



Winter Holidays Christmas Tree Ornaments



Victorian Tree Gumdrop Wreaths

During the Victorian era, children were rarely given candy. Often times it was only a special treat for them during the Christmas season. Gumdrops were popular candies during this time of year. They are small, colorful, chewy, gelatin based candies that have a wide base which tapers into a cut-off shape cone. Besides eating, they were used for decorating gingerbread houses, Christmas cookies, and making Christmas crafts. Christmas crafts may include gumdrop rings used for decorating the Christmas tree. They come in many different flavors such as, red – cherry flavor, red spice – cinnamon flavor, green – lime or mint flavor, purple – peppermint or grape flavor, white – licorice or clove flavor, black – licorice flavor, orange – orange flavor, and yellow – lemon flavor. During the Victorian era, the tree would have been decorated with gumdrop rings, candles, painted nuts, roses, scraps, strands of pearls, cornucopias, sachets, and shapes of gingerbread houses.

Materials

Gumdrops - 14 per wreath
Fishing line - 20" per wreath

Scissors
Needle - large eye

Instructions

- Cut 14" of fishing line from the spool.
- Thread the needle with fishing line and tie knot so that thread will stay.
- Take the threaded needle and sew into the side center of the first gumdrop. (Do not push the gumdrop to the very end of the thread. Leave about 2" so that you will be able to tie the ends together at the end.)
- Repeat the process with the remainder 13 gumdrops.
- Leave 1-2" of line on each end.
- Tie both ends together and cut the remainder line.
- Push and adjust gumdrops around the line.
- Use the remaining 6" length of fishing line to make a hanging loop for the wreath.
- Hang on the Christmas tree