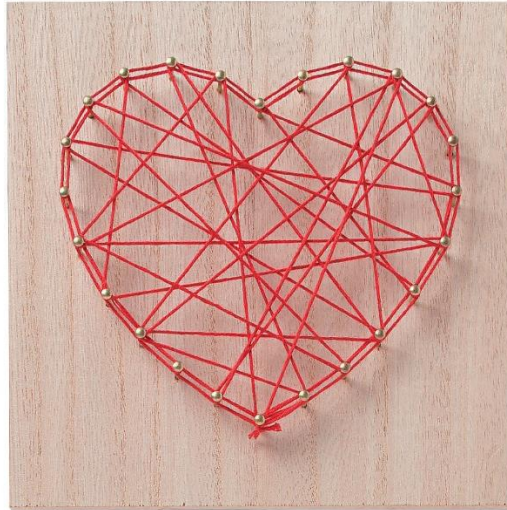


String Art Take Home Craft



Our deepest gratitude to Bonnie Gulick for donating the wooden panels for our craft project!

Included in this kit

- Small wood panel
- Assorted nails
- Sandpaper
- 2 eye hooks for hanging
- String or yarn (assortment available at pick up)
- Anti-scuff pads
- Star, heart, and circle templates

Not Included

- Hammer/large rock
- Electric drill (recommended, but not required) – see Quick Note in Introduction
- Paint or collage supplies; Beads, buttons, or other decorative elements
- Scissors
- Tape
- Pencil/Pen

Introduction

Creating string art is a fun and easy craft for an evening or weekend. Use the enclosed templates or create your own shapes. Paint or collage the base to add a personal touch. Make it yours! This craft can easily be scaled up for larger projects.

Quick Note: Predrilling the holes makes the process faster and easier, but it is not required. If predrilling, use a bit that is one size SMALLER than the nail.

Safety: Please exercise caution when using a drill and/or hammer. Protect your eyes and mind your fingers!

Instructions

1. Gather your supplies.



2. Prepare the wood panel by sanding any rough spots. If desired, paint or collage the panel before starting the nail process.
3. Once piece is prepared and dry, place your template in your preferred location. If you're worried about the paper slipping, use a small piece of tape to secure the template.
 - a. Try one of the enclosed templates or create your own design. Any shape can be used or just create a random pattern.
 - b. You can also use a pencil or pen to mark out where you want the nails with or without the template.
4. Start drilling or hammering nails around the outside of the template, if using. If you use a drill, you won't really need to use a hammer. Something small and solid (like a rock or piece of wood) can help push the nails into the predrilled

holes. TAKE CARE NOT TO GO THROUGH THE BACK OF THE PANEL. And, of course, please be careful when using tools.



- a. If desired, you can drill or hammer through the paper (and pull it away when you're done).
 - b. For a negative space effect, add nails around the perimeter of the panel in addition to the template shape.
5. For a tidy look, space nails evenly around the template ($\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch apart). Use a ruler for a straight line, if you'd like. If your nails are not perfectly placed, don't worry; your finished piece will look more folksy. Here is an example:



6. Once all nails are in place, brush or blow off any sawdust.
7. Using the string, tie a double knot around one of the nails.



8. Start weaving the string around and through the nails, keeping the string taut. You may have to keep a finger on the top of the nail to keep the string from slipping over the nail head. It may take a few tries to figure out the right tension.



- a. For a tidier look, follow a consistent pattern (see image 1). For an abstract look, follow a random pattern.
 - b. For a more defined shape, wrap the outline of the shape (see image 2).
 - c. For a negative image effect, use the perimeter nails and the outline of the template shape. Do not fill the middle of the shape (see image 3)
9. Keep going until desired effect is reached. For a dense look, push string down as you work through the nails, creating more layers. Use a fork to push the string down the nail, if that helps.
 10. Once you've reached the desired effect, tie off the string around one of the nails using a double knot. Trim off any excess string from the knots.
 11. If you're worried about the piece scratching your wall or your nails went through the back of the panel, attach anti-scuff pads to the back side.

IMAGE 1

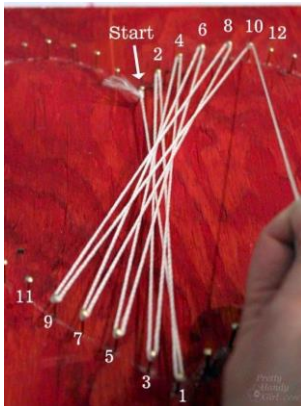


IMAGE 2



IMAGE 3



Finishing Touches (Optional)

- Screw in eye hooks on the top edge of your piece if you'd like to hang it.
- Glue beads/buttons to the nail head or paint them (nail polish works great here).
- Add open hooks to the bottom edge to create a key hook.

Looking for more inspiration? Look no further!

There's actually a lot more to see if you look through Pinterest or do an image search.
Not sure where to start? Stop by the Reference Desk for help!

