

Upcycling with old sweaters



Step-by-step instructions
for a modern decorative Christmas tree

Instructions for sweater upcycling: How to make modern Christmas trees yourself

You don't have to throw away your old sweaters or cosy knitted scarves: use them to create modern and chic Christmas decorations. Simply follow our step-by-step instructions!

Materials needed

- ✓ 2 A4-size pieces of cardboard (e.g. from an old cardboard)
- ✓ thick Styrofoam
- ✓ a stand or a wooden disc and a straight stick
- ✓ an old sweater, an old shirt or an old shawl
- ✓ Decorative items such as wood ornaments or ribbons
- ✓ Pins without head
- ✓ Glue, scissors and possibly a utility knife

Here's how to do it

- 1** The first step is to make **the stand** (if you already have a finished stand, you can skip this step). To make the stand, you take the **wooden disc** and place **the stick in the middle of it**. Then, either glue the stick with a lot of hot glue or screw it to the wooden disc. To do this, you drill a small screw through the underside of your wooden disc and into the stick.
- 2** Next, you need a piece of cardboard. **Draw a large triangle** on it. The triangle should be as big as you want your Christmas tree to be. In the middle of the base of the triangle, you need to create an **opening for the stand**. To do this, place the stand onto your triangle and outline it. Cut out the triangle with the opening.
- 3** Take the triangle you have cut out and copy it to your **second sheet of cardboard**. To do this, outline your triangle with a pen and cut it out again.





- 4 Now repeat this step with the **styrofoam**. Here, too, outline the triangle and draw it that way. You can use a utility knife to cut the styrofoam.
- 5 You now have three triangles. Put the styrofoam in the middle and glue the cardboard pieces on both sides. You can use either duct tape or hot glue to do this.
- 6 Attach the finished Christmas tree structure to the stand. To do this, coat the **insides of the cut opening with hot glue** and place the stand inside.
- 7 Now it's time for your **old sweater**. Spread it out flat on the table and place your tree on top. Use a pair of scissors to cut off enough fabric to wrap your little tree with it.
- 8 Next, fold the right side of the fabric over the Christmas tree. It should cover the outer edge of the other side. Then repeat with the left side. It should reach over the middle of the tree. Make sure to **pull** the fabric nice and **tight**, and to cut away any excess material with the scissors.
- 9 Unfold the fabric again and **coat the blank with glue**.
- 10 Take the **right side** again and wrap the back of your tree with it. **Pin** the end of the fabric **along the outer edge**. Make sure to stick them very flat so that the pins disappear completely inside the tree.
- 11 **Fold the left** end of the fabric **once** and then put it on your tree. Secure it by sticking the pins flat and parallel to the tree.

12 Cut out an **opening for the stand** at the bottom of the fabric on both sides.

13 Next remove the excess fabric on the underside. Pull the fabric that is on the front of your tree up and **pin it to the back of the tree** - as shown in the picture.

14 Fold the other end over once and pin it to the tree so that it **neatly covers the end just pinned on**.

15 Finally, you can **creatively decorate** your Christmas tree. For example, small ornaments or beautiful decorative ribbons that you can stick to the tree would look great. You can also hang small Christmas balls in the fabric or work with glitter. No matter how you decorate your Christmas tree, it will last many years as a unique Christmas decoration.

