

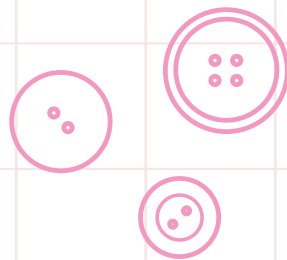
The background is a dark green color. In the top right corner, there is a large brown button with four white holes. On the left side, there is a pink rectangular piece of fabric with brown thread stitching in a crisscross pattern. On the right side, there is another pink rectangular piece of fabric with brown thread stitching in a zigzag pattern. The text "IT'S ON!" is written in large, bold, pink letters, slanted upwards from left to right. The exclamation mark is also pink and slanted. In the bottom left corner, there is a brown button with two white holes, with a dashed brown line trailing from it towards the bottom right.

# IT'S ON!

**YOUR GUIDE TO  
ATTACHING A BUTTON**



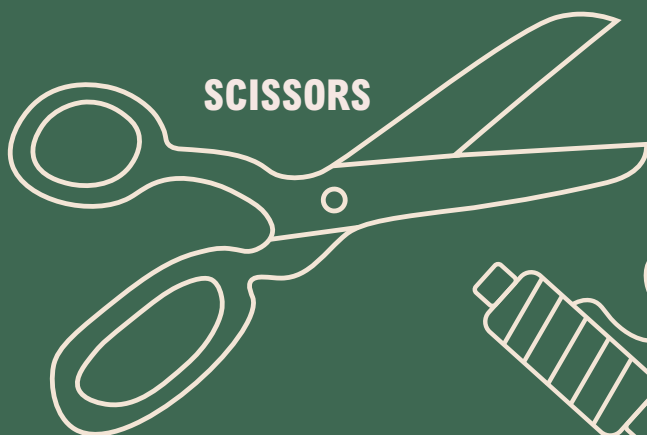
# YOUR RELOVE STORY STARTS HERE



Primark Cares is our commitment to doing better, everyday – making more sustainable products everyone can afford, reducing our impact on the planet and improving the lives of workers.

Use this guide to help you mend and even restyle your favourites – keeping them in use, and loving them for longer.



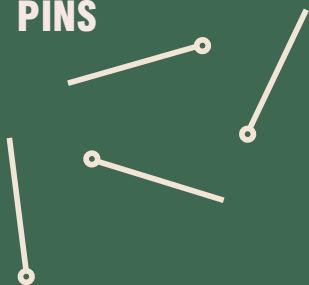


**SCISSORS**

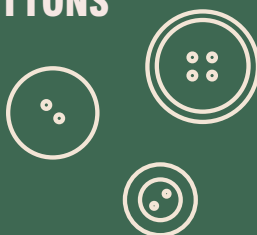
**NEEDLE**



**PINS**



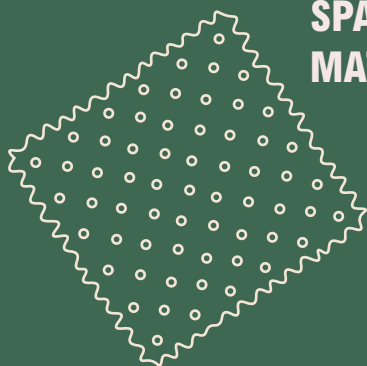
**SPARE  
BUTTONS**



**THREAD**

In the same or  
contrasting colours

**SPARE  
MATERIAL**



**PINS OR  
TOOTHPICK**



**WHAT  
YOU'LL  
NEED**

# HOW TO THREAD A NEEDLE

Some say this is the hardest bit of any sewing task. Don't worry though, we've got you.



## WITH A NEEDLE THREADER

- 1 Use a white background – e.g. a piece of blank paper to help you see the eye of the needle.
- 2 Push the thin wire end of the needle threader through the eye of the needle.
- 3 Insert and push the end of your thread through the wire loop.
- 4 Pull the needle threader with the thread back through the eye of the needle.

## WITHOUT A NEEDLE THREADER

- 1 Use a white background – e.g. a piece of blank paper – to help you see the eye of the needle.
- 2 Get rid of any frayed ends by cutting the thread with sharp scissors at a 45-degree angle.
- 3 By twisting the end of the thread, it will make it easier to pass through the eye of the needle.
- 4 Hold your needle in your non-writing hand and push the thread through.

For stitches that you want to remain in place, knot the end of the thread that has not been pulled through the eye of the needle yet.

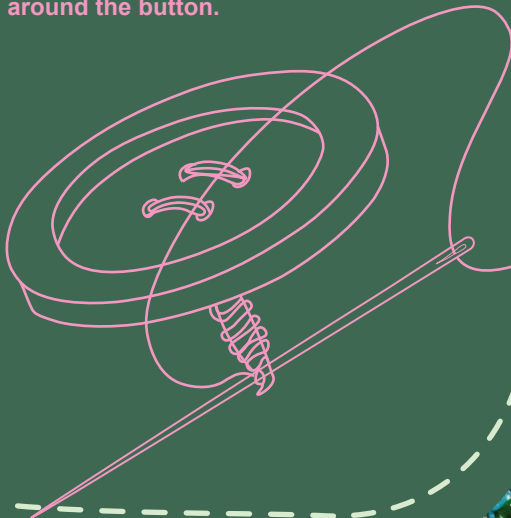
INTRODUCING THE

# THREAD SHANK BUTTON

A thread shank is used for heavy or bulky fabrics, because it has the strength and the space to allow them to close easily, without pulling the fabric unevenly around the button.

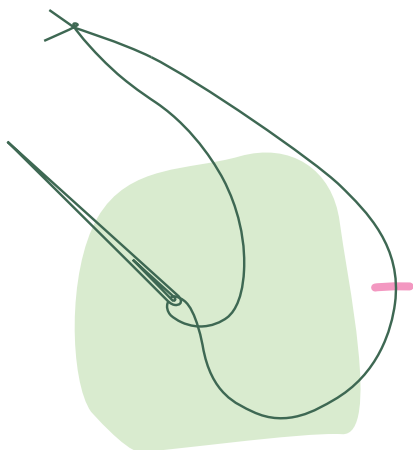
## TOP TIP

The shank length should be the same thickness as the fabric at the buttonhole, plus an additional three millimetres for movement.



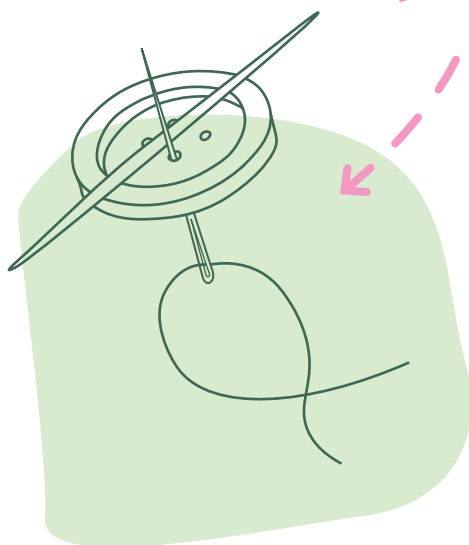
MAKING A

# THREAD SHANK



1

Double your thread and knot the end.



2

Position the button in the correct place. Push the needle up through the back of the fabric and through the first hole of the button, as this will hide the knot.

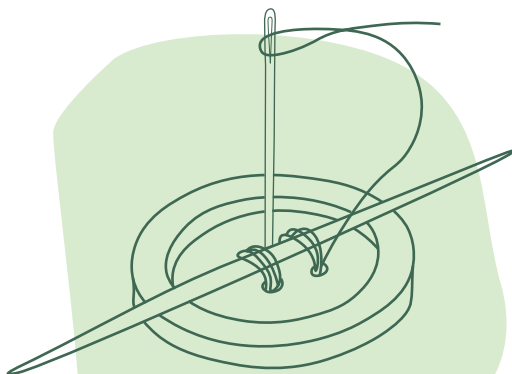


3

Lay a pin or toothpick across the top of the button, and take the needle down through the second hole, sewing over the pin/toothpick.

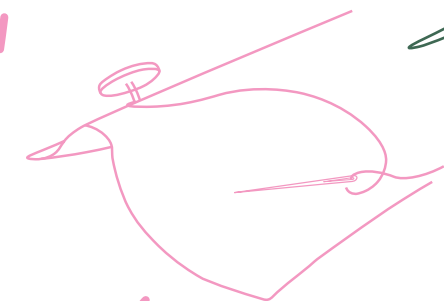
4

Sew up through the third hole and down through the fourth, with each stitch going over the pin/toothpick. Repeat this six times.



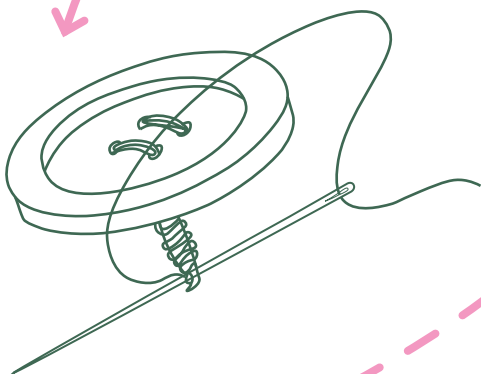
5

Remove the pin/toothpick and lift the button away from the fabric, so the stitches become taut.



6

Wind the thread firmly between the button and fabric. This creates the 'shank'.



7

Stitch back through the base of the shank and through the fabric and secure it with a knot.



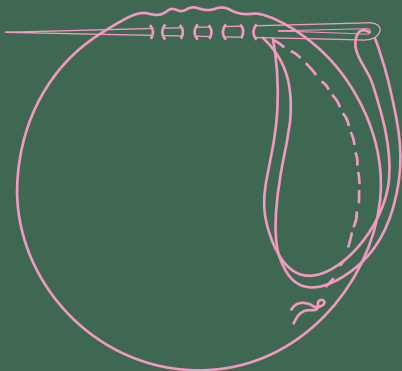
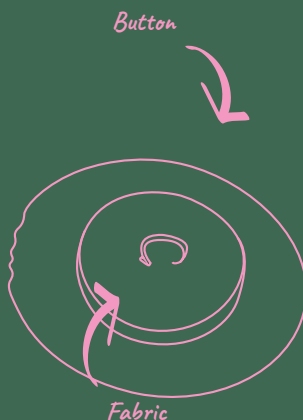
HOW TO MAKE

# COVERED BUTTONS

There are buttons specifically designed to create a covered button and come in two parts, they are shown in our workshops.

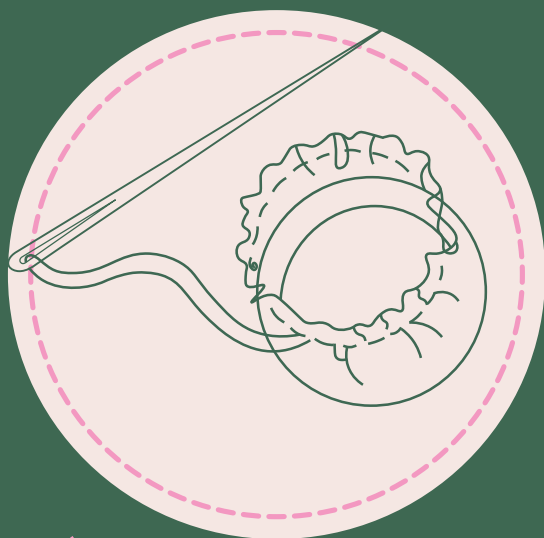
Add contrast with fabric-covered buttons.

- 1** Choose your preferred fabric and cut a circle about twice the diameter of the button that you want to cover.

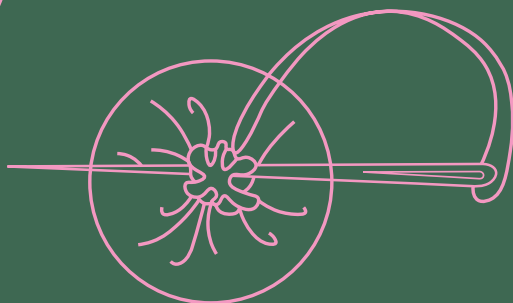


- 2** Use a double thread to sew around the edge of your fabric circle with a small running stitch.

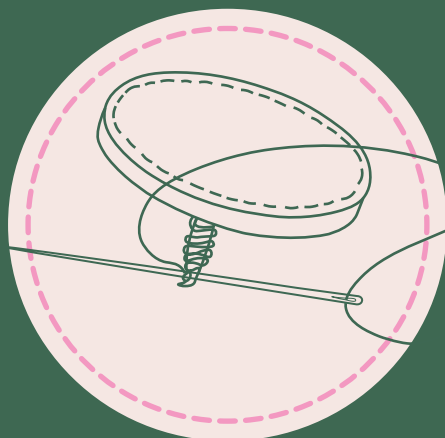




**3** Place the button in the centre of the fabric circle. Gather the fabric around the button by gently pulling on the needle until all of the fabric is gathered together.



**4** Secure the gathered fabric around the button by pulling up the hand stitches tightly. Fasten with a few short back stitches.



**5** Attach the button with a thread shank.



## HOW TO ATTACH

# SEW-THROUGH BUTTONS

Sew-through buttons can have either two or more holes which – you guessed it! – you sew through onto your garment.

Simple and satisfying, adding a button also gives you a chance to add your own style, using contrasting thread or, with a four-hole, different stitches.

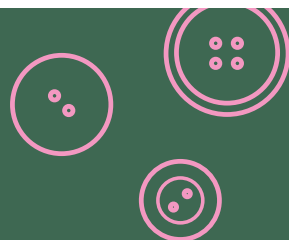
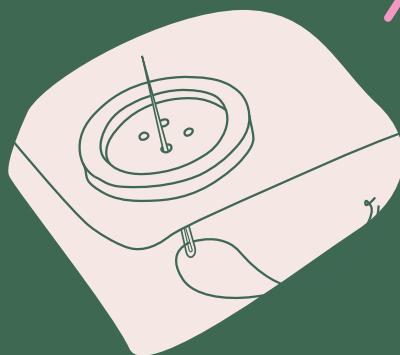
1

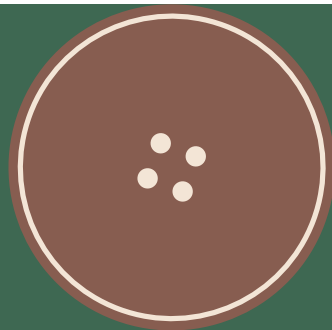
Double your thread and knot the end.



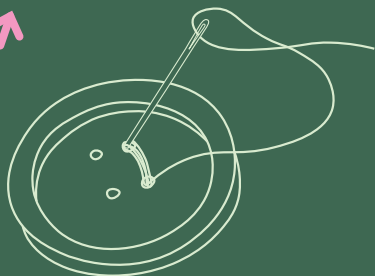
2

Position the button in the correct place. Push the needle up through the back of the fabric and through the first hole of the button.

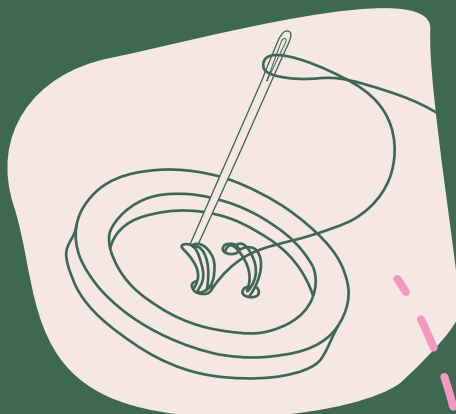




**3** Go back down through the second hole and repeat this six times.



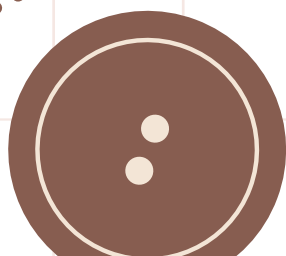
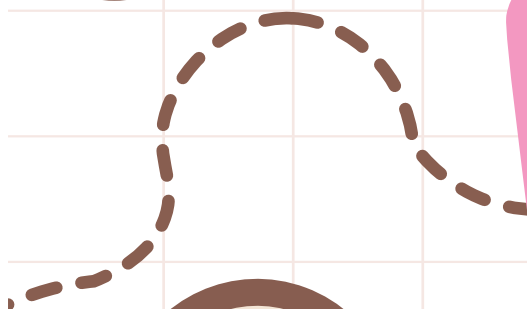
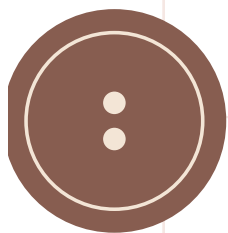
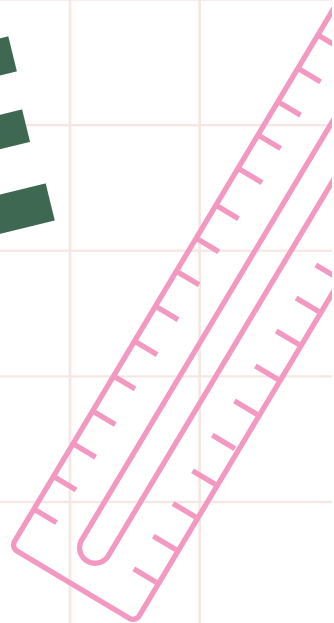
**4** Once complete move onto the two remaining holes and repeat the process. If you have a four hole button, follow steps 2 and 3 again for the two remaining holes.



**5** Knot the thread at the back and then cut.



# YOU MADE IT!



Making and mending is one of those skills that will stay with you for life. And now, with a bit of care, so will your favourite clothes, with a new lease of life.

Look out for the other lesson packs from our series, and find more about classes in store at [Primark.com](https://www.primark.com), or on our social media.