



Duct Tape Fashion

Duct Tape: It can be used for almost anything—including fashion!

The idea for duct tape came from Vesta Stoudt, an ordnance factory worker and mother of two Navy sailors, who worried that problems with ammunition box seals would cost soldiers precious time in battle. The new unnamed product was made of thin cotton duck coated in waterproof polyethylene (plastic) with a layer of rubber-based gray adhesive (branded as “Polycoat”) bonded to one side. It was easy to apply and remove and was soon adapted to repair military equipment quickly, including vehicles and weapons. This tape, colored in army-standard matte olive drab, was nicknamed “duck tape” by the soldiers. Various theories have been put forward for the nickname, including the descendant relation to cotton duck fabric, the waterproof characteristics of a duck bird, “water off a duck’s back,” and even the name of the 1942 amphibious military vehicle DUKW, pronounced “duck.”

How to earn the Duct Tape Fashion patch the Girl Scout way:

Steps:

1. Discover—Learn about the characteristics of duct tape and why it would make a good material for a piece of jewelry, a dress, or a wallet.
2. Connect—Find some items of yours that you wear or carry that could use some duct tape to fix them or even just brighten them up.
3. Take Action—Make your very own duct tape necklace.

Materials Needed:

In order to complete this patch, you’ll need a few things:

- duct tape
- scissors
- plastic or paper straws
- fishing wire or string

Step 1

Discover the characteristics of duct tape.

Why would this make a good material for a piece of jewelry, a dress, or a wallet? To learn more about duct tape go online with the help of an adult and search for videos and websites that show you different ways to use duct tape for fashion, jewelry, crafts, etc. List some characteristics of duct tape:

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ |

Step 2

Find some items to fix or brighten up with duct tape.

Find some items of yours that you wear or carry that could use some duct tape to fix them or even just to brighten them up. Duct tape can be used to fix a broken flip flop or add color to your notebook.

Step 3

Make your own duct tape necklace.

Gather materials listed above, then:

1. Pick one or more prints of duct tape to design your necklace.
2. Cut a strip of duct tape that is 6 inches long.
3. Lay the tape sticky side up, and place the straw along the length of the tape. Make sure it's on evenly and start rolling the straw into the tape.
4. Cut your beads from the straw at any length you'd like. We recommend about 1/4 inch. If you need help cutting the straw, ask an adult.
5. Repeat steps 2-4 until you have as many beads as you need for your necklace.
6. String your beads onto your fishing wire or string. Once complete, you can add a clasp and jump ring to the end or make a knot at the end to secure your beads.

All done?

CONGRATULATIONS! You've completed all the necessary steps to earn the Duct Tape Fashion patch.



After completing the activities from each step, visit or call a Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania retail shop at 800-248-3355 to purchase your patch.* A patch may be worn on the back of a vest, sash, or tunic.

*Patch shown may be substituted with similar patch, based on availability.