

10 Summer Craft Ideas

and Garden Crafts

for Summer

AllFreeHolidayCrafts

Creations and Celebrations for Every Occasion



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

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Letter from the Editors

Hi Holiday Crafters,

The summer season is one of my very favorite times of year. The warm sun is shining, and everyone is eager to spend all of their time outdoors. The favorable weather also means that there will be time for gardening mornings, beach days, and candlelit evenings outside. All of the crafts included in this summer collection will make sure that these three wonderful summer pastimes will be yours in a flash. These summer crafts will help you get your garden gear ready, stitch together a few beach bags and create some low-cost outdoor lighting solutions. Spend your summer enjoying all the possibilities that the sunshine season has to offer. I know I'll be spending as much time as I can outside with my little niece, and that she'll get plenty of use out of the beachy ideas you'll find when you read on.

The Editors of AllFreeHolidayCrafts

You can find more summer craft ideas, garden crafts, crafts for the beach and other holiday craft ideas at www.AllFreeHolidayCrafts.com.

Our eBooks, like all of our craft projects, are absolutely FREE to members of our crafting community. Please feel free to share with family and friends and ask them to sign up at our website for our [free e-mail newsletter](#).

10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer
Table of Contents

Aztec Gold and Blue Planter	4	Mesh Bag Tutorial.....	26
Floral Garden Stake.....	7	Striped Beach Towel Basket	34
Floral Gazebo Birdhouse	15	Wine Bottle Address Lanterns	36
Herb Garden Sign Tutorial	17	Paper Bag Lanterns.....	41
Beach Combing Bags.....	20	Water Bottle Summer Lights	47

Aztec Gold and Blue Planter

By: [Aki Altuna from Minted Strawberry](#)

Tribal patterns are all the rage right now, and with summer well on its way, this planter couldn't be any better. The Aztec Gold and Blue Planter is a cute a trendy way to grow your favorite summer plants. By picking up a cheap vase from the dollar store, using your favorite paints and a tribal pattern, you can create your own planter for summer.

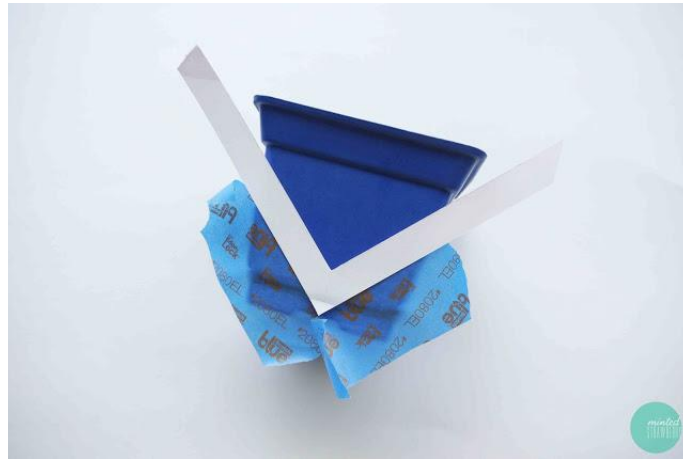


Materials:

- Cheap flower pot
- Cardboard
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Masking tape or painter's tape
- Exacto knife
- Spray paint
- Paint markers

Instructions:

1) Fold the paper in two, and then make two slanted parallel lines with your ruler set at a 45 degree angle.



2) Cut out the paper, and use it as a guideline while you apply your tape.



3) Continue taping until you've covered all four sides of the planter with your "V" shape.

4) Tape the edges and other spaces you want to be covered. Cut out excess tape with an exacto knife.

5) Using the gold spray paint, paint your lines on.



6) Add tribal details to your pot with a black paint marker.



7) Finish decorating each side and place your plant inside to finish

Floral Garden Stake

By [Gloria Uhler from The Domestic Diva](#)

It's that time of year again, the sun is shining and our plants are thirsting for attention. Have some fun with your garden this year and create a piece of decor specifically for your flower bed. This summer craft will show you how to make a Floral Garden Stake that you can keep for the seasons to come. You'll not only have fun making this pretty summer decoration, but also be able to enjoy it every day you're outside.

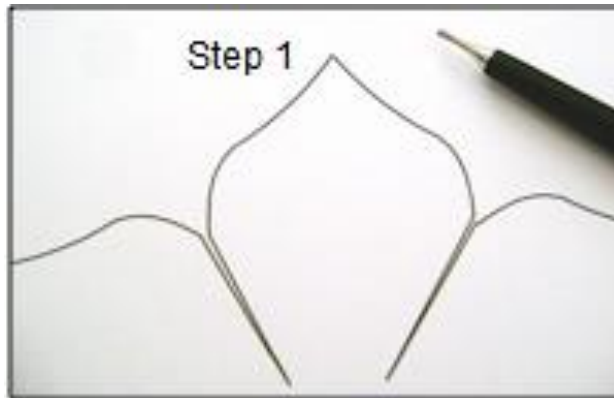


Materials:

- Peach, orange, blue, brown, white, green, purple, black, and gold paints
- Fiskars fancy edge scissors
- Regular scissors
- 36" wood dowel
- Glitter green pipe cleaners
- Hot glue gun
- Rhinestones
- Floral wire
- Cardstock
- Embossing tool
- 2 20"X13" foil baking pan covers

Instructions:

1) Trace out templates of flowers, leaves and a butterfly.



2) Arrange templates over foil pans and trace the images with an embossing tool to leave impressions.



3) Cut out the flower shapes with fancy paper edger scissors. Use the embossing tool to engrave lines across each petal and to engrave 1/4" from the outer edges.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

4) Trace the leaf template onto the foil and cut out with straight scissors. Cut two of each size. Engrave veins and stem lines on each leaf



5) Trace and cut out the butterfly. Fiskars "Majestic" scissors were used to give special shaping to the bottom wings.



5) Cut two pieces of foil to measure 1" x 3". Set one aside. On the other piece, cut slits 3/4 of the way into the foil.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

7) Spray both sides of the cut piece with orange paint. Spray the other foil piece with white paint on one side. The white foil will act as a connector for the finished flower in step 11.



8) When the paint is dry, smooth the orange piece around a pen to curl the individual strips.



9) Holding the solid edge, roll the curled piece in a circle and set aside. Airbrush the wood dowel white and set aside.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

10) Airbrush all sides of the flower pieces with peach paint. Allow them to dry and accent the edges and engraved areas with brown paint. Dust with Orange paint for a bit more color and finish them off with a clear lacquer.



11) Bond the small flower onto the larger one with a generous glob of hot glue applied at the center marks. Position the smaller petals between the larger ones, rather than directly on top.



12) Glue a rhinestone to the center of the flower. Apply glue to the edge of the curled foil and arrange it around the rhinestone.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

13) With the unpainted side against the wood, press the white foil piece on the dowel to shape. Remove the curved piece and hot glue the painted side to the back of the flower. Wrap two floral wires around the dowel to shape them into spirals and slide them off to loosen them. Hot glue in place.



14) Airbrush the butterfly with blue paint. Dry, and lightly airbrush purple paint diagonally across wings.

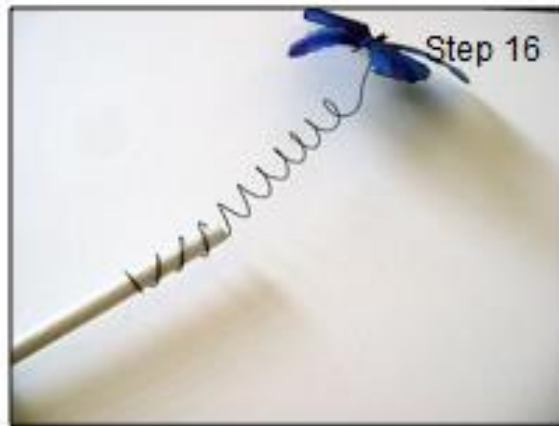


15) Use enamel paint markers to outline the wings in black and draw dots and lines across the wings in gold. Spray with clear lacquer to finish.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

16) Create another spiral with floral wire. Hot glue one end to the center of the butterfly. Wrap the other end onto the top of the dowel and glue in place.



17) Airbrush both sides of all leaves with green paint. When dry, outline the edges and veins with a darker shade and spray with clear lacquer.



18) Join four pipe cleaners by twisting their ends together. Wrap the long pipe cleaner around a container to curl it. Run your hands around it to shape it. Slide the pipe cleaner off the container and stretch it slightly.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

20) Glue the dowel onto the flower with the butterfly wire at least an inch above the foil. Wrap the foil ends over each other and glue in place. Glue one end of the pipe cleaner against the side of the white foil piece.



21) Run the dowel through the center of the pipe cleaner spiral. Glue the end of the pipe cleaner about 4" from the bottom of the dowel. Wrap two leaf stems onto pipe cleaner on lower and upper ends.



22) Hot glue the last two leaves to the dowel behind the flower and finish by shaping all the spiral wire and the foil pieces to give them life.



Floral Gazebo Birdhouse

By [Chris Myer Williams for Plaid Enterprises](#)

We would have to assume that this gorgeous summer craft was designed with bird lovers in mind. Go ahead and create your own Floral Gazebo Birdhouse to dress your yard up with, it's such a soaring idea! This is the perfect craft to work on while the sun is bright and warm. Spend some time crafting outside this summer while you create the perfect piece of outdoor summer decor for your yard.



Materials:

- Plaid Wood Surfaces - Birdhouse, Gazebo
- FolkArt Outdoor Acrylic Colors - Brush On - Wicker White, 2 oz.
- FolkArt Outdoor Acrylic Colors - Brush On - Pure Orange, 2 oz.
- FolkArt Outdoor Acrylic Colors - Brush On - Cobalt, 2 oz.
- FolkArt Outdoor Acrylic Colors - Brush On - Licorice, 2 oz.
- FolkArt Outdoor Acrylic Colors - Brush On - Lemon Custard, 2 oz.
- FolkArt Outdoor Acrylic Colors - Brush On - Lime Green, 2 oz.
- Plaid Stencils - Value Packs - Letter Stencils - 3" Floral Icons

10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

Instructions:

- 1) Basecoat the body of the birdhouse Wicker White. Allow to dry.
- 2) Sand smooth using fine grit sandpaper and reapply Wicker White. Allow to dry.
- 3) Basecoat the roof using a slip slap application of paint in Wicker White plus Cobalt. Allow the roof to look mottled or softly blended.
- 4) Lightly sponge Lime Green at the base of the birdhouse creating the look of green grass. Paint the base Lime Green too.
- 5) Select six different floral stencils and stencil the each side a different flower and color combination.
- 6) If desired, add the bird stencil towards the front of the birdhouse.
- 7) Stencil the Lemon Custard sun and Wicker White cloud on the roof.
- 8) When all stenciling is dry, accent each flower, leave, sun and cloud with Licorice paint using a liner brush. Add dots and dashes to embellish.
- 9) Paint Licorice feet and a Licorice checkerboard along the base of the birdhouse. Allow to dry.

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Herb Garden Sign Tutorial

By: [Amanda Formaro from Crafts by Amanda](#)

During the summer months, some of our favorite things to craft are pieces of outdoor decor. Use your creativity to fancy up your backyard and add some flavor to your front yard. This Herb Garden Sign is a great place to start. Make your own summer craft for the garden to make your herbs and flowers an even more impressive display. This garden craft will give you a lovely handmade sign that you can use year after year to fancy up your favorite place outdoors, the garden.



Materials:

- 3 jumbo craft sticks
- 12" wooden dowel
- Scissors
- Sandpaper
- Mod Podge Hard Coat
- E6000 glue
- Toothpick
- Sharpies (gray, brown, black)
- Paintbrush
- Americana craft paint in espresso, foliage green, celery green, avocado dip, warm white, lavender, pineapple, and mint julep green

10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

Instructions:

1) Take three jumbo craft sticks, cut the ends to make the arrows, and paint them.



2) Paint one dowel and allow to dry.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

3) Use Sharpie markers to write out the words.



4) Draw a few lines for stems, and dot on some flowers using a toothpick for decoration. Allow to dry.

5) Gently sand each craft stick and the dowel to texturize.

6) Finish with a layer of Mod Podge, allow to dry, and you're done!



Beach Combing Bags

By [Deborah Schlegel from Art Threads](#)

There's nothing better than strolling up and down the beach during a warm summer day searching for tossed-aside-treasures until sunset. Make your own set of Beach Combing Bags to help you enjoy days like this even more. With this simple summer craft, you'll be ready to head out with your significant other in search of sea treasures in no time at all. Prepare for a few romantic days at the beach and make a few of these summer beach bags for you and your sweetheart.



Materials:

- Size 10 cotton crochet thread
- US size 5 steel hook

Instructions:

1) Loosely chain 82. Single crochet in the 9th chain from the hook. Chain 4, skip 4, single crochet in the next stitch. Repeat until you reach the end of the beginning chain.



2). Chain 4 and single crochet in next chain 4 space. Continue to the end - do this twice in the end chain 4 space.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

3) From here on, you'll be working in the round - when you come to the end, you'll just keep on crocheting up the other side instead of turning. At first it won't look like it's working, but keep going and you'll see the bag shape start to appear.



4) Keep working the same chain 4/sc in next chain 4 space around until your bag measures about 9 inches. Stop at one of the bag's sides, chain 1, single crochet in the next single crochet space and put 3 single crochets in the next chain 4 space. Repeat all the way around and connect to the first chain in the row with a slip stitch. Repeat for 5 rows.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

5) Slip stitch in the next two stitches.



6) To start forming the handle, chain 85. Being careful not to twist the chain, connect to the other side with a slip stitch in the second stitch to the left of the side fold crease.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

7) Single crochet in the next stitch, turn and single crochet back across the chain.



8) When you reach the other side, single crochet in the next stitch on the bag.

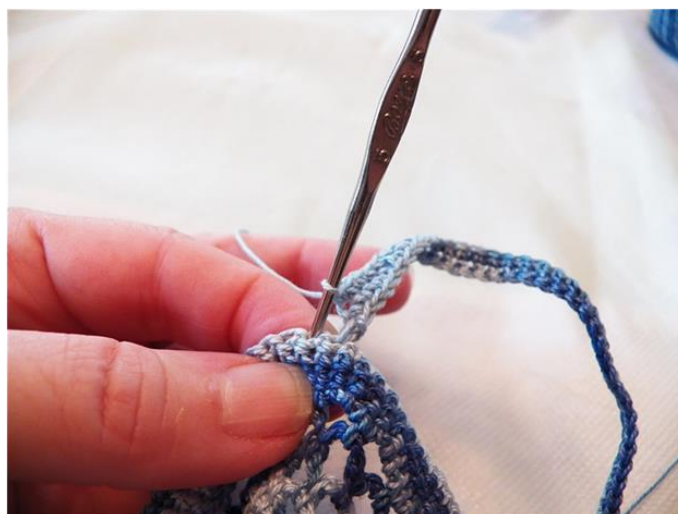


10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

9) In order to keep the handle from twisting, you'll be making your next stitch back across the handle. Hold the bag and put a single crochet in the first stitch to the left of the handle.



10) Single crochet in the next stitch, turn and single crochet across the handle. Single crochet in the next stitch on the bag.



11) Single crochet in the next stitch on the bag, turn, and single crochet across. Single crochet in the next stitch on the bag, single crochet in the following stitch on the bag, turn and single crochet across. Keep doing this until you have five rows of single crochet on your bag.

12) Fasten off and head out to the beach!

Mesh Bag Tutorial

By: [Kristie from OCD](#)

Gear up for summer with this Mesh Beach Bag Tutorial! Learn how to make your own tote bag that is perfect for a day at the beach. This homemade tote bag is big enough to hold several towels and a bunch of magazines... everything you need for a nice afternoon of laying out in the sun!



Materials:

- 1 piece of mesh or canvas measuring 20" X 27" long
- 1 fat quarter of cotton quilting weight fabric for the trim
- A small amount of coordinating fabric for the handles about 28"X 6
- Narrow strips of quilt batting 26" X 2"
- Coordinating thread

10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

Instructions:

1) From your fat quarter, cut a piece 20" by 9" and 2 pieces 20" by 4.5."



2) For the handles cut 2 pieces 28" by 3" from the fabric and 2 pieces 26" by 1" of batting.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

3) Take all fabric pieces and press ends over 1/4" along long sides only.



4) Take the larger piece and gently press it in half with the wrong sides facing each other. This will mark the center.

5) Take the two handle pieces and press them in half the same way. Take the other 2 trim pieces and press 1" over with the wrong sides facing.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

6) Fold the mesh in half. Center the large piece of fabric over the fold with the wrong side to the mesh so that it extends equally on either side.



7) Pin the material down, tucking under the 1/4 seam that was just pressed.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

8) Sew along the length of the material close to edge.



9) Take the trim piece and line it up to the fold on the top edge of the mesh.

10) Pin the short side to the mesh on the back side, pulling the remainder out of the way. Sew it to the mesh.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

10) Next, fold over the longer half, pin and sew. Repeat with the other trim piece on the remaining raw edge of the mesh.



11) Take the handle fabric and insert batting, tucking under folded seam.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

12) Line up the edges and sew shut.



13) To attach the handle, measure 6" in from side edge of mesh and fold the raw end of the handle.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

14) Sew in place using a cross box as shown.



15) Trim excess fabric from the sides to make everything straight, and sew from top to bottom along each side.



16) Reinforce with a zigzag stitch. Sew down with a straight stitch and you're done!

Striped Beach Towel Basket

By: [Sherrie Ragsdale for Plaid Enterprises](#)

During the summer beach trips all too often leave us with piles of messy towels to clean. Organize your beach towels in this Striped Beach Towel Basket this summer to help clear away some of that sandy mess. Using your favorite summer colors, paint this basket to your liking and get ready to own a wonderful organizational tool. This beach craft will help you carry your wet towels home and eliminate that soggy car seat summer trend. It's also great for storing and carrying your clean beach towels down to the beach!



Materials:

- FolkArt Acrylic Colors - Sunny Yellow, 2 oz.
- FolkArt Acrylic Colors - Calypso Sky, 2 oz.
- FolkArt Artists Pigments - Pure Orange, 2 oz.
- Canvas basket
- Fine black permanent ink marker
- 3/4" Masking tape
- Stencil brush
- White cardstock

Instructions:

- 1) Tape off 2" from the bottom of the basket.
- 2) Using the stencil brush, paint the bottom Sunny Yellow.
- 3) Tape off the stripes and paint them Calypso Sky.
- 4) Paint the frame around the label and the handles Pure Orange.
- 5) Cut out a cardstock rectangle to fit inside the label holder and add Calypso Sky, Sunny Yellow and Pure Orange dots using the end of the paint brush.
- 6) Write "BEACH TOWELS" with permanent marker and insert into label.

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CREATE AND CELEBRATE

Wine Bottle Address Lanterns

By: [Johnnie from Saved by Love Creations](#)

We are in love with these bright and cheerful Wine Bottle Address Lanterns. We love them so much for two reasons, they're perfect for summer and they're so much fun to make! Decorate a few recycled wine bottles with your favorite summer shades, and don't forget to paint your address over each design. When you've finished this craft from wine bottles, you'll have the perfect summer decoration on your hands!



Materials:

- Gloss enamel glitter in yellow, orange and red
- Cosmetic sponges
- 3 Recycled wine bottles
- Sander drill and low grit sand paper
- Black enamel write
- Masking tape
- LED lights
- Flexible adhesive stencil in a design of your choosing

10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

Instructions:

1) Cut each wine bottle and smooth the edges with a sander drill using low grit sand paper.



2) Clean the bottle with warm, soapy water. Dry well and clean the glass with rubbing alcohol.

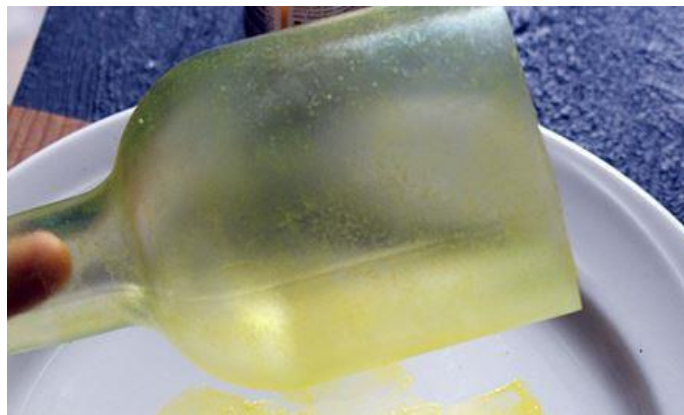


10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

3) Use a cosmetic sponge to apply a thin layer of glitter enamel.



4) Allow your first coat to dry for 30 minutes and apply 2 additional coats.



5) Apply red gloss enamel glitter to the top and neck of each bottle.



6) Mix orange and red to create a gradient effect as you work your way down the bottle.



7) Repeat with 1 or 2 more coats and allow to dry.

8) Tape off the upper section of the bottle and apply white frost enamel for contrast.

9) Cut out your numbers and stencil them on with a black enamel writer while the bottles dry.

10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

10) Allow to dry completely and place the flexible adhesive stencil on each bottle.

11) Use dauber to apply the red gloss enamel glitter to decorate the bottles.



12) Remove the stencil and repeat where desired, rinsing the stencil with soap and water in between steps.

13) Allow to dry for 24 hours and add a copper foil border around the top of each lantern.

14) Light with LED lights, and you're finished!

Paper Bag Lanterns

By: [Lande Anderson from Landee See Landee Do](#)

Set up these darling Paper Bag Lanterns on tables or string them up as colorful summer home decorations. Use paper bags, which can be found in the gift wrapping section, and turn them into little lanterns. Keep them unlit during the day and put a candle or small light inside to glow at night.



Materials:

- Colored paper bags
- Scissors
- Twine or string
- Scoring blade

Instructions:

- 1) Fold the bottom panel of your first bag in half back onto itself.



- 2) Remove the bottom of the bag by cutting along the crease. Trim the top and bottom until they are even.



3) On each side, fold the top layer of the bag back onto itself.



4) Next, reverse all of the inward folds to make them outward folds. Make sure to crease well.



5) Your bag should now look like the picture below:

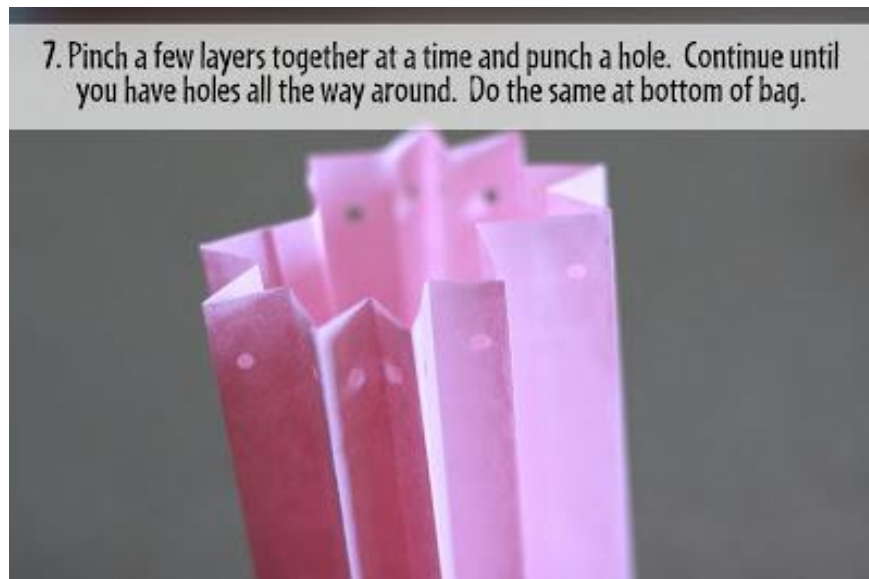


6) Make an inward fold between each outward fold and create additional creases.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

7) Pinch a few layers together at a time and punch a hole in the bag. Continue until you have holes around the entire bag, top and bottom.



8) Using your scoring blade, score your paper bag down to middle on both sides. Fold the bag back and forth along the scored line to create a good crease.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

9) Use your string or twine and thread through the holes on the top and bottom of the bag.

Note: Be sure not to cinch the twine too tight.



10) Once you have reached the end, you are finished!



Water Bottle Summer Lights

By: [Gloria Uhler from The Domestic Diva](#)

Learn how to make recycled crafts that can add to your outdoor home decor with these incredible Water Bottle Summer Lights. It's amazing how easy it is to make crafts from recycled plastic bottles. That's right - those flowers strung on that floral wire are actually water bottles. Add some variety to your crafts by attempting these de-light-ful summer lights. Your next sitting outside will be that much more enchanting having added this floral lighting.



Materials:

- Yellow, orange, red, white purple, gold, and peach paints
- Aztek airbrush
- 22 gauge floral wire
- Gerson 18 LED submersible light string
- 6 1.5L Water Bottleslack cardstock

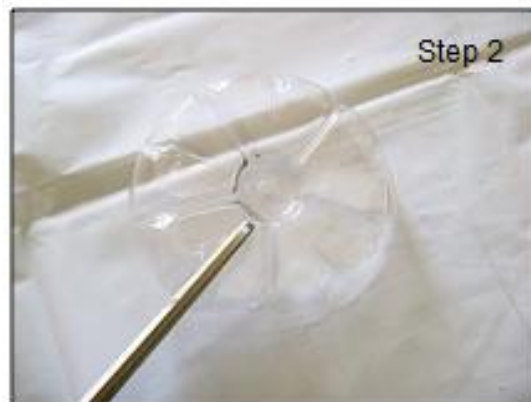
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Instructions:

1) Cut the bottom out of a water bottle in a straight line below the last groove in the plastic.



2) Cut across the grooves to the center circle imprinted in the plastic. Shape the squared edges if you like by curving them into rounded petal shapes.



3) Airbrush the outside of the plastic with yellow paint. Add detail by airbrushing a bit of orange to the edges and center.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

4) Use a heat gun or blow dryer to shape the flowers.

Note: Heating in short bursts close to the plastic will give you more control of the curling.



5) Cut 2" - 3" leaf shapes out of the remaining plastic bottle - two for each flower. Airbrush them with green paint.



6) Apply heat to the leaves to shape them.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

7) Position a flower under the second bulb in the light string. Apply hot glue to the left and right of the center. Press the cords of the light string onto the hot glue. Continue attaching flowers on every third bulb.

Note: Don't apply glue to the very center, as it will block the light.



8) Apply two leaves to each flower back with hot glue.



9) Wind floral wire around a thin round object.



10 Summer Craft Ideas and Garden Crafts for Summer

10) Wrap the light cord through two-thirds of the spiral wire. Curve the remainder of the wire and pull to stretch it out.



11) To get the most light possible, dip a Q-tip into nail polish remover and wipe away a circle of paint from the flower's center.



12) Pick your favorite spot outside and hang them for the season!

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Included in this eBook:

- Garden Crafts
- Beach Crafts
- Summer Lanterns



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Special Thanks:

- [Aki Altuna from Minted Strawberry](#)
- [Amanda Formaro from Crafts by Amanda](#)
- [Gloria Uhler from The Domestic Diva](#)
- [Deborah Schlegel from Art Threads](#)
- [Johnnie from Saved by Love Creations](#)
- [Landee Anderson from Landee See Landee Do](#)
- [Kristie from OCD](#)
- [Chris Myer Williams and Sherrie Ragsdale for Plaid Enterprises](#)