

CountrySampler

Rope Tree Wall Hanging

Craft a rustic representation of an apple tree out of cord, faux greenery, small beads and rocks.

Materials and Tools

Wood tavern sign or plaque with scalloped edges
Thin wood board that fits the center of the sign
Craft paint in tan, beige and gray
Vase-filler rocks
Jute macrame cord
Artificial greenery
Opaque red pony beads
Paintbrushes
Hot glue gun and glue sticks
Scissors

Instructions

1. Dry brush three paint colors onto the board to distress it. When the board is dry, adhere it to the tavern sign with hot glue. Attach rocks to the bottom portion of the board. Set aside.
2. Cut 11 lengths of macrame cord. Each should be at least as long as the longest dimension of the board. (For this project as shown, the board measures 15" long and cord lengths are between 15" and 22".)
3. Cut one length of macrame cord that is shorter than the others. (The short cord here is about 11".)
4. Gather the 11 long cords into a bundle with the cut ends roughly aligning on both ends. Grasp the middle of the bundle with your hand. Glue one end of the short cord to one of the long cords in the middle near your hand. Once dry, wrap the short cord once around the bundle to hold it in a tree trunk shape. Lay the bundle on the board and loop the short cord around again. Attach the loose end behind the trunk.
5. Fan out the long cords into a root system and branches. Unravel each cord's ends, trimming the length to fit on the board if needed. Glue each cord to the board or rocks.
6. Glue greenery among the branches and dot with pony beads.



Helpful Hint: Choose natural cord that is soft, flexible and uncoated. Stiff rope will be harder to work with.