





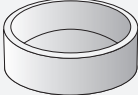
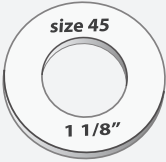
How to Cover a Button

Cover buttons are great for apparel, crafts and jewelry. Available in many sizes – we know there is one that is perfect for your project! This tutorial shows how to quickly cover a button.

There are 2 styles of metal cover buttons. One style has no teeth, and requires a mold and pusher to cover the button smoothly. The second style has teeth to hold fabric securely without using the tools.

Also check out our tutorial “How to use a Centering Template When Covering Buttons” for tips and instructions on centering fabric motifs for fussy cutting when covering buttons for fashion and accessories!

What are the parts called?

	Buttons and Tools	Templates
Pusher		
Back	  Back with shank Flat back	
Shell		
Mold		
	<p>Cover Buttons Shell has no teeth. Available with or without a shank on the back. Flat back is for crafting when glue is required for application, and is sold with tools. Buttons with shank on the back are available with or without tools. Both styles also sold assorted in bulk with tools.</p>	<p>See the difference? Buttons with teeth have the shank wire hooked into the shell. The back has no shank. Basic Cover Buttons have the shank on the back of the button or have no shank at all for crafting. The tools and templates work for either style. See the above tip.</p>
	<p>Half Ball Cover Buttons Teeth and shank are on the shell. Available without tools.</p>	<p>Craft Cover Button Kits are sold with a template. Available in 3 sizes: 30, 36 and 45. See our tutorial: “How to use a template when covering buttons”.</p> 



How to Cover a Button

Cover Buttons with No Teeth

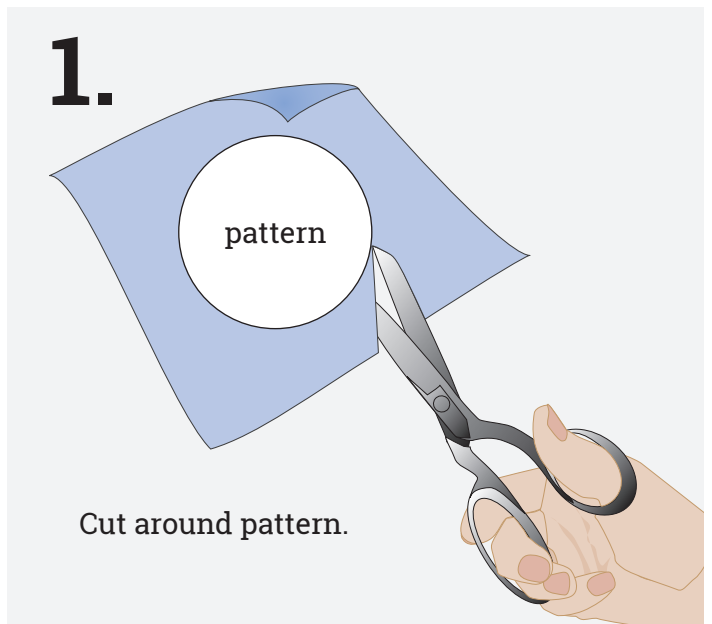
You will need:

- Your fabric
- Dritz® Cover Buttons, any size (Back can be flat or have a shank. (Note: Some packages include the tools. You need these to start! So buy at least one package with tools. Then purchase refill packages with no tools to make lots and lots of projects. No need to re-buy the tool set.)
- One Dritz® Mark-B-Gone™ Marking Pen or other Marking Pencil
- Scissors

Why aren't there tools in every package?

Some packages were designed as refills. If you already have tools, you don't have to purchase them repeatedly!

1. Cut or trace the button pattern from the back of the package. Some larger buttons have only half of the circle shape printed on the package; trace this and fold the traced shape on the straight edge. Cut the doubled shape to create a full circle pattern for the button. Place the pattern on the fabric and cut around it. You will need one circle of fabric for each button.



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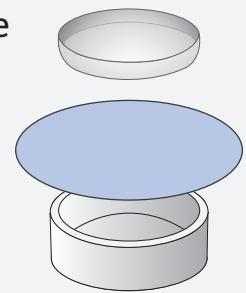
Cover Buttons with No Teeth (continued):

2. Place the mold on your work surface with the cavity side facing up. Center the fabric wrong side up over the mold. Center the button shell over the fabric and mold.

2.

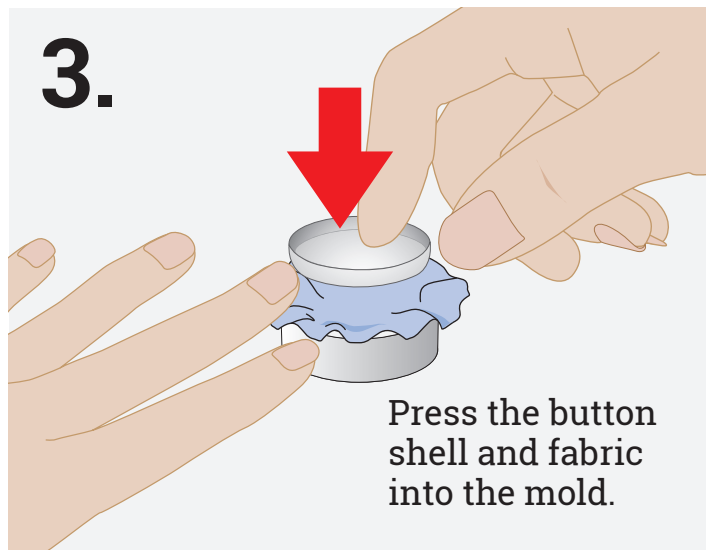
Center fabric circle over the mold right side down.

Center the button shell over the fabric and mold.



3. Hold fabric firmly and press the button shell into the mold.

3.



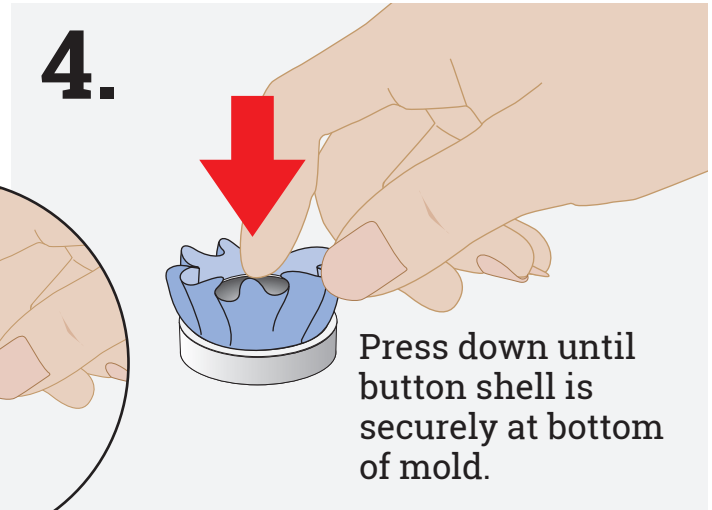
Press the button shell and fabric into the mold.



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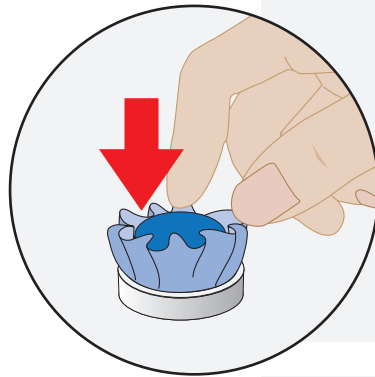
Cover Buttons with No Teeth (continued):

4. Fabric should be trapped under the button shell and extend evenly all around. If it doesn't, push up on the mold to release the button and fabric and repeat steps 2 and 3.

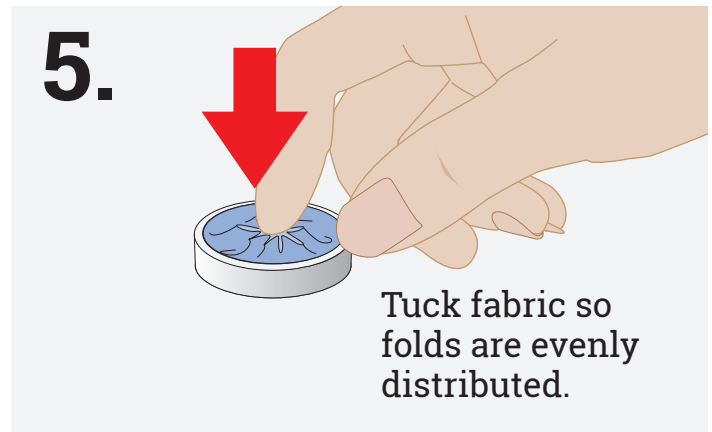


ALTERNATE METHOD

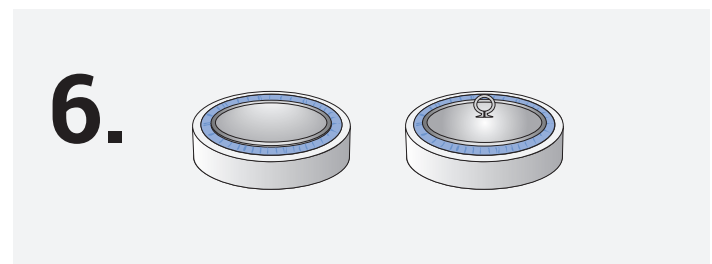
If you have stiff or bulky fabric, you can also use the button pusher to aid in pushing the button shell and fabric completely into the mold. Center it in the button shell and firmly press down. Then remove the pusher.



5. Tuck fabric securely into center of button shell so folds are evenly positioned.



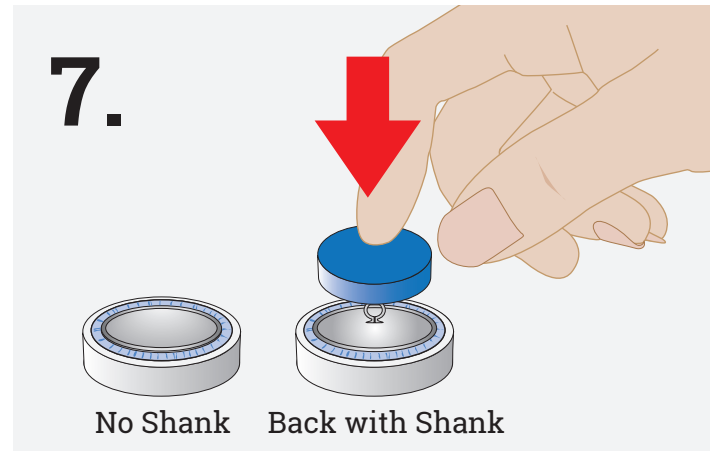
6. Center the back of the button over the tucked in fabric so the slightly concave side is facing up. If the back has a shank, it should face up.



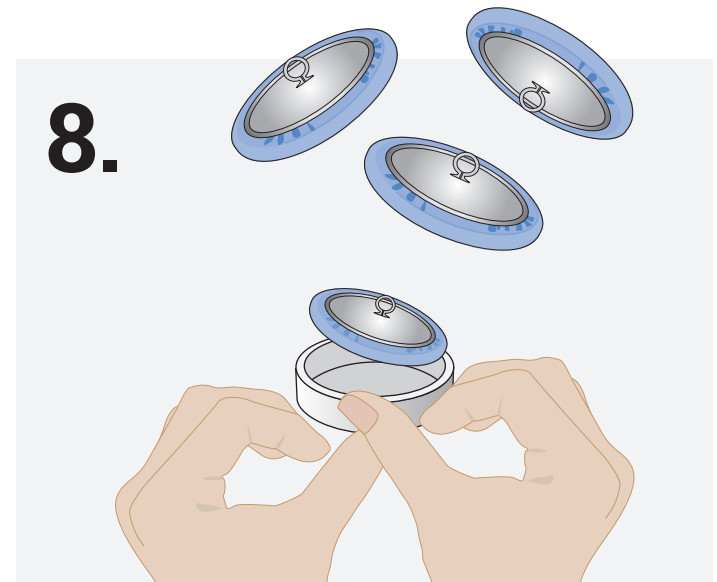
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Cover Buttons with No Teeth (continued):

7. Push down firmly with the pusher until the back snaps into place.



8. Push the bottom of the mold to pop out the cover button.



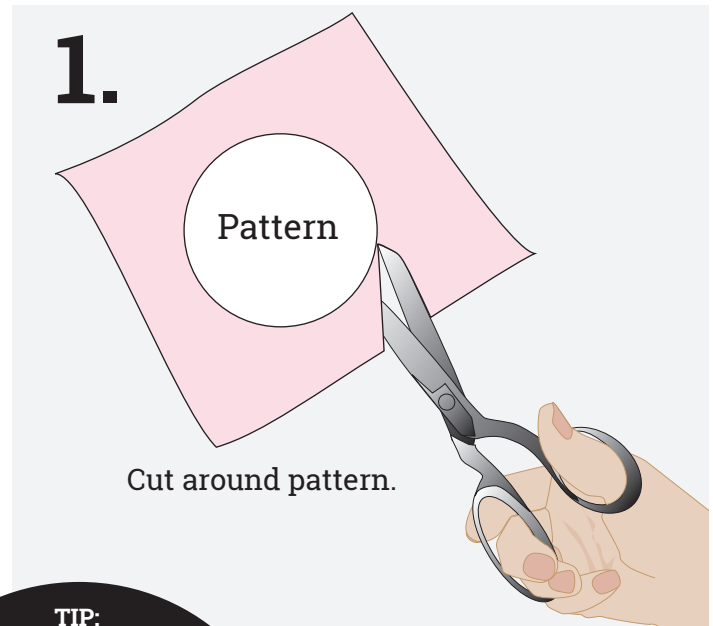
How to Cover a Button

Half Ball Cover Buttons with Teeth

You will need:

- Your fabric
- Dritz® Half Ball Cover Buttons, any size
- One Dritz® Mark-B-Gone™ Marking Pen or other Marking Pencil
- Scissors
- Pencil with an eraser

1. Cut or trace the button pattern from the back of the package. Some larger buttons have only half of the circle shape printed on the package; trace this and fold the traced shape on the straight edge. Cut the doubled shape to create a full circle pattern for the button. Place the pattern on the fabric and cut around it. You will need one circle of fabric for each button.



ALTERNATE METHOD

There are times when a second layer of fabric is advised:

- *When using sheer fabric add a solid non-sheer layer underneath to prevent the shine of the button from showing through.*
- *When fabric is thin – an extra layer helps fill the area around the back of the button.*
- *When fabric is especially slippery, a layer of interfacing will help hold the fabric in position. Always place the added layer against the wrong side of the fabric.*

TIP:
This cover button is ideal for home decorating because the shank is attached to the shell of the button. It can withstand strong tugs and the constant wear of a tufted cushion. Consider using waxed button thread for the quickest and strongest home decor application. See the thread package for how-to information.



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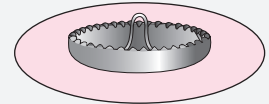
Half Ball Cover Buttons with Teeth (continued):

2. Place the fabric circle on your work surface wrong side up. Center the button shell on the fabric cavity side up.

2. Center the button cavity side up over the fabric.

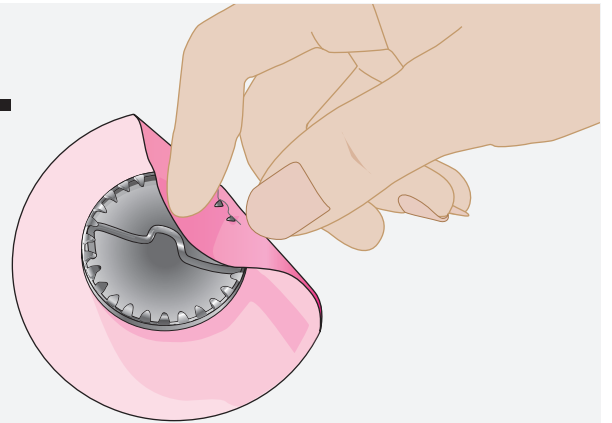
NOTE: fabric is right side down.

Use Fray Check® on the cut edges to prevent raveling.

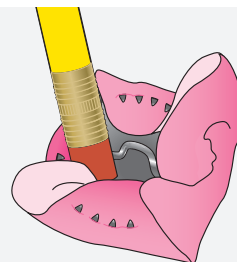
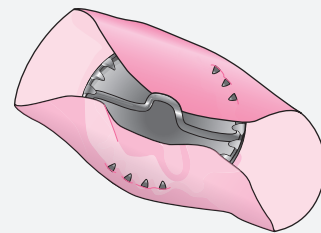


3. Working around the button, tuck the fabric into the center of the button and under the teeth. Thin or slippery fabrics may need some help. The tip of a pencil with eraser will help push fabric under the teeth.

3.



TIP: For thin fabrics, run a basting stitch about 1/8" from the edge. Place the button on the wrong side of the fabric and pull the thread until the edges wrap over the edge. They can then be easily tucked under the teeth.



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Half Ball Cover Buttons with Teeth (continued):

4. Position the back of the button recessed side down over the covered shell so the shank extends through the slot in the button back. Firmly press the back of the button until it snaps into place.

NOTE: Fabrics are all different weights and some are harder to compress than others. Use a spool of thread to assist the process; center it and firmly press down with the palm of your hand.

ALTERNATE METHOD

Buttons with teeth do not require tools. However using a mold and pusher with this button is a great time saver. Since button sizes are the same, use the mold and pusher from the same size cover button kit with the half ball cover buttons. So if you have lots of cover buttons and their corresponding molds, mix and match!

