

How to Make a Peace Pole

A peace pole is a hand-crafted monument that displays the message, “May Peace Prevail on Earth” and often in different languages (picture #1). There are tens of thousands of peace poles in 180 countries all over the world, dedicated as monuments to peace.

Peace poles can be made out of wood, vinyl, metal or any other material that can be painted or engraved. Peace poles can also be various heights (from desk top version to 3 foot poles to 6 foot garden poles) and can be displayed indoors or outdoors. Peace poles can be put in your yard, garden, home or they can be displayed publicly in your community.

We chose to make our peace poles out of 4”x4” wood posts. We bought the treated wood posts from home improvement stores (like Lowe’s or Home Depot) and from lumber yards. Most stores sell the posts in various lengths and will cut them to the desired length for your project.



Picture #1

Steps

- 1) Nail the post to a flat 2’x2’ plywood base (picture #2). Hold base to one end of post and attach it with 3 long nails. It just needs to be sturdy enough to hold the post upright while you are painting it.
- 2) Prime the post. We put 2 coats of primer on, but you may be ok with just 1 coat. We used a water base interior/exterior white primer that works on all surfaces.
- 3) After the primer dries, put a coat of white paint on the post. This just serves as a plain base starting point for decorating the peace pole. You could use any color if you want.
- 4) After the base coat dries, decorate your peace pole! Be creative!
- 5) It’s usually a good idea to plan out in advance what you want to display on your peace pole. Also, even though the posts bought from stores are supposed to be 4” wide, they are usually narrower than that. So you will want to plan accordingly if you are creating stencils to use.



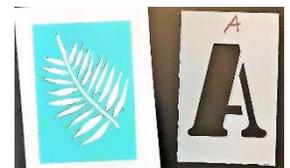
Picture #2

- 6) Ideas for decorating the peace pole:

- Acrylic paint works well
- Stencils you can trace around for an outline – print off your own and cut them out (picture #3)
- Stencils you can tape to pole and paint directly onto (picture #4)
- Mod podge to attach pictures or words printed from a computer
- Hot glue stones or rocks (picture #5)
- If using sharpie markers or things printed with printer ink, be extra careful when putting the sealant on in step #7 so that the ink doesn’t run
- Usually peace poles contain the words ‘May Peace Prevail on Earth’ and often in multiple languages. Sometimes just the word ‘peace’ is displayed in multiple languages (picture #6). Peace poles can also have your own thoughts, quotes, or poetry, all with the intention of spreading a little more peace, love, and light in this world.



Picture #3



Picture #4

- 7) After everything on the pole has had plenty of time to dry, put a waterproof sealant over the entire pole (if you plan to display the pole outdoors).
- 8) After the sealant has completely dried, you can remove the pole from the base by prying and wiggling the pole back and forth to loosen the nails and pull the pole from the base.



Picture #5

- 9) Ways to display your peace pole outdoors:

- Using a fence post anchor spike in the ground (picture #7)
- Digging a hole 1/3 the length of the actual peace pole and installing the pole directly in the ground (for this option leave 1/3 of the pole undecorated at the bottom to be buried)
- Leaving the pole attached to the plywood base (or another more decorative base)



Picture #6

- 10) Post a picture of your peace pole on PaintingPeace.weebly.com or email it to peacepoles@gmail.com.



Picture #7