



DOWEL MINI TREE

SKILL LEVEL: ADVANCED / TIME: 3 HOURS

YOU WILL NEED:

MARTHA STEWART LIVING™ PRODUCTS

Alpine Holiday Collection shatterproof ornaments – 101 pack, 51 pack, or 75 pack

OTHER HOME DEPOT PRODUCTS

dowels:

- (1) 1in x 36in (for trunk)
- (2) 3/8in x 48in
- (2) 5/16in x 48in
- (1) 1/4in x 48in

mitre box

mitre saw

3/4in plywood or MDF – 9in x 9in piece

jigsaw, or router with circle jig
vise or C-clamps

T-bevel

power drill

drill bits: 1/4in, 3/8in, 5/16in, 1in
spade bit

blue tape

sandpaper

wood glue

small paintbrush



STEP 1

Using mitre box and saw, cut dowels into 26 branches (listed here from large to small):

- (2) $\frac{3}{8}$ in branches, 14in long
 - (2) $\frac{3}{8}$ in branches, 13in long
 - (2) $\frac{3}{8}$ in branches, 12in long
 - (2) $\frac{3}{8}$ in branches, 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ in long
 - (2) $\frac{3}{8}$ in branches, 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ in long
 - (2) $\frac{3}{8}$ in branches, 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ in long
 - (2) $\frac{5}{16}$ in branches, 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ in long
 - (2) $\frac{5}{16}$ in branches, 7in long
 - (2) $\frac{5}{16}$ in branches, 6in long
 - (2) $\frac{5}{16}$ in branches, 5in long
 - (2) $\frac{1}{4}$ in branches, 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ in long
 - (2) $\frac{1}{4}$ in branches, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in long
 - (2) $\frac{1}{4}$ in branches, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in long
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STEP 2

Sand ends of branches to smooth.

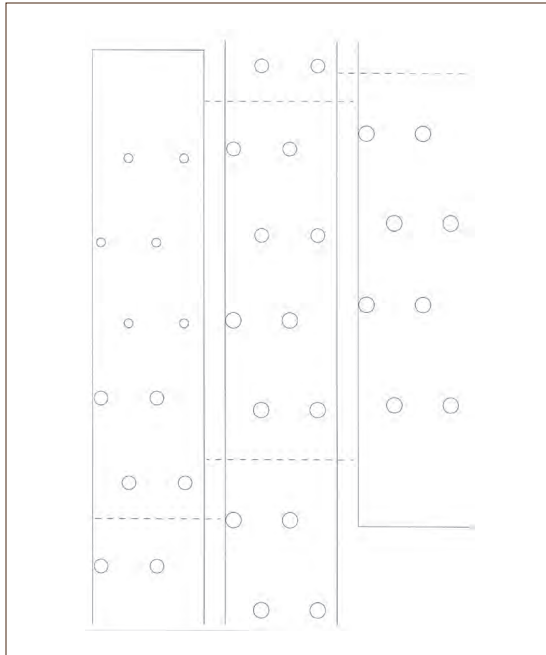
STEP 3

Use the 9 x 9in plywood or MDF as is for a square base, or cut a 9in circle out of it for a round one.



STEP 4

Mark the center of the base and drill about halfway through with a 1in spade bit; sand.



STEP 5

Download our template for the branch markings from HomeDepot.com and print. Wrap it around the 1in x 36in trunk pole and tape.



STEP 6

Clamp the trunk pole into a vise. Put a piece of blue tape $\frac{1}{2}$ in down from the tip of the $\frac{1}{4}$ in drill bit to mark drill depth. Starting at the top, drill branch holes through the template paper $\frac{1}{2}$ in deep at an angle guided by T-bevel. Continue, switching to larger drill bits as indicated; sand.



STEP 7

Squeeze glue into base and insert trunk. Let dry.



STEP 8

Working from smallest at the top to largest, brush glue onto branch ends and insert into holes. Let dry completely before decorating.

