

# TREE KITS



## Assembly Instructions

1. Trees are soft metal castings, they may have some flash, if so scrape it off. The pin on tree is for planting in a drilled hole. Most of our trees can be made free standing by cutting pin off and filing or sanding flush.
2. Wash trees with soap and water.
3. Bend tree to a realistic three dimensional shape. You may want to cut or break off some branches for even more variety. For pine trees, twist main trunk in a spiral fashion to make branches project many directions from trunk. Twist larger branches at trunk to a horizontal plane. You may need pliers.
4. Brush or spray paint the bent trunk with any flat lacquer or enamel paint. Most trees are dark gray with hints of brown.
5. After paint dries, lightly paint high spots of bark with a lighter or darker color for more realism.
6. Cut foliage with scissors into irregular shaped pieces (approx. 1" x 2").
7. Stretch cut foliage pieces in all directions to approximately twice their original size, making them appear 3-dimensional and "lacy" (see-through). Save "leaves" that fall off foliage, place them under tree as fallen leaves.
8. Divide the stretched foliage pieces into the same number of piles as there are trees in the kit. Allocate one pile for each tree.
9. Using one tree and one pile of foliage, place foliage on tree, arrange it until tree has the appearance you want. If you have trouble getting coverage with the amount of foliage in the pile, simply stretch it out more. Trees with thin foliage are more realistic. There should be foliage left over. For pine trees: cut foliage into pieces about the size of a nickel. Apply to top side of branches with white glue. Leave foliage off some branches for more realism.
10. Apply white glue to a few spots where foliage touches branches.
11. Trim undesired strands of foliage with scissors, and spray foliage with a clear spray (hair spray, varnish, lacquer or acrylic) to make foliage hold its shape better.
12. Tree is ready to plant. Use left over foliage for vines, weeds or bushes.

**Note:** Each tree can be bent many different ways, and the foliage applied in many different ways. Trunk and foliage colors can vary. Variation adds realism and variety to your scenery.

## Hints and Suggestions

- **Build Background Areas of Dense Trees and Growth**  
Use our foliage material as trees with twigs, wire or toothpick trucks. Use foliage on ground for low growth.
- **Vary Foliage Color**  
Use extremely light coats of spray paint in localized areas, or spray finished tree with clear spray and sprinkle on various shades of green turf (6 colors available in our turf line).
- **Vary Tree Height**  
Cut base of trunk and plant tree deeper than normal. Pine trees can be made taller by cutting off base of one and top of another and soldering together. Exercise great caution as tree melts at low temperature, soldering iron can melt tree.
- **Make Fall Trees**  
Four fall colors of foliage are available in our foliage line. When stretching foliage, save the "leaves" that fall off and place under tree.
- **Fruit or Flowering Trees**  
Apply clear spray (hair spray, lacquer, varnish, or acrylic) to tree, sprinkle on our fruit (T47) or flowers (T48) and respray.
- **Dying Trees**  
Use the brown or yellow color in our fall foliage package and mix with some green foliage, or sprinkle appropriately colored turf material on finished tree using clear spray technique above.
- **Dead Trees**  
Our dead tree kit, TK22, contains 5 different castings. Some have peeling bark and one was hit by lightning. Of course any of our trees can be built as dead trees, by leaving foliage off. Paint tree with lighter colors to look weathered. Let vines grow up some of them by applying strands of our foliage or turf material with white glue.
- **Fallen Trees**  
Cut base of tree off at angle and "splinter" it with coarse file. Lay on ground next to a broken stump from our broken stump package, S32.

**Note:** Be creative and experiment. Variety and realism are limited only by your imagination. If you discover something exciting, tell us about it. We always welcome comments which may help us improve our products.

 **WARNING:** Sharp objects. Choking Hazard! Small parts. Not intended for children under 3 yrs. Adult supervision required.

Conforms to Health Requirements of ASTM D4236

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