

How to Add Beads to Lamp Shades

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Want to make a plain lamp shade into a decorative element in your home? Adding beads to a lamp shade can do it. If you like Victorian style, you can add beads to the base of the lamp shade. If you want to have an eclectic look, you can add beads to the body of the lamp shade.

Dotted Lamp Shade

- Select flat-back beads in any size or color from glass, wood or clay. Never use plastic beads.
- Place these beads on the shade.
- Use fabric marker to mark shade in the desired pattern.
- Use a drop of hot glue to cover a mark. Press the beads into the glue. Hold it in place for few seconds. Repeat this step to make beads cover each marked point.

Beaded Fringe Lamp Shade

- Measure the circumference around the top of the lamp shade.
- Cut a bead edge equal to this measurement.
- Wear protective gloves before using the glue gun.
- Apply a layer of hot glue around a small section of the top of the lamp shade. Press the portion of the beaded fringe into the hot glue. Allow the hot glue to set up by holding the ribbon in place for a few seconds. To determine how much of the ribbon will be visible, you can place the ribbon on the shade. Depending on the design you want, you can attach the ribbon to the front of the top rim, to the top edge of the rim or to the top rim of the lamp shade.
- Keep adding beads to the top of the lamp shade.
- Repeat the above steps to add the beads to the bottom circumference of the lamp shade.

Tip

Liquid or viscous craft glue also can help to add bead dots or beaded fringe to a lamp shade.