



## Heart Bird feeders – Kindness to animals



**You will need:** Birdseed | Knox gelatin packs | Water | Heart-shaped cookie cutter | Non-stick spray | Straws | Wax paper | Mixing bowl | Cookie sheet | Twine or ribbon

1. Dissolve a packet of gelatin in about 1/4 cup of water, bring to simmer and stir until dissolved.
2. While waiting for your water to heat up, cut straws into about one inch increments. You will use these to create your holes for hanging.
3. Once your gelatin mix is ready, pour about 3/4 cup of birdseed into a mixing bowl. Pour in gelatin mix and stir. You don't want this mixture to be too wet, so if you see liquid puddling in the bottom, add more birdseed. (We wound up using about a full cup of seed.) Mix well.
4. Line a cookie sheet with wax paper and coat your cookie cutter with non-stick cooking spray before getting started. Then begin filling your heart-shaped cookie cutter with birdseed. (You'll want to move through these pretty quickly because the gelatin will start to set as it cools.)

With your heart fully packed, place a piece of a straw where you'd like the hole to be. Make sure the straw goes through to the cookie sheet. Gently lift your cookie cutter up and move on to the next one. You'll knock out several in no time! We were able to get about 6-8 per batch, but this will depend on the size of your cookie-cutter. Let these cool for about 45 minutes and then remove the straw pieces and flip the hearts over. Once they are pretty rigid, you might want to let them finish setting on a cookie rack, so air can get to them from all sides. It is important that they dry throughout so as to not grow any mold.

