



◀ BRANDON MINGA

Brandon Minga, a seasoned artist with 20 years of experience, is the creator and resident artist at the House of RAD. He owns the Mingadigm agency, specializing in various creative endeavors. Minga's diverse portfolio includes murals, sculptures, and graphics showcased nationally, with notable projects like a 3D mural for Black Cat Alley and contributions to the Fiserv Forum and Milwaukee Bucks Collection. His commitment extends to community events and graphics for America's Black Holocaust Museum. Minga, a graduate of the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design, also founded the House of RAD, a creative space where he manages the Mingadigm and his studio practice.

SKILL LEVEL: Easy
TIME COMMITMENT: 1-2 hours

/ TOOLS AND MATERIALS



Miller® Millermatic® 142
MIG welder



.030 Hobart® solid wire



Angle grinder



Glass piece



3/16"-1/4" A35 steel rod



Steel bicycle wheel spokes
or 1/8" steel rod



Gears or bearings



Spring

**WARNING: READ AND FOLLOW ALL LABELS
AND THE OWNER'S MANUAL.**

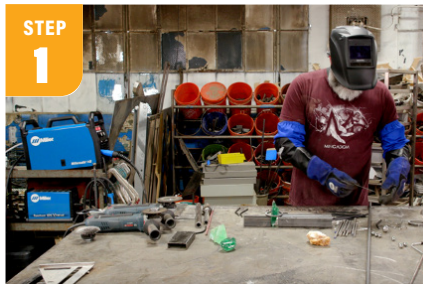


DIY WELDING PROJECT: HOW TO BUILD A TREE TOPPER

Follow these instructions or simply use this as a guide to spark your creativity to build your own unique topper for your tree this holiday.

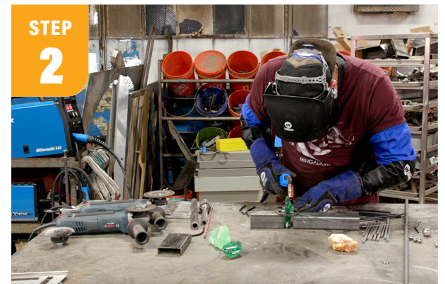
STEP BY STEP

STEP
1



Use two square tubes (or other items you may own) to prop up your glass piece and set your metal ring around it, resting on the tubing.

STEP
2



Pressure set your stone by laying a spoke over your ring and using your Millermatic 142 MIG welder to weld it to your metal ring. The end of the spoke should be pressed against the glass stone. Repeat this step two more times at equal distances around the ring so that once all three spokes are set, they hold the glass stone in place.

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Flip the piece over and tack your gear or bearing to a rod at the top and bottom of the glass stone, and repeat three more times to create a torch shape. Then take your angle grinder and remove the excess spoke still sticking out from step 2.



Once the rods are secured, attach more spokes parallel to the rods to fill out the sides of the torch shape. Once all spokes are tacked on, again, use the angle grinder to cut off excess materials at the bottom of the piece.



Weld another bearing to the push pins and spokes at the bottom of the piece. The spokes should fit inside the bearing, and you can hide most welds by tacking them to the inside.



Finally, weld your spring to the bottom of the bearing. Use your angle grinder to cut the spring down to your preferred length. Enjoy your beautiful new tree topper!



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