



## Easy Wonky Topiaries\*

Mary E. Johnson

Some of the easiest and most fun things to make for wonky landscaping are funny topiaries.

Imagine the impact of "planting" a big ship, doll, cute animal or crazy free-form shape in your yard or garden!

You need only a simple animal or figure or wonky shape made from plastic (fine details will be lost, so choose recognizable shapes), fine green flower-soft in a sandwich baggie, and glue (Tacky, Grrrip or Gem-Tac glues all work for this.)

Coat your figures with thin layer of glue (too much glue will distort the figure when the flower soft is added). Place the glued figure in the baggie and shake or gently squeeze the baggie to coat with flower soft.

Remove carefully, place on plastic wrap and allow to dry completely. Once dry, gently brush away any loose flower soft and inspect for unglued spots. If necessary, dab with glue and flower soft as needed. Let dry again, and then "plant" them in your flower bed, yard or on a plinth.

For even wonkier shapes (consider some crazy statues you may have seen exhibited), cut and bend a thin piece of clear plastic into shape or bend 20 gauge cloth covered wire into crazy shapes and follow the above steps to coat with flower soft. You are only limited by your imagination!

\*This example was a tote bag favor or swap item, but I don't recall who made it, so just have fun! Mary E. Johnson