

Ribbon Bookmarks

Make a special bookmark to save your spot in your nightly read-aloud or your favorite book. Everyone needs bookmarks! Even young children can help make these, and older children can design creative additions and variations.

MATERIALS:

- 7 - 9 inch lengths of various cloth ribbons (1 inch width or whatever strikes your fancy)
- Needle and thread (or you can use a hot glue gun or fabric glue)
- Embroidery thread
- Beads, buttons, charms, felt, and other materials for decoration

WHAT TO DO:

1. Cut ribbon to the desired length, adding an extra inch to allow for hemming the ends.
2. Fold over the ends and use needle and thread to sew down ends to prevent fraying. (You can use glue instead, if you prefer.)
3. Using a matching color of embroidery thread, string beads and add a charm or large bead at the end. Sew this onto the end of the bookmark.

VARIATIONS:

- You can also cut the ribbon long enough to hang over both the top and bottom of the book, and put charms or beads on both ends.
- The ends can be sewn into a point or on a diagonal, or you can use pinking shears to keep edges from fraying. If you are using synthetic ribbon, you can use a match to fuse the cut edge to keep it from fraying (and then you don't need to fold it over and sew it).
- Instead of beads, you can use felt shapes or a large button to decorate the end of your bookmark. Cutting several shapes (like stars or flowers) in different sizes using different colors of felt and then sewing them one on top of the other makes a pretty design that is easy for little hands to manage.

