

Ribbons galore



Please read our T & C's – www.rosamaycrafts.com

DISCLAIMER: Please note this is my very own guideline, there are so many guides and tips, use which one you feel works for you.

Another firm favorite of mine – ribbons. You will find them in a variety of sizes colours, sizes and different materials. There are fabric ribbons, paper ribbons and self adhesive ribbons. We are going to delve in to the wonderful world of fabric ribbons. Each ribbon has different uses, there are ribbons for wrapping gifts, wedding dresses, home decoration, for clothing and so many more uses. They can be hand stitched or machine stitched or embroidered.

There are a variety of ribbon types and materials, here are just a few of the ones that I use or have used. I will be going through ribbons that are used for sewing and crafting.

Satin



I think one of the more popular ribbons, it is soft, shiny and smooth and of course very elegant.

With satin ribbon you will find that either one side is shiny and the other is dull or both side or shiny. If you are stitching the ribbon onto your project or outfit, then you only need to use the singled sided satin ribbon, but you are creating bows you should use the double sided ribbon, so that the satin shine is seen at all angles.

Satin ribbons are piabl, easy to manipulate and therefore great for creating flowers, bows and other wonderful decorations. It is made from polyester or silk and comes in a variety of colours and sizes and is measured in millimeters. It does not crease easily and is durable. I have washed my DIY projects in my washing machine and they have been absolutely fine, but it is recommended that hand wash your satin ribbons. Your decision to make, the ribbons that I use are not expensive.

Grosgrain ribbons



Grosgrain ribbons are made from polyester, cotton nylon or silk blends, they can be found in various colours and widths. It has a ribbed or ridged appearance and texture with a matt look. They come in a variety of colours and widths. They are thick, slightly stiff, durable and washable. They are popular for hair bows, trims for DIY and clothes. If it wrinkles or crease, use a low heat iron with a pressing cloth or pillowcase.

Velvet Ribbon



Velvet ribbons, oh my how beautiful and luxurious are these ribbons. They are made from rayon, silk or polyester and are found in rich colours and various widths. They are soft to the touch, lush, do not fade easily and are durable. They can be found as single sided or double-sided velvet ribbons, with or without wire. You can use them for accessories, clothing, hair bows, home decorations and more.

Metallic



Who doesn't love a bit of sparkle. Metallic ribbons are made mainly from polyester with metallic threads woven in. They are sturdy and are perfect for creating decorative bows for table decorations, party decorations and bows. You can also find metallic ribbons in the velvet and organza ribbons. Depending on the type of material used some metallic ribbons are stiff and others softer – velvet. These ribbons need to be washed gently as the metallic threads can get caught and pulled. If you want to wash in a washing machine, place in a wash bag or tie up an old pillowcase and use a gentle wash.

Jacquard or Brocade ribbons



These beautiful ribbons have a design on the front side. These ribbons are made from 100% polyester, they are washable, durable and do not fade. You can find them in a variety of designs and colours. These ribbons have a multitude of uses – hairbands, clothing, home decorations and furnishings. Add decorative touch to your DIY projects.

Tulle/Mesh



This type of ribbon is found in widths of 25cm and more and 30 metres in length. It is made from 100% polyester, it is lightweight and flexible, making it perfect for creating gorgeous wedding and party decorations. The edges do not fray and therefore do not need any finishing off with sewing or cutting with your pinking shears. You can create wreaths, garlands and tutus. They can be found with wire and without wire. The wire helps keep your bows in perfect shape.

Jute/Burlap/Hessian – many names, the same material.



It does not come in a variety of colours, but does come in a variety of widths, it also come wired or non-wired. Some ribbons will have a lace edging or lace in the centre.

It is made from jute, flax or hemp fabric and does not fade or crease and is durable.

These ribbons also have a multitude of uses – rustic vintage themed weddings or functions décor; wreaths, gift wrapping and bunting.

Organza ribbon – I have left this ribbon for last, only because there are so many different types of organza ribbons



Can I say it again – another goodie and another favorite. Just love, love organza.

It comes in bright and pastel colours, with frilly edges, wired or not wired, with glitter on or edges, one colour or rainbow of colours. It also comes in several widths and the only ribbon that I know that you can buy with widths of 25 cm and more. How wonderful is this ribbon.

Organza is made from synthetic fibres such as polyester or nylon, it is a clear/transparent ribbon, lightweight and has a sheer or shine to it. It is soft, durable and does not crinkle, with it being transparent it allows light to sparkle through it.

Another perfect ribbon for dress up outfits, wedding/special occasion and home decorations, floral arrangements, gift wrapping, DIY projects, wreaths

Other ribbons that you may use - Cord Ribbon, Taffeta ribbons, Herringbone, Cotton Ribbon, Silk, Recycled Ribbon, Biodegradable Ribbon, Picot Edge – again the list is endless.

Please note these are basic tips to look out for, there is more in-depth information that can be found.

A few final basic tips

1. Always keep your ribbon wrapped up in a roll and in a packet
2. Keep your scraps for Dream catches – mixed ribbon types, applique, making small decorative bows or ribbon roses - <https://rosamaycrafts.com/product/ribbon-roses-for-bouquets-table-decor-and-more-free-pattern/>
3. It is recommended with most ribbons to be washed by hand, but I have washed on a gentle wash in my washing machine. I place my home furnishings, clothing etc., in an old pillowcase, tie it up and wash.
4. Wire in a ribbon allows you to get the perfect shape, especially when creating bows, or wreaths. If you decide you do now want the wire, you can pull it out.
5. Ribbons, in general do not shrink, therefore if adding ribbons to fabric, please make certain you have prewashed the fabric.
6. Whether you are hand stitching or machine stitching your ribbon use a smaller fine point needle.
7. Always sew in the same direction on both sides of the ribbon, this will stop the ribbon moving and puckering.
8. Be careful when ironing ribbons. Set the iron temperature to a lower synthetic setting and use a pressing cloth or old pillowcase.

Visit - <https://rosamaycrafts.com/> for free patterns, beginners guide, craft kits and patterns.



PROPERTY OF ROSA MAY CRAFTS.