

Instructions Wooden Bead Frame

The handicraft material you need for making a wooden bead frame:

- 1 picture frame
- colourful wooden beads
- colourful motif beads
- optional: letter cubes
- cord (PP-polyester cord or satin cord)

The tools you need:

- scissors
- lighter
- hot-glue gun
- tweezers

Let's get Crafty!

Step 1: Experimenting With Wooden Beads

The **picture frame** that you want to decorate is in front of you? Wonderful! Now let's get creative: Choose the **wooden beads** to use and think of your own individual design. For example, you can use different colours, motif beads and bead sizes. The choice is entirely up to you.

To test if your bead selection fits the size of the frame, first use a sufficiently long piece of cord. Melt the cord ends carefully with a lighter. This prevents them from fraying and makes stringing easier.

String the **wooden beads**. Test by **placing them on the picture frame** whether the number of beads required is correct.

Step 2: Gluing the Beads With Hot Glue

Let's prepare using the **hot-glue gun**: Put a **crafting mat** on the table and maybe you also want to open a window because of the hot glue's fumes. Put **kitchen paper, handkerchiefs** or something similar ready for use. Turn on the hot-glue gun and wait until the glue has melted.

First, test on the crafting mat the **hot glue's handling**. Try to get a feeling for how you can make nice and clean glue dots.

It is best removing the beads that you have strung in step 1 from the cord, except for a few wooden beads. This gives you more space for gluing smoothly.

So let's switch theory to practice: Take the first bead and put a **blob of hot glue** on it. Press it onto the picture frame with your fingers (or with tweezers if there is too much glue) for about 20 seconds. If too much glue is coming out from under the bead, wipe it away as quickly as possible while it is still liquid with kitchen paper or handkerchiefs. You can still remove the slightly dried glue, but it will fray, which doesn't look very nice.

Then patiently **glue** each bead, one by one, with the hot glue – except for the last wooden bead.

Step 3: Adding the Last Bead

You have successfully glued all but the last bead? Great! Then the most difficult part has already been done. String the **very last wooden bead**. Shorten the cord ends to about 1 cm. Melt them again briefly with the lighter. Now pass the cord ends either into the adjacent beads or between them. A pair of **tweezers** can be helpful for doing that.

Step 4: Finishing the Wooden Bead Frame

Finally, glue the **last bead**. If necessary, you can also fix the cord ends with glue if they are between the beads.

You've made it! Your **DIY wooden bead picture frame** is ready to use. Now all you have to do is: put it up or hang it up a wall for you to enjoy it every day!

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