



Birdseed Ornaments and More!



Birdseed Ornaments

Items Needed:

- 1 ¼ tsp unflavored gelatin (1 pack)
- 1 ½ Tbsp corn syrup
- ¼ cup water
- 2 cups birdseed
- ⅓ cup flour
- Cooking spray, butter, or shortening
- Metal cookie cutters
- Parchment paper
- Twine or string, 9" for each ornament
- A 2" piece of a straw for each bird feeder ornament
- A saucepan and a medium-sized bowl
- A spatula





Instructions:

Step 1.

In a saucepan, heat the water, gelatin, and corn syrup. Dissolve the gelatin, but don't let it boil. Pour the birdseed and flour into a separate bowl and mix together. Slowly add the gelatin mixture into the birdseed mixture and mix together well. It will be thick and gooey.

Step 2.

Lay out parchment paper. The mixture is sticky. It is helpful to work on a nonstick surface.

Step 3.

Grease cookie cutters. Spray or grease the interior of your cookie cutters with cooking spray, butter, or shortening so the ornaments come out easily when they are dry. Set the cutters on the parchment paper.

Step 4.

Press the birdseed mixture into all the corners of your cookie cutters. Grease your hands so the mixture will not stick.

Step 5.

Make a hole for the string. Push a straw into each ornament about ¼" away from the edge. This will create a hole so you can hang it with string. Make sure to push the straw all the way down.



Instructions Continued:

Step 6.

Let the birdseed ornaments dry for several hours with the straw in. Then remove the ornaments from the cookie cutters and remove the straws.

Step 7.

Cut a piece of string or twine that is 9" long. Thread it through the hole and tie a knot at the top.

Step 8.

Find a tree to hang them on! Make sure you nestle the birdseed ornaments into the branches so the birds have a branch to stand on while they eat!

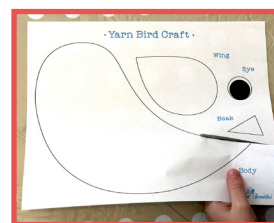




Yarn Bird Craft

Items Needed:

- 3 sticks: two 2" sticks; one 4-6" stick
- Yarn, any color. (Use as many colors as desired.)
- Colored paper scraps (wing, beak, eye)
- Cardboard (roughly 5"x7")
- Scissors
- Glue or tape (A glue gun works well for this project.)



Instructions:

Step 1.

Cut out a bird shape from the cardboard. (This may be tricky for younger children. An older child or adult can cut it out ahead of time.)

Step 2.

Cut small slits along the edge of the bird body.

Step 3.

Wrap the bird shape with yarn into the cut slits. To make your bird colorful, cut your yarn and tie a new color and continue wrapping.

Step 4.

Cut out and glue scraps of paper for the eye, beak, and wing onto your bird.

Step 5.

Glue or tape stick legs onto your bird.

Step 6.

Finally, glue your bird onto a stick.

• Yarn Bird Craft •

Wing

Eye

Beak

Body

