



ALYSON HADLEY

Hedgerow bounty

Snowberry, damson and glorious hydrangeas: four homegrown florists go foraging to show us their take on the classic tradition of winter wreath-making

PHOTOS: JO KEELING





DUSTY MILLER · LAVENDER · SPINDLE · SNOWBERRY · DAMSON · PEACOCK FEATHERS

I wanted to create a seasonal English wreath, without being too traditional. I started with a moss base, wrapped around a copper frame. I then added dusty miller leaves – I was tempted to stop there as they looked so much like antlers! But I continued, next adding dried lavender for scent. All of the berries are easily gathered at this time of the year in the hedgerow. I had already decided to avoid green and red, so used black privet berries, pink spindle and white snowberries. I particularly

enjoyed the pink spindle – I'm always surprised that they're a native bush, they look so tropical. My final touches were individually-wired damsons, clematis heads, feathers and a vintage brooch. The damson picked up the blue in the peacock feathers, the clematis heads reflected their texture and the brooch added a touch of Victorian elegance.

Wreaths from £35 by Jo at Green and Gorgeous in Oxfordshire or £55 to join in with a course; greenandgorgeousflowers.co.uk