

TEAPOT FOUNTAIN FROM THE DIY NETWORK

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From the DIY Network's "Weekend Entertaining" Show, host Jeanne Benedict helps Lisa, the party hostess, prepare an *Elegant Evening Tea Party* for her friends. After creating a tea embossed invitation, they construct teapot fountains as centerpieces for the tables. The food for the party was just as outstanding including rich lobster bisque paired with chicken or salmon in citrus herb butter over a bed of vegetables. We can only hope they were serving **Notting Hall's specialty loose leaf teas**. So, in addition to fabulous teas and food, if you want a clever, original and unique centerpiece for your tea table, try your hand at this beautiful teapot fountain.

Happy sipping, Maureen

Time Needed

Tea Cup Fountain -- 1 hour

Materials Needed

E6000 or other waterproof glue
Mini water pump with about 24" of tubing
(found at aquarium or home improvement store)
Scissors
12"-14" saucer or tray (about 2" deep)
Glass beads or wafers
Scroll footed candle holder
China teacup and saucer
Teaspoon
Small teapot
Roses or other flower
Artificial ivy
Sticky wax or florist clay



Make this clever teapot centerpiece for your table at your *Elegant Evening Tea Party*.

Teapot Foundation

1. Attach the tubing to the water pump according to the manufacturer's directions.
2. If possible place the candle holder upside down over the water pump in the middle of the tray (**figure A**). If the water pump will not fit under the candle holder, set the candle holder upside down to the side of the pump.
3. Place the teapot on the candle holder feet so that it angles with the spout slightly downward. Use sticky wax or florist clay to hold the teapot securely to the feet of the candle holder.
Expert Tip: It is important to stabilize the spout of your fountain. You can do this temporarily with sticky wax, or for a permanent hold, you can use industrial-strength waterproof glue.
4. Position a teacup and saucer under the teapot spout. Put the teaspoon into the teacup, being careful not to block the spout of the teapot.
Note: The spout should be angled downward as if pouring liquid into a cup.
5. Run the tubing up the candle holder, alongside the teapot and into the top of the teapot (**figure B**). Place the end of the tubing into the spout of the teapot. Pull the tubing through the spout so there is the least amount of tubing between the pump and the spout opening. Trim the excess tubing as needed; the less tubing there is, the better the water flow will be. Secure the tubing to the teapot using sticky wax.
6. Before the teapot is decorated, it needs to be tested. First, place the saucer and teacup in the basin under the spout. Then, pour water in the basin and plug in the pump. Once the water flow starts, position the tea cup and saucer so that the water pours directly into the cup (**figure C**). Once the cup is full, the water will flow over the edges and back into the basin.

7. Cover the water pump with glass wafers (**figure D**) and spread a few wafers in the bottom of the saucer. Use sticky wax or florist clay to attach a piece of artificial ivy to the lip of the saucer. Place the ivy over the tubing to hide, using the sticky wax or florist clay to hold in place where needed.
8. Place the lid of the teapot at an angle over the teapot, covering where the tubing enters the teapot with ivy. Use sticky wax or florist clay to hold if needed.

A centerpiece that has a little action, such as the trickling water in the Teapot Fountain, can add a lovely touch to your party and really bring life to your table. You need to keep in mind, if there are mechanics such as a pump or wire, etc. involved with your centerpiece, that it should look good from all angles. Mask any type of hardware with ivy, roses or even table linen.



Figure A



Figure B



Figure C



Figure D

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