



Create and Do: Try your hand at canal crafts

Resources:

- Fabric
- Scissors • Iron
- Bulldog clip or tape
- Heavy-duty sewing needle
- Tapestry thread

Individual activity

Make your own rag rugs

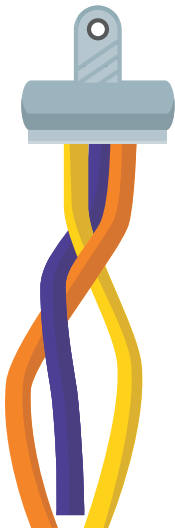
There are lots of different ways to make rag rugs. Follow the steps on this worksheet to make a simple rag rug from any old pieces of fabric.

Tip
You can fold in the edges of the fabric to meet in the middle and iron flat to hide raw edges.

1 Wash your fabric to allow for shrinkage. Iron flat and then make a 50mm (2") cut along each strip 40mm - 65mm wide (1.5" - 2.5") and tear into lengths.

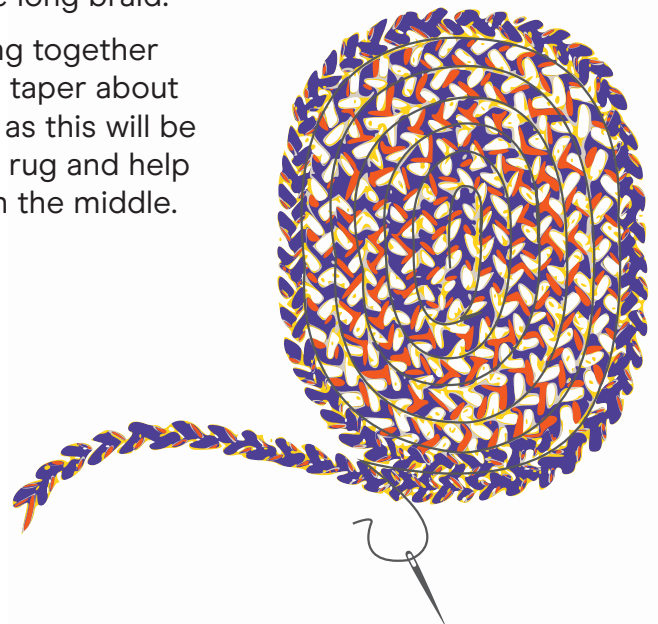
Sew strips together to make longer lengths, 120cm (approx 4 ft) is a good length to work with.

Keep each strip a slightly different length to avoid lumps when adding more strips.



2 Stitch 3 strips together side by side. Secure this end to a table with a piece of tape or a bulldog clip. Braid the strips together into one long braid.

Tip: Before sewing together cut the ends to a taper about half an inch wide as this will be the centre of the rug and help to avoid a lump in the middle.



3 Sew the wide braid into a large circle using a heavy-duty needle and a straight stitch. Be careful to keep the rug flat as you go wider. Lock in the tail with a zig-zag stitch.