
DIY Easter Bunny Ears with Annabel Wrigley

Chapter 1 - Introduction

Overview

(upbeat piano music) - I'm Annabel Wrigley. I'm a designer, author, and owner of Little Pincushion Studio in Virginia. And I teach kids to sew and craft every single day. One of our favorite things to craft is holiday crafts. And today we're gonna work on the cutest wire bunny ears that you've ever seen. We're gonna draw out the ear shape on a piece of paper. We're gonna learn to sculpt the ears from wire. We're going to attach it to the headband and then wrap the entire thing in tape and strips of fabric. These ears would be the perfect thing for an Easter party or maybe some kind of fun family gathering. You can make everybody wear the ears. You'll be making tons of them once you learn. It's super easy.

Chapter 2 - Materials

Materials

- The materials that you need for this project are super simple and you probably have some at home. We're going to need some 12 gauge floral wire, this stuff is great, it's really soft and pliable and easy to use. A metal or plastic headband, just make sure that it's quite narrow. We're going to need some wire cutters, some scissors, we're also going to need a hot glue gun and some small hot glue sticks. I prefer the low temp gun. We'll need some fabric to wrap around, and I just have some fat quarters here. Some yarn, obviously we won't need this much, but we're just gonna take a small amount from there. And some white floral tape, and paper and a pencil to make the e shape. All the materials that you need for this project can be found at your local Michaels Store or at any other art and craft store.

Chapter 3 - Make Bunny Ears

Shape the ears

- The first step in making our wire bunny is to decide on the shape. And I like mine to be nice and long, so that I can bend them over and adjust the shape. First, we're going to take a pencil, and we're gonna draw out the shape of the ears that we want. That's gonna help us guide how to shape the wire. So I have my headband here and a piece of paper, and I'm just gonna kind of use that as a guide to maybe draw my ear the shape that I want. They're gonna come in a little bit at the bottom, so maybe like that. And remember, this is just a guide. So once I've got my bunny ear drawn, I'm gonna take the wire, and this is what we're gonna shape. And I'm using this great 12-gauge floral wire, and it's fantastic, because it's super, super soft for little hands to use. I'm gonna start by measuring a finger's length of wire, and then I'm going to start shaping the ears beyond that. That finger length of wire is what we're gonna wrap around the headband later. So if we lay it on top of the picture, that's gonna help us get the right shape that we want. And we can always adjust it later, but this is good to get two pretty even ears. I'm pressing down the wire as I go along to get it into shape, but you'll see it's super moldable and easy to use. We're gonna finish off with another finger length of wire at the other side. And once you've got that, you can just hold that spot, you could mark it with a bit of tape, but we're gonna cut it with some wire cutters right here. Here we go. And that's one of our bunny ears done. An we can go back and reshape that, make it look a bit neater. We're going to make a second bunny ear in the exact same way using the same template, cutting it

from the wire. Once you've formed both of your ears and they're cut and ready to go, we're gonna attach them to the headband, which is pretty simple. We're gonna do it one at a time, and we're gonna be using those extra finger lengths of wire to wrap around the headband. I'm laying the bunny ear on top of the headband, and then while I'm holding it and holding the headband with my hand, with my other finger, I'm gonna wrap the wire around that headband to secure it. And let's do that with the other side. And it's so easy to wrap. So there's one, let's do the other one. Now we're going to wrap white floral tape around the entire headband. And the reason that we do this is that it creates a really great surface that covers all the bumps and all the little sharp bits of wire, but it also creates a really great sticky surface so that our wrapped fabric holds really, really well. I like to work in small pieces at a time when I'm using floral tape, so I'm just gonna take about this much. And then the trick with using floral tape is as you wrap it, you want to pull on it gently and stretch it. And it actually will stick to itself, so we just wanna overlap it. And with each overlap, we're just gonna pull on it a little bit, don't pull too hard, and wrap. And you can feel it's kind of got a bit of a tacky surface to it, and that's gonna be very helpful when it comes to wrapping the fabric. I use white floral tape instead of the usual green, because it doesn't show up as much when you use fabric, especially if you're gonna use lighter prints. I'm wrapping on an angle like this, because I wanna make sure that I overlap each wrap pretty well. I don't wanna have any metal showing. And remember, you're gonna be pulling, stretching, and then wrapping. Just continue wrapping the ears this way until you get to the very end, and then we'll start wrapping it with fabric. This part's gonna take just a few minutes, but be patient, it's gonna be totally worth it.

Wrap the ears with fabric

- This is what your bunny ears should look like once you've finished wrapping them in floral tape. They look super cute, but they're gonna look even cuter once we wrap them in fabric. So I'm just using a fat quarter of fabric, which is a piece of fabric that's about 18 inches by 22 inches. And I'm just gonna open it up and use my scissors to cut some long, thin strips. Maybe if you just cut about a half an inch strip, approximately. I would just say not to do it too wide. Thin is better. And I am gonna go ahead and cut four strips to start. Don't worry about the cut edges if they get a bit frayed. I actually like them looking that way. I kind of encourage it a little bit. It's got a really cute look. I've cut the amount of strips that I think I'm gonna need, but it's okay, I can come back and cut a few more if I need to later. So I wanna start attaching this, wrapping it just the same, the way that we did the floral tape. But this time we're gonna need to use some hot glue to hold it in place. Start by putting a little bit of hot glue on the end on the wrong side of the fabric. And I'm gonna start at the very end here and wrap it. Just fold it over the end to cover up the bottom of that headband piece. And then just holding it with my thumb, I'm going to just wrap it on itself to get started. You're gonna be wrapping this in the exact same way that you did the floral tape, so make sure that you wrap it on an angle, and make sure that it overlaps pretty well the entire time. Pull it nice and tight as you wrap it, and if you feel like it's getting a little bit loose, you can always put a little drop of hot glue on there for your next wrap, and then keep on going. As you wrap just make sure that you're covering-- maybe you need to go over the same spot a couple of times if you go 'round a corner. See I've gone around a corner just here, and I've just made it super, super tightly wrapped there. I'm coming to the end, so I'm going to secure it with a little bit more hot glue. To add a new piece of fabric on to our ears, we're just gonna take another strip, add another little dab of hot glue, and just continue wrapping. Make sure that you're using a low heat hot glue gun, too. It'll save your fingers. Continue wrapping the entire headband this exact same way. I'm at the end, so I wanna wrap it kind

of folded over the end, like the way we started. So it's kind of a little bit fiddly, but I'm going to kind of put it on a bit of an angle like that, and hold it with my thumb, put it over there, and then hold it again, whoops, and then wrap around it, just like that. It just looks a little bit neater than having the end of the headband showing. So here's my last little bit. I'm gonna cut that. And my last bit of glue. I love the look of these bunny ears. I particularly love how frayed they get. The more you wrap it, the more frayed they become and I love that look. They would be so cute in a million different colors. And I think for mine, I just wanna add something a little bit fun, so I think a pom-pom will do the trick.

Chapter 4 - Finishing

Finish with a pompom

- I want to show you how to make a pom-pom to add to the really cute bunny ears. And I'm gonna show you this way that I do it so that I can get a small pom-pom, but a really full pom-pom. And with, when you're making these pom-poms with kids and their little hands, sometimes it's hard to do a wrap method just around your hand because their hands are very, very little. So I'm gonna do it, and this is a great way to do it with your kids, so with anyone making this project, is to wrap it around your elbow just like this. So I'm just, I've got my yarn here, I'm just gonna wrap it maybe 20 times around my elbow. So that's two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, ten. Twenty. You might think that you need less yarn to make a small pom-pom, but I think you need just as much yarn but you just need to trim it really well to make a small, really full one. So I had my piece that I just slid off my elbow, and it's gonna look like this. And then I'm just going to twist it to make a smaller loop and then for this one, I'm gonna twist it again and make an even smaller loop so it's just like this. I'm gonna hold it on my finger so that it doesn't fall off. And just cut a little length of yarn right there. And then I want to take it off my, gonna take it off my fingers and kind of cinch it in the middle. And with my thread, I'm tying a super tight knot. You might need someone nearby to put their finger on that for you. I'm gonna just gonna use my finger. And now, with a nice, sharp pair of scissors, we're gonna go through and just cut all those loops. And don't worry, it's gonna look totally crazy, but that's okay. (snipping) So you're thinking, I'm sure that is a huge pom-pom, but the most fun part is trimming it down and making it into a perfect small pom-pom. It'll be nice and full. I'm just trimming all the edges. We call it giving it a haircut. And nice and evenly cover the whole thing, and then you can go even smaller. So I just work my way around. (snipping) Getting all the strays. (snipping) And then I'm gonna go even smaller, so trim it in a little bit more. And you'll see it's creating this really cool, super full pom-pom. You can leave it if you prefer it to be shaggy, but. I think that looks pretty good. I'm just gonna cut a little bit of yarn and wrap it around the middle, tie that in a nice double knot. And then you can add it to whichever ear you want. I'm gonna add it on here. I'm just gonna take the ends and let's tie it on the back. I think that's adorable. The great thing about these bunny ears is that that wire is still super soft, so you can shape them into a cute shape before you wear them. I particularly like a little bit of a bent ear. I think it's kind of cute and cheeky. I've got a little white pom-pom on these blue ears, but you could do any color that you want. I love them in pink, totally cute. I think I'm gonna bend this ear as well. And then if you just wanted them plain, I have this other pair right here, just cute and plain. But you can do anything, maybe change up the pom-pom color, add a few more pom-poms. It's really up to you to make it however you want. These cute ears will surely make for a super happy Easter. And who doesn't love a bunny, anyway?