Your BSA Christmas Wreath

Bridgewater Primary

Hints and tips for decorating

Thank you for buying a BSA wreath

To get started you will need:

- Your wreath base
- Scissors
- Your bag of decorations
- Any extra decorations you want to add eg extra foliage, extra decorations, Christmas lights
- Maybe some Christmas tunes to listen to
- Maybe some mulled wine or something fizzy and a mince pie to keep you going!

You can watch last year's video of tips on decorating your wreath here or keep reading for more tips and hints



Where to start

1. Look at your wreath and decide which way up you want it – tie string around the wreath base where you would like the top to be

2. Decide on your design – do you want a single focal point or equally balanced interest around your wreath?

3. Wire each decoration (you can do this individually or in groups – see following pages)

4. Attach each decoration by pushing the wires through the wreath and bending/twisting them at the back to secure them. Or, you can wrap the wire round an individual branch of foliage on the wreath





Attaching the decorations

1. For substantial items, like cones, use thicker wire and use thinner wire for delicate items, such as leaves and chillies

   Take care as the wire can be sharp and remember to wash your hands after handling the chillies!

2. Use odd numbers of decorations and space them equally around the wreath. You can decorate the inside and outside of the wreath, not just the face.

3. As you decorate take a step back to check the overall effect – if possible hang it up to see what it looks like vertically.

4. When you have attached all your decorations, firmly hold it up and give it a good shake to make sure nothing falls off – re-attach any that fall or are loose then…





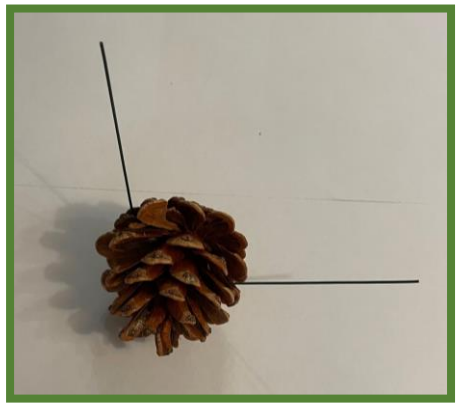
Hang it on your door!

How to…

WIRE A CONE

Remember to use thicker wire. For a large cone you may need two wires together

1. Insert the wire between the lower scales of the cone and create two wire ‘legs’





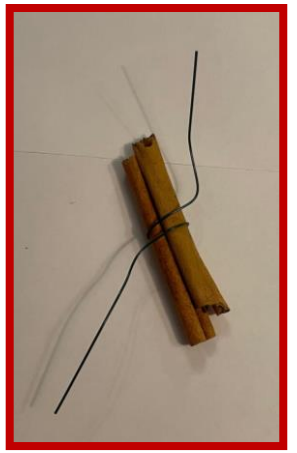
2. Twist the wire legs together to tighten them

3. Bend the wire 90 degrees downwards to make a stem which can be inserted into the wreath

WIRE CINNAMON STICKS

You can wire the sticks on individually or in groups

1. Place 2 or 3 sticks together and wrap a length of wire *very tightly* around the middle





2. Twist the wire ends together to make a stalk which can be inserted into the wreath

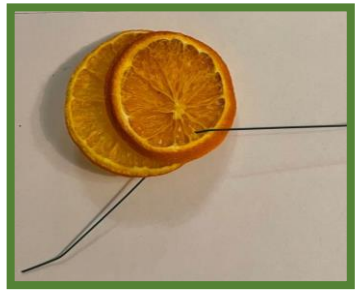
3. If you want to disguise the wire, tie a narrow ribbon or piece of string around the bundle over the wire

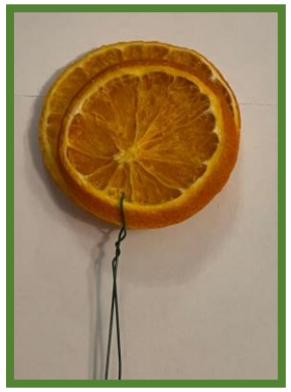
How to…

WIRE ORANGE SLICES

You can wire two slices together or add them individually. Use the thinner wire as they can be delicate.

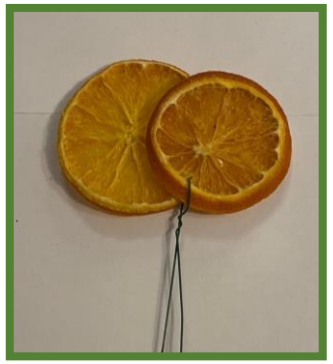
1. Push the wire through both slices near the pith.





2. Twist the wire round to make a stem.

3. Fan the slices out so you can see both of them slightly overlapping.



WIRE CHILLIES

*Add the chillies in groups of three or five – **remember to wash your hands after handling them.***

1. Thread a thin wire through the chillies in a line.





2. Twist the wire round and fan the chillies out.

How to...

WIRE LEAVES

You can add leaves as groups or separately

1. Start by making a hairpin shape with a thin piece of wire.





2. Push the wire through either side of the main vein in the centre of the leaf.

3. Bring the wire back to the front of the leaf to twist it across the stem.



4. Twist the wire round to make a strong stem to stick into the wreath.





5. You can also wire a group of leaves together.

How to…

WIRE A BAUBLE

Threading the wire through the hook at the top may not be secure so wire the bauble itself.

1. Hook the wire tightly underneath the cap of the bauble.





2. Twist the wire legs together to form a stem.

WIRE A FEATHER

You can stick the feathers directly into the wreath or wire them if you want to strengthen the stem.

1. Start with the feather about half way along the wire.





2. Bring it round to twist at the front of the feather.

3. Then cross backwards and forwards down the stem.

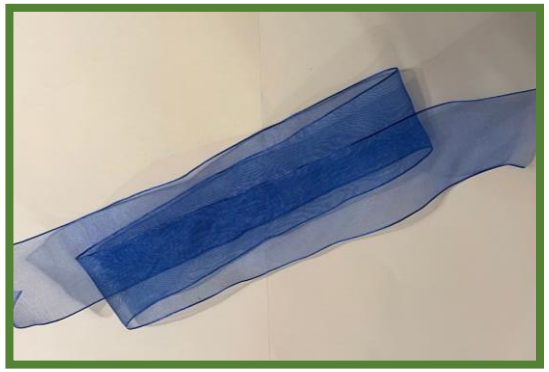


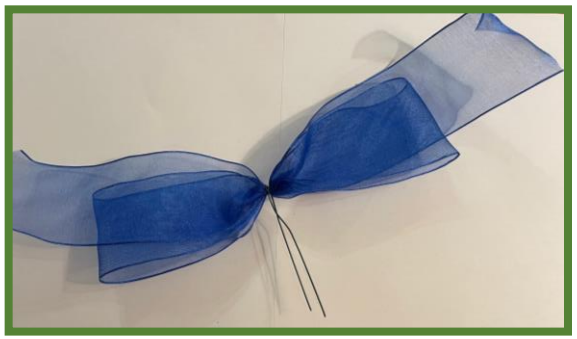
How to…

ADD A BOW WITH A WIRED RIBBON

If you don't want a bow on your wreath you can use the ribbon to hang it instead of string.

1. Fold the ribbon over, leaving slightly longer 'tails for the bow.





2. Twist wire around the middle to start to form the bow.



3. Fan the bow out to make more impact before you add it to the wreath using the wire stem.



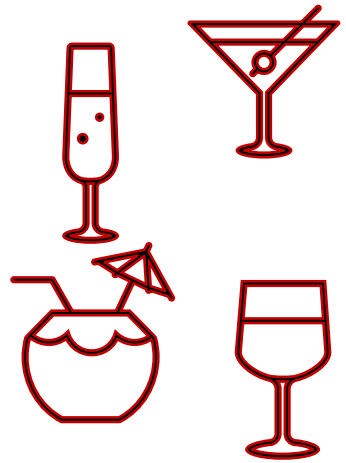
4. You can make multiple folds to make a bow with more layers.

You don’t have to do your wreath by yourself!



Get festive with the kids and create your wreath as a family – they may have some great crafts and bits they want to add to make it their own. You can also go foraging for more foliage to add to your wreath to make it even more unique!

Get together with a group of friends at someone’s home or in a garden depending on the Government guidance. Share ideas while you have a glass of something special to bring out your creative side for a great wreath-making experience.





If you prefer, or if the Government guidance requires, you can have an online wreath making session – everyone can be in the comfort of their own home with their own decorations while still sharing the experience.