

Christmas Trees - Standup with Sequins

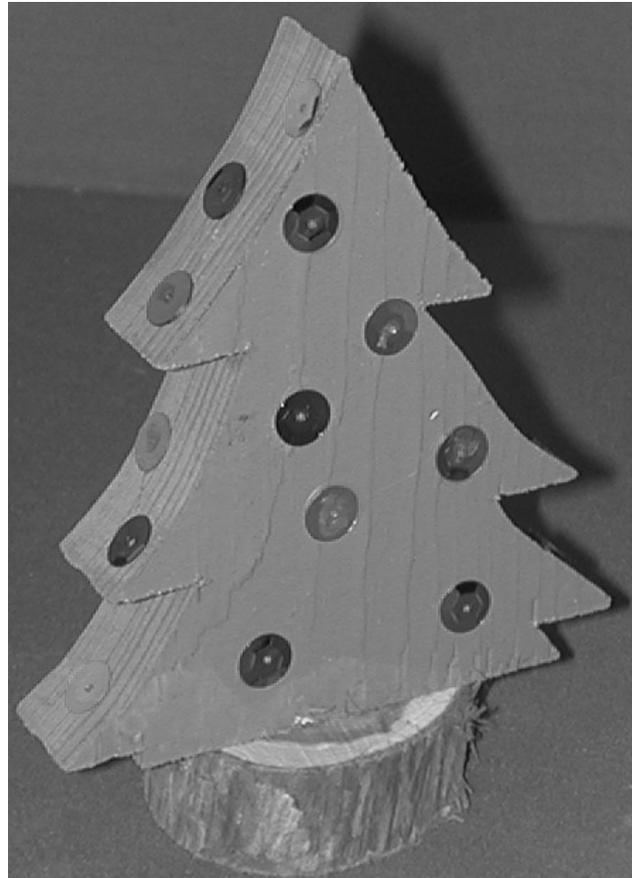
These little Christmas Trees are fun to build and the boys can decorate them however they like. But make a few using the pattern in the photo to take to the elderly in your community at Christmas time. Make the Christmas trees about the first of December and deliver them the next week to elderly people in your neighborhood or at a nursing home. Have the kids sing a couple of Christmas carols. You will be surprised at the number of people who will be blessed by this!

Materials needed:

1. 4" x 4 1/2" of 1" x 6" spruce/fir for tree.
2. 1/2" of 2" diameter tree limb (see photo).
3. 25-30 sequins, beads, etc.
4. Craft (solvent) glue is best (white glue is ok for holding sequins), green latex paint.

Before the meeting:

1. Photocopy the 1X diagram and trace the tree outline onto the 1" x 6" spruce using carbon paper.
2. Use a band saw to cut out 2 - 3 trees per boy, plus 5 extra for each club (to give away) from the spruce/fir as per figure below.
3. Cut 1/2" section from a 2" diameter tree branch for Christmas tree trunk.
4. Sand all parts using a belt sander.
5. (Optional) Paint tree using green latex paint. (The boys can do this in the meeting, but then the project will take 2 weeks to complete).
6. Glue "trunk" to tree using white glue.



Assembly at the meeting:

1. Glue beads (with craft or solvent glue) and sequins (white glue is ok) on 2 to 3 trees.
2. Have boys write their name under the base of the tree.

Note: Most of the boys will go crazy decorating! So most of the trees will be unique (but very gaudy!). If the boys do 2 - 3 trees each, pick 5 trees from the group to be given away next week. (You should take these home with you, so tomorrow you can see if the beads and sequins are firmly attached. Repair if necessary. Nothing looks cheaper than taking a gift that has missing parts. That implies that you don't really care. Don't give away junk.)

Tip: Be sure to call the elderly persons about a week early to set up the delivery and then call them the day before you are coming to remind them. Sometimes they go to bed early and you will be coming to a dark house. If they know you are coming, they will be ready (often with cookies for the boys).

