

Clothespin Wreaths for Valentines & St. Patricks

By Heather Heroldt

1/31/13



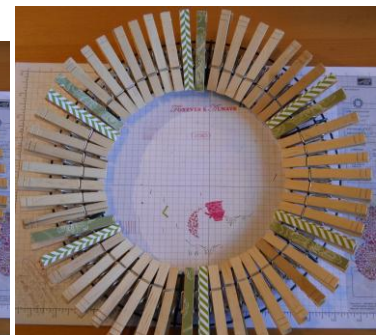
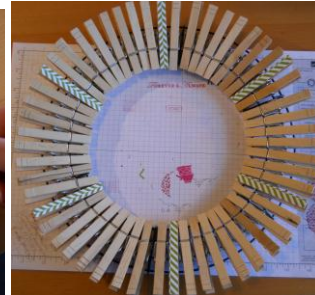
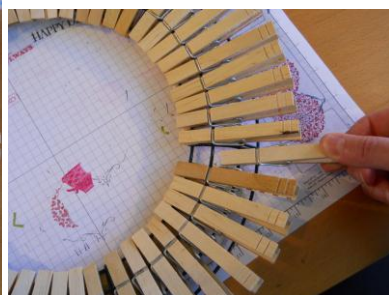
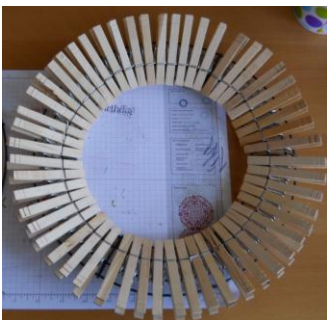
We'll begin by arranging the clothespins on the wreath, and setting up the paper strips ready for adhering. Using a 12" wire wreath base, clip 54 clothespins all the around the wreath, clipping to the inner two rings.

Next, get your paper strips ready: since there are 54 clothespins to cover, we'll be using 9 different patterns, 6 times. What this means is that you should select 6 each of 9 different DSP patterns. As you make your choices, keep each set in a little pile separate from the others, so the patterns don't get mixed up. I have pre-cut strips for you at $3\frac{1}{4}'' \times \frac{1}{2}''$. When assembling the Valentines wreath, keep in mind that you will be using BOTH sides of the strips in assembling your 9 patterns. For the St Pat's wreath, most of the papers offered only have green on one side. For our class, only select papers for one side at a time, either the Valentine's or the St Pat's. After we're done with one side, we'll flip the clips and do the other!

OK, now we're ready to start on the strips. TAKE YOUR TIME, work slowly and methodically, and you'll get done in no time. It takes less glue than you would think, so be sparing! Working carefully will result in no gluey fingers!

With your wreath in front of you, arrange your first set of 6 strips side by side, upside down. Run a strip of glue down the center lengthwise on all 6 strips. Adhere the first strip to a clip, then count over and adhere the rest, every 9 spaces. See picture #3 below. When done with the first set, set up your next set of 6, applying glue and adhering while working your way around the wreath as we did on the first set, continuing 6 at a time until all the pins are covered. While we aren't doing this in class, this would be good time to apply a coat of Modge Podge if desired.

If you did Modge Podge, once it's dry, turn over all the clothespins on the wreath, setting it up to apply the strips to the other side. Being careful to arrange your strips in groups of 6 again, apply in the same manner as the other side, one pattern at a time, adhering every 9 pins as you work your way around by each pattern. Apply Modge Podge again on this side when all the pins are covered, if desired.





“Love” Wreath Decoration

For the Valentine’s side of our wreath, we’ll add this heart decoration to hang from one of the pins.

Begin by cutting out a Real Red heart using the largest and scalloped heart from the Hearts framelits collection (provided.) Paper pierce all the way around using the corresponding template from the Occasions piercing pack. Next, cut the next size heart down in Basic Black (provided.) Emboss using the Lacy Brocade embossing folder, and sponge with the Illuminate ink pad for added dimension. Pop dot black heart over the red one. Next, cut two hearts from the laser-cut sheets in More Amore (provided), and arrange over the black layer, with glue dots. Using template provided, cut a strip of already pleated (using the Rosette die) Newsprint DSP for making the pleated heart. Glue ends, and use hot glue on the silicone mat to assemble your heart. Hot glue to heart assembly. Tie a bow using the pink ribbon provided (Blushing Bride-retired) and hot glue at top of assembly. Clip three flowers from the Flower Trim, and

glue dot to assembly as shown.

Stamp scalloped oval background in Real Red and “Love” in Basic Black onto Very Vanilla scrap. You have to hand-cut the background one, but you can punch the sentiment with the Scallop Oval punch. Sponge the edges of the sentiment in Real Red. Hot glue the background over the pleated heart, and pop-dot the sentiment over that. Punch a small hole at the center top of the assembly, and add twine for hanging from the wreath.

“So Lucky” Wreath Decoration

For the St. Patrick’s side of our wreath, we have a medallion and a little mini “banner.”

For the medallion, begin with a base of the large Scallop Circle die in Naturals Ivory. Over this, adhere a Large Doily in Lucky Limeade. Try dotting glue at a few strategic intersections on the back – remember, with glue, less is more! Next punch four Full Hearts in Gumball Green, and emboss them with the Final Press (retired) embossing folder. Adhere these into a shamrock arrangement as shown onto a Scallop Circle, to use as a base. Next punch 4 medium hearts from Lucky Limeade using the Heart to Heart punch, and hand-cut a “stem.” Adhere the smaller hearts onto the shamrock, then the stem.



Stamp a tiny heart onto some Naturals Ivory scrap (ours is from Itty Bitties), punch with the ½” Circle punch, and assemble onto a Designer Builder brad. Punch a hole at the center of the shamrock and affix brad. DOUBLE pop dot this assembly onto the medallion base. Punch a hole at your “top,” and add twine to hang from a pin.

For the banner, using various green ink pads, stamp out the “So Lucky” letters, plus the Heart “space,” leaving enough space to cut out with the Scalloped Banner shape from the Hearts A Flutter framelit set. Punch two small holes in the upper corners, and thread onto ribbon, leaving enough length on the ends to tie two loops for hanging on the wreath. Add a few tiny heart punches (I used the one from the Owl Builder) and dress up with self-adhesive rhinestones. Use a scissors edge to add curl to the ends of your ribbon.