

# Learn to Make a Curly Mesh Wreath



**Free Tutorial**

by  
**Julie Siomacco**  
**Southern Charm Wreaths**

# A Tutorial on Designing a Beautiful Curly Deco Mesh Wreath

by Master Wreath Designer  
Julie Siomacco of  
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## About the Author

Julie Siomacco, owner of Southern Charm Wreaths and author of Learn Deco Mesh Wreath Design is a professional wreather and instructor from Irmo, SC. Her first passion is for her three children and supportive husband. Her second passion is for designing beautiful things for her home. She has always had a knack for floral designing. When she was young she could go into retail stores and see floral arrangements and then go back home and duplicate them. Her parents were amazed and would always say, "You have an eye for color". She grew up with a father who owned art galleries throughout the Charlotte area. He taught her how to work hard but most importantly to produce quality work. You see, when you provide a quality product, customers will always come back and repeat customers are always the best customers. He also instilled in her that the importance of passion and conviction for any job should always be the basis for its growth. After working for her father year after year, her taste for beautiful art and quality interior design grew into a passion.



She started designing wreaths for her door as a hobby several years ago; since then she has received a lot of positive comments from neighbors and friends. With the downturn of the economy, she prayed long and hard and decided she needed to go back to work after being a full time stay-at-home mom for over 10 years. However, she quickly realized how hard it would be with so many people also looking for jobs, then the added disadvantage of being out of the workforce for so long, she quickly realized she needed to turn her fun hobby into a business.

So making wreaths and teaching others how to make wreaths is a full time job for her now, she devotes 40-50 hours per week working her business and teaching others how to also start their own business. So has given her heart and sole to Southern Charm Wreaths and it is really paying off! She is now considered one of THE leaders in wreath design and the BEST deco mesh wreath designer around. She has many people turning to her for help in starting their own business. She knows she has found her calling too, especially when she receives emails weekly of people thanking her for sharing her secrets and showing them how they too can provide for their families.

## **Preface**

After an instructional class at a nearby wholesaler, I was introduced to poly deco mesh wreaths. While I was not impressed with the wreaths at first, I still purchased two rolls of mesh to experiment with. I quickly realized how durable the material is and how the poly deco mesh wreaths gave off a whimsical air to them. Additionally, I realized that the wreath could be either dressed “up” or “down” depending on the mood or occasion. I thought poly deco mesh wreaths would be a good contemporary alternative to my traditional silk flower wreath line for my online shop, [www.southerncharmwreaths.com](http://www.southerncharmwreaths.com).

My first experience with success in selling my deco mesh wreaths came during Valentine’s Day 2010. I purchased materials to make a select few valentine themed deco mesh wreaths for my online shop because I wasn’t sure how they would sell. To my surprise, they quickly sold out and I was amazed at how fast! I had customers contacting me daily asking if I could make them a valentine deco mesh wreath too. This intrigued me so I started searching online to see if I could find anyone else selling deco mesh wreaths online and I only found a few people selling on EBay and Etsy. This is when I caught the deco mesh bug! Needless to say during my next trip to my wholesale supplier, I stocked up on deco mesh wreath making supplies and have been cranking them out ever since.

After making my wreaths in just a year’s time, I was amazed at the new designs, patterns and colors of the mesh material that was being produced from the manufacturers. Obviously this made my job easier being able to make a wreath for all seasons and occasions but it also told me that others must love this material as much as I do! I came to the realization that I would never be able to make enough deco mesh wreaths myself to satisfy my many customers. I thought these wreaths aren’t hard to make, I bet I can teach my process to creative crafters and wreath lovers alike just as I had learned how to make my first fall wreath from another crafter.

So then I wrote my first ebook, [www.learndecomeshwreaths.com](http://www.learndecomeshwreaths.com) and decided to start making tutorials for the many wreath lovers out there.

## **What is Deco Mesh?**

Deco Poly Mesh, Poly Deco Mesh, Geo Mesh and Decorator Mesh have been around since 2004 and are essentially the same, depending on the manufacturer. Different manufacturers call the material different names. Ribbon rolls come in various sizes (i.e., 21”x10 yards, 10”x10 yards, 2.5”x25 yards, 4.5”x25 yards); so there are plenty of options to work your creative magic! Deco mesh is a non-flammable, pre-stretched plastic fabric. Deco mesh is durable, weather-proof and an inexpensive way to add a punch of color and a festive touch to your décor.

## Where do I Buy Deco Mesh Wreath Supplies?

You can sometimes find deco mesh wreath making supplies in your local craft shops but unfortunately there won't be a large selection. It is usually more expensive in the craft shops too, so if you do purchase there remember to use their in store, app or mailer coupons. Personally, I think the best selection of deco mesh wreath making supplies is online; I prefer to use Trendy Tree ([trendytree.com](http://trendytree.com)) but have also used Craft Outlet ([craftoutlet.com](http://craftoutlet.com)). For an extensive list of all my suppliers and vendors (both retail and wholesale), check out my ebook, [www.learn-deco-mesh-wreaths.com](http://www.learn-deco-mesh-wreaths.com).

## Let's Get Started...

This deco mesh wreath style is so easy to make and I just know you will be able to master it quickly! When I first started making this style of wreath I loved it because I could use more than one color of mesh at a time, giving the wreath more character. However, one of the drawbacks was that when I first made the curly mesh wreaths they were so deep (almost 14-18 inches deep); not very convenient for hanging on an entry door where people come in and out. So I got creative and decided to cut the mesh in half (so instead of my pieces being 21 inches long, the length of the mesh roll, they would be 10.5 inches long). But this had its drawbacks too, you see when you cut deco mesh a few times, it starts to ravel and shed. Though I liked the fact of being able to use all the colors, I didn't want to disappoint my customer who may spend \$80 or more for this style of wreath and then have it shed.

Lucky for me the makers of deco mesh started to manufacture a 10 inch wide mesh. This was exactly what I needed! No more having to cut my long 21 inch pieces in half. Now the 10 inch deco mesh is what I currently use to make my curly mesh wreaths. In this tutorial, I've taken the liberty of including instructions for making curly wreaths using both the 10 inch and the 21 inch mesh for you and you can decide what works best for you. I hope you enjoy it!

Happy Wreathing!

Julie



# Curly Deco Mesh Wreath Tutorial

## Deco Mesh Curly Wreath using 10" Deco Mesh

### You will need:

1 20 inch Work Wreath Form

*(if using 24-inch, you will need to increase the amount of mesh & ribbon)*

2 rolls 10 inch deco poly mesh in different colors

Pipe Cleaners *(same color as wreath form for a professional look)*

Coordinating Ribbon *(I prefer a 2.5" wide and a 1" wide, wired ribbon)*

Rotary Cutter here on Amazon <http://amzn.to/2cy8iPH>

Utility Mat here on Amazon <http://amzn.to/2bTSWkp>



### Step 1 Cut Strips

As you can see from the photo below, I am using more than 2 rolls of the 10 inch wide mesh. In order to save time, I prefer to layer the mesh so that I make fewer cuts which saves me time especially during the busy season of college football! This way I can make two wreaths at a time to save time.

Cut the mesh into 12 inch strips by using the rotary cutter and ruler on the mat as a guide. The rotary cutter is perfect for this because it rolls like a pizza cutter making the cut swiftly but you can use scissors and a ruler if you prefer. **If using a rotary cutter, please use extreme caution.**



I then place the cut strips into a box (or you can place to the side on the floor), to keep my work table clutter free. They stay in the box until I need them. **Note: try to handle the cut mesh as little as possible to prevent excess shedding.**





## Curly Deco Mesh Wreath Tutorial

### Step 2 Add Pipe Cleaners

**TIP: I twist pipe cleaners between the wreath form ties to give a fuller wreath.** To do this, first cut the pipe cleaners in half using wire cutters, then attach the pipe cleaners to the wreath form by twisting the pipe cleaner tightly around the metal wreath frame between EACH wreath form needle tie (or about every 1.5-2 inches). This will now give you a tie about 1.5 inches apart. It looks neater when you match the pipe cleaners to the color of the wreath form.



### Step 3 Add Deco Mesh

Unroll and separate the layered cut strips of deco mesh. Then re-roll the strips individually and holding a roll of each color in your hand, pinch the rolls in the center. Taking the pinched area, place it inside a set of pipe cleaners on the inside ring. Tightly twist the pipe cleaner over the deco mesh pinch making it secure, there should be very little movement of the pipe cleaner but some is okay. Once the pipe cleaner is twisted, cut off the excess pipe cleaner and fold it towards



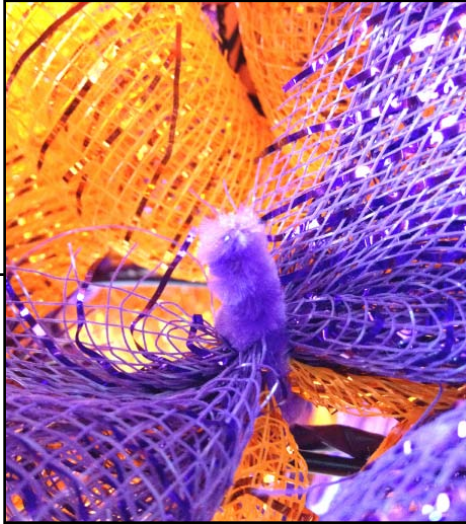


## Curly Deco Mesh Wreath Tutorial

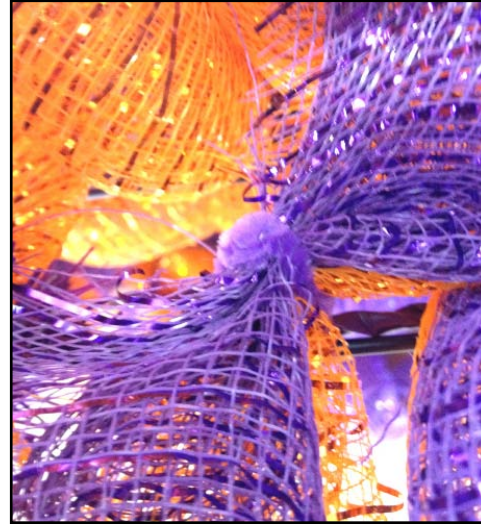
the back of the wreath.

Continue working the deco mesh rolls around the inner ring pipe cleaners and then start on the outer ring pipe cleaners and work around. **TIP: I attach the deco mesh to the pipe cleaner ties before the wreath's needle ties because it makes it easier to be able to clip the excess pipe cleaners short without so much mesh in the way.**

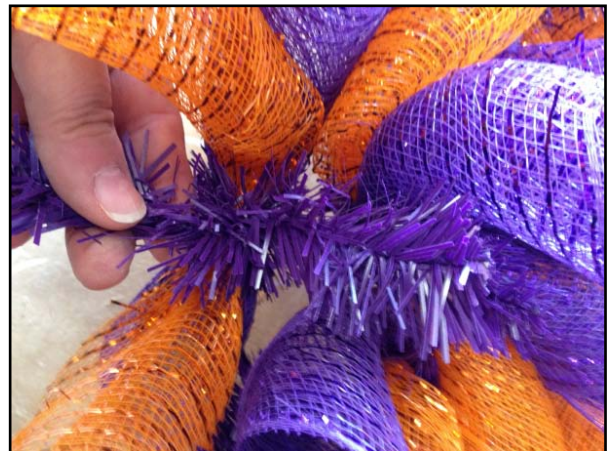
Use wire cutters to clip short.



Bend the trimmed pipe cleaner towards the back.



After the mesh rolls have been attached to all the pipe cleaner ties then do the same thing attaching the mesh to the wreath form's needle ties in the same manner **but do not clip short**. Once all the wreath ties have been filled in, check the wreath to make sure the mesh is filled in evenly because sometimes you may have to add an additional pipe cleaner with more mesh if there seems to be a hole. Note: A 20" wreath form uses two whole rolls of the 10" deco mesh.





## Step 4 Fluff & Shape

Once all the mesh is attached to the wreath form, it may look a little messy. In order to correct this, I flip the wreath over on its front so I can see the back and push all the rolls towards the front of the wreath and out. I see other wreath makers who don't do this step and their rolls are facing in all different directions, which is confusing to the eye.

Before forcing all the curls to the front.



After pushing all the curls to the front.

## Step 5 Adding Ribbon Streamers

Cut ribbon strips 14 inches long and finish the ends off by cutting a V-shape or dove tail on both ends of the ribbon strip. For a 20" wreath frame, I cut 8 strips of each style of ribbon. Attach the ribbon strips by pinching the ribbon in the center, untwisting a set of wreath form needle ties (NOT PIPE CLEANERS), laying the center of the ribbon in the needle ties and re-twisting the needle ties back. Alternate the ribbon strips so that they are evenly distributed. Use more ribbon in different styles for an even fuller wreath.



## Step 6 Add A Hanger

Attach a pipe cleaner to the back of the wreath frame to use as a hanger. Adding a hanger is a nice touch and the customers really appreciate it.

## Finished Wreath!



Other Wreaths using this same method:



## Additional Tips

If you can't find 10" mesh, you can use 21" and just cut the pieces in half; however, there will be more fraying. I've also used more than 2 colors of mesh, try adding 3 colors to every tie, trade off the colors, or try adding an additional color sporadically. Just have FUN!



## Curly Deco Mesh Wreath Tutorial

Note: If you can't find a 20 inch wreath form, use a 24 inch wreath form. To adjust your supplies, you will need to add 2 pipe cleaner ties between the wreath's needle ties and you will need approximately 1.5 rolls of 10 inch mesh in each color and cut 9 ribbon streamers.

### Combine Curly Mesh Strips to Standard Deco Mesh Wreath

Try combining deco mesh tying methods; for example, in the wreath below, I combined the traditional deco mesh loop method with the curly wreath method. To do this I made the deco mesh loops 8 inches long on the inner ring (did not fluff or separate the mesh loops (leaving it more tight) and then used the curly mesh method on the outer ring using 10" deco mesh in the same manner as explained above using the pipe cleaners and used the same mesh colors as the inner ring, doing this gives a flat surface to attach a sign.





## Curly Deco Mesh Wreath using 21" Deco Mesh



### You will need

3 rolls poly deco mesh 21" (in different colors)

24" work wreath form

Ribbons



## Curly Deco Mesh Wreath Tutorial

### Step 1 Cut Strips

Cut the mesh into 12 inch wide strips. You will need 18 sets which is the number of sets of twist ties on a 24" wreath form. Handle the pieces as little as possible to prevent excessive shedding. I find it easier to layer the mesh material so you only need to cut once per strip.



Unwrap the rolls, separating the curly strips into colors.





## Step 2 Adding To Wreath

Pick up three different colored strips and pinch in the center. Place the pinched area inside a set of needle ties on the outside ring and twist the ties together as if tying a bread tie. Continue tying the rolls into the wreath from around the outer ring, then start on the inner ring and work around.



Now go make your own curly mesh wreath, feel free to hot glue in embellishments such as ornaments, silk flowers, beads, buttons, signs, etc. I know YOU CAN DO THIS!!

Remember to check our blog at [www.southerncharmerwreaths.com/blog](http://www.southerncharmerwreaths.com/blog) for more wreath making tips.