

Online project: Nature Cone Wreath

Designed by Rebekah Meier for The Dow Chemical Company

Welcome spring with this sweet little nest that is perfect to greet your guests near an entryway.

Materials

- The Dow Chemical Company
STYROFOAM Brand Foam
2" Egg
1" Balls, five
1½" Ball
Grapevine Cone
 - Creative Paperclay Co. Paperclay, one package
 - DecoArt
Americana Acrylics in Raw Umber and Light Buttermilk
Staining/Antiquing Medium
DuraClear Satin Varnish
 - Plaid FolkArt Acrylic in Yellow Ochre
 - Delta Ceramcoat in Light Victorian Teal
 - Paintbrushes (flat and stiff), floral excelsior (green and brown), grey moss, small tree twigs, dried flowers, fine-grit sandpaper, paper towels, hot glue gun and glue, white craft glue, toothpicks, white spray paint*
- *Optional

Instructions

1. Apply a thin, even layer of Creative Paperclay onto each 1" Ball. Apply extra amounts of Paperclay at one end. Shape the covered Ball into an egg shape. Let Egg air-dry.
2. Sand eggs with fine sandpaper until smooth.
3. Using a flat paintbrush, apply a thin coat of Light Victorian Teal.
4. Dip stiff brush into Raw Umber. Aim and pull brush towards Egg, creating specks of color. If needed, tap Egg with more Burnt Umber, creating splotches of color. While still wet, pat Egg with paper towel—this will give the egg an antiqued appearance.
5. When dry, apply Satin Varnish to Eggs.
6. Place 1½" Ball onto the pointed end of 2" Egg on an angle. Secure in place with toothpicks and glue. Cover Egg and Ball with a thin, even layer of Paperclay. Apply more Paperclay to the round end of Egg, creating a tail shape. Divide a quarter-size amount of Paperclay into two even amounts. Shape each into an oval wing shape and attach one to each side of the Egg. Blend and smooth wings into the Paperclay bird. Let dry completely and sand with fine-grit sandpaper.
7. Paint bird with Light Buttermilk and speckle with Raw Umber as done with eggs in step 4. Create dots for eyes using the end of paintbrush. Highlight each



eye with a small dot of Light Buttermilk. Mix 1 part Yellow Ochre with 3 parts Staining/Antiquing medium. Sparingly apply stain mixture onto bird and wipe off immediately with paper towel. Repeat if necessary until desired effect is achieved.

8. Fill grapevine cone with grey moss and green excelsior.
9. Create a nest with extra brown excelsior and place in the center of the grapevine cone. Arrange painted eggs around the nest and secure with a small amount of hot glue.
10. Arrange twigs and dried flowers around the eggs and nest. Hot glue finished bird into the center of the nest.
11. Optional: To give the grapevine cone a white-washed appearance, spray sparingly with white spray paint (creating small mists of color) before filling cone. ✨

Sources of Supply:

Creative Paperclay Co.
(805) 484-6648
www.paperclay.com

DecoArt
(800) 367-3047
www.decoart.com

Delta Creative
(800) 423-4135
www.deltacreative.com

The Dow Chemical Company
(888) GO-CRAFT
www.styrofoam-crafts.com

Plaid Enterprises
(800) 842-4197
www.plaidonline.com