
ADVENT WREATH

If you do not have one, you can buy an advent wreath in a craft store or online. But for real fun follow these directions to make your own.

Supplies

one large white candle
three purple dripless 10" taper candles
one pink (rose) dripless 10" taper candle
florist wire
greens (artificial floral or holly and fresh pine clippings from your Christmas tree)
scissors
8-10" ring (wood, styrofoam)
glue gun

Directions

If you are using a wooden base, drill holes about one inch in from the edge of the circle at 12, 3, 6, and 9 o'clock. These holes should be slightly narrower than the width of the candles. If you use the styrofoam ring, you can simply force the candles into the ring after decorating. If you are using a wooden ring, hot glue the artificial greens around the base (you could also add a few odd sprigs cut off the Christmas tree later, for the scent). If you are using styrofoam, group a handful of faux or real greens and tie down with florist wire. Repeat around the ring in the same direction, overlapping the wire from the previous bunch each time you apply greens. As you get to the "end" of the wreath, you may need to pull up your first bunch and tuck the final bunch under it for a seamless look. Place the wreath flat on the table where you'd like it displayed. Force the four candles into the center of the base at each "corner."

The Advent wreath is now ready to use. You might add other elements to the wreath for decoration—angel ornaments, a popcorn chain, bells, or even gift tags on each candle with the candle's "name."