

Paper Plate and Leaf Wreath

All it takes is a pretty printed paper plate, some autumn leaves, and a few dollar store supplies to make this cheerful Fall wreath. The simple instructions make this craft child-friendly; make it a class project by taking a walk to gather leaves before you begin!



For each wreath you will need:

paper plate with a printed design
clean Fall leaves in lots of colors, *stems removed*
tissue paper, *one sheet per wreath*
small length of yarn, *for hanger*

newspaper, paper punch, tacky-type craft glue, baby wipes, *for clean-up*

Cover work surface with newspaper. Using paper punch, punch a hole in the top of the paper plate, about 1/2-inch down, so that the plate will hang straight.

Rip the tissue paper into strips about 3-inches wide. Using tacky-type craft glue, spread a line of glue about one quarter the way around the outside edge of the paper plate. Ruffle the tissue paper strips so that they form a band about 1 to 1 1/2-inch wide and press it onto the glue. You may need to keep pressing it down so that it adheres well. Allow to dry a bit before moving on to the next quarter of the plate. Repeat until there is a ring of tissue paper around the outside of the plate; allow to dry.

Once the tissue paper is thoroughly dry, begin gluing the leaves in place. Squeeze a small amount of tacky-type glue on to the newspaper (or a scrap sheet of paper) and dip the bottom of the leaves (stem end) in the glue. Stick the glued part of the leaf into the tissue paper band. The ridges and folds of the tissue paper should provide lots of places for slipping the glued leaves in. Continue adding and gluing leaves around wreath until there are enough leaves to hide the tissue paper. Make sure to have some leaves standing up, while others lay flat. Allow leaves to dry occasionally, adding more leaves, if necessary, until desired fullness is achieved--the more leaves the better.

Cut a small length of string and slip it through the punched hole, knotting the ends, for a hanger. Allow wreath to dry overnight before hanging.