

# Lesson 4 - Summer Wreaths

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## Description

In this class we will be making wreaths. This will be in two parts. We will firstly make paper wreaths and then show how we could also use the same method with natural materials.

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## **You Will Need:**

- Scissors
- Tape
- Coloured paper
- Stapler
- Natural materials - sticks, leaves, branches, flowers,
- String
- Cardboard
- Thinner Card which you can staple
- Pen or pencil

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## **Artist Inspiration:**



Nancy Holt - Sun Tunnels

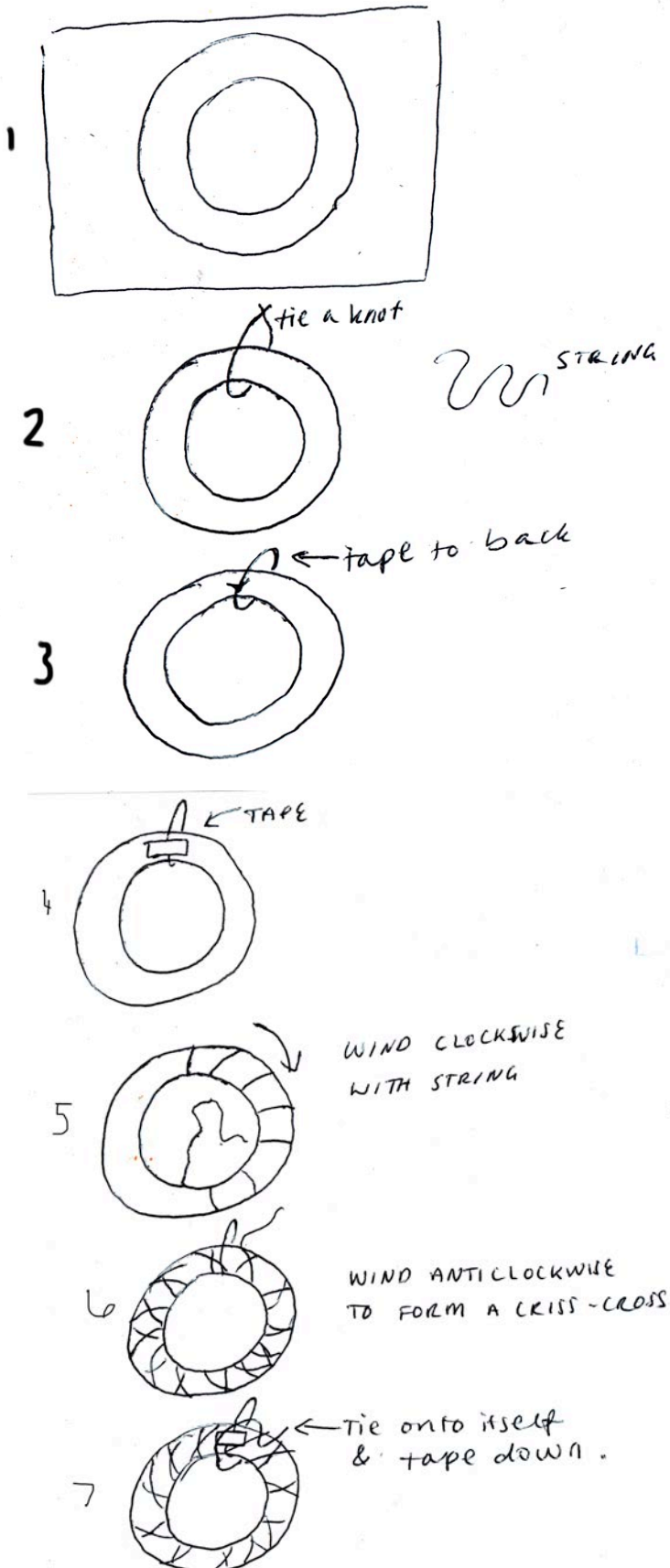


Andy Goldsworthy - Land Art

## Wreath base -

For your **paper wreath**, use thinner card and only do steps 1 and 2.

For your **natural wreath**, use cardboard and carry out all the steps below.



### Steps:

1. Draw around a dinner plate for your outer line and two inches inwards for your inner line.

2. Tie a loop around the circle for hanging your wreath

3. Place the knot at the back of your wreath

4. Tape the knot to the back of your wreath

5. With a new length of string, wind the string tightly around the wreath in a clockwise direction, leaving gaps between the string of about an inch.

6. Once you reach the top of the wreath, wind anti-clockwise to criss-cross over the last layer of string. This will form a base for you to insert your natural materials.

7. When you reach the top of your wreath, tie the string to the nearest wound string and tape to the back of your wreath.

## **Paper Wreath Steps**

1. Practise drawing plant shapes such as leaves, leafy branches and small flowers
2. Using scissors or a scalpel, cut a variety of sizes of plant-life out of your coloured paper. Remember you'll be covering your whole wreath, so think about how many things you'd like to have to choose from when you're doing this - it's easier not to have to cut more later. (I always say make more than you need to allow you to have the biggest range of options).
3. Start to arrange your paper plants on your wreath and staple down to secure. You might want to have an even dispersal of different colours or a gradual gradient of colour around the wreath.
4. As you start to fill up the base, you may find that you can weave your paper plants into other stapled down plants rather than stapling absolutely everything on

## **Natural Wreath Steps**

1. Using larger, broader leaves/plants first, start to insert your plants into the string framework. You might want to pull through parts of your plant to cover the string in places
2. Add twigs, thinner branches or smaller plant-life on top of what you have already arranged
3. Lastly, add any flowers. These will be the first plants to wilt and will need replaced most often so it is wise to make them the most easily removed.
4. If parts of your wreath begin to die and you would rather keep it fresh, your string base will be strong enough for you to remove any dead plants and replace them.
5. For a longer lasting wreath, use dried plants and twigs.