

Can I Has Wreath?

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I think I was about 7 years old when I received my first hamster, a gift from my dad, who loved animals.

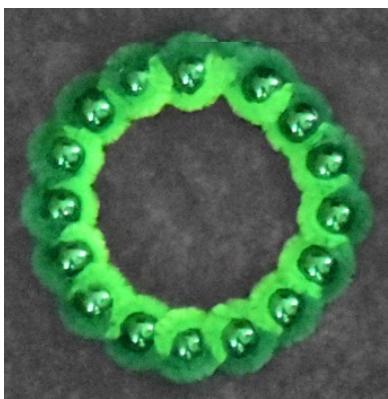


I adored my little teddy bear hamster -- the cutest little beastie, tiny and warm and oh-so-soft -- and I carried him with me whenever I could.



It's been years since I had a hamster, but I still think they are the most adorable little creatures.

Flash forward to 2020. I've lately been making memory ornaments in various styles, for my siblings, my husband, and myself, and I'm always happy to add another childhood theme to my tree.



Recently I've been trying my hand at these little chenille/bead wreaths, which I saw demonstrated on youtube by Happy Bird (Lori). The video is a little slow to get going, but she explains exactly how to make them with two chenille stems and a length of fused beads -- they are very cute when decorated.

I made several of the wreaths just to try the technique, and I've had them hanging in the craft room for some time without having decided on how I want to finish them.

I did complete one of the wreaths last year as part of my friend's "Ornament of the Month" gift. You may recall from several of my other posts that she is a fan of the Mouse, so I made this one in his colors and with the appropriate dangle.

I used a 1" silhouette paper punch to make multiple tokens, then glued three punch-outs together for a charm, and decorated the edge with red glitter. I think this turned out quite well, and my friend was tickled with it. But I had yet to make one of the wreaths for myself.



But then, while rooting about in my crafting stash the other day, I discovered a little figurine that I had forgotten about: if you can imagine, a hamster!

As luck would have it, he is just the right size to fit one of the Chenille wreaths, and finding him gave me the inspiration I needed to complete this one for my own tree.

My little hamster ornament invokes some happy childhood memories for me, and he'll certainly have pride of place on my tree this year.