This Week: Decorate Your Garden With Can-do Birdfeeders

Perk Up Your Garden

Turn old coffee cans into cute birdfeeders in just 5 simple steps
For outdoor décor that is custom and affordable, try crafting your own birdfeeder by repurposing a coffee can. It’s a simple 5-step process that anyone who can handle a pair of wire cutters can do. Follow the instructions below to get a jumpstart on springing up your lawn!

Materials

Metal Coffee Can
Drill
Craft Wire
Spray Paint
Wire Cutters
Scrap Screen
Hot Glue Gun (optional)
Painter’s Tape
Birdseed

Instructions

1. Drill. Cut a 1-to-2-inch hole in the lid of the coffee can and a second, much smaller hole right below it where the perch goes. While the drill is going, a) make two small holes on either side of the can where the wings will attach and b) two small holes at the head and the base of the can where the hanging wire will go.
2. Paint. Spray paint the can and lid black, or whatever color the base will be. Let dry.
3. Snip. Cut four long pieces of wire, approximately 12-inches long. Loop two wires into a teardrop shape, twisting the bottom together extending $\frac{1}{2}$ - to 1-inch. At this point, you can add the mesh/screen to span the wires. If you choose to add the screens, hot glue them to the wire. Twist the other two around each other for the hanger.
4. More paint. Make sure the base color is completely dry. Then, using painter’s tape create a pattern on the can for where stripes or spots will appear and spray paint again.
5. Glue. Attach the wings and perch using the hot glue gun. For best results, bend the twisted end piece of the wings so they hook into the holes. The perch will need to be about 1/3 of the way into the hole to stabilize.

Tip: Add any extra pizzazz to it, like eyes, tiny wire legs or antennae. Anything you use will need to be weather-friendly and hot-glued to the feeder. Get creative!

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