

STEPS FOR MAKING FOUR SEASON BEAD MOSAIC KIT

These instructions are also available on YouTube; go to the Bead Mosaic channel and look for your specific design instructions. You can follow along with the step-by-step instructions, and there are also videos to provide ideas on how to personalize your bead mosaic. I recommend you watch the video and read all the instructions before getting starting.



TOOLS NEEDED:

- Exacto knife (+ sharp blades)
- Cutting surface
- Bead Scooper
- Tweezers
- Squeeze bottle (for glue)



BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

Shake up the premixed Skinny Glue.. This will make life easier when trying to control the flow of the glue.

- ✓ Did you watch the YouTube video? Highly recommended before getting started.

NOW, LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!

1 Layout the four separate wood panels and apply the precut Art Edge strips to the outside of each panel. Each strip is $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 6" long and there are four stripes per panel. Peel the paper back off and stick the strip to the outside edge of each panel.

- After the first strip is down, nudge the next one up against the first so there is not a gap between strips.
- Once all are down there will be excess foam hanging off the outer edges that will need to be trimmed off to fit.
- Do this for all four panels. Then set panels aside.



2 Use the Black 2 inch foam sheets to make your trees. There is one for each season. Cut the trees from the foam by slicing the foam lengthwise to create four or five strips (black side up, paper side down).

- We recommend that they be somewhat triangular in shape as shown in this diagram.
- Don't use a ruler as trees are not exactly straight so embrace the curves. It will look better if they are not all identical.



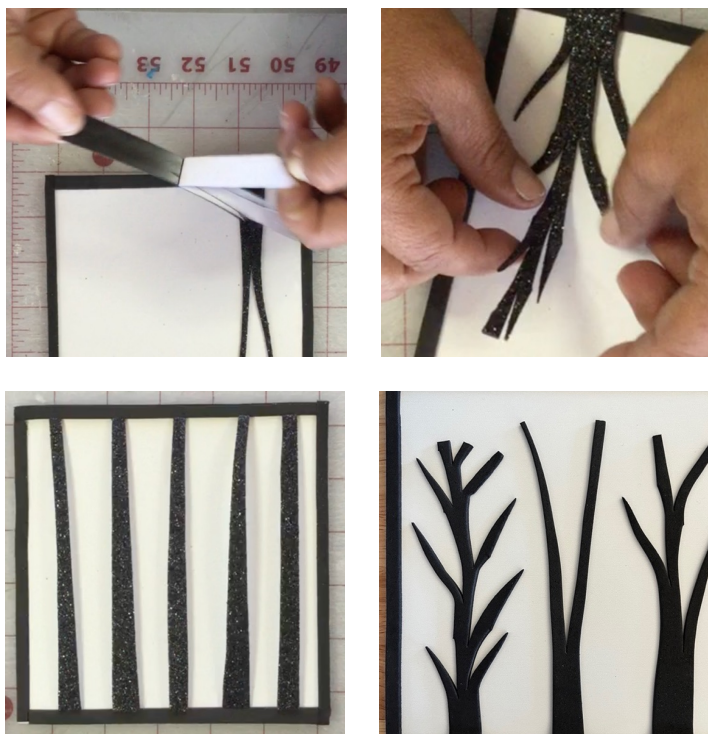
© *These instructions are protected by copyright law, do not reproduce.*



- 3 Take those tree trunks and slice them in one of these configurations to create branches for your trees. You can mix and match any of these trees on any of the panels to your liking.
- If you would prefer a more contemporary look you can forgo branches and keep the trunks as is or make them thinner. So many options guarantees that each panel will be unique and your set will differ from anyone else's.



- 4 Once you have decided on a layout, begin peeling the backs off the glitter foam and adhering them to your board. There will be excess foam hanging off the bottom and the amount will depend on the location of your trees.
- It's recommended that you lay them out prior to peeling anything off because once they're stuck they're stuck for good. As you peel the back off be careful the newly cut branches don't stick to each other.
 - Spread the branches out as you stick them down in the desired position but do NOT stretch them out (they will bounce back later). Once the branches and trees are in their final place go ahead and add some pressure to secure them down and trim off the excess trunks.



- 5 Now you get to add the beads!
To start you'll be using the smaller size 11 seed bead mix, set the smaller bag containing larger beads aside for now. You will have either a blue background or colored depending on your kit.
- Add the beads by scooping them out of the bag with your metal bead scooper and gently pouring them onto the board with the trees. Use your fingers to lightly tap and move the beads into place laying them around the trees.
 - Do not leave any of the smaller beads on top of the trees. Be sure to allow some extra beads for touch ups later.
 - (You can put these into your sorting tray for use tomorrow.)



6 Make sure that all the beads are flat, and only one layer, that there are no beads stacked on top of each other.

- If you have gaps, make sure that the gaps are on the upper section of the trees where your leaves will go.
- These bigger gaps will be filled in with the larger beads.



7 Now we can add the large beads which will represent the leaves. Pour the smaller bag of beads into your hand and use the metal bead scooper to scoop a small amount of beads to pour over your trees and background.

- Use your finger to slide the beads off the scooper onto the canvas. Be careful they bounce if you drop them from too high up. You want this aspect to be random looking so let them fall where they may.
- Feel free to use your tweezers to correct a few beads but if you start to arrange them all they will look less natural.
- Sprinkle them only on the upper half of the project leaving the lower parts of the trees without leaves. Go ahead and use all of the larger beads.



8 Once that is finished, pour your glue on top of all of the beads. It's OK if you get glue on the trees, but try to keep the glue from getting on the edge foam. If it gets on the edge, it's not a big deal, but it creates a place for glue to travel, and you want to avoid that.

- Keeping the tip about 1" above the beads slowly begin pouring to cover the beads but do not over flood.
- You should be able to see the tops of all the beads through the glue. Don't worry it will dry perfectly clear.
- Be sure to leave this in a place where it can dry at least 24 to 48 hours.



9 Once Dry use the extra smaller beads you set aside to fill in any gaps that appeared. With all your extra season beads in your touch-up tray add a bit of glue to one section and dip the bead into a little bit of glue and place it into the gap.

- You do not need to fill in every gap just those large enough for 1/2 bead or larger. Once that is done for all four seasons, you can pour any excess glue on top of the leaves for added security.
- The background probably won't need extra glue.
- Allow to dry at least 48 hours and your DONE!

10 If you want you can spray your mosaic with an acrylic sealer then frame them for a shiny and complete project.



EXAMPLE OF FOUR TREE OPTIONS FOR INSPIRATION



©

