

Napkin Rings Five - Bouquet

Wire makes a fantastic base for quick and easy napkin rings - add as much or as little decoration as you like to make your table setting extra special



This beautiful napkin ring is formed from a double ring of 0.2mm pre-knitted champagne wire, decorated with more of the same wire mixed with 0.1mm chartreuse pre-knitted wire and gold and green beads.

Ingredients

0.315mm champagne or chartreuse soft wire
0.2mm champagne pre-knitted wire
0.1mm chartreuse pre-knitted wire
GL2263 flower bead
2 x MB656 metal cones
18 x FG444 pale green AB facets
12 x FG432 topaz AB facets

Cut a 20cm length of 0.2mm pre-knitted wire. Fold the length of wire in half lengthwise, and in half again. Bend this strip into a ring with a 3cm overlap. Stitch across the join to leave the 3cm overlapped edge free on the outside of the ring one end side. This 3cm overhang will form the basis of the the flower decoration.

As wire is knitted in a tube you can open up the end of the overlap and fold it back on itself to form a double, open throated flower shape. Stitch this loosely into place with a short length of spare wire to outside of the ring

Cut a 3cm length of 0.1mm pre-knitted wire. Use this to conceal the remainder of the seam in the main ring by tucking it in and around the back of the flower just made. Stitch a large flower bead onto the top this short wire length to neaten and adjust the shape of the first flower to open up the shape fully.

You now need to make a series of cones and stamens to decorate the front part of the flower.

Cut 1m of 0.315mm soft champagne wire. Thread 3 x 4mm green AB fire polished faceted beads onto the centre of the wire. Pinch the two sides of the wire together 5cm from the beads and twist to form a 5cm stamen with the three beads clustered at the end. Thread both ends of the wire through a metal cone MB656 so that the bead stamen sits in the mouth of the cone. Take one end of the wire and thread on the second cone (thin end to open end). Thread on three 4mm green ab facets and take the wire back down through the cone so that the facets 5cm from the base of the coner. Twist the wire inside the cone to make a stamen as before. Twist the two wires together where they emerge from the cones just twice to secure. Make one more 4cm stamen with the longest wire end with three 4mm green AB facets but no cone. position this new stamen alongside the two cones.

Cut 3cm of 0.1mm pre-knitted wire and form it into a soft cone shape around the two metal cones and the stamen. Draw the cone together with a stitch of wire and position this in the front throat of the flower. Stitch in securely with 0.315mm wire.

Having stitched the main pieces of the napkin ring together you now add the final decorations and settle the final position of the wire flower.

First manipulate the layers of the wired flowers so that they sit pleasingly. The wire is quite sturdy and will hold its shape well but you may wish to add some extra wire stitches to reinforce the shape at some points.

Finally stitch topaz AB 4mm facets around the mouth of the 0.1mm pre-knitted wire cone, and green AB facets around the mouth of the front gold flower to complete.

