

let it
BLING



These shine-time embellishments can transform basic clothes and accessories by the closetful.

Gems, Studs, Stones and Crystals

{CREATIVE INSPIRATIONS *free* FROM HOBBY LOBBY.}

≡For the Frill≡

Need to go glam, minus the green? You can keep costs down by using a mix of basic gems and Swarovski® crystals. Use the crystals for high-end sparkle, and fill in your design with budget-friendly stones.

Tip: We planned these designs on paper before we adhered the gems.



≡To the Brim≡

It might be a ponytail day, but you don't need to abandon your love of bling. Comfies, like baseball caps and tees, gain style points when you outfit them with a sprinkling of heat-set gems—grab a multicolor pack for a look like ours.



≡Room for Bloom≡

Your littlest wedding attendant should be dazzling, from top...to bottom. Our formula for cute: plain white diaper cover, crystal flower-girl applique, loose stones arranged in the shape of flowers.



≡ Labor of Love ≡

Need some craft therapy before the big day? Gather your best girlies around a table to DIY their pre-ceremony duds. The words on these tanks come arranged on clear backing—they're iron-ons.

Tip: We used a heat tool (made especially for heat-set jewels) to adhere crystals to the ribbons and the wooden hangers.

⇒ Let's Wrist It ⇒

You can apply iron-on appliques to non-fabric items (like these leather wristbands) with a heat tool. **Tip:** We painted two of the bands—and we cut apart one of the rhinestone appliques to change up the spacing of the stones.



⇒ Call Me Jean ⇒

This rhinestone trim comes in pre-arranged strips—just cut it to fit your jean pockets, and iron it on according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Tip: Be sure to measure the pocket before you cut.

⇒ Stop and Glow ⇒

Use clear gems to add subtle shine to wear-it-with-anything pieces like shoes or outerwear. If you want to incorporate some practical color, try mixing in stones from the same color family as the fabric—we used aqua crystals for this denim jacket.

From the cover:

Swarovski® heat-set crystals add oomph to an off-the-shelf pillow.



≡Have a Heart≡

You could shower her with something store-bought...or you could spend an hour with your iron to whip up something one-of-a-kind. Giant rhinestone letters and a single rhinestone heart (all iron-on appliques) made this basic pink robe bride-worthy.



≡Clutch and Go≡

You found a one-in-a-million dress, and now the search is on for a coordinating carryall. Try this: Choose something neutral (like this burlap clutch) and add gems to match your frock. Ooh, outfit accomplished!

≡Keep It Sweet≡

Tiny stones like the ones on this fabric flower can be hard to position, even with tweezers.

Solution: Use a vacuum tool. Designed for lightweight gems, it picks up the stone and heats it at the same time. That means one-handed (not to mention gloriously controlled) placement.

≡Carry On≡

Use this tool to attach specially designed gems without heat or glue. It uses small metal spikes (instead of adhesive) to latch embellishments to fabric, which means it's great for clothes and bags that need to stand up to lots of wear and tear.



≡Stuff of Cuff≡

These metal studs are great for thick fabrics, like denim. Instead of adhesive, they have pointy metal prongs on the back. You can push the studs through the fabric and bend the prongs (with bent-nose pliers) to fix them tightly in place.

