



Make a May Gibbs Easter Hat



Easter Hat parades are just around the corner and we have a gorgeous May Gibbs Easter Hat to inspire you. Gumnuts, flower blossoms and gum leaves provide such beautiful colours and shapes to work with and they are free from nature found on the ground around you. I'm sure your May Gibbs Easter hat will look amazing.

Instructions:



You will need:

- A hat. A sun hat will work best one with a wide brim.
- Branches with gum leaves on them (see step 3 below)
- Lots of spare gum leaves and nuts all different colours
- Flower blossoms
- Big gumnuts
- Acrylic paint
- Fine paint brushes
- Hot glue gun
- Cardboard a thick box kind of card
- Masking tape
- Freezer bag ties or floristry wire

Step 1:

Paint your big gumnuts using your acrylic paints. We mixed white with our coloured paint to make them more pastel. We also painted a few leaves. Leave them aside to dry.

Step 2:

Let's set up your hat. You can glue straight onto your hat if you like, but to save your hat cut some long rectangular pieces of box cardboard and wrap them around and secure with masking tape. This means you can lift the whole thing off and reuse your hat. Using thick card will hold shape and will stay on much better.





Step 3:

We used about fifteen little branches (how many you'll need really depends on the size of yours). Fresh ones are best because they are more bendy. We found a big fallen branch and pulled all these off.



Step 4:

Now use the small branches and the freezer ties and make a circle that fits around the brim of the hat. Tie the top part of one branch to the long end part of another, secure by twisting around a freezer tie. When you have five or six together start seeing if it's long enough to bend around into a circle that will fit your hat. Once it fits around your hat, secure the circle with a freezer tie. Once your circle is complete tie some more branches in between, overlapping them so it makes a full leafy circle. Most freezer ties will be hidden amongst the leaves.



Step 5:

Put your branch circle onto the hat, once you are happy with its placement attach it to the cardboard with hot glue. Now use all your spare leaves and your painted pieces to decorate. We used about two dozen leaves which I hot glued to the cardboard ring so it was totally hidden. Then evenly around the branches I hot glued all our painted gumnuts and leaves.





Step 6:

Now you can't have a May Gibbs Easter hat without some flower blossoms! We finished it off by adding some dried blossoms and other gum nuts. As we didn't have any yellow flower blossoms, we cut up a piece of crepe paper about 10cm wide by 60cm long, folded it up and made cuts into it. The yellow makes it a bit more Easter themed but you could also add a ribbon bow, add some red and yellow blossoms, or just leave it plain - whatever you creatively come up with.



Now this May Gibbs Easter Hat is certainly going to lead the way in the Easter Hat parade. Be sure to share with us your May Gibbs inspired Easter Hat.

