



VEGETABLE IVORY BUTTON CURTAIN

by Barbara Barrans

This vegetable ivory button curtain is four feet across and the height of the doorway. I estimate that it took about 12,000 buttons.

I used all shades of brown, and mostly sew through buttons. I also used only mundane buttons and this helped to keep the cost down. It took me about three years to gather them from dealers, buying in bulk.

Each button is strung onto double cording thread, then tied off before proceeding to the next one. This made the curtain very strong. I used a whistle to start each string as the flat side could be later attached snug up against the wood piece that would hold them all together. Each string is threaded up through holes that Tom drilled in the header—made out of manzanita wood—and then tied off on the back of the manzanita piece. First we had to have all the strings tied on and then we put the curtain up in place against the header of the doorway. It was so heavy that Tom and I together could hardly lift it into place. It took some engineering to secure the thing. It makes a wonderful earthy tinkling sound when you move it—very soothing, like a wind chime! Here are three pictures.





This creative project was shared by the National Button Society.

