

Pot o' Gold Centerpiece

You will find a "flowerpot" of gold at the end of this rainbow.

You will need:

- 4" clay flowerpot
- 12" pipe cleaners (1 red, 1 orange, 1 yellow, 3 green, 1 blue, 1 purple)
- Green felt
- 2 buttons (1/4"–1/2")
- Crinkled green paper shreds
- Gold-wrapped chocolate coins or other candy wrapped in gold foil (Rolos, Kisses)
- Black acrylic paint
- Paintbrush
- Double-sided tape
- Masking tape
- Scissors



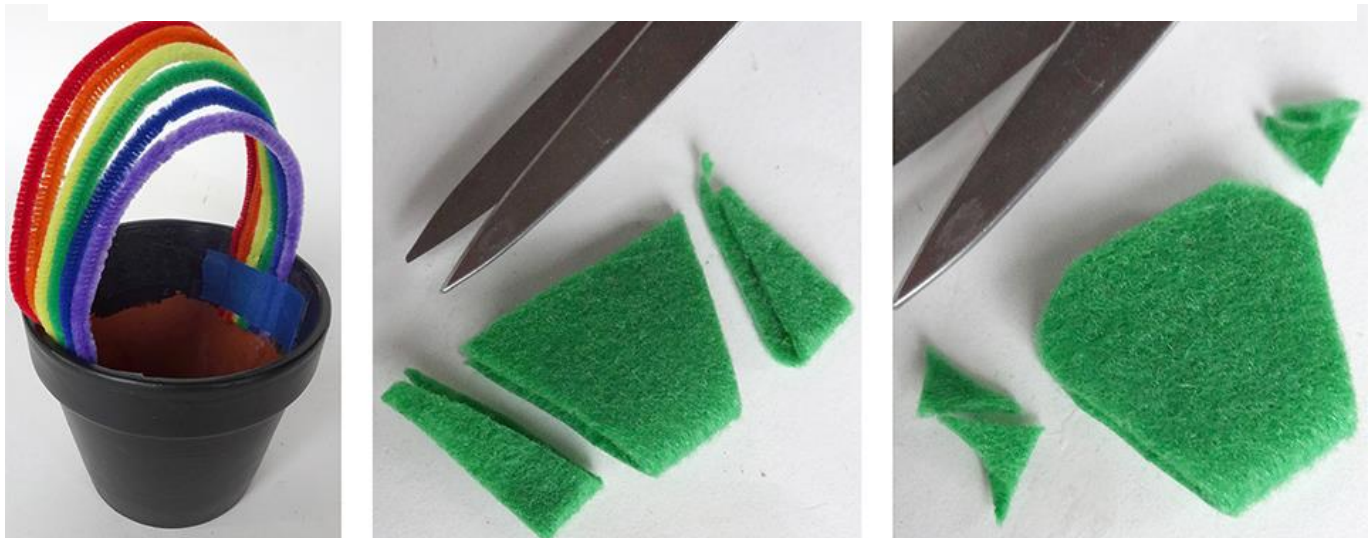
Print a [picture of a completed centerpiece](#) to show crafters. Post a copy on your bulletin board to create interest in the activity.

Directions:

1. Paint the flowerpot with black paint, covering the outside and the inside rim.
2. Place three 2" strips of double-sided tape on the inside rim as shown in the left-hand photo on the following page.
3. Arrange the pipe cleaners in the order of a rainbow: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple. Stick one end of the pipe cleaners to the double-sided tape as shown in the center photo. Then place a strip of masking tape on top of the paper cleaners.



- Place three more 2" strips of double-sided tape on the opposite side of the flowerpot as described in Step 2 above. Bend the pipe cleaners to form the rainbow arch. (Make the red pipe cleaner the tallest and the purple pipe cleaner the shortest.) Stick the ends to the double-sided tape. When all the pipe cleaners are in place, cover with masking tape as shown in the left-hand photo below.



- For each shamrock, cut two 1 1/2" X 3" pieces of green felt. Fold each piece in half so that it is 1 1/2" X 1 1/2" and cut out a shamrock petal shape as shown in the center and right-hand photos above. Trim the sides and corners to form shamrock petals.
- Thread the end of a green pipe cleaner through the holes in a small button as shown in the left-hand photo on the following page. Pull the short end through the second hole until you have a "tail" about 1 1/2" long.



7. Stack the two sets of petals and center them under the button as shown in the center photo above. Twist the pipe cleaner to keep the felt in place.
 8. Spread the petals apart as shown in the right-hand photo above.
 9. Repeat steps 5–8 to make another shamrock.
 10. Fill the pot with shredded paper. Then slide the stems of the shamrocks into the pot between the inside wall and the paper.
 11. Top off the pot with candy wrapped in gold foil.
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