



HOW TO MAKE A GARDEN OBELISK

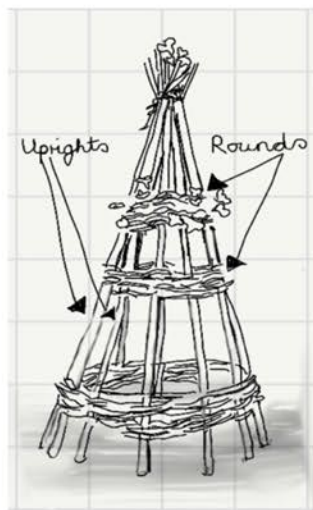
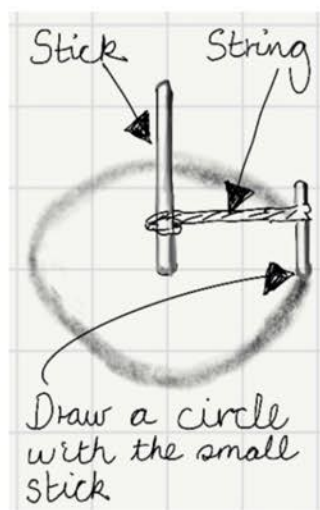
Please see accompanying activity video

MATERIALS YOU WILL NEED. Some strong uprights, like willow hazel or garden cane. For the rounds, buff willow (soaked for 3 hours) or freshly picked green willow or holly which is flexible enough to weave in and out of the uprights. See if you can forage some materials for the making when you are next out on a walk. You are legally allowed to forage from hedgerows. Please check UK foraging laws.

<https://britishlocalfood.com/foraging-british-law/>

You can make this a group activity sharing costs and having fun together.

TOOLS YOU WILL NEED. Pruners scissors garden gloves and



Draw a circle in the earth with a stick as shown. Press your upright sticks in the circle of earth about 6-8 inches apart. Make sure you have an odd number of uprights to allow the weave to work. Tie the top of the uprights together.

Now weave the bottom round. Weave the buff willow (which has been soaked for three hours) under and over the uprights, alternating so each upright has an over, then an under then over and so on. This makes the weave. Continue until you think the lower round is strong. Leave a big gap and start the second round with the same weaving technique. Two rounds maybe be sufficient but add a top round if you think the structure needs it. Now you are ready to choose your climbing plant!

Suppliers: <https://www.musgrovewillows.co.uk/willow>
<https://www.willowgrowers.co.uk> Amazon also sell buff willow. Video and PDF by Helen Malia.

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