails at the top of the tassel and because the chain is here I'll also hold onto that at the same time. I'm going to be holding those tight while I wrap around the tassel. So to get started with the wrap take the end of the thread and just hold that at the very top. We're also going to make a little loop here, and now I'm going to start wrapping near the top of the tassel, leave a little bit of room, and I'm going to work my way down. Wrap as tightly as you can and keep the threads lying next to each other as best as you can. So you're just working your way down with each consecutive wrap laying right next to the thread above it. Just work your way down. And here, again, I like to count. I was wrapping about I think 10 times for the tassels that I made already, so I think I have about 10 times there. Now I can cut the end my yarn, leave yourself a tail a few inches long, and that loop that you had left we're going to put the end of the thread right through that loop, I'm going to hold that in place, and then I'm going to reach back to the first thread, the tail that we had left at the very top, and I'm going to pull that. And it's going to pull the loop and make a nice little knot that hides the ends of the thread. So we've just hidden the knot right underneath the wrapping that way. Now I'm just gonna use a little bit of fabric glue to make sure that that knot doesn't go anywhere. And if you have a pin handy it's useful to just put a little bit of fabric glue on the end of the pin. I like the Fray Check, because it dries completely clear, you don't have any white on there. I'm just taking a tiny bit of the fabric glue and just touching in onto the end, that top end, and that will prevent that knot from slipping and going any place. Once you've done that, the glue can even still be wet, just go in and trim the end of that thread. And then you can trim any ends that are sticking out and you can cut right through the end of that loop, so that you're freeing all the ends of the tassel. Now I think the tassel needs a little bit of a haircut at this point, because some of the ends are a little uneven. So you just go in and trim those down, check it in a few spots to make sure they're all even. And your tassel is done. If you've slipped it onto the chain like this you can also go in and this thread that we had tied at the top you can just take this right out now. So you won't need those tails if you've slipped it onto the chain, but if you're going to attach the tassel to an individual link on a necklace or onto something else that you've made then you'll wanna keep those tails in place. So that's the necklace with the tassels slipped onto the chain. Now I'm going to show you again and this time we'll attach the tassel onto the napkin, just as I did for my necklace, where I actually tied it onto an individual link. So let's start again. I've got my card stock, this time I'm making a yellow tassel. So I'll wrap it around again. I was doing 45 times, so I'll do 45 this time as well. Okay, so there's 45 times around. Again, I'll cut my thread, and now cut another piece to tie around the top of the tassel. Slip one end underneath to grab it, and then tie it at the top. There we go. All right, so now I don't need to put the chain in there, I can just slip this off. And now I can start wrapping around the top of the tassel. I leave a tail at the top, make a loop that we'll go through, and then I'm gonna start wrapping. And I'm gonna go 10 times around. And just lay each wrap right next to the wrap above it. That's about 10 times. Now I can cut my thread. There we go. So I'll go through that loop with the end and pull on the tail to knot it. And then again, I'm just gonna put a little bit of fabric glue there. And then before it's dry I'll trim it down really close. And now I can cut the ends and give my tassel its little haircut. And we have another tassel finished. So this is my second tassel and I've left the ends long here, so that we can attach it to the pillow or a napkin or

the necklace or whatever we like.

Finishing Tassel

- So let me first show you how to attach this. I'm going to attach it to the napkin, but you can attach it to almost anything. To, like I said, a pillow, to clothing. If you wanted to embellish maybe make a fake necklace on your clothing or something like that. So this is a really easy process. I'm going to put one of the thread tails to my needle. And then I'm just going to take a little stitch. I'm putting it right at the end of this napkin. I'm going to take a little stitch right at the corner. And I'll pull it through. And now I'm just going to tie a little knot here, I'll go around twice. One time, two. And now I'm going to re-thread my needle. And I'm just going to bury the ends of these threads a little bit so that they don't show. And now I'm going to go through one layer of the fabric pretty close to the knot. And I'm just going to take a long stitch. I'm not letting it, it's just traveling underneath the fabric and I'll come out. And then I'm just going to trim the extra here. And I'm really just burying the thread there so that it doesn't show with the knot. I'll do the same thing on the other tail. Take a nice, long stitch right in between the layers. If you're on a, if you're working with a single layer of fabric just go to the wrong side so that it doesn't show. And you can even knot it someplace in the back. But since both sides of this napkin will show, I don't want it to be visible. So I've just buried those ends and I have a nice knot attaching it. Now if you're attaching a tassel to the necklace, to a chain, instead of just sliding the tassel on, I'll show you how to do that. Since I can't get a needle through that chain, through the links in the chain, I instead used a little bit of sewing thread. I just cut a piece and I made a loop in one of the links. So I'll take both ends of the thread and feed them right through one of those links on the chain. There we go, and that makes a loop. So now we've got a little loop of thread. And remember, this is the method that we're going to use if you're attaching the tassel to a single link so it's stationary on the necklace. Now I'm going to pull one end of the tassel thread through by putting it into that loop. And this thread is actually acting as my needle, it's taking the place of the needle. So I'll pull the loop through and when I do that then the yarn, or the thread from the tassel will come through as well. And again, this is kind of fussy, it takes a little bit of maneuvering in order to get it through because the thread itself is quite thick. Here it goes. There, now I can take the sewing thread away. And I've got the tassel right up against the necklace. Now just like I did for the napkin, I'll tie this twice. And then I'm going to take that needle, the large needle that fits the thread and I'm going to thread up each of these ends and I'm just going to bury this right in the middle of the tassel. So I'll just go through the wrapped part of the tassel. There we go. And then I can trim that down. And that's again, just to hide the ends of the thread just like we did with the napkin. And again, just go through the wrapped portion of the tassel just to bury that thread. So that tassel isn't going to go anywhere now. That will stay right in place. And that's how you'll make the necklace with the tassels that stay stationary. Go forth and tassel.