
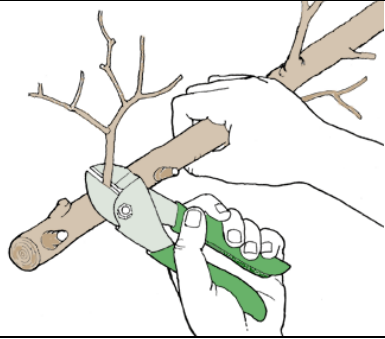
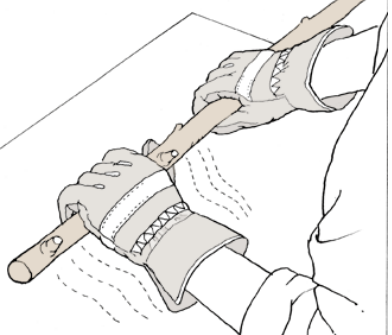
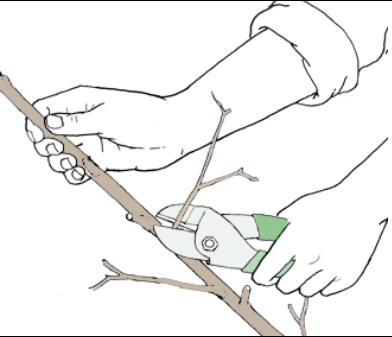
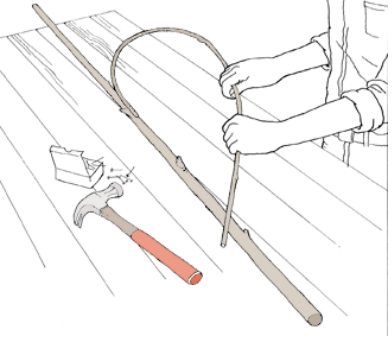
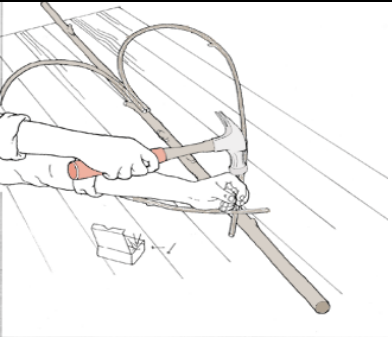
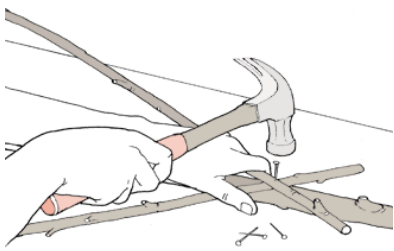
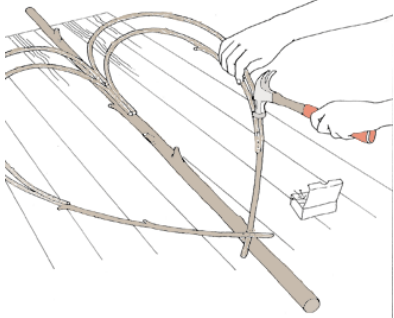



# a natural state

How to Make a Bentwood Trellis	
Tips:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use trimmings from your own backyard or neighborhood. Spring pruning of hedges, fruit trees and other landscape trees can provide material for your trellis. Look for newly downed limbs after winter or summer storms. If you have a bit of land, consider getting some willow cuttings and growing your own.</li><li>• If you can't find what you need in your yard, look for a neighbor who might be pruning trees and shrubs. Ask them for cuttings from their pruning.</li><li>• When gathering vines, be careful not to gather Poison Ivy.</li><li>• If you are not on your own property, do not cut and gather wood, branches or vines without having received permission to do so.</li><li>• Wood that is to be bent for trellises, gates, fences, arbors and other structures should be used within 24 hours of cutting. Wood begins losing its flexibility after 24 hours of having been cut, and will break more readily than freshly cut green wood.</li><li>• Use dry wood only for crosspieces and other straight pieces. After your trellis is made, the wood will shrink as it dries. You will need to tighten the joints that are wired after the shrinkage occurs.</li><li>• If you don't have access to an old picnic table, you can place a piece of 12 by 12 inch plywood, 1/4 to 1 inch thick, on top of another surface for when you nail joints together.</li></ul>	
General list of materials:	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Willow branches for the curving parts</li> <li>• Honeysuckle, Wisteria, Virginia Creeper or Grape Vine to help fill in the design</li> <li>• Red Cedar, Oak or Hickory, or sturdy Willow for the long supports and cross pieces</li> <li>• 12- or 14-gauge sheetrock nails</li> <li>• Small box of 7/8 inch nails</li> <li>• 1/2-inch nails</li> <li>• Tie wire or 16-gauge black wire</li> <li>• Paper, pencil and ruler</li> <li>• Hammer</li> <li>• Lopper or pruning saw</li> <li>• Pruning shears</li> <li>• Protective gloves</li> </ul>	
<p>Directions for a imple heart trellis from Willow:</p>		
<p>Heart trellis materials:</p>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One six-foot long, straight piece of wood, such as a willow branch, to be used as the upright. This branch should be at least three inches in circumference.</li> <li>• Four long willow branches for the curving parts.</li> <li>• For the arches of the heart, you will need four fairly slender and flexible willow branches. Each of these branches should be one and a half inches in circumference and roughly four feet in length.</li> </ul>	
<p>1)</p>	<p>Using the pruning shears, knock off the ends of the upright piece in order to give the upright a neat appearance. Clip off the remaining branches and branch stubs.</p>	

2)	Put on the work gloves, and rub the wood to buff the surface of the upright. This will smooth the surface a bit, and improve the appearance of the finished trellis. After smoothing the surface, set this piece aside.	
3)	The four remaining willow branches will be used to create the curving heart shapes on the trellis. Clip off the remaining branch stubs on each of these remaining branches, and then smooth the branches with your gloved hands.	
4)	Take one of the curving branches in your hands, and arch and roll it a bit to help it to bend. Take this branch and nail one end to the upright piece at about two or three feet down from its top, using the hammer and small nails. After you have nailed the top, then curve the branch and nail it to the upright. When you are finished, it should look like a butterfly wing.	
5)	Take another branch and arch and roll it a bit to help it to bend, just as you did the first one. Nail this branch to the upright section so that this "wing" is the opposite the first curved section that you attached in the last step.	

6)	<p>You will need to use the larger nails when fastening branches together where the pieces of wood overlap because of the increased thickness of the wood at these center crossing points. At this point, you should be able to see the shape of a heart.</p>	
7)	<p>To create the appearance of an inlayed heart, move up a bit from where the first heart was started on the upright, and redo steps 4 through 7. Form the new branch outside of and around the first one.</p>	
8)	<p>Set your trellis in the garden and let a rose climb over it, or place it in a pot and allow morning glory plants to travel up the trellis. You can also put it in your vegetable garden to use as a support for peas or beans.</p>	
9)	<p>As your rustic trellis weathers in the garden, you may have to add additional nails to hold the trellis together. Wiring the joints of trellis will also help make it last longer.</p>	