

valentine's hearts

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by Heidi Green



This craft is incredibly easy--just three steps! Remember, part of this decoration's charm is the asymmetrical shapes and crystal formations, so it's perfect for kids of all ages. Let your sparkly hearts dangle from the windows (and catch the sunlight), or pile them in a vase or bowl.



Supplies:

red and white pipe cleaners
Borax laundry booster
water
a mason jar or small plastic bucket
pencils
string cut into 12 inch lengths

Instructions:

Shape the pipe cleaners into hearts and curlicues.

Fill a glass or bucket with 1 cups of boiling water and 1/2 cup of Borax; stir.

Tie one end of a piece of string loosely around the edge of a heart; tie the other end around the middle of the pencil. Wind the string until the heart dangles a few inches below the pencil.

Position the pencil across the top of the glass or bucket, so the heart is suspended in the water (if the pipe cleaner touches the container's side, an ugly crystal blob forms).

Allow hearts to sit for at least an hour. The longer they are left in the water, the more the color fades--if left overnight the red pipe cleaners will be white.

Let the hearts dry, and arrange them in a bowl, or hang them from a window or door frame.

Heidi Green - *Heidi Green is a mom, crafter and seamstress. For more of her ideas, visit handmadehodgepodge.blogspot.com*