

Greenhillock at Home

MAKE YOUR OWN MAGIC WAND

WHAT YOU NEED

Foraged sticks

Secateurs

Potato peeler

WAND CORES:

Wool (unicorn tail hair)

Coloured string (dragon heartstring)

Embroidery thread (vela hair)

Feathers (phoenix feathers)

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY:

Paper

Pens and pencils

Ruler or tape measure

Cold tea*



STEP 1

Find your perfect stick.

Remember you will want to keep your wand in your back pocket so don't choose one too big or small!

Can you tell what kind of tree its from? Can nearby trees help you decide?

HINT common wand woods include hawthorn, ash, willow, elder, cherry, hazel and birch.



STEP 2

Wandcraft

(an adult may need to supervise this bit)

Use secateurs to trim off any stray side branches and cut your stick to length. Choose whether you want to keep the bark on your wand.

If you want to you can use a potato peeler to remove some or all of the bark. Always use the peeler in strokes away from your body.



* Cold tea is to help you make authentic parchment for the wand's certificate, see Step 4. If you want to do this think about doing it first, before you forage for sticks so the paper is dry when you want to use it.

STEP 3

Add your wand core (s)

Choose one or more of the wand cores, unicorn tail hair, dragon heart string, vela hair or phoenix feather.

Carefully wrap your chosen core materials around your wand. You choose how tightly you wrap them and how many you use until you are happy with the look of your wand. Tying the ends can be tricky but keep practising and you will get there. Watch the video for hints on how to do it.

Phoenix feather wands need two core materials, use one of the string or hair cores to tie the feather to the wand.

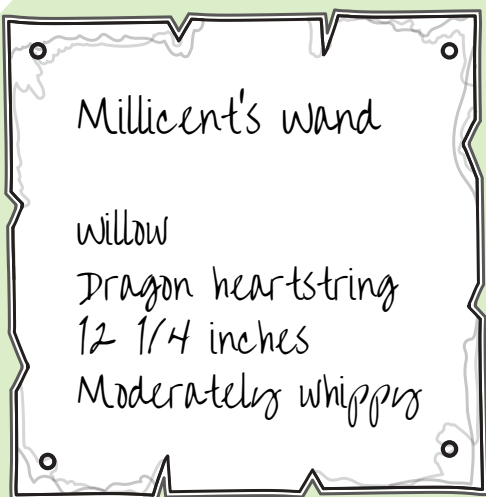


STEP 4

Make a certificate for your wand.

If you want a really authentic looking certificate start by turning your piece of paper into parchment. Use kitchen towel or cotton wool to dampen your paper with cold tea and set it aside to dry. When dry scrunch the paper into an ball and smooth out ready to add your wands properties.

Most wand certificates list the wand's wood, core(s), length and flexibility. Common categories of flexibility are whippy, bendy, springy, unbending, solid and rigid.



WHAT NEXT

Cast your own incantation ...

Think of a magical action you want to perform. What words do you think would make it happen? Spells can be one, two or even three words long. What will yours be and what will the spell do?

Practice casting your incantation with your new wand!