

DUCT TAPE CRAFTS!

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FACTS

- Duct tape, also known as electrical tape or cloth tape, was originally called "duck" tape. Invented in 1942, it was called "duck" tape because water rolled off the tape just like a duck's back
- During World War II, soldiers used duct tape because they needed a tough, waterproof tape they could fix their equipment with and help keep their ammunition boxes dry
- Duct tape is simply cloth backed by a resilient plastic coating and a good rubberized adhesive. It is durable, unlike regular tape that tears and breaks. It is versatile and the right tool for many temporary fixes
- Duck Products, a brand of duct tape, annually sponsors a competition that offers a college scholarship to the person who creates the most stylish prom formal wear made from duct tape
- Duct tape can now come in a variety of colours!

References:

Scripps Network. (2009). *I did it with duct tape: Fact and tips*. Retrieved April 1, 2009 from http://www.diynetwork.com/diy/hi_duct_tape/article/0,2037,DIY_13910_2278127,00.html

Duct tape. (March 28, 2009). In *Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia*. Retrieved April 1, 2009 from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duct_tape

YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?

Absolutely not! Not only is duct tape easy to obtain, but it can also be transformed into quick, amazing and creative crafts appealing to both boys and girls. Its popularity and multitude of uses has firmly placed it as a pop culture fixture. Duct tape crafts remain a popular teen program in libraries, due to their cost-effectiveness, easy set-up and hands-on creativity.

RESOURCES

Duct Tape (http://www.instructables.com/id/Duct_Tape/) – This website, as aforementioned, is a DIY crafting essential. This particular section is devoted entirely to duct tape crafts; from ties to flowers, pencil cases to a duct tape hat, there is a lot to choose from. While there are no explicit levels of complexity, it is clear that duct tape shoes would be a more difficult and lengthy project than an MP3 player case, for example. Each project is fairly comprehensive, accompanied by clear step-by-step instructions and images.

Duct Tape Links (<http://www.yapp.us/DuctTape.html>) – This web resource was created by The Young Adult Professional’s Page, an Internet subject gateway for youth services. It assembles various links to duct tape crafts and projects for teens. It is mentioned on several public library websites as a key resource for duct tape crafts. Although there were some valid resources linking several project ideas, 3 out of the 6 links were broken; this web site is in dire need of maintenance.

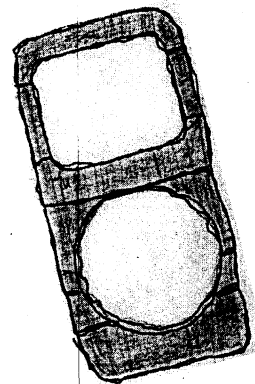
***Ductigami: The Art of the Tape* by Joe Wilson (2006)** – This book contains 18 duct tape projects. Oriented towards boys, they include a beverage holder. Although there are comprehensive patterns and illustrations accompanying the step-by-step instruction, there is also some “toilet humour” thrown in for comedic effect. Consequently, this title is more appropriate for the older teen, or for your inspiration.

***Stick It! 99 DIY Duct Tape Projects* by T.L. Bonnadio (2009)** – This new publication contains 99 projects, all for teens. Appealing to both boys and girls, projects include jewellery, wallet and “punked-out paper goods.” It contains step-by-step instructions and each project is assigned a difficulty level, suiting a wide audience. The author is no stranger to crafting, holding a Fine Arts degree. Overall, this handbook is soon to become a key resource for teen duct tape crafts!

DUCT TAPE CASE FOR AN MP3 PLAYER:

What you need:

- ✓ Mp3 player template printed on paper (Ipod template: <http://www.ruthannzaroff.com/mirkwooddesigns/ipodcover.htm>; other templates can draw from this one, as long as you cut it out and make sure it covers your mp3 player)
- ✓ Several rolls of duct tape in a variety of colours
- ✓ Craft knife
- ✓ Scissors
- ✓ Piece of scrap cardboard



1. Cut out the template, fold it up and see how well it fits your MP3 player. If needed, you can use cardstock or paper to create a new fitted template based on your MP3 player's measurements and buttons.
2. Duct tape the back of the template (not on the side showing the lines) in the colours of duct tape and in any pattern you desire. Stripes, polka dots, checkered, zig-zag; any pattern goes!
3. Cut along the solid lines and fold along the dotted lines. Lay the template down on the scrap cardboard and use the craft knife to cut out the headphone jack and USB port connection openings.
4. Wrap the case around your MP3 player. Mark where the Hold button is, if applicable, lay the template on the scrap cardboard and cut around it.
5. Duct tape the case in place while around your MP3 player.

Adapted from: http://www.herald-mail.com/?cmd=displaystory&story_id=194951&format=print

Other potential projects include duct tape wallets, handbags, bookcovers, belts, flowers, etc. Why not hold a “duct tape crafts” contest, awarding the most creative and complex duct tape crafts.