

How to make a Desert Pea



Materials

Red craft felt
Fine green garden wire
12mm Black bead
Piece of eucalyptus-green wool
or Braid 8-10cm
Safety pin

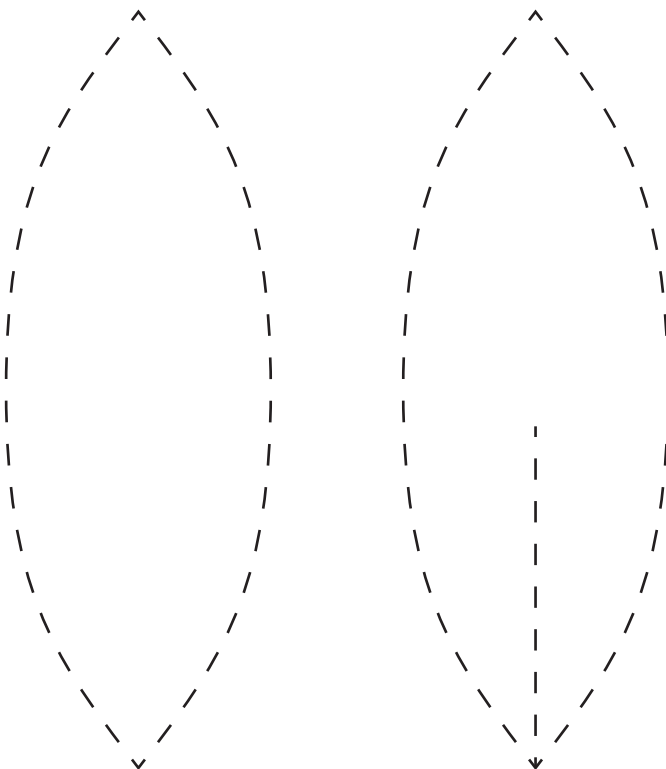
Notes

You should get 12 peas out of the average craft shop felt sheet. If you buy red felt off the roll, 10 metres of felt will make 1000 peas. Polyester felt works much better than the wool variety.

Small gold safety pins are good for pinning onto lighter fabric but the stronger steel ones are better for pinning onto hats and thicker fabrics like jackets.

Template

10x3.5cm (or cut to preferred size)



Instructions

1. Trace the template provided onto the red felt and cut out two petals.
2. Thread the wire through the bead so the bead sits in the middle.
3. Layer the two petals on top of each other.
4. Put the threaded bead in the centre of the petal and place the green braid behind the petals.
5. Pull the ends of the wires tightly together behind the petals, grip and wind the bead 3-4 times.
6. Trim the ends of the wire and push down into the felt.
7. Cut the bottom of the top petal up to the bead/centre.
8. Attach the safety pin to the back.

HINT: How to get a tight twist

Holding the bead, pull both wires taut between thumb and forefinger so that the felt puckers in tightly and you have strong tension.

Holding this tension and maintaining your grip on both wires and the bead, wind the bead as if you were winding a clock about three times, enclosing the green braid at the back to make a tight corkscrew with the wire.

Twisting the bead rather than the wires achieves a nice tight lock down at the centre of the pea.

If you want to put the pea on a wreath or display you can leave the wire uncut to use as an attachment.

