

WEEKEND PROJECT/NAPKIN RINGS

A bowlful of beads, buttons, and costume jewelry gave Leslie Segrete of *Trading Spaces* a great idea—individualized napkin rings for her dinner guests



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WHAT LESLIE WANTED “It started when I was hosting a party for 20 people, and I needed napkin rings. I made my own with 99-cent wooden rings from the crafts store, and I made them very personal: seashells for my beach-loving husband, sparkly beads and brooches for girlfriends . . . >

WEEKEND PROJECT



■ WHAT YOU'LL NEED

1. 2" diameter wooden napkin rings—you can find them at craft stores like Michaels (michaels.com), or Jo-Ann Fabric & Crafts (joann.com).
2. 3-by-7-inch strips of fabric.
3. Card stock cut to 1½-by-6½-inch pieces.
4. A glue stick and a hot glue gun.
5. A bowl of embellishments. My favorite source for notions is Bocage (bocagenewyork.com).

■ **MAKE A FABRIC COVER** Place the card stock on the wrong side of the fabric, positioning it so it's centered in the middle, with the top of the cardboard lined up with the top of the fabric. You'll have excess fabric on the left and the right and a ½ inch of fabric at the bottom. Using the glue stick, coat the side of the card stock that's facing you. Fold the left and right sides over, smoothing it with your fingers. Leave the bottom edge unglued.

■ **GLUE THE COVER TO THE RING** Center the ring on the fabric cover. Beginning with the finished end of the cover, apply glue with the glue gun to the ring and secure the cover as you go. When you reach the end, tuck that ½ inch of fabric under the cover and glue on the ring for a nice, neat seam.

■ **EMBELLISH** Play with different combinations of beads, buttons, shells—whatever you want. Glue them with the hot glue gun. Brooches can be pinned on the fabric. Always be careful when using a glue gun. I keep a cup of ice water nearby to release any hot glue that gets on my fingers.

“Because you only need a scrap, this is a great way to use up pretty bits of fabric.”

“I'm always on the lookout for vintage beads and charms,” says Leslie Segrete, TOP, of her collection, CENTER, that can be applied with a glue gun.