



Winter Spells

Adorn cards with seasonal foliage made from paper

Christmas wreaths of all shapes and sizes decorate our homes inside and out during the festive season, with an interesting history and symbolism associated with them. The evergreen leaves and branches used in the wreaths represent strength and endurance as the evergreen plants survive even the harshest winters. Here Elizabeth Moad uses traditional paper quilling to represent the delicate wreaths on her cards. Using a limited colour palette of red and green on white, the quilling has a classic feel with a bright updated look.

LET'S DO IT! QUILLING

We used...

- * Paper: 3mm and 2mm wide reds, greens, yellow
- * Card: white, red
- * Quilling tool
- * Needle tool
- * Quilling board (optional)
- * Circle dies (optional)



Noel Wreath

1 Each petal of the flowers consists of three coiled shapes. Start by taking a 20cm length of red 2mm wide paper and, using a quilling tool, make a loose closed coil. Pinch lightly into an eye shape. Make two more coils using 20cm lengths and pinch each into a crescent shape. Glue these three shapes together with the two crescents either side of the eye shape.

2 Take a length of 2mm wide red paper and wrap it all the way around the edge of the shape - glue the end in place. Make four more petals in the same way, each with three coils per petal. Do not worry if the shapes vary slightly, as real petals vary in nature!

3 Die-cut a white circle and mount onto a card blank. With the quilling tool make a tight coil from a 3cm length of yellow paper. Glue the five petals around the tight coil, bottom right of the circle of card. For the central stamen, cut a 2cm length of 1mm wide yellow and coil each end. Glue to the yellow tight coil. Make four more and glue.

4 Make one more flower from red paper using 15cm lengths of red, 2mm wide paper for each coil. You may wish to use a quilling

board to maintain equal coil sizes. Assemble three pinched coils per petal as before and wrap the edge with paper. Glue the flower to the circle top left.

5 Using the quilling tool and a 10cm length of green 3mm wide paper make a very loose closed coil. Pinch this flat and make six more. Glue to the card, with a central stalk, below the smaller flower. Add three more branches around the circle with six to eight leaves per branch.

6 Coil a loose closed coil from a 20cm length of darker green 3mm wide paper. Push in the centre of the coil up, while at the same time pinching the ends round to make a horseshoe shape. Glue a strip of green paper to the outer edge, hold the coil tightly and wrap around the outer edge three times and glue the

paper end. Tear off any excess paper.

7 For the wreath, make 14 tight horseshoe shapes and arrange in groups of three and four, each with a central stem. Add berries made from 20cm lengths of red 2mm wide paper worked into tight coils. Take a 10cm length of red 2mm wide paper, coil tightly using eight turns, then glue the paper to itself. Carefully, remove the tool so that you are left with a tight coil and a 'tail'. Make two more coils and glue together, then attach to the wreath. Repeat in red and green.

8 The quilled lettering spells 'Noel', here however you can create any greeting you wish. Use a needle tool to coil 2mm wide strips of paper for each letter. The needle tool avoids the 'kink' in the centre of the coil. Finally, add more leaves and coils to the wreath as shown.



ELIZABETH'S TOP TIPS

* For these projects 2mm and 3mm wide papers are used, however you may wish to use just a single width of paper.

* By mounting a die-cut circle to the card it creates an outline to follow and ensures the wreath is a round shape.


* The quilling techniques used to make the pretty flowers are worth the time commitment as the results are fantastic.



Send it!

For this card, three red flowers were made as per instructions before. The wreath is completed with fewer leaves and fronds for a lighter feel. The quilled lettering spells 'Joy' for a simple style.

Gift It!

Sending love at Christmas to a special friend or family member needs a quilled card! Groups of fronds create the circular wreath with just one flower to adorn it. A simple heart is central with the quilled lettering below the design. 



SHAPE MAKER

This handy tool will help you create intricate shapes with ease. Quilling board, £6.99, amazon.co.uk

PAPER TRAIL

Experiment with a selection of variegated colours. Paper strips from £1.75, jjquilling.co.uk

