

## Turkish and Persian Woven Buttons

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Buttons can be used as a great accessory on Persian and Turkish coats as seen in many miniatures and some of the surviving extant pieces from the sixteenth century. There appear to be many options utilized during this timeframe from cast metal buttons of gold and other metals (Fig E,) (Welch) to the use pearls used for closures in paintings such as Titian's Portrait of Caterina Coronaro as Saint Catherine of Alexandria, 1542, (Fig. D)(Ufizzi Gallery). Possibly combinations of cast metal and gemstones may have also been utilized (Fig,G)(Roxburgh). Also in viewing pictures of extant pieces a form of "woven button" can be seen (Fig. A B C) (Rogers). What is so intriguing about the woven buttons in the extant pieces is how they were made for each specific coat.

Materials needed:

Embroidery Floss  
Embroidery needles  
Wooden beads  
Scissors  
Beeswax or candles will do

Step 1: Wax your floss. The wax helps keep the floss from separating and fraying, then go through the bead leaving a four-six inch tail



Step 2:

Wrap your bead an odd number of times you need to do it an odd number of times for the one or two color version so the weaving will be correct.



Step 3:

Start under one strand over the next.



Step 4:

When you get back to the beginning point go over the first strand you went under.



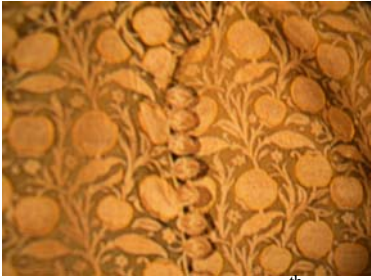
Step 5 Repeat until you have a “checkerboard” pattern



Variations of woven buttons



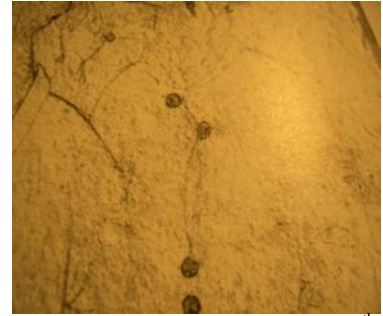
## Examples



A) Woven buttons, detail 16<sup>th</sup> century caftan, (Ottoman Turkish)



D) Pearl buttons detail Titian: Portrait of Caterina Coronaro as Saint Catherine of Alexandria, 1542



H) Detail Drawing buttons 16<sup>th</sup> Century (Safavid Persian)



B) Woven buttons detail late 16<sup>th</sup> Century, (Ottoman Turkish)



E) Detail of a man Miniature, 16<sup>th</sup> Century Safavid Persian



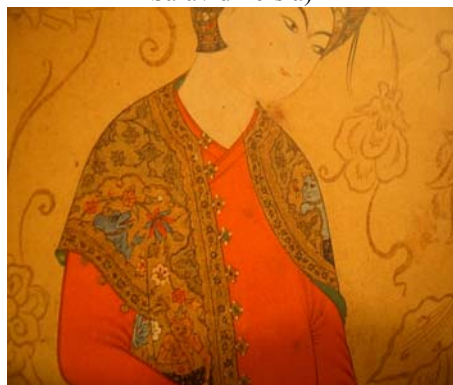
I) Miniature detail 16<sup>th</sup> Century (Safavid Persian)



C) Woven buttons detail 16<sup>th</sup> Century Caftan (Ottoman Turkish)



F) Miniature detail 16<sup>th</sup> Century Sa Safavid Persia)



G) Miniature detail 16<sup>th</sup> Century



J) Detail, of 13<sup>th</sup> Century Entari (Seljuk, Persian)

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