

HOW TO MAKE AN ADVENT WREATH

by Shannon Clark from Growing Slower

1. CANDLE HOLDERS

Practically, you'll need something for your candles to set on to collect the wax.

You can use almost anything. I've seen adorable homemade Advent wreath ideas that use all of the following.

CANDLE HOLDER IDEAS

- empty tin cans
- mason jars (of course)
- cake plates
- serving trays
- candle holders
- flower pots

Anything goes! I used one of the serving plates from our dinnerware set.

2. ADVENT CANDLES

Next, choose candles. Traditionally there are three purple candles, one pink, and one white candle. However, there is no harm in making due with what you have at home!

The light of the Advent candles are a testimony to the light Christ brings to a fallen world. The **purple** candles remind us of the royal status of the King of kings, who set aside the privileges of being the Son of God and took the form of a servant in human flesh.

We light a **pink** candle (the "joy candle") on the third week of Advent. This color reminds us of the joy of the season, as God demonstrates his love in such a wonderful way.

We light the **white** candle (the "Christ candle") on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. This color reminds us of the purity of Christ, whose perfect sacrifice brings peace between God and man.

3. MAKE IT A WREATH

Now it's time to add a bit of decoration to make it more wreath-like. You can use any real or artificial greenery. Trim the ends off a couple branches of your Christmas tree if you already have it.

I went out and trimmed some leaves and berries off a bush in our front yard.

ADVENT WREATH IDEAS

- greenery (real or artificial)
- ribbons
- twine
- burlap
- Christmas ornaments
- pine cones
- moss
- lettering

Get creative. Anything could work, but it's a fun challenge to try to use something you already have on hand.