

# Art and Craft for the Garden

## Make a Scarecrow



A scarecrow aims to scare away the birds from newly planted seeds and growing crops – however one could just be decorative in the garden and making one is a good craft project.

What you'll need

- 1 sturdy stick or bamboo cane, about 2m long
- 1 sturdy stick or bamboo cane, about 1m long
- 1 sturdy stick or bamboo cane, about 30cm long
- Old clothes – shirt or jumper, trousers, hat – anything goes!
- Old pair of tights
- String

- Straw or leaves, something to stuff the scarecrow that will be weatherproof and not rot when it rains e.g. old carrier bags, cloth.
- Wool for hair
- Paint or waterproof pens for features on face

## What to do

### 1. Make a frame

Tie tightly with the string the 1m stake to the 2m stake about 15cm from one end, in a cross shape and then tie the other stake in the same way about half way down. This is the frame for your scarecrow.

### 2. Make a head

- Cut one leg from the tights and fill with some straw or your waterproof stuffing – scrunched up plastic bags may work
- Push the stuffing firmly to the end and make it into a head shape. Tie a piece of string around the tights to stop the stuffing from falling out.
- Paint a face on it; and add details e.g. hair, glasses, beard
- Now tie the head on to the top of the frame.

### 3. Dress the scarecrow

- Placing a shirt on the top crossbar and the trousers on the smaller bar is the standard scarecrow design but you can clothe your scarecrow as you wish.
- Tie off the bottom of the legs of the trousers with string and stuff them with straw or leaves or more waterproof stuffing.
- Button up the shirt and tie the ends of the arms then stuff the sleeves with straw or leaves or waterproof stuffing
- Push some straw or wool under the hat and leave it dangling out to look like hair.

NB You can design your scarecrow to look like a favourite book or film character. Be as creative as you wish



Adapted from <https://www.rhs.org.uk/education-learning/gardening-children-schools/family-activities/Activities/activities/make-a-scarecrow>

Other Ideas from RHA are available at- <https://www.rhs.org.uk/education-learning/gardening-children-schools/family-activities/Activities>

The Butterfly Crop Protector and the Cane Eye Guards would decorate the garden.

