Cinderella’s Pumpkin Carriage

What you’ll need

• 3 ornate metal belt buckles
• 1 squat grey or green pumpkin, about 12-in. tall
• Pencil or marker
• Knife or carving tool
• Craft glue
• 1 ornate lamp finial
• Cordless drill fitted with ¼-in. bit
• 4 gourds, about 4-in. tall
• 2 wooden dowels about ¼-in. wide, cut to the width of your pumpkin
• 4 ornate drawer pulls
• Heavy-gauge florist wire

How to make it

1. Hollow out the pumpkin by cutting a 4-to-6-inch circle through the top or backside of the pumpkin (large enough for your hand to fit through). Clean out the pulp and seeds with a large spoon and discard. (Or save the seeds and roast them later. Yum!) Replace the cut circle.

2. Trace the inside of each belt buckle on the pumpkin with a pencil and cut to create the window and door openings. Glue the hardware over the openings. Remove or cut down the stem until it’s even with the top flesh of the pumpkin, and twist the finial into the top.

3. To create wheels, drill a ¼-inch hole through the center of each gourd. Insert 1 dowel into the holes of 2 gourds to create an axle, and then secure it with glue. Repeat for the second set of wheels. Finish off all 4 wheels by inserting a drawer pull into the outside hole of each gourd for hubcaps. Secure with glue.

4. Line up the 2 sets of wheels next to each other at about the same width as your pumpkin. Then wrap florist wire from one dowel to the other to fasten the axles together and to create webbing for the pumpkin carriage to sit on.

5. Gently place your carriage on the wire.