

**Level:** Intermediate

Stand out from the crowd by creating this unique and beautiful contemporary Christmas wreath.

**What you need:**

Balsa sticks  
Educraft Poly balls  
Bakers twine  
Glue gun  
Elmers Glue All  
Reeves paint  
Reeves Glitter glue  
Glitter shaker  
Ribbon



**What you do:**

1. Take six balsa sticks and lay out in a hexagonal shape so each stick end overlaps the other by about 1cm. Use a hot glue gun to attached each stick at the cross over point. Create an octagon using eight sticks following the same process. In total you require 4 octagons and 5 hexagon shapes. Once each shape is dry, using the octagon shapes first, start layering them on top of each other so they are not flush to create a 3Dimensional form and glue at each cross over point. (refer to diagram). Continue using all the 4 octagon shapes on top of each other and then start glueing the hexgaon shapes on top. At the end you should have a nice layered wreath shape.
2. Take 2 bags of Educraft poly balls and separate into three piles of balls so each pile has a variety of ball sizes. Each pile represents a colour you will decorate - red, yellow and green. Take one ball and cover the half of it in Elmers Glue All. Wrap the bakers twine into a coil shape and press onto the glued area. Using your thumb hold the coiled twine in place and continue wrapping the bakers twine tightly to cover the glued surface. Turn the ball over and glue the remaining area of the ball, continue to wrap the ball in twine so completely covered. Snip the end of the twine neatly. Repeat the process for all of the balls so you end up with three piles of assorted balls covered in red, yellow and green bakers twine. Set aside to dry.

**What you do continued:**

4. Take another bag of Educraft polystyrene balls and using the smaller size balls paint them with Reeves Glitter Glue in Ruby Red, Gold and Emerald Green. Shake additional glitter on each ball for more sparkle. Set to dry.
5. You should now have balls covered in Bakers twine in yellow, red and green and glitter balls in red, gold and green. Using the glue gun start attaching the balls to the wreath base, so each part of the wreath has clusters of balls covered to desired effect. For added dimension layer the balls on top of each and combine smaller balls with the larger ones.
6. Once dry thread ribbon through the balsa wood and secure.

Idea: why not change the colour combination or consider adding further embellishments such as feathers, beads or sequins.

