



Long-legged Frog

I got the idea for these long-legged characters when I saw some wooden ones with string arms and legs. They are happiest sitting around looking cute but you could also make them into simple puppets by fixing strong thread or shearing elastic to the head. Arms and legs will lollop around to the great amusement of all.

You will need

- Approximately twelve 10mm wide dark green strips
- Approximately twenty-five 3mm wide dark green strips
- Fifteen 3mm wide light green strips
- Three 3mm wide black strips
- One 3mm wide white strip
- Cocktail stick
- PVA glue
- Fine scissors
- 15mm (5/8in) dowel



1 To make the body, use about eight 10mm wide dark green strips to make a cone coil approximately 4.5cm (1¾in) tall.



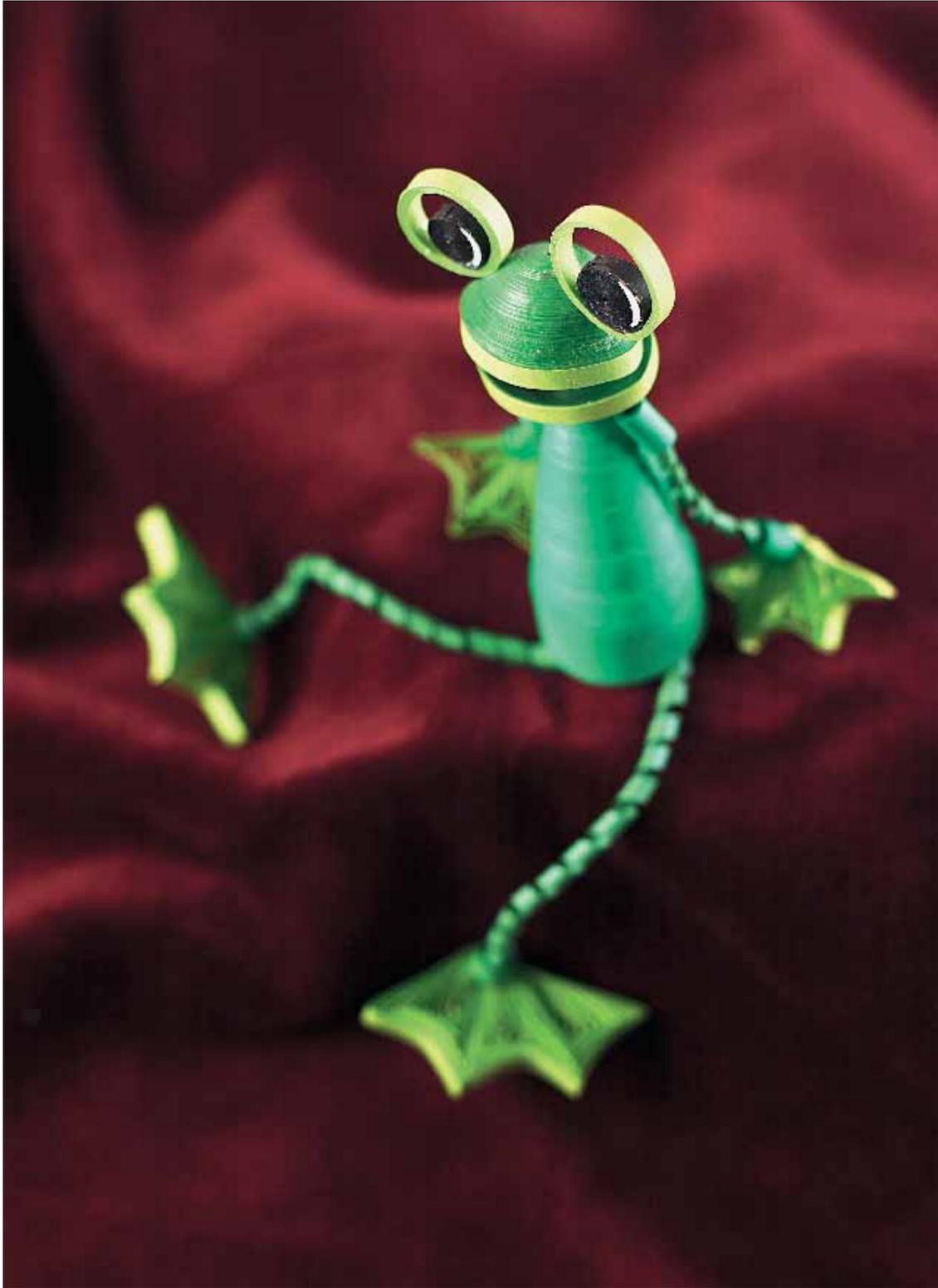
2 To make the head, use 3mm wide dark green strips to make a solid coil. Continue adding strips, one at a time, until the coil is 2.25cm (7/8in) in diameter. Add an extra light green strip to define the mouth.



3 Press this solid coil into a cup coil and coat the inside with glue. Before the glue is dry, press the coil into an oval shape.



4 You need to make two of these coils. Glue them to each other so that the mouth is a little open. Put a blob of glue on the outside rim of the top coil and on the inside rim of the bottom coil and wait for the glue to go tacky before pressing the coils together.





5 To make the eyes, wrap a 3mm wide, full-length, light green strip around a pencil to make a ring coil. Glue down the end. Make another, larger ring about 2cm (3/4in) in diameter.



6 Roll a 3mm wide, 2cm (3/4in) long, white strip. Release it and press it flat.



7 Roll a black 3mm wide strip into a solid coil. Do not roll the whole black strip. When about 8cm (3 1/4in) is left, incorporate the tiny white coil and continue rolling the black. Glue down the end. This will make an eye with that all-important highlight.



8 Make a larger eye with a highlight, this time using two black strips. Glue each black eye inside a green ring coil and glue them both to the frog's head.



9 To make the arms and legs, use 3mm wide strips, quarter length for the arms and a third length for the legs. Make them into tendrils and push each end into a ring coil (tube) made from a quarter of a 10mm wide strip, rolled around a cocktail stick.



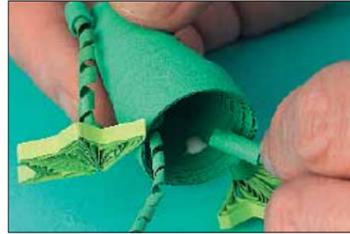
10 To make the hands and feet, use 3mm wide strips to make twelve wheatear coils. Each of the three wheatears needed for a foot will use up as much of a full-length strip as possible. Cut off any excess strip. Each wheatear for the hands uses about a half-length strip. Shape each wheatear using a 15mm (5/8in) diameter dowel as shown.



11 Glue three shaped wheatears to each other.



12 Glue the hands to the arms and the feet to the legs.



13 Glue the arms to the shoulders. Glue the legs to the inside of the body as shown.

The finished Long-legged Frog project.

