

Step by step – How to make a toetoe lantern

Materials

Toetoe stems
Tissue paper or sewing patterns
PVA glue & water
Masking tape
Wire, tinfoil and half candle

Equipment

Foam rubber brush
Scissors/pruning shears

Step 1.

From one lengths of toetoe cut it into pieces making a square breaking off the excess and using masking tape to join the corner.

Step 2.

Measure and cut two pieces of toetoe to go across the diagonals then tape into place.

Step 3.

Lay the square down flat, attach a length of toetoe to each corner with masking tape. Then bring them together to form a pyramid shape at the desired height cutting off the excess and taping the apex well.

Step 4.

Measure and bend a second smaller square just down from the top of the pyramid ensuring a gap remains as shown.

Step 5.

Using lengths of toetoe create patterns on each side taping each securely into place ensuring that there isn't too large a gap on any side (to make it easier when applying the tissue paper).

Step 6.

Tear tissue paper into pieces approximately the size of an adult's hand. Mix a small amount of PVA glue with water then brush a piece of tissue paper with the glue mix and gently apply to the toetoe framework using the brush to ensure it has adhered to the frame. Repeat the process overlapping the edges of tissue paper until the four sides are covered with exception of the top (leave the base open as well). Ensure there are no loose pieces of tissue paper on the inside that could catch light once the candle is alight.

Step 7.

Allow to dry then insert the candle into a tinfoil square (child hand size). Wrap two pieces of wire around the candle and tinfoil leaving four long pieces to create a cross at the base. Use excess wire to attach the candle to the cross frame of the lantern base.

