

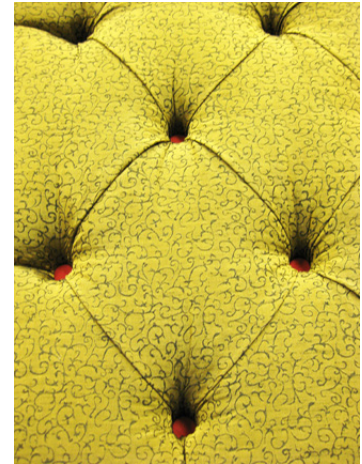
TIP OF THE MONTH MAY 2010

HEADBOARD AND CORNICE TUFTING

Tufting is an upholstery technique in which fabric and padding are tied or stapled down with buttons and twine, creating pouffy areas that give dimension. There are many ways tufting can be accomplished.

Hand tufting is done when a deep tufted look is desired. With this method holes are actually cut in the foam allowing the buttons to sink all the way down to the wood. Tucks are then placed by hand, flowing from button to button. This is more complicated and time consuming than the other methods.

How many buttons and where they are to be placed must be decided in advance and in order to know how much fabric is needed. Traditional tufting consists of rows of buttons spaced in a way that will create diamond shapes once the tufting has been completed.



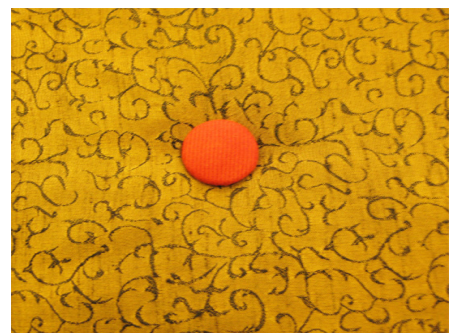
Button tufting requires no tucks. The twine that holds the button is pulled through the wood and secured to the back. The button remains on top of the foam. This gives a tufted look but with less dimension.



This tufting method requires holes drilled in the wood for the twine to pull through. However, holes are not cut in the foam. The buttons will remain on top of the foam. How tight you pull the twine will determine how deep the button can sink into the foam.

Faux tufting is done by simply stapling the twine to the face of the item and tying the button to it. This will also give less dimension.

Button tufting and faux tufting can be done when only a few buttons are needed and when the buttons are spaced well apart.



Step by step instructions for doing the methods of tufting described above are in the M'Fay Workroom Manual Supplement 9.