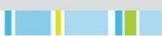


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STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS



Beaded Wall Décor with décor twigs

By Michelle Holtzhausen

The Bead Book Magazine

Requirements

- 1 x box wooden blank cross or other shape
- 1 bunch red decorative grass
- 5 x 60 cm twigs
- 5 x 50 cm twigs
- 33 m bronze craft wire
- Old newspaper
- Wood stain in *Protea brown* colour
- Paint brush
- Assortment of glass beads in different shapes, shades and sizes
- Hobby drill with 1,5 mm drill bit

Instructions

Step 1:

Stain the wooden blank using a brush. If you wish to add texture to the background make patterns with your fingers on the cross while the stain is still wet. Leave to dry. Paint another layer of stain over the wood to darken the background.

Step 2:

Cut three 6m lengths of wire and three 4m lengths of wire. Fold back a small piece of wire on the one end to prevent the beads from falling out. Thread 70 beads onto each of the 6m lengths and 50 onto each of the 4m lengths.

Step 3

Move one bead up to the open end of the wire, leave a 5cm tail and fold the bead back onto the wire. You will now have a bead at the top and with two wires lying next to each other one is short (the 5 cm tail) and the other long (the remaining length of wire with all the other beads). Twist these two wires, turning a few times.

Step 4

Leave a 1cm gap on the wire then bend the wire upwards, push another bead up and fold the wire back again, twist them together. Continue to add one bead at a time until you have used all your beads. Trim the excess wire. Repeat steps 3 and 4 for all the remaining lengths of wire.

...Page 2



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Step 5

Very loosely plait the three 6m lengths of wire together.
Do the same with the 4m lengths of wire.

Step 6

Use the drill to drill holes on the wooden base at regular intervals, to enable you to attach the twigs and the wire embellishment.

Step 7:

Split the grass into two equal bundles and cut one bundle 40 cm long and the other bundle 15 cm long, to fit over the wooden cross. Mix the 40 cm twigs in between the 40 cm lengths of grass and split the bundle in half. Place half of the bundle on the cross (vertical), mix the 15 cm twigs and grass together and place on the cross (horizontal). Place the remaining half of the first bunch over the horizontal branches and tie the twigs cross together with the cord.

Step 8:

Cut ten 25cm lengths of wire. Place the plaited bead lengths on top of the twigs cross (step 7) and then place both on top of the wooden blank cross. Tie the embellishments down by pushing the wire up a hole drilled in the wooden blank, over the twigs cross and down the same hole. Twist the two wires together at the back and make a swirl with the twisted wire so it doesn't pull back out. Glue the swirl to the back of the wooden blank. Repeat for the remainder of the previously drilled holes in the wooden blank until your embellishments are securely tied down.

Step 9:

Find an appropriate position to display your beautiful work of art.



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