

Beaded Wire Star Sculpture

It's a paradox—the more wire you wrap around this star, the more you'll feel yourself unwind! Don't be surprised if you start creating a collection of wire art. Why not cover a variety of shapes from cardboard cutouts and change the height of the dowels and blocks as you please? Enjoy!

What You'll Need:

- Cardboard star
- 16-gauge galvanized wire
- Wire cutters
- Needle-nose pliers
- 3/8" diameter dowel rod
- Drill and 3/8" bit
- Square wood block
- Wood glue
- Acrylic paint and paintbrushes
- Assorted colors and thicknesses of wire and beaded trim from your stash
- Assorted beads (you can also use beads from cast-off or flea market jewelry)



Fig. 1

What to Do:

1. Wrap a cardboard star with 16-gauge galvanized wire (see Fig. 1).
2. Set fire to the cardboard (outdoors, please) and allow it to burn until only the wire shape remains.
3. While the wire cools, create a stand by drilling a hole into the wood block to accommodate the dowel rod.
4. Cut a length from the dowel and glue it into the hole.
5. Paint the block and dowel or leave it *au naturel*.
6. Insert the top end of the dowel into the wire sculpture.
7. Wrap the star with more assorted wires.
8. To add beads, curl one end of a wire, then thread beads on the wire, using pliers to coil the wire every so often; curl the end and wrap the beaded wire around the star.
9. Repeat until star is decorated to your satisfaction.