



## Tutorial - Making Tassels

Add an unexpected splash of colour to your projects.



Tassels are the most tremendous fun. I love them with everything - curtains, quilts, clothes and jewellery. They add a touch of whimsy and sometimes a sprinkle of bloomsbury boho to whatever you are making.

When I was working towards my City & Guilds, one of the modules had a section on tassels. I had never really thought about them before, but here, I found myself making them out of all sorts of things and they were beautiful. Since then, I have looked for ways to use them in my quilts and in my Pineapple Crush quilt I added different colour tassels attached with covered buttons and it looked so pretty.

A really simple and effective way to make these in different colours is to use skeins of tapestry wool. This way you can mix and match colours to your projects and don't have to buy a larger ball of wool that gets lost in a carrier bag or box somewhere afterwards!

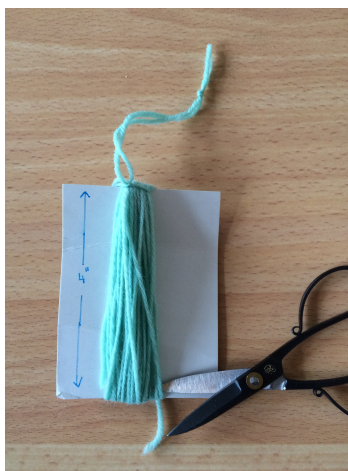
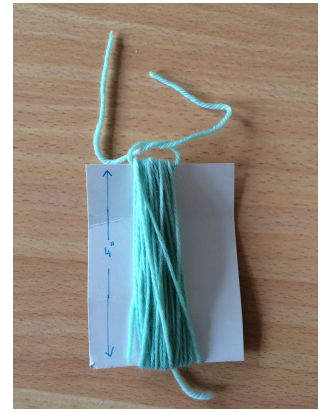
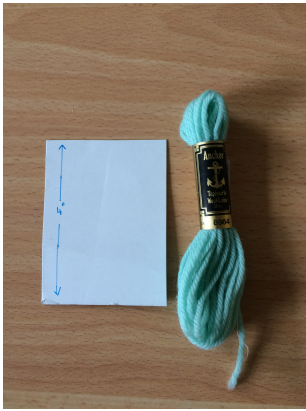
I always look out for sale bargains and discounted skeins of tapestry wool and it is surprising how often you can find these. I tend to buy up a bunch of bright colours when I can, knowing they will come in handy for a quilt.



To make one of these tassels, first of all find a piece of card - anything will do - an old christmas card or cereal packet for example. Cut this to a slightly larger size that you want the tassel - from the top to bottom (not including the string). In this case I cut my card to 4". Then cut two pieces of yarn from the skein - both approximately 10" - one for the string which will hold the tassel and one to wrap around the tassel to secure it. Then with the rest of the skein - start by placing one end of the yarn at the bottom edge of the card and wrap it around until you have used up nearly all the yarn - finishing at the bottom edge.

Take one of the pieces of yarn and thread it through the top of the card and tie a knot to secure all your threads. Cut the bottom edge to release your tassel from the card. Finally take the other piece of yarn and wrap it around the tassel about half an inch from the top form the bobble and make your tassel secure.





Trim your tassel so that the bottom edge is even and there you have it!

HAPPY STITCHING.....

Ruby x

