TWIG TREE DECORATION

How better to celebrate our beloved trees than to make one as a decoration.

■ STEP-BY-STEP DIRECTIONS

1. Decide roughly what size of tree you want to make and snip the twigs to the size you want, keeping in mind you may want the side twigs to be longer than the bottom twig. You may also wish a short twig for the trunk at the bottom.

2. Place the twigs where you like and then attach with a glue gun. Put a small dollop on the end of one twig and then attach.

3. Tie some jute twine or yarn to one end and start wrapping around the tree. Hold as firmly as needed to keep the yarn taut but not so hard that it breaks the twig frame. You can be methodical and even for a very tidy look or go at all angles for a more artsy look.

4. When you are satisfied with how it looks, cut the yarn and use the glue gun to attach the end to back where it won't be noticed. Alternatively, you can tie it if you feel you can keep the tension nice and taut.

5. (Optional) You can go a step further and decorate this tree by gluing coloured buttons, mini pom poms, tiny golden stars or anything else that appeals to you!

6. If you wish to hang the decoration, cut a piece of twine or yarn, fold in half and glue gun the two ends to the back of the tree, near the top. Stay in the middle to allow the tree to hang evenly

■ TIPS

- These will likely be fragile so if, when done, you pack them away for another year, wrap in some tissue paper and place gently in the box.
- You can use different coloured yarn to mix it up as well as make a star shape instead.
- You could make a garland with differently coloured trees by tying multiple trees to a string and hang from a window frame, mantel or on a wall.

■ LEARN MORE

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■ MATERIALS LIST

- Twigs, preferably found on the ground
- Pruners (to snip the twigs to the correct size)
- Natural twine (like jute, cotton or hemp) or natural yarn (like cotton or wool)
- Glue gun, glue stick
- Decorative bits like colourful buttons or mini pom poms (optional)

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