

# COLOR Jars

What do you give those who have everything? Our search for the perfect gift will never end. A Color Jar is easy and fun to create, and even more exciting to receive. Think of it as an adult's grab bag; taking the jar apart will reveal all kinds of surprises to its recipient! Its simplicity makes it a perfect last-minute gift to assemble with a thematic assortment of items that you might already have on hand.





Begin with a clean, empty jar. You may already have one; if not, plain jars are often available at craft and grocery stores. Then, select a color scheme and begin gathering similarly colored items to fill your jar; our mint green and aqua jar has been filled with a variety of crafting supplies.

After you have collected enough items to fill your jar completely, take special care when placing them inside the jar. Keep in mind which items will be seen from the outside, and which items might be less attractive. Use a long tool, such as a pen, tweezers or chopsticks, to adjust items inside the jar.

Finally, close the jar and embellish as desired for a finishing touch. We used green and white baker's twine with a white button. You could also tie a big, fat bow with ribbon; sandwich a square of fabric between the lid and screw-on ring; or add a simple paper gift tag.

## Filling a Color Jar

### THE RIGHT HUE

Try to choose items of a specific hue for a more finished, consistent look. For example, the items in our example jar are all variations of mint green and aqua—nothing is too dark or off-color.

### SIZE MATTERS

Choose items of varied sizes; if everything is the same size, items will blend together and have a clunky appearance. A variety of small, medium and large items not only fills the jar's space more effectively, but provides greater visual interest.

### BE THRIFTY

Don't feel you must buy everything; dig through your craft room and office supplies to see what bits and baubles you can pull from things you already own.

### GET PERSONAL

Prepare filler items by removing most or all of the packaging and/or price tags to enhance the personalized, homemade feel of your gift jar. Use bits of coordinating ribbon or floss to tie items together as needed.

