

Acorn Wreath

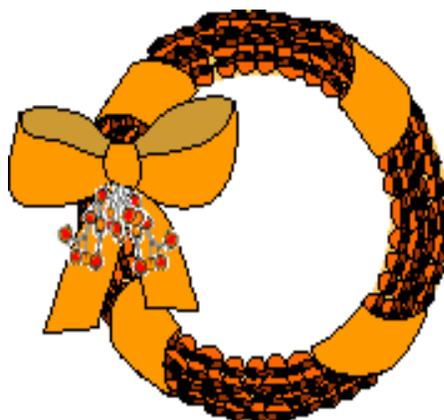
What You Need

- Acorns
- Wicker wreath
- Hot glue gun
- Glue sticks
- Newspaper
- Flowers or other decoration



How To Make It

1. First, spread the newspaper on a flat surface. Lay your wreath down flat. Heat your glue gun.
2. Next, starting in the middle of the wreath begin gluing the bottom of the acorn. Place the glued part of the acorn in the middle of the wreath and stand the acorn straight up. Make 1 row in a straight line going all the way around the wreath. Repeat the process from top to bottom with the wreath still lying flat.
3. Then decorate with flowers, bows, or even holiday ornaments. Be sure not to leave any open spaces except in the back. The back of the wreath shouldn't have any acorns on it so when you lay it down it is flat.



Apple Printing

Make a fun design, wrapping paper, decorative t-shirts, or a tote with apple prints.

What You Need

- Apples
- Paint
- Paper plate, shallow tray, or wide paint brushes
- Something to print on, like paper
- Newspapers to protect the table
- Knife to cut the apple



How To Make It

If you are going to make your prints on paper, use washable poster paint for good results. If you want to decorate fabric - like a t-shirt or tote, make sure to get fabric paints - and the kids need to be dressed in old clothing!

Apple printing is always fun: there are two very different prints you can get by cutting apples in half through the middle OR from the top to bottom.

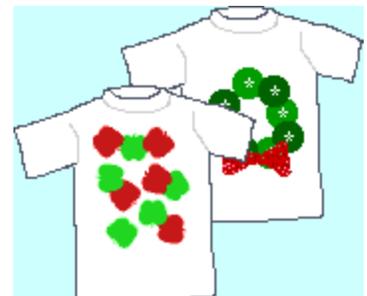
You can cut them in half through the stem, dip them in red and green paint, and make a very nice-looking collage of apple shapes. Cutting them through the middle makes a circle stamp with a star in the middle.

To paint on a t-shirt or tote, put a thick layer of paper inside the shirt/tote to prevent the paint from bleeding through to the back of the fabric.

An easy and very effective project is to decorate a plain tote with apple stamps cut from top to bottom (making an apple shape) in a horizontal line around the tote.

You can make a wreath by using two colors of green paint and apples cut through the middle (to make circles with 'star' centers). Then take a sponge, cut a triangle (for 1/2 of the bow) and dip it into red paint - add the bow. To make dark green paint, add a little black paint at a time to some green paint.

You can also make a fun gift by brushing the paint onto hands and decorating the shirt or tote with those special handprints.



Fall Wreaths

Collect materials for your wreath by taking walks, collecting fall leaves and pine cones, etc.

What You Need

- Fall leaves, pine cones, etc.
- Hay wreath
- Hot glue gun
- Large bow in fall colored ribbon
- Fall colored ribbons to hang pine cones with



How To Make It

1. Bake all pieces for 45 minutes at 200 degrees to kill any insects and eggs.
2. Use the hot glue gun to attach the leaves, seeds, etc, to the wreath, and the large bow.
3. Attach the pine cones to ribbons and hang them in the center.

As a simpler project for classrooms, paper plates with the centers cut out and craft glue can be used to make small wreaths. Punch a hole in the top of the plate and put a ribbon or yarn through to hang it.



Leaf Painted Placemat or Collage

What You Need

- Large piece of brown construction paper
- Leaf shaped cookie cutters
- Tempera paints in yellow, orange, and red
- Clear Con-Tact paper (if making placemat)
- Scissors



How To Make It

1. Dip the cookie cutters in the different colors of paints and “stamp” them onto the brown construction paper.
2. Cover the whole thing with clear Con-Tact paper – or laminate - and use as a placemat. (Adults will need to cover with Con-Tact paper)
3. This is a fun project for children to paint.



Dressed Leaves Placemat #2

What You Need

- 2 Sheets of wax paper, placemat size
- Scissors
- Leaves
- Wax paper, for pressing
- Large book, Dictionary, or Encyclopedia
- Iron
- Paper sacks



How To Make It

1. Gather some fall leaves.
2. Place each of the leaves between 2 pieces of wax paper.
3. Place the leaves inside a large book to flatten them.
4. After the leaves are flattened, take them out of the book and remove the wax paper. This may take a day to about a week.
5. Cut the paper sack in half, discarding the bottom of the sack.
6. Place one piece of the paper sack on a safe place to iron (countertop is ideal, ask first!).
7. Preheat your iron to medium setting (no steam).
8. Place one sheet of wax paper (cut to placemat size) on the sack.
9. Arrange your leaves on the wax paper in any way desired.
10. Place the second sheet of wax paper (cut to placemat size) on top of the leaves.
11. Place the second piece of paper sack to cover.
12. Iron on the sack, checking to see if the wax paper has adhered together. Let cool.
13. You can trim around the edges or use decorative scissors to give it a different look.

