

Twisted Valentine's Heart

By Alberto Falcone

BMTV 574



Equipment

- Hand Pump
- Electric Inflator
- 260 Modelling Balloons

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the marketplace for the balloon & party trade

Products



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- Oaktree Telescopic Balloon Base Pro Kit
- Sempertex 260 Reflex Gold
- Sempertex 260 Reflex Crystal Red
- Sempertex 5" Reflex Gold Latex

Process: Pole Covering



1. To wrap a 260 around your Balloon Stand, first pump a small bubble of air into your Reflex Crystal Red 260.



2. Take the neck of the 260 and place it at the top of the stand. Holding it in place with one hand, start wrapping the balloon down and around the stand.



3. Once you've reached the end of the 260, cut the tip of the balloon and tie around the pole.

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Process: Base Covering

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4. To make your base cover, inflate two Reflex Crystal Red 260s and tie the ends together.



5. Starting from the knot of the 260s, twist two bubbles in both of the 260s.



6. Twist these 4 bubbles together.



7. Repeat steps 5 and 6 following on from the previous twist until the air inside reaches the end of the 260s.



8. To extend the base cover, inflate two more Reflex Crystal Red 260s and tie the knots together.



9. Twist these 260s onto your first set of 260s, where you previously stopped twisting the bubbles.



10. Pierce and cut away the excess latex of the first set of 260s. Tie this off.



11. Repeat steps 5 and 6 in your newly attached 260 until your base cover is big enough.



12. Place the start of your twisted 260s against the balloon stand pole and spiral this round the base until it is covered.



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Process: Twisted Heart

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13. To start the twisted heart part of the design, inflate a Reflex Crystal Red 260 with two pumps of air and squeeze the balloon before tying off to soften the latex.



14. Tie the balloon in a loop by tying the neck to the point just after the end of the bubble.



15. Cut the tip of the uninflated part of the 260 and inflate this with five pumps of air.



16. Tie the end of this to the same point as your previous loop. You should now have two loops, one bigger than the other.



17. Repeat steps 13 to 16, using three pumps of air in the first loop and four pumps in the second.



18. Take another 260 and inflate this with six pumps of air. Tie this in a loop.



19. Repeat step 18 with another 260, using seven pumps of air.



20. Tie these two loops together using the necks.



21. Hold all three sets of loops you've made together, with the smaller loop on top and twist all three of these together at the centre point.



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Process: Twisted Heart

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22. Once twisted together, arrange the loops in size order so the two-pump loop is next to the three-pump loop etc.



23. Take your three-pump loop and feed this through the centre of your two-pump loop.



24. Take your four-pump loop, run it over the top of the two-pump loop and through the centre of the three-pump loop.



25. Repeat step 24 with your five, size and seven-pump loop; Going over the loop before the last, and then through the centre of the previous loop.



26. Repeat steps 13 to 26 for the second half of the heart.



27. Tie a scrap of 260 around the bottom of one side of the heart, then to your balloon stand and then tie it to the bottom of the other side of the heart.



28. Use another two scraps of 260 to tie the top parts of the heart to one another, each side of the pole.



29. Repeat step 29, connecting the bottom part of the heart on each side.



30. Inflate a Reflex Gold 260 with two pumps of air and measure this against the width of the scrap 260 that is securing the bottom part of the heart.



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Process: Golden Accents

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31. Release air until it is the desired width and tie off.



32. Place the bubble of the Reflex Gold 260 over the scrap 260 and tie each end of the Gold 260 together, around the scrap 260.



33. Cut away excess latex and cut the scrap 260 as the Gold 260 will now secure the heart.



34. Repeat steps 30 and 33 three more times, replacing all of the scrap 260s securing the heart.



35. Inflate four 5" Reflex Gold latex to four inches and tie them into a quad.



36. Slide the quad onto the balloon stand, above the heart and twist the two balloons surrounding the pole together to secure.



37. Inflate four more 5" Reflex Gold latex to three inches and tie them into a quad.



38. Place this on top of the first quad and use a neck from the first quad to tie them together.



39. Inflate your 18" Valentine's Day Heart foil and tie this to the top using a balloon neck from the top quad to finish.



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