

Toy Soldier Nutcracker

Instructor/Designer: Kathy Dailey

Designation for Project Use: The instructor grants full use of the project by NAWW members.

Instructor's Comments: Several years ago I received a gift that was wrapped in nutcracker paper. Like a kid, I was as excited about the paper as I was in the gift. I thought then that they would be fun Christmas ornaments to make from wheat.

Skill Level: Open

Size of Project:

6.25" x 2" x 1/16" depth

Prerequisites:

Familiar with marquetry. Know how to split and flatten straw. Be comfortable and accurate with an exacto knife and small sharp scissors. Able to do small detail work.

Prework: None.

Techniques Taught in Class:

Review marquetry work.
Explain project directions.
Offer different hats and tunic styles and decorations.



Suggested Wheat for Project:

Flattened and ironed wheat or rye straw.

Straws Needed:

You will design your nutcracker's outfit. The parts can be any color you want. The boots do not need to be black. There is a wheat/rye straw to choose from in the kit provided (see below). If you have a specific color you want to use for a part, please bring it already flattened and ironed. I suggest approximately three 9" pieces of straw ribbons for each part. If available, please bring a couple of spun wheat threads for decoration.

Supplies Needed:

Container to hold straw strips, container for small parts, BIC mechanical pencil, sharp pointed exacto knife, cutting mat, metal ruler, Aleene's Tacky Glue, glue brush, glue dish, toothpick, damp rag, Hindenburg (or other flattening) tool, emery board, small sharp scissors, curved scissors (if available), small punches, small hole punch, a small work light (optional).

Kit: \$15.00 - The kit includes cardstock patterns with different hat and tunic styles, cardstock backing, idea paper, and white paper. The kit also offers wheat/rye straw in a variety of colors to choose from: natural, bleached, reds, yellow, oranges, blues, several greens, brown, black.