



Hand Embroidered Bracelet



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by Amy Barickman of *Indygo Junction*

Supplies

- TWO apx. 1" x 12" - 14" strips of recycled denim; *instructions are shown below to determine sizing*
- ONE 1" decorative button with shank
- THREE+ colors of coordinating cotton floss
- 7" - 9" of $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide fusible web, such as *Dritz® Stitch Witchery*
- Embroidery needles
- Iron and ironing board
- Terry cloth towel (optional for pressing)

Getting Started

1. Tear or cut two 1" strips of denim into 12" - 14" lengths.
NOTE: Whichever you choose (tearing or cutting), use that method on both sides of the strips so the frayed edges will match. Tearing will result in more fraying.
2. To determine the length needed for the button loop, wrap one end of one strip around the diameter of your button. Add $\frac{1}{2}$ " to that measurement. For our sample, our wrap around the button measured about 3", so our finished loop measurement was approximately $3\frac{1}{2}$ ".
3. Using this finished loop measurement, start at one end of the strip and measure in by that amount. Mark with a pin at this point.
4. At the pin mark, make a tiny snip into each long side of the strip. About $\frac{1}{4}$ " deep is plenty. The length from these snips back to the end of the strip will become the button loop.
5. To determine the finished bracelet size, wrap the strip around your wrist. Overlap the strip at the snip points. The "loop end" should hang free; do not calculate it into your wrist size measurement. Whether you want your bracelet loose or fitted is up to you, but the end should overlap the snip points by $\frac{1}{2}$ ". When you have the length you like, trim off the excess denim. *Remember you are trimming off from the plain raw end, not the button loop end.* This is your top strip.
6. Measure from the plain raw end of the top strip back to the snips. In our sample, this measurement was approximately 7". Cut the remaining denim strip to this length. This is your facing strip.

Embroider the top strip

1. Pick your favorite embroidery stitches and go wild. Amy used simple running stitches and French knots in a variety of floss colors. See the [previously-posted stitch tutorial we did on Sew4Home](#) or refer to a copy of *Stitched Style*.
2. Start your embroidery about $\frac{1}{2}$ " in from the plain raw end of the top strip. Embroider back to the snip points.

3. Stitch the button onto the plain raw end of the strip. It should be centered within the strip and approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the end (right where you started your embroidery).



Create the button loop and finish

1. To create the button loop, pinch to fold the loop end of the strip in half, matching the frayed edges. This fold goes from the end of the strip back to the snip points. Pin the fold to secure.



2. Cover stitch the folded edge of the button loop. To do this, thread your embroidery needle with 6 strands of floss, knotted at the end. Starting $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the snip points, slide your needle through the inside of the fold, bringing the floss out on the right side of the denim half way between the frayed edges and the fold.
3. Bring your needle up over the fold and insert it back through from the back, pushing the needle to the front just to the left of the previous stitch. You want to keep your stitches close together.



4. Repeat down the length of the loop section, stopping $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the other end.

5. Fold the loop back on itself, aligning the raw end of the strip with the snip points. Tack the edges together with one stitch.



6. Slip the loop over your button to make sure it fits correctly. If it needs to be bigger or smaller, snip that one tacking stitch you made above, adjust accordingly, and re-tack.
7. Re-thread your embroidery needle with 6 strands of floss in a contrasting color, knotted at the end. Wrap the floss around the base of the loop until you have completely covered the raw edges. Make a small knot to secure. After knotting the thread, slip the needle back through the stitches and make a hidden stitch before cutting the floss. This will hide the ends of the floss.



8. Cut a strip of fusible webbing $\frac{3}{4}$ " x bracelet length (you do not fuse the loop). Following manufacturer's instructions, fuse the top strip to the facing strip wrong sides together.

9. Press gently. Amy recommends pressing the bracelet wrong side down on a terry towel. The plush nap of the towel keeps the embroidery from being flattened by the iron and protects the button. It's best to use a white or light colored terry towel that has been washed.

NOTE: If want more fraying on the edges of the bracelet, run a sharp edge from a pair of scissors along the side. The edges will also fray somewhat during general wear

This Sew4Home Guest Tutorial is authored by and courtesy of Amy Barickman of Indygo Junction and is based on her own design.