

Worship Supplies: A Tool Kit to Get Started

Your worship team will be more creative and less frustrated if you have some basic supplies. This list, compiled in large part from chapter seven of **Awesome Altars: How to Transform Worship Space** by Mary Dark and Judy Pace Christie, will give you some good ideas on what you need:

- Hammer**
- Nails, tack, screws** (assorted sizes), **screw-eyes, cup hooks**
- Screwdrivers** (flathead and Phillips head)
- Florist wire** (assorted sizes) **and foam**
- Several kinds of tape** (masking tape, painter's tape, duct tape, green and brown florist's tape, packing tape)
- Zip ties** (assorted of sizes)
- Fishing line** (10# and 30#), **string, twine, ribbon**
- Paint brushes** (1" and 2")
- Pins** (straight pins, safety pins, glass head pins, push pins, thumb tacks)
- Knife, carpet knife and replacement blades**
- Garden shears, scissors, wire cutters**
- Pliers** (needle nose and regular)
- Glass cleaner, paper towels, Goo Gone**
- Matches**
- Hand saw, level**
- Stick on labels** (Our labels say, "Please return this item to the worship storage area at the back of the sanctuary." Label everything you don't want to walk away.)
- Plastic totes** for holding your supplies

If you are going to work with fresh flowers you will need:

- Oasis** (Foam blocks that are soaked in water. Keep sealed in plastic until ready to use.)
- A variety of vases**
- Plant saucers and liners**
- Small water vials** (to hold individual stems)

For bigger, more complicated altarscapes, you might find these items useful:

- Cloth of varied colors and textures** (burlap, velvet, moleskin, and shiny fabrics) **to be used as altar draping** (Large pieces can be stored on cardboard fabric bolts or on pants hangers.)
- Iron and ironing board** (We admit that we don't tend to iron much, but a barely warm iron and roll of paper towels is a good combination for removing wax from carpeting.)
- Extension cords, remote control switches**
- Buckets, milk crates** (They are handy to provide a variety of heights, to help when carrying items, and to hold fresh flowers as you work.)
- Garbage bags**
- Blocks of wood for creating risers** (Four each of these size boards: 1"x8"x12", 1"x8"x18", 1"x10"x24", 1"x12"x36". Eight each of these size boards: 4"x4"x6", 4"x4"x12".)
- Small pieces of fabric for covering risers**
- Broom and dustpan, vacuum and bags**
- Sliders** (for moving heavy objects over carpet easily)

These items are nice to have on hand:

- Rocks, bricks, glass blocks, mirrors**
- Nice looking artificial flowers and greenery** (loose, not in arrangements)
- Bare branches, dried grass, grapevines**
- Nice looking artificial fruit, vegetables, bread**
- Candles and candle holders in all sizes and shapes**
- Quilt batting and tulle** (makes nice looking snow, especially when used with silky white fabric and illuminated with white Christmas lights)
- Crosses, baskets, pitcher and basin**
- Fishing nets** (from a craft store – heavier is best)
- Spot lights**
- Large cardboard letters**
- Drop cloths** (fabric can be painted to make inexpensive banners)
- Big rolls of paper**
- Aluminum screening** (crumpled up, it makes good "water")