

Advent



Wreath

In a traditional advent wreath the candles are lit in increasing order with the 1st to be lit the 1st Sunday of Advent. On the second Sunday the 1st candle is relit and a 2nd candle is lit and so on until the Sunday before Christmas. Some advent wreaths include a 5th candle and this wreath can be adapted to include this. For a more symbolic Christian advent wreath the candles can be painted: Three purple candles for the coming of the King and signifying Hope, Love and Peace, one rose candle to signify Joy and a white central candle to be lit on Christmas Day for Christ.



Requirements for basic wreath: Pipe cleaner/chenille stick,
2 cotton buds – the type with hollow plastic stems,
yellow cellophane (and optional red glass paint)
red ribbon.

Step 1: Bending the end a little less than ½ inch at right angles to the rest of the chenille stick, wind the chenille stick 1 ¼ times loosely around your thumb. Bend stick again at right angles and trim to same length as other bend end, hooking the stick into a circle as shown. (green)

Step 2: Bend again as before, curve approx. ¼ way around the circle and bend and trim as in step 1. (pink)

Step 3: Wind the remainder of the chenille stick around the circle to add fullness and secure. If you want to add a 5th candle, after winding, bend into centre and bend at right angles. Trim if necessary to match other ends. (blue) By now you will probably have used all your chenille stick.



Step 4: Trim 4 (or 5) ½ to ¾ lengths of cotton bud stem (don't throw tips away- they can be used for another project) and slide over the sticking up ends of the stick to make candles. Trim to a length you find pleasing.

Step 5: Cut yellow cellophane into a ½ inch square for each candle, fold into thirds on the angle (nappy style) and holding the top wide section between thumb and forefinger, twist the remainder tightly to fit into the top of the cotton bud candle. Add a drop of red glass paint if desired. If you are having trouble fitting the flame in, twist more tightly and trim chenille sticks if necessary

Step 6: Wrap your ribbon around the wreath and tie a bow. Embellish as desired.

Christine ~ Christmas 2011