A Christmas Tree How-To Guide
Get creative this Christmas.

This guide will help you create any of these six designer looks for your Christmas tree.

Follow the step-by-step directions to create the look you see in each photo, or vary the décor elements and techniques to create a look all your own.

Before you begin, please note that these directions are based on decorating a 7-foot, pre-lit artificial Christmas tree. For a smaller tree, you may have materials left over, which you can use to decorate other parts of your home. For a larger tree, you may need to buy additional quantities of the materials listed.

If you’re using an artificial tree that is not pre-lit, hang the tree lights before you begin decorating.

It’s also recommended to use florist wire to secure the larger elements to your tree. (Florist wire is available at most hobby stores.)

Shades of Glamour

How to create this look:

1. Cut several 5-foot (or longer) segments of gold mesh.
2. Using one segment, take each edge of the wide mesh and gather it into your fist as if you were holding a rope. Slide your other hand about 18 inches down the mesh and gather it into your fist and then twist it loosely. Insert the portion in one hand into the interior branches to secure it. Continue this twisting/tucking technique as you work downward and diagonally across the tree, inserting the twisted portions about two to three times throughout the length of the mesh segment. (Don’t tuck all the mesh into the interior branches of the tree; tuck only the insertion points in order to secure the mesh on the tree. Don’t twist too tightly; let your mesh flow naturally down the tree in a loose diagonal. See photo.)
3. Use the assorted tree picks to create the tree topper. Begin by inserting one Bronze Glittered Ball Bunch at the top of the tree, pointing upward, and then insert one Gold Glittered Ball Bunch slightly below it. Place two Bronze Botanical Décor picks on the front of the tree, one slightly below the other.
4. Insert one Gold Glittered Ball Bunch and one Bronze Glittered Ball Bunch into the treecot with the stem pointing upward so that berries hang down and the stem is hidden within interior branches. To secure pick, bend a small tree branch around it or secure with florist wire. Put two Bronze Leaf picks on the front of tree under the Bronze Botanical Décor picks, with one Bronze Leaf placed slightly over to one side.
5. Layer ribbon and sheer ribbon on top of one another with the widest on bottom and the sheer ribbon on top. Starting at the top of tree, insert layered ribbons and secure them by bending a small branch around ribbons. Let the layered ribbons flow diagonally downward about 18 inches in length and then insert them into interior tree branches again, securing with branch. (Tip: Let the ribbons fall naturally. Don’t pull them taut against one another.)
6. Continue hanging layered ribbons from the top to bottom of tree, cutting them at various lengths. Tuck ribbon tails into interior branches. Continue ribbon technique until you’ve reached the desired fullness.
7. Finish tree topper by inserting Gold Glittered Swirl picks below the berry picks at top of tree. Push the Sequined Sparkler picks throughout top of tree.
8. Hang ball ornaments and variety ornaments on tree. (Tip: Create a few ornament clusters by using florist wire to tie two or three ornaments together. Wire each cluster to tree to secure it.)
9. Either hang the star-shaped ornaments or simply insert them into the branches of tree, letting the points stick out from branches.
10. Finish by covering base with a tree skirt, or puddle an extra roll of mesh around base of tree.

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What you’ll need:

• 1 roll gold mesh (#535721)
• 1 roll sheer ribbon (#868578)
• 2 rolls of coordinating ribbon (#868578)
• 1 box of designer tree picks (#635696)
• 1 round tub of ball ornaments (#584633)
• 1 box of variety ornaments (#580268)
1. Cut one 10-foot segment, one 3-foot segment and several 5-foot segments from the two rolls of lime green mesh.

2. Using the longest segment, take each edge of the wide mesh and gather it into your fist as if you were holding a rope. Slide your other hand about 18 inches down the mesh and gather it into your fist. Then loosely twist this section into a large loop of mesh.

3. Insert the base of the loop between the branches at the top of the tree, slightly off to the left side. Secure the base of the loop by bending or wrapping a tree branch around it. Tuck the short end of the loop into the tree branches to hide it. You may also secure the base of the loop using florist wire, if you prefer. This loop should look like half of a large bow.

4. With the remaining mesh of the 10-foot segment, take another portion (about 18 inches) and loosely twist the mesh again, inserting or tucking the portion in your hand into the interior branches to secure it. Continue this twisting/tucking technique as you work downward and diagonally across the tree, inserting the twisted portions about two to three times throughout the length of this 10-foot segment. (Don’t tuck all the mesh into the interior branches of the tree; tuck only the insertion points in order to secure the mesh on the tree. Don’t twist too tightly; let your mesh flow naturally down the tree in a loose diagonal. See photo.)

5. Take a 5-foot segment of lime green mesh and begin the twisting/tucking technique again, beginning about 12 inches below and to the side of the first mesh insertion point. (Push the raw ends of the mesh segments into the interior tree branches to hide them.) Use all of the 5-foot mesh segments, varying the insertion points around the tree to achieve desired look.

What you’ll need:
• 2 rolls lime green mesh (#535721)
• 3 rolls coordinating ribbon (#868578)
• 1 roll sheer ribbon (#868578)
• 1 box of large ornaments (#580093)
• 1 round tub of ball ornaments (#584633)
• 2 St. Jude sock monkeys (#543205)
• 1 ceramic “Welcome Santa” decorative wall hanging (#543226)

Optional: tower of deco boxes (#845474)

How to create this look:
1. Layer the four ribbons listed on top of one another (widest on bottom; sheer on top), and create two large bows. Tie the bows on top of the tree with one in front and one in back. Leave long tails on the bows and twirl or curl the tails.

2. Attach two large ornaments on the top section of the tree and secure them with florist wire.

3. Cut long segments of each of the four ribbons and layer them on top of each other. Starting at the top of tree, insert layered ribbons and secure them by bending a small branch around ribbons. Let the layered ribbons flow diagonally downward about 18 inches in length and then insert them into interior tree branches again, securing with branch. (Tip: Let the ribbons fall naturally. Don’t pull them taut against one another.)

4. Continue hanging layered ribbons from the top to bottom of tree, cutting them at various lengths. Tuck ribbon tails into interior branches. Continue ribbon technique until you’ve reached the desired fullness.

5. Place the ceramic “Welcome Santa” sign at the desired spot and secure it to the tree with florist wire.

6. Place St. Jude sock monkeys in desired spots and secure them to the tree by bending a small tree branch around the monkey’s arms or by using florist wire.

7. Place the remaining large ornaments on the tree at desired locations and secure to tree using florist wire.

8. Hang ornaments from the large round tub where desired.

9. Finish by covering base of tree with skirt or puddle an extra roll of mesh around the base of tree.

10. If desired, place a tower of deco boxes beside the tree and/or add green pre-fit gift boxes next to the tree. (If using)

To create coordinating mantle garland and/or wreath:
Add ribbon onto the mantle garland and/or wreath to create additional décor with the same look and feel as your Warm Winter tree.

What you’ll need:
• 2 rolls lime green mesh (10 yards per roll) (#535721)
• 1 three-piece decorated gift box set in brown (#515447)
• 1 set large brown and green ornaments (#580093)
• 2 rolls of coordinating ribbon (#868578)

How to create this look:
1. Cut one 10-foot segment, one 3-foot segment and several 5-foot segments from the two rolls of lime green mesh.

2. Using the longest segment, take each edge of the wide mesh and gather it into your fist as if you were holding a rope. Slide your other hand about 18 inches down the mesh and gather it into your fist. Then loosely twist this section into a large loop of mesh.

3. Insert the base of the loop between the branches at the top of the tree, slightly off to the left side. Secure the base of the loop by bending or wrapping a tree branch around it. Tuck the short end of the loop into the tree branches to hide it. You may also secure the base of the loop using florist wire, if you prefer. This loop should look like half of a large bow.

4. With the remaining mesh of the 10-foot segment, take another portion (about 18 inches) and loosely twist the mesh again, inserting or tucking the portion in your hand into the interior branches to secure it. Continue this twisting/tucking technique as you work downward and diagonally across the tree, inserting the twisted portions about two to three times throughout the length of this 10-foot segment. (Don’t tuck all the mesh into the interior branches of the tree; tuck only the insertion points in order to secure the mesh on the tree. Don’t twist too tightly; let your mesh flow naturally down the tree in a loose diagonal. See photo.)

5. Take a 5-foot segment of lime green mesh and begin the twisting/tucking technique again, beginning about 12 inches below and to the side of the first mesh insertion point. (Push the raw ends of the mesh segments into the interior tree branches to hide them.) Use all of the 5-foot mesh segments, varying the insertion points around the tree to achieve desired look.

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Warm Winter, continued...

6. Create the tree topper by securing the smallest pre-lit brown gift box (#515447) to the tree on the right and slightly below the green mesh loop created in Step 2. (Secure the box by inserting florist wire through four points on the base of the box.) Wire the box on the tree with electrical cord facing toward the tree and away from you. Plug it in using an extension cord tucked within interior branches.

7. Using the remaining 3-foot segment of green mesh, make the other half of the bow at the top of tree. Do this by loosely twisting an 18-inch section of mesh into a large loop, similar in shape to the one created in Step 2.

8. Cut a 15-foot segment of each ribbon. Layer the ribbons together with the widest ribbon on bottom. Use the layered ribbons to make a 5-loop bow and then secure it with wire to top of tree on left side of gift box. Separate layers of ribbon to create fullness.

9. Using florist wire, attach one large ornament (spinning top shape) under the ribbon bow created in Step 8. Attach the other 3 large ornaments at desired points throughout tree.

10. Finish by creating several 6-inch loops of layered ribbon (leaving 6-inch tails hanging down) and then secure the loops to various branches with wire. Place loops at points where you might normally hang an ornament. On the lower branches, allow the tails of the loops to hang down longer so they trail naturally toward the base of tree. Crinkle the ribbon tails to create a more designer look.

Past Meets Present - Traditional

How to create this look:

1. Cut several 5-foot (or longer) segments of Christmas green mesh.

2. Using one segment, take each edge of the wide mesh and gather it into your fist as if you were holding a rope. Slide your other hand about 18 inches down the mesh, gather it into your fist and then twist it loosely. Insert the portion in one hand into the interior branches to secure it. Continue this twisting/tucking technique as you work downward and diagonally across the tree, inserting the twisted portions about two to three times throughout the length of the mesh segment. (Don’t tuck all the mesh into the interior branches of the tree; tuck only the insertion points in order to secure the mesh on the tree. Don’t twist too tightly; let your mesh flow naturally down the tree in a loose diagonal. See photo.)

Final touches:
Finish by covering the base with a tree skirt or puddling a third roll of lime green mesh around the base of the tree. Place the other two brown pre-lit gift boxes beside the base of tree or nearby on a hearth, steps, etc.

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Cut several 5-foot (or longer) segments of lime green mesh and red mesh.

Using one segment, take each edge of the wide mesh and gather it into your fist as if you were holding a rope. Slide your other hand about 18 inches down the mesh, gather it into your fist and then twist it loosely. Insert the portion in one hand into the interior branches to secure it. Using both colors of mesh, continue this twisting/tucking technique as you work downward and diagonally across the tree, inserting the twisted portions about two to three times throughout the length of the mesh segment. (Don’t tuck all the mesh into the interior branches of the tree; tuck only the insertion points in order to secure the mesh on the tree. Don’t twist too tightly; let your mesh flow naturally down the tree in a loose diagonal. See photo.) Allow the colors to criss-cross one another throughout the tree.

Create a tree topper by making a large bow of mesh, using three loops of green mesh and two loops of red mesh. Secure the bow with wire to the top of tree.

Using florist wire, secure the “Merry Christmas” ceramic wall hanging to the top of the tree at a slight diagonal angle.

Place red and green ball picks on either side of the ceramic wall hanging so that it appears the picks are coming out of either side of the plaque.

Place the remaining tree picks in and around the bow at the top of tree.

Add ornaments at desired locations throughout tree. (Tip: Create ornament clusters by tying two or three ornaments together using florist wire. Secure each cluster to a tree branch.)

Finish by covering base of tree with skirt, or puddle an extra roll of red mesh around base of tree.

If desired, place a tower of Deco Boxes near base of tree, and/or place some pre-lit decorated boxes (#845474) and a Tin Santa next to tree for a festive finishing touch.

Optional: To create a coordinating window garland for this tree, criss-cross long segments of red and green mesh to make the garland. Hang three ball ornaments from the garland, securing them to the garland with desired length of ribbon. Finish by adding red and white rope string in a swag pattern onto the mesh.

The best decorative items are versatile enough to be used in different ways, allowing you to create new variations from year to year. Listed below are recommendations on how to use these décor elements in multiple ways.

Ceramic plaque:
- Angle it within the center of a wreath.
- Hang it on a garland across your mantle.
- Use it within a Christmas table centerpiece.
- Lean it against a backsplash in the kitchen.
- Wire it onto outdoor topiaries.

Deco boxes (indoors use only):
- Use as gift packaging.
- Use as centerpiece and place decorative items inside boxes.
- Stack into a tower.
- Use smaller ones to tie onto a wreath or as ornaments on a tree.

**Past Meets Present - Whimsical**

**How to create this look:**

1. Cut several 5-foot (or longer) segments of lime green mesh and red mesh.

2. Using one segment, take each edge of the wide mesh and gather it into your fist as if you were holding a rope. Slide your other hand about 18 inches down the mesh, gather it into your fist and then twist it loosely. Insert the portion in one hand into the interior branches to secure it. Using both colors of mesh, continue this twisting/tucking technique as you work downward and diagonally across the tree, inserting the twisted portions about two to three times throughout the length of the mesh segment. (Don’t tuck all the mesh into the interior branches of the tree; tuck only the insertion points in order to secure the mesh on the tree. Don’t twist too tightly; let your mesh flow naturally down the tree in a loose diagonal. See photo.) Allow the colors to criss-cross one another throughout the tree.

3. Create a tree topper by making a large bow of mesh, using three loops of green mesh and two loops of red mesh. Secure the bow with wire to the top of tree.

4. Using florist wire, secure the “Merry Christmas” ceramic wall hanging to the top of the tree at a slight diagonal angle.

5. Place red and green ball picks on either side of the ceramic wall hanging so that it appears the picks are coming out of either side of the plaque.

6. Place the remaining tree picks in and around the bow at the top of tree.

7. Add ornaments at desired locations throughout tree. (Tip: Create ornament clusters by tying two or three ornaments together using florist wire. Secure each cluster to a tree branch.)

8. Finish by covering base of tree with skirt, or puddle an extra roll of red mesh around base of tree.

9. If desired, place a tower of Deco Boxes near base of tree, and/or place some pre-lit decorated boxes (#845474) and a Tin Santa next to tree for a festive finishing touch.

10. Optional: To create a coordinating window garland for this tree, criss-cross long segments of red and green mesh to make the garland. Hang three ball ornaments from the garland, securing them to the garland with desired length of ribbon. Finish by adding red and white rope string in a swag pattern onto the mesh.

**What you’ll need:**
- 1 roll lime green mesh (#535721)
- 1 roll red mesh (#535721)
- 1 ceramic decorative “Merry Christmas” wall hanging (#543226)
- 1 box tree picks (#635696)
- 1 round tub of ball ornaments (#584633)
- 1 roll ribbon (#868578)
Optional: Tower of deco boxes (#845474)

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1. Cut several 5-foot (or longer) segments of graphite mesh.

2. Using one segment, take each edge of the wide mesh and gather it into your fist as if you were holding a rope. Slide your other hand about 18 inches down the mesh and gather it into your fist and then twist it loosely. Insert the portion in one hand into the interior branches to secure it. Continue this twisting/tucking technique as you work downward and diagonally across the tree, inserting the twisted portions about two to three times throughout the length of the mesh segment. (Don’t tuck all the mesh into the interior branches of the tree; tuck only the insertion points in order to secure the mesh on the tree. Don’t twist too tightly; let your mesh flow naturally down the tree in a loose diagonal. See photo.)

3. Layer the three ribbons on top of one another with the widest ribbon on bottom. Create a tree topper by making three large bows of ribbon and securing to the top of tree with florist wire. Place one bow on the front of tree, one on the back and on the side. Separate and spread out the loops of ribbon on each bow to create fullness.

4. Hang a few ornaments at the base of the ribbon bows to make them look like part of the tree topper.

5. Layer the ribbons on top of one another with the widest on bottom and the sheer ribbon on top. Starting at the top of tree, insert layered ribbons and secure them by bending small branch around ribbons. Let the layered ribbons flow diagonally downward about 18 inches in length and then insert them into interior tree branches again, securing with branch. (Tip: Let the ribbons fall naturally. Don’t pull them taut against one another.)

6. Continue hanging layered ribbons from the top to bottom of tree, cutting them at various lengths. Tuck ribbon tails into interior branches. Continue ribbon technique until you’ve reached the desired fullness.

7. Make several small loops of ribbon and attach them at various points throughout tree using florist wire. Let the tails trail down the tree.

8. Hang ornaments from the variety pack and the round tub.

9. Finish by covering base of tree with skirt, or puddle an extra roll of graphite mesh around the base of tree.

Final touches:
If desired, create a coordinating staircase or mantle garland by adding ornamental ball garland to an existing green garland. Make two bows using the silver and purple sparkle ribbon and attach them at the top and bottom of a staircase garland.

What you’ll need:
- 2 rolls graphite mesh (#535721)
- 3 rolls of coordinating ribbon (#868578)
- 1 round tub of ball ornaments (#584633)
- 1 box of variety ornaments (#580268)

Icy Dreams
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