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The Lowest Prices on Micro Beads and O'So Sticky Tape!

*Penny Wise Arts*  
Where Your Favorite Color Can Be Clear!  
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### **Bead Basics Using Glue, Mixing Beads and Cleaning Up**

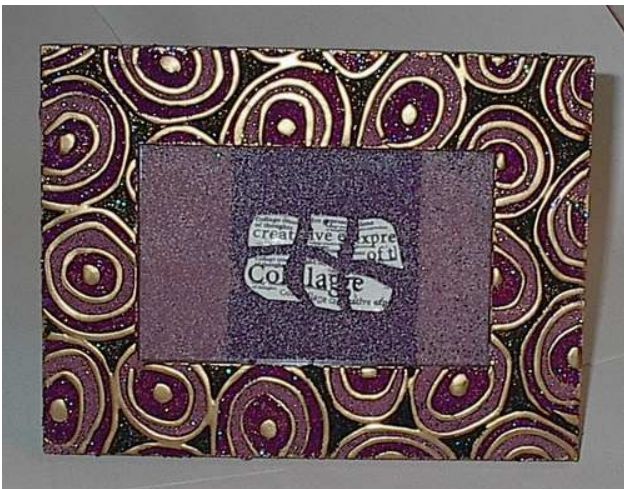
Many people have asked if they could use glue with their beads and the answer is definitely YES!

Next you're going to ask, WHAT glue – and I say try anything!! I've heard people say that they have had good results with everything from Jewelers Glue to Elmer's!

Personally, I like to use Sure Tac or Diamond Glaze as these dry clear and hold well for me.

The thing to remember though, if you are using glue is that your project will be more dimensional – not flat as with the tape adhesives. When placing the glue, you need to have a good amount, so the beads have something to grab onto. A thin layer won't cut the mustard here.

Also, you'll want to avoid the urge to press the beads down into the glue. Otherwise, the glue will ooze out and over your beads, and then the effect kind of gets lost. Treat the beads much as you might treat glitter – sprinkle them on, let them dry and then tap off the excess.



Here is a fun photo frame that my friend Annette made with glue and beads! The frame came from the dollar store and the gold is part of the frame. She just used glue to fill in the spaces and added beads and glitter on top!

For something like this, it would be best to do all one color – let it dry and then go back with another color. This will help reduce the contamination of your beads (getting stray ones mixed up where they don't belong).

## **Mixology**

Did you know that we have a whole file dedicated to bead mixology on our Yahoo Group? Yup! Here's the link: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PennyWiseArts>

Then click on FILES and you'll see our Mixology Folder there!  
This is a great place to explore and consider new color combinations!

When mixing beads, think about how MUCH you will want/need of that mix. Then just mix what you need so that you will still have your bag of solid colors for other uses. In other words, if you don't need 6 ounces of salt and pepper – then don't mix full bags of silver and black together!

Clear film canisters are great for mixing and storing small amounts!

If you come up with something that we haven't already posted the recipe for, please DO add it to the Mixology File!!

## **Clean Up**

This is where the Goo Gone on your supply list comes in.

Invariably when cutting sticky things, your scissors are going to get sticky too! Any citrus based cleaner will work well for cleaning off the goo! Using paperback tape will also reduce the gumming of your scissors over regular O'So Sticky Tape.

We are now stocking Tonic brand non-stick scissors on our website here: <http://www.pennywisearts.com/tape.html>

Tonic's non-stick scissors have one serrated blade and one sharp blade for excellent cutting on all types of material - including lightweight metal, sheet rubber, vinyl and adhesive backed papers. The non-stick coating truly prevents a build up of adhesive, which makes them perfect for cutting our O'So Sticky Tape!

When cleaning up loose beads on your table, be aware that you may have other bead colors, lint, paper scraps, etc. on the table too – and if you swipe them all into your container – it will contaminate your container of beads! One way to avoid this problem is to clean up the table BEFORE you start and keep your beading area clear. After using each bead color, brush the beads back into their proper container. This will keep your stash from getting fuzzy and dirty!

When I tell people what I do, I get lots of volunteers to come vacuum my studio! I just brush the strays off onto the carpet and vacuum later! This would not be recommended on any hard floor surface because the beads would definitely be a slip and fall hazard!