

# HOW TO MAKE LIGHTED CHRISTMAS BALLS



- Materials:
  - Chicken wire or poultry netting: 46" inches per Christmas ball from a 2' roll
  - o 2 (or more) strands of outdoor lights per lighted Christmas ball (100 count)
  - 1 extension cord per lighted Christmas ball
  - A clothes line (or other type of rope) to hang each lighted Christmas ball
- Tools:
  - Measuring tape
  - $\circ$  Gloves
  - $\circ$  Wire cutters

- Other:
  - <u>Method 1:</u> 2 saw horses, plywood, 4 pony clamps

<-

<-

• <u>Method 2</u>: 6 screwdrivers...with your surface being the ground



# **Instructions**

- 1. Cut the chicken wire:
  - Flatten out your chicken wire. This is made a lot easier if you use one of the following methods:
    - Method 1: Stretch the chicken wire over a piece of plywood and keep it in place with a pony clamp at each corner. To make it even easier, raise the plywood to waist level by placing it on top of 2 saw horses.
    - Method 2: Roll the chicken wire out on the ground and then poke a screwdriver into the ground at each corner of your wire rectangle. Poke 2 more screwdrivers into the ground just on the other side of where you'll be cutting. That way...as you cut, the chicken wire will stay in place and not spring up and slice your face!
  - Measure 46" and cut the wire with your wire cutters.

### 2. Create a wire tube:

- Fold the 2 cut ends together...lining up the edges...forming a wire tube.
- Using the loose wire ends, twist them together.
- You don't need to twist the wire together about 6-8" from either end.

### 3. Create a wire sphere:

- $\circ$  Create several dovetails from the open ends of your tube and fold them together.
- $\circ$   $\,$  Mash in the squared edges to make your sphere a bit rounder.

# 4. Wrap lights around the wire sphere:

- Starting with the male end of one of a strand of lights, poke it in and then back out of the chicken wire and tie a knot.
- Wrap the lights around the wire sphere...slightly rotating the sphere as you go. You don't need to put any of the lights inside the sphere.
- $\circ$   $\,$  At the end of your 1st strand of lights, thread it in/out of the chicken wire and tie a knot  $\,$
- Connect at least 1 more strand of lightsDand like with the first, thread each end in/out of the chicken wire and tie a knot to keep it secure on both ends.



