How to Sew On a Button

When a button falls off your clothes, it’s nice to know how to sew it back on. You can succeed at sewing a button on anything, from a sports shirt to a fancy evening gown. To do a decent job, you need:

- a button
- a pair of scissors
- a sewing needle and thread
- a toothpick

Here are the steps:

1. If you have the button, use it. If it is missing, check your clothing for extras. Some shirts have extra buttons sewn on near the bottom. If there are no extras, find one that matches the size and color of your missing button. Look in a sewing kit, if you have one, or find a matching button in a store.

2. Pick the same color of thread used for the other buttons.

3. Cut a piece of thread, about two feet long.

4. Feed one end of the thread through the tiny hole in the top of the needle. Pull it to make two ends that are the same length. Tie a knot in the ends. Needles are sharp, so use extreme care. Make sure a grownup is there to help.

5. Set the button in place on the clothing. If you want, put a toothpick between the clothing and the button. This will give it a little extra room to move.

6. Push the needle up from under the clothing and through a hole in the button. Pull the thread tight, until the knot stops it. Return the needle back down through a different hole and beneath the clothing again, until the thread is tight. Repeat this step three times.

7. End under the clothing. Make a double knot and cut the thread.

8. If you used a toothpick, slide it out. Your job is complete!