Step 8: Create Your Stem

Continue going up the top of the straw with the remaining twine and gluing as you go. If you like this look, you can leave it.



You also have the option of adding the rope for contrast to the step by wrapping and gluing it around the twine. This gives a nice finished look.



Step 9: Add Embellishments

At this stage, you may choose to add embellishments, such as raffia (included), fall ribbon, artificial leaves, or other notions.



Are you comfortable with a needle and thread?
Try sewing this project instead of using hot glue!



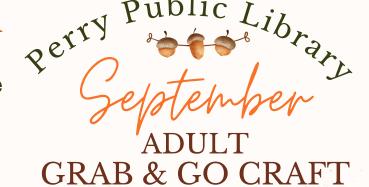
- 2 Pieces Fabric or 1 Piece of Burlap
- Twine
- Rope
- Rubber bands
- Fiber Fill
- Paper Straw
- Raffia Ribbon



- Scissors
- Hot glue gun
- Hot glue
- OR needle and thread

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FREE DIY KIT
FABRIC
PUMPKINS





Instructions

Step 1: Glue Fabric Together

If you are using 2 pieces of fabric, lay them next to each other and glue them together with about a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch overlap with the right side of one attached to the wrong side of the other. Let it dry. If you are using a strip of fabric, skip this step.



Step 2: Glue the Side Seam

Next, fold back a flap from the short side and add a strip of hot glue to the left and right sides. Leave a gap of about 2-3 inches in the center. Fold the end flap back onto the glue and press the sides together. Let it dry. The long edges should still be open.





Step 3: Make Your Pumpkin Base

Grab one of the open ends with the seam and match it up to the opposite edge of the fabric. Smooth it down and make it flat. Pinch the two sides together near the seam. Fold in the loop on the left side. This will create two additional loops. Fold them in as well.





Step 3: Continued...

Place what you have gathered in your left hand while holding it tightly and repeat the same process on the right side. Press your two gathered sides together.



Take a rubber band and wrap it tightly around your gathered edge. Once it's wrapped tight, add hot glue to secure it. Let it dry.

Step 4: Make the Pumpkin Top

The top is made by taking the opposite open end of your pumpkin and inserting a piece of straw for the stem (cut to desired size) between the two pieces of fabric. The bottom of the stem should line up with the top edge of the fabric. Most of the stem is inside the fabric.





Pinch the left side together and gather it together using the same technique from Step 3. Repeat with the right side. After it is all gathered together, secure it with a rubber band and add hot glue to secure it. Let it dry.

Step 5: Turn Your Pumpkin Inside Out

At this stage, your pumpkin should be flipped outside in, gathered with rubber bands at two ends, and glued together on the seam, with a small opening for stuffing. Use the opening in the side seam to turn the pumpkin inside out.

Step 6: Stuff Your Pumpkin

Use your fiber fill to stuff the pumpkin to the size and shape you like. You can also stuff with recycled paper or tissue. Stuff it full, so you can squish down the sides with your twine to create the pumpkin edges.

Step 7: Close the Side Seam

Fold over the raw seam of your fabric. Add some hot glue under the fold, Glue a little bit at a time, until the seam is closed. If the glue is too hot, you can use a spatula or knife to hold it down.



Step 8: Add Twine

To add twine to your pumpkin, start on the bottom center of the pumpkin and make sure the twine will run up the side seam. When you get the the top of the pumpkin, wrap it around the straw stem, so that the twine is now 90 degrees to the other side and pull taught.





Run the twine down the side of the pumpkin back to the bottom and tie it in the center. You can decide how many "sides" you want to add to your pumpkin by the number of rounds you add with your twine. Pull tightly until your pumpkin plumps up and then knot it off. Cut the excess twine from the bottom.