

HALLIS HUDSON

how to

make a Professional Handmade Lampshade from a covering of your choice

with Tracey Thrussell, Toodlepeep



Tracey runs Toodlepeep, based just outside Shrewsbury in Shropshire. Previously working for Laura Ashley as an artist, Tracey decided to attend a lampshade course and was immediately hooked! With a passion for lighting and fabric, Toodlepeep was created 3 years ago offering bespoke lampshades using fabrics and wallpapers. With a love for crafting handmade lampshades for hotels, restaurants and TV shows, such as DIY SOS, Toodlepeep now offers training courses to pass on skills and knowledge to others and share their passion for interior design.

In this edition of the Hallis How To guide we'll show you how to make handmade lampshades with our NEW Needcraft Lampshade Kits. They make it easy to create a professional product that can be used as a ceiling or table lampshade to complement your design scheme.

Get the essentials...

- ✓ Needcraft Lampshade Kit
- ✓ Fabric of your choice (we advise to avoid using silks and heavy fabrics)
- ✓ Scissors
- ✓ Sharp Knife or Roller Blade
- ✓ Trimming (optional)
- ✓ Fabric Glue or strong double sided tape (if you're using trimming)

With your essentials in place let's explore what's included in the Needcraft Lampshade Kit;

- 1 x Lampshade ring
- 1 x Lampshade ring, with fitting
- 1 x Self-adhesive lampshade panel
- 1 x Roll self-adhesive tape
- 1 x Rolled edge tool

Depending on the kit you've chosen, you'll need at least the following amount of fabric...

- Pillar style lamp bases & smaller bases
20cm (**LAMPKITDRUM/20**)
– 64.5cm x 22.2cm
- Table lamps & small ceiling pendants
30cm (**LAMPKITDRUM/30**)
– 97cm x 25.5cm
- Ceiling pendants
40cm (**LAMPKITDRUM/40**)
– 128.2cm x 29cm



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Now you have all your materials ready, let's begin!

1. Preparing your lampshade fabric

Make sure you have a clear area and layout your chosen fabric on your workbench. Cut the fabric to size, making sure it's 15mm bigger at the top and bottom of the lampshade panel.

Remove any fibres and creases and lay your fabric on your workbench face down, making sure it is nice and smooth.

You may find it helpful to mark the position of the panel on the fabric before you attempt the next step.

2. Making your lampshade cover

Take your self-adhesive panel and remove 10cm of the backing paper. Working from one edge, stick the panel down onto your fabric. Taking care, work along your fabric piece attaching the backing as you go. Continue to peel the backing paper away by pulling on the exposed release paper, making sure to smooth out from the middle of the panel as you attach to the fabric.

Press firmly.

3. Turning your fabric

Turn over your covering fabric and press firmly into the adhesive backing, smoothing as you go.

4. Trimming the lampshade

Leaving a little fabric at one end for a seam, trim the surplus fabric off around the panel using a sharp knife, roller blade or scissors. Try to avoid leaving frayed edges.



5. Completing the panel

Crack the backing panel along the scored edges (top and bottom of the panel) by folding backwards and forwards, then peel off the PVC edges. Take care when removing, and again try to avoid fraying.

Now apply a 9mm strip of the double sided tape to the side edge of the panel on the PVC side where you left a little more fabric, this will be used to join the lampshade together at the seam.

Now your panel is complete!

6. Preparing the rings

Apply the 9mm double sided tape to the outside of the lampshade rings. Keep the tape in the centre of the ring and apply evenly all the way around. Crunch the tape into the ring and smooth round. Once applied, remove the release paper from the tape on the ring and you're ready to begin rolling around the panel.

7. Rolling

Place your sticky taped rings along the PVC edge of the panel. The rings will stick to the panel. Start rolling them down the length of the panel, whilst keeping in line with the PVC edge. Don't worry, if you go out of line you can go back.

If your fabric is directional you will need to position the ring with the fitting at the top edge of your fabric for a ceiling pendant. For a table lamp it needs to go at the bottom.

Remember: The fitting on the ring should be inside the lampshade.

8. Seal the lampshade seam

After you finish rolling the lampshade you'll end up with an overlap. Remove the release paper from the double sided tape you applied earlier and let the panels come together. Position and align the join. Once happy press down firmly on the inside of the shade to seal.



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9.



9. Snipping & Folding your Lampshade

Turn your lampshade fitting side up and use your scissors to snip the covering above the struts. Now fold your surplus cover inside the lampshade whilst keeping it stretched tight so it does not pucker, then tuck the fabric inside the ring ready for finishing.

Repeat on the other side.

10.



10. Finishing

Use the Rolled Edge tool supplied in the kit on the serrated edge to push the covering behind the ring. Once you've done this, use the smooth edge of the tool to finish pushing the fabric behind the rings and then run this around the whole lampshade.

Repeat on the other side.

Your shade is now complete!

11.



11. Attaching your trimming (optional)

Why not enhance your lampshade with coordinating trimmings, from elegant beads to contemporary braids for a totally individual look. Simply attach the trimming using the fabric glue or a strong double sided tape to the desired edge of your lampshade and leave to dry.

You now have a professionally finished lampshade that can be used as a pendant or table lampshade.

Now stand back
and admire your work!

