

The Great Pumpkin Garland

Project:

The instructions below will create one pumpkin garland about 6 feet long. The garland will have three large pumpkins and four small pumpkins.

Supplies:

Stampin' UP! Creepy Crawly Designer Series Paper (DSP)

Stampin' UP! Black Gingham Ribbon

Stampin' UP! Natural Hemp Twine

(Black grosgrain ribbon can be used in place of the gingham and/or the hemp twine.)

Preparation:

1. Paper:

- a. Select paper patterns you desire. I selected seven different patterns, you could do all one pattern or large pumpkins in one and small in another...lots of different possibilities and combinations.
- b. Each large pumpkin will use ½ sheet of the DSP. Each small pumpkin will use slightly less than 1/3 of a sheet of DSP.
- c. For each large pumpkin cut 12 strips of paper 1" x 6".
- d. For each small pumpkin cut 8 strips of paper 1" x 4".
- e. Stack the strips for each pumpkin neatly, then punch a 1/8 hole close to each end of the strip. The Crop-a-Dial works great for punching through the whole stack.

2. Ribbon:

- a. Cut 6 feet of black gingham ribbon.
- b. Cut 3 sections of black gingham ribbon about 18 inches long.
- c. Cut 4 sections of black gingham ribbon about 12 inches long.
- d. Cut 2 sections of the hemp twine, each 6 feet long.
- e. Cut 7 sections of hemp twine about 5 inches long

Assemble:

1. Pumpkins:

- a. To assemble pumpkins use the 18 inch strips of black gingham for the large pumpkins and the 12 inch strips of black gingham for the small pumpkins.
- b. Get one stack of the 1" strips. Determine which pattern you want on the outside of the pumpkin and make sure all are face up.
- c. Stack neatly so holes on one end are lined up.
- d. Thread gingham ribbon down through one end. You can either trim the end of the ribbon at an angle and thread through or use a tapestry needle.
- e. Pull ribbon about 1/3 of the ribbon through.
- f. Thread the ribbon through the holes at the other end of the strip. You will go in through the back side of the paper and end up on the "good" side.
- g. Tie a knot for the bottom of the pumpkin about 3" up for the small pumpkins and about 5 inches up for the large pumpkins.

- h. Slide the bottom paper against the knot you just made, and then slide the top section down until you get your desired pumpkin shape. I liked it a bit more flat; it seemed like the paper laid more smoothly that way.
 - i. Create a loop with the remaining ribbon and tie at top of pumpkin to hold the shape.
 - j. Fan out the paper strips to create the “sphere” shape of the pumpkin.
 - k. Tie one of the 5” hemp twine pieces around the ribbon at the top of the pumpkin and fray the ends by untwisting the twine and pulling it apart.
 - l. Repeat the steps above for each pumpkin.
2. Garland:
- a. Neatly align the 6 foot strips of black gingham and the hemp twine.
 - b. Using all three pieces tie a knot about 6” from one end.
 - c. Loosely braid for about 1 foot. Then thread one of the small pumpkins onto the gingham ribbon.
 - d. Continue braiding for about 6” then thread one of the large pumpkins onto the gingham ribbon.
 - e. Repeat process, alternating pumpkin sizes, and then knot the end of the garland as you did the first end.
 - f. Fray ends of hemp twine on the garland and trim any black gingham that is frayed or hangs longer than desired.
 - g. Hang, primp and enjoy!

Note: The pumpkins in the garland can be packed away for use from year to year. To save space and help protect the pumpkins slide the paper strips of each pumpkin together, just as they were before you fanned them out. Then carefully group the pumpkins and wrap the garland. Next year just unpack, fan out the paper strips, primp and enjoy again and again!

Photos:

1. My "Designer" view



2. Up close view



3. Detail view



4. An apple for the teacher



When I saw the garland project demonstrated by Shelli at the 2007 Convention I fell in love! My mind just buzzed with the possibilities. I know you will love it too! If you have questions please email me! Enjoy!

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