Instructions for

11

Wooden Bead

Frames



# Decoratively Frames Your Favourite Motifs A Wooden Bead Frame

A **picture frame** is a versatile home accessory: its transparent cover protects beloved family photos, artistic drawings or high-quality prints. Reason enough to turn this practical everyday object with some creativity and a little patience into an **individual work of art**!

These **handicraft instructions** explain how you can enhance a frame using **wooden beads**. Your chosen **picture frame's borders** should be wide enough so that you can easily glue on your chosen beads. It should also match the beads' colours, since even the area on which the beads will be glued, will remain slightly visible. To make sure that the wooden beads' holes are not visible and to create nice looking bead strands, we string the beads on a **cord** with a matching colour.

Since you will be working with a **hot-glue gun**, we recommend using some kind of **crafting mat** during the gluing process. Also have **kitchen paper**, **handkerchiefs** or something similar ready. Because the hot-glue threads quickly "take on a life of their own" during the crafting process, it is also a good idea to wear **old or worn out clothes** that may get adhesive stains. Also choose hot-glue sticks whose glue **dries transparent**.

Please take an afternoon for this handicraft project. A much faster DIY project is the popular **dummy chain with name**. Further **handicraft instructions for home accessories** are also available from **Schnullerkettenladen**. No matter which of those tutorials you implement: We wish you a lot of fun!



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

- o 1 picture frame
- o colourful wooden beads
- colourful motif beads
- o optional: letter cubes
- o 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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