

DUCK TAPE® WITH SOLE

Turning Shoes Into Works of Art

Materials: old pairs of shoes or boots; Duck Tape® rolls and sheets; scissors; wax paper; double-stick tape; markers; toothpicks

1. Explain to students that shoes have a grand history of being considered works of art (in ancient Rome and Greece, Elizabethan England, the 18th-century French court, and in more recent trends such as punk rock and high fashion). More information available at www.scholastic.com/ducktapeart.
2. Ask students to bring in an old, worn-out pair of shoes or boots that they would like to reimagine and reinvent. Also have them bring in pictures from magazines and the Internet to inspire their design choices.
3. Work with students to be sure they know how to craft a template, make beads, and create patchwork so they have numerous techniques at their disposal to create wearable works of art.
4. The lesson has a subtle nod to the artistic trend of upcycling—the environmentally responsible and economically beneficial practice of combining everyday used materials in lieu of throwing them away.



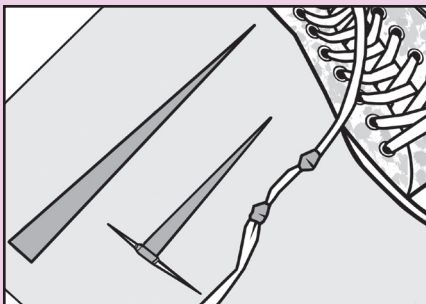
For advanced students/classes: Encourage use of weaving patterns and other more intricate patchworks, appliqués, and embellishments. Ask students to put together a fashion show to exhibit their brand-new creations, or to host a “show off your shoes” day for the entire student body.

Photos: crafts, Adam Chinitz Photography.

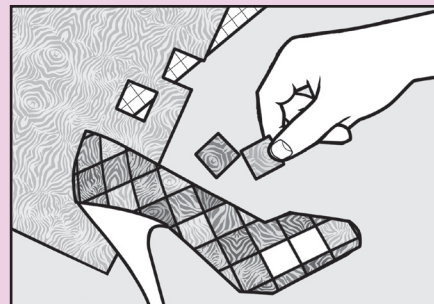
HOW-TO



1. Templates—affix wax paper with double-stick tape and trace a portion of the shoe with a marker; transfer template to sheet of Duck Tape®, cut out, adhere to shoe.



2. Beads—cut long, thin triangles from Duck Tape® sheets; remove paper backing, fold up bottom ½ inch, roll around entire toothpick; thread onto shoelace.



3. Patchwork—cut 1-inch squares from Duck Tape® sheets using grid on paper backing as a guide; affix to shoe in alternating pattern.