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## Wood Veneer Globes with Kelly Wilkinson

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### Chapter 1 - Introduction

Overview of wood veneer globes

- If you're looking for a simple decoration for a party that you might be putting on or having people over, these wooden veneer globes are going to be for you. They're very simple to put together using veneer strips from your hardware store, and when they're all clustered together at different heights, they have this great impact. They're really modern looking, simple, and just have this really nice clean look to them. You can decorate them or go in any direction you want to with these guys. You can do this from the comforts of your own home.

### Chapter 2 - Getting Started

Tools and materials

- To make the veneer globes, you only need a few things. Really the star of the show is the veneer itself, which you can find in hardware stores or in specialty hardwood flooring stores. The kind that you're gonna get in a hardware store usually comes in a package that looks like this, and you can get it in a couple different widths. It comes in two inches across, this wider one, or 3/4 inches across. And you can get it in different kinds of wood finishes. So you need your veneer. You also need an awl, and you need some paper fasteners. That's how we're gonna join them together. And then however you're gonna string it up, you can use yarn or fishing wire. If you wanna decorate the globes, you can use really anything that you can think of. I've made polka dot ones for kids' parties, and that is just using actually little dots from an office supply store. You can paint them. You can put tape on them. You can hang pom-poms in the middle. So after you've got your basic supplies in terms of decorating, wherever you wanna go with them, this kind of wood will accept any sort of decoration really, really beautifully.

Make globe

- To make this globe, which is three different parts, all the same length, you need to start by cutting the lengths of veneer. You can make them longer or bigger, if you want. I love the shape of this little guy because it's small enough that it really keeps a long, circular globe shape, which I like. If you get too much bigger, it starts to droop a little bit and just turns into more oval. Which is certainly not the end of the world. That looks great too. But I'm gonna show you how to make this size. So, I'm gonna start by cutting three strips of the veneer. And these are about 25 inches. So, you just make a cut there. So, you measure one. You can lay that one on top of the veneer to find the length. Or you can just measure them out, one at a time. Whichever is your preference. And you don't have to be completely to the millimeter accurate. You can just trim it up after. They're very feisty. (chuckles) So, now you've got your three lengths here. And I just wanna make sure that they are the same. If they aren't, you can just trim it up here, at the end. By just cutting to the shortest one. And then, you're going to start wrapping them. And you want about a half an inch to probably three quarters of an inch overlap here. And this is where we're gonna punch through with an awl and fasten it together. If you use too much less, it's likely to just split. You really wanna just make sure that it's got enough room to grab onto. And so, it's gonna be really secure. You're going to wrap it around and make sure that there's that overlap there. And then, you wanna take your awl and punch through the backside of the veneer. Put it down on your cutting surface. I'm using this mat. If you don't have

one of these, you can just use a cutting board. And then, you just punch it right through. It'll save you some time if you just really quickly work it through, back from this side now. Once you've got one all cut and stamped with the all, you can just use that as your guide. And lay your second piece underneath. And you're just using your first hole as a mark. So, you go right through and you wanna mark down to the second one. Do that on the other end, as well. And you just wanna work the all, all the way through there, on both ends. And again for the very last one. Now we've got all of the holes punched in each strip of the veneer. So, we just stack each strip up there. Look for that little hole to make sure you've got it in the right place. See through the sun, a little daylight. And then, strip by strip, you just put the fastener through. Push it all the way in. And then, start piling up your strips. These fasteners come in a really wide range of colors and finishes and sizes. I like how this bronze color looks with this natural sort of birch wood. But you can get them, literally, in almost every color under the sun. I mean, I've seen American flag ones and glitter ones. So, (chuckles) you can really use whatever kind of fasteners suit your fancy. So, once you have it back to the other side, make sure it's through there. Which gives you enough room to open up each side of the fastener. And secure those in place. If you need a little extra oomph, you can just use this side of your all. And then we have our basic veneer globe.

#### Decorate strips

- Now that you've got the hang of making this little guy, you can decorate it in any way that you want or you can also experiment with using some thicker strips and thinner strips, you don't have to always use three, you can make any kind of combination you want. If you are using the thicker veneer, it's exactly the same process. You make however long you want the lantern to be, you cut it into that length, and the same exact thing. You punch it all through and you create it that way. You can mess around with doing skinnier, along with the fatter veneer, and adding different kinds of shapes here. If you wanna decorate it, there's a million different ways to do that. If you wanna keep it really simple but bring out more of the grain, you can hit it with a coat of veneer or spray polyurethane, anything like that will make it a little bit more shiny. You can also paint these strips, you can add tape to them. If you are doing that, you want to do that before you hinge it all together and fasten it into the globe shape, it's just a lot easier to decorate it when it's flat on the table. So if you wanna make a striped, add stripes to this with different tape, you can just put a can of soup down here or anything, or a piece of painter's tape, you just wanna make sure it's flat. If you're a really persnickety kind of crafter, I don't put myself in that camp, you could measure out the increments where you want all of the stripes. If you're using a surface like this, you already have the different kinds of inch marks here, I tend to just eyeball it and wing it and go for it, so that's what I'm gonna do here, I'm just gonna create diagonal stripes all the way down the strip of veneer. I'm just gonna lay these across, and because these are treated on the back with an adhesive, that means that things don't adhere well to it, it has this bumpy surface on the back. You might think that you could make this easier by just folding it over to the back side, but really the easiest thing is to just cut the tape to the actual width of the mirror here, on the front. So you can do a bunch in one color, you can change it up as you're working your way down here to the bottom. If it isn't perfect, it really doesn't matter that much, as long as you get it pretty equidistant as best you can. Because once they're wrapped into the shape of the globe, it's not like anyone's gonna have a ruler out measuring your stripes. If they do, they're no friend of mine. So now I'm just gonna pick this up, and trim off the tape here. Just working right along the edges. Whoops. If you're holding your scissors sort of tucked under this veneer, is what will give you the cleanest edge there, the cleanest cut. And the

other side. So you have your one strip of striped veneer and you continue making others exactly like that, for a striped globe, and again, you can change up the color or you can have some that are striped, some that aren't. If you wanna paint your veneer strips, you wanna do that also before you bend them into the globe shape. You just wanna cover your workspace with some cover paper, craft paper, and then cut your strip of veneer, lay it down on the surface, put tape on it to secure it, and then mark off the different patterns that you wanna create, stripes or different blocks of color with painter's tape on top of the veneer strips. So, now you have this banded veneer strip, which make cool patterns once you start folding them into a globe. You can make more of those, you can change up the colors, you can create any kind of patterns that you want. If you wanna add polka dots or make a polka dot globe, you can use these office tab stickers that I think are just used for keeping your things color-coded, but you can put them on your veneer strips. And same thing as with the washi tape, you wanna run it off the edge and instead of folding it over to the back, you wanna snip off the side here because it won't stay very well, so it'll just pop back up. Once you have decided how you wanna decorate them if at all, it's time to just string them up.

#### Add center design detail

- If you are adding anything in the middle, the best time to do it is right before you string it up, so I can show you how to do that with anything you might have on hand. I've got one of these little yarn pom poms that takes me back to roller skating rinks. I've got one of these that I'm going to stick in the middle of my globe here, and what you want to do is thread a needle with some fishing wire, and just knot the end. And then on the other, just feed it right through a needle. I have a needle. And then you're just going to go right through the center of this pom pom with your needle, out the other side. You can just work it right through there. When you're doing this to hang something in the middle, you want to have the length of fishing wire be long enough to hang, so you want to have it go all the way through the globe and give yourself as much room as you need to hang it. So then trim the end, and now you're ready to put it inside your globe. So you want to arrange these, we're going to put another fastener at the bottom, well what would be the bottom. It's actually going to become the top, which I'll show you in a second. So you want to get these. These are going to be secured in place, so you want to get them exactly how you want them to be and then pick up your awl again and punch right through this side. This one's a lot easier because it's not stacked. We don't have the overlapping ends, so on this side we just have to go through these three layers. Just be careful of your fingers, but you should be able to just punch right through. Then take your needle with your fishing wire and thread it right through this hole that you just made, all the way to whatever height you want that little pom pom to hang. So I want it about there. I'm just going to put my thread to the side and then come back with a fastener, and go right back through here. Sometimes they kind of open a little bit on the way through. I'm just going to use that awl to have it go in the direction that I'm going to be coming from, and send that right through. Open it up on the other side, and then you are ready to hang this guy. If you want to do this without the pom pom, this is still a really nice way to finish the other end and give yourself the fishing line to hang this with, so you would do it exactly the same way, but without the pom pom. You would just make a big enough knot in the end of your fishing wire so it doesn't come through the hole, and then punch through with the awl, put the fastener in place, and that will on the other side secure the fishing line and you are ready to hang a cluster of these and make a whole cloud of veneer loveliness. (upbeat instrumental music)