

What is the Heritage Craft Products Christmas Tree Decoration Toolkit?

We have put together a toolkit to create your own unique Christmas Tree Baubles from polystyrene balls.

A fun toolkit that allows you to use your imagination to create unique and one-of-a-kind Christmas tree Baubles using several different painting techniques.

Your Toolkit consists of:

- 30 x Polystyrene Ball 50mm
- 6 x Heritage Craft Colour 50ml (Red, Blue, Yellow, Lime Green, Black, White)
- 1 x Gesso Paste 100ml
- 1 x Jewel Glue 50ml
- 1 x Craft Glue 50ml
- 5 x Glitter Sachets
- 1 x Craft Varnish 100ml
- 2 x Paint Brushes

What you will need:

- Imagination
- Workspace for a fun messy project
- Wire or Sosate / Kebab Skewers to make a stand for the polystyrene balls to stand
- Cardboard box and dowel stick to hang the polystyrene balls to dry and excess paint to drip
- Dotting tool or anything if you want to create dots
- Containers if you want to paint pour



Christmas Tree Decoration Toolkit

Preparation

Before you get started, note that although it's a fun process, it is messy and you will need a space to allow excess paint to drip. Be sure to protect your clothes and workspace.

You will need to build 2 stands, the first one is for the polystyrene balls to stand for the basecoat (Gesso Paste) to dry and any excess to drip (much like a stand when making lollipops or cake pops).

Use either an old flower arranging oasis or a piece of Polystyrene and Sostie / kebab skewers or wire, remember to make it big enough that all your polystyrene balls will fit

The second one will be to hang the polystyrene balls once finished to dry and cure.

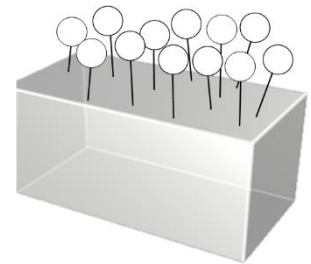
Use a cardboard box and dowel sticks, cut holes on each side to allow a dowel stick to slide through. Use a second or third dowel to make sure you have enough space for all the polystyrene balls.



Step One

Apply Gesso Paste to each of the balls. This you can do with either a brush or sponge, cover the entire ball with at least two coats to get the ball as smooth as possible (allow to dry between coats).

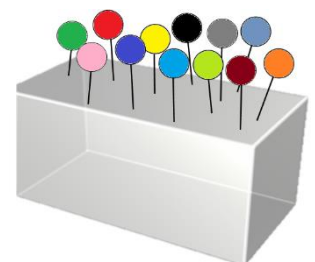
Use a skewer and insert it into the polystyrene ball to allow the entire ball to be painted and use the stand you have prepared to dry.



Step Two

Once the Gesso Paste has dried let your imagination take over.

- Keep the skewer in the ball then paint or dip the polystyrene with your chosen basecoat colour. If you choose to dip the ball, dilute the paint with a little water to a "warm honey" consistency. Allow to dry if you are going to paint or do Dot Art.
- For Dot Art use a dotting tool or stylus or use almost anything like the tip of a pencil, the back of a pencil, tip of a paint brush, a toothpick or even a cotton earbud.
- Or paint any design, pattern or picture your heart desires.
- If you want to do a paint pour, the basecoat must not dry and must still be wet when pouring the second colour.
- Pour some paint of your second colour into a container and mix with a little water to get the "warm honey" consistency. Hold the skewer perpendicular and pour the second colour over the wet base coat. Place on the stand straight up for the paint to drip around the ball and allow to dry.
- To add more effects, add Glitter using the raft Glue.
- Allow your artwork to dry thoroughly.

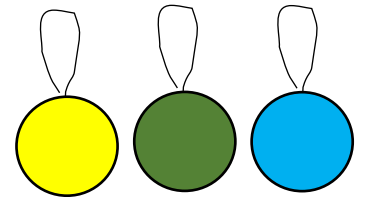


Step Three

Once dry, you will need to glue the string to make a loop.

Cut pieces of string to the desired length and use the Jewel Glue to secure the string in the hole from the skewer to make a loop.

Allow the glue to set properly.



Step Four

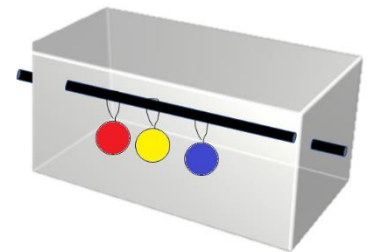
Once the glue has set, you can hang the balls on the stand to varnish.

Pour a small amount of the Craft Varnish into a container and use a brush or sponge to cover the ball. Do this by applying the varnish from one point and continue to the other end, try not to lift the applicator.

Apply one coat in the same direction, allow sufficient time to dry and then apply a second coat in the opposite direction.

Do not pour any left-over varnish back into the bottle as this may cause contamination.

Leave to dry and cure, the drying time will depend on the ambient temperature.



Tips When Mixing Colours:

Primary colours (red, yellow, and blue) are the only colours that cannot be made by mixing any colours.

Secondary colours (green, orange, and violet) are a combination of two primary colours. Their hue is halfway between the two primary colours used.

Tertiary colours (red-orange, red-violet, yellow-green, yellow-orange, blue-green and blue-violet) are a combination between primary and adjacent secondary colour.

Add white to make a colour lighter, and black to make it darker. A lighter colour is called a tint of the original hue, a darker colour is called a shade of the original hue.