

# MERRY & BRIGHT

Jazz up your festive décor with Hayley Victory's  
ultimate Christmas wreath





## HOW TO MAKE A FELT CHRISTMAS WREATH

### MATERIALS

- MDF wreath base with hanging hole, 15cm (6") diameter
- Wool felt, 1mm (1/16") thick in red, magenta, bright pink, aqua, violet, lime green and orange (we got ours from [www.woolfeltcompany.co.uk](http://www.woolfeltcompany.co.uk))
- Gold glitter felt, 1mm (1/16")
- Orange pom pom trim
- DK yarn in neon pink, violet, red and light blue
- Gold metallic yarn (we used Anchor Artiste Metallic Crochet Thread in Gold 300)
- Embroidery thread in red, pink, green, orange, violet, light blue and gold
- Embroidery needle
- Glue gun
- Extra small pom pom maker
- Fabric glue
- Soft toy stuffing
- Gold ribbon
- Card, 11cm (4 3/8") long
- Black marker pen

### After the craziness of 2020, the thought of crafting for Christmas is bringing us even more joy

than usual. From ornaments and stockings to wall hangings and advent calendars, get ready to embrace it all over the next few issues of *Mollie*, starting with this absolute cracker of a wreath.

Colourful, cheery, sparkly and tactile, it's everything we love in a festive make, complete with pom poms and tassels – 'tis the season, after all. If you can, use 100% wool felt as it's much more durable, meaning you can hang up your version for years to come.

Zingy shades not your vibe? Switch it up for more traditional reds and greens, or experiment with a selection of pastel shades, Christmas kitsch-style.

01 Place the hoop base on a sheet of magenta felt and draw around it,

making sure to mark the hanging hole. If you can't get hold of an **MDF base**, you could always use a circle of cardboard instead. Cut out the hoop shape from the felt, then put it to one side.

02 Download the templates, then use the large leaf template to cut out the following: six magenta leaves, six red leaves, four violet leaves, four green leaves, four aqua blue leaves and two **orange leaves**. Next, use the small leaf template to cut two magenta leaves, two bright pink leaves, four red leaves, four violet leaves, two aqua blue leaves, six orange leaves and six green leaves. Arrange each of the leaf shapes into matching pairs of the same colour.

03 Using templates A and B, cut two template A shapes and three template B shapes from the **gold felt**. Cut out the following using template C: one bright pink



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shape, two gold shapes, two violet shapes and two magenta shapes.

**04** Glue a template A shape onto a large magenta leaf and a large green leaf, then glue a template B shape onto a large orange leaf, a large red leaf and a large violet leaf. Glue one **template C** shape each onto two small orange leaves, two small green leaves, a small magenta leaf, a large red leaf and a large green leaf, referring to the image as a guide to the colourways. Leave to dry.

**05** Next, sew the backs onto the leaves from Step 4. Using blanket stitch and **one strand** of matching embroidery thread, sew around the edges of the first leaf pair, stopping three-quarters of the way along.

**06** Fill the shape with a small amount of stuffing, then continue sewing to close the gap with **blanket stitch**. Repeat to sew and stuff each of these leaf pairs.

**07** Cut out the following using the diamond template: 14 gold diamonds, one orange diamond, five bright pink diamonds, two violet diamonds and one green diamond. Glue three diamonds each onto two large magenta leaves, two large aqua blue leaves, one large violet leaf and one large red leaf, referring to the image for the **correct colourways** and positioning. Glue two violet diamonds onto one small aqua blue leaf, two gold diamonds onto one small violet leaf and two bright pink diamonds onto one small red leaf as shown, then leave to dry.

**08** On the small leaves with two diamonds, add **straight stitches** using gold embroidery thread, as shown. The backs can then be sewn onto all the remaining leaves as per Steps 5-6, stuffing each one before stitching the gap closed.

**09** Wrap the pink yarn around the length of the card forty times. Next, wrap the **gold yarn** around the pink yarn four times. Cut a 20cm (7 $\frac{7}{8}$ ") length of pink yarn, thread it under the yarn bundle, then knot it at the top of the card to secure it. Bring the ends down into the yarn bundle, then cut the yarn at the bottom of the card.

**10** Wrap a length of gold yarn **around the top** of the tassel, roughly 2.5cm (1") down from the top, and knot the ends. Trim the bottom of the tassel to neaten it.

**11** Position the felt wreath base from Step 1 with the hole at the top. **Sew the tassel** onto the bottom centre of the felt base using matching thread.

**12** Cut three short lengths of pom pom trim and sew it to the base using matching thread, following the image as a guide to placement. Make sure the pom poms hang



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over the edge of the felt – the ribbon will be covered with leaves so only the pom poms will show.

**13** Using the pom pom maker, make two pom poms in pink yarn and one each in violet, red and light blue yarn. To make the pom poms, wrap yarn around one half of the pom pom maker first, then the second, really filling both sides – the yarn should create an oval shape. Close the two halves and cut all around the middle groove of the **pom pom maker** using a small, sharp pair of scissors. Tie a length of matching yarn around the groove of the pom pom maker, double knot it, then open both halves. Remove the pom pom and trim to neaten, taking time to cut it into an even sphere shape.

**14** Starting at the bottom of the felt wreath base and working up **towards the top**, begin placing the leaves around the whole

shape, using the main image as a guide. Once you're happy with the placement of each element, take a picture to refer back to.

**15** Sew each leaf in place from the back of the felt wreath base, **tweaking the placement** as you go so the design matches the picture taken in Step 14.

**16** Position on the pom poms, spacing them **around the wreath** and using them to fill in any gaps, then sew in place.

**17** Position the felt wreath base onto the MDF base, aligning the edges. Use the glue gun to **carefully stick down** sections of the felt base at a time with small amounts of glue, then leave to dry.

**18** Once the felt is firmly affixed to the base, thread a length of gold ribbon **through the hole** at the top and knot the ends. The ribbon can then be used to hang up the finished wreath.

## MEET THE MAKER HAYLEY VICTORY



Hayley is a contemporary textile artist and craft advocate from the West Midlands. She mainly works with felt and yarns, creating colourful floral wreaths and hanging decorations to brighten up people's homes. Visit her website to shop her makes, and follow her on Insta @hayleyvictory. [www.hayleyvictory.co.uk](http://www.hayleyvictory.co.uk)

