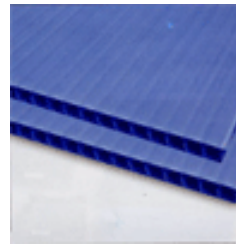# Working With Coroplast

with content courtesy of Marty Slack

Corrugated Plastic – What is it?

Corrugated plastic, also known by the brand name Coroplast®, is an extremely versatile, extruded twin-wall plastic sheet. It is durable and can be cut to any size or shape. Its surface is not affected by most oils, solvents or water, and cleans easily.
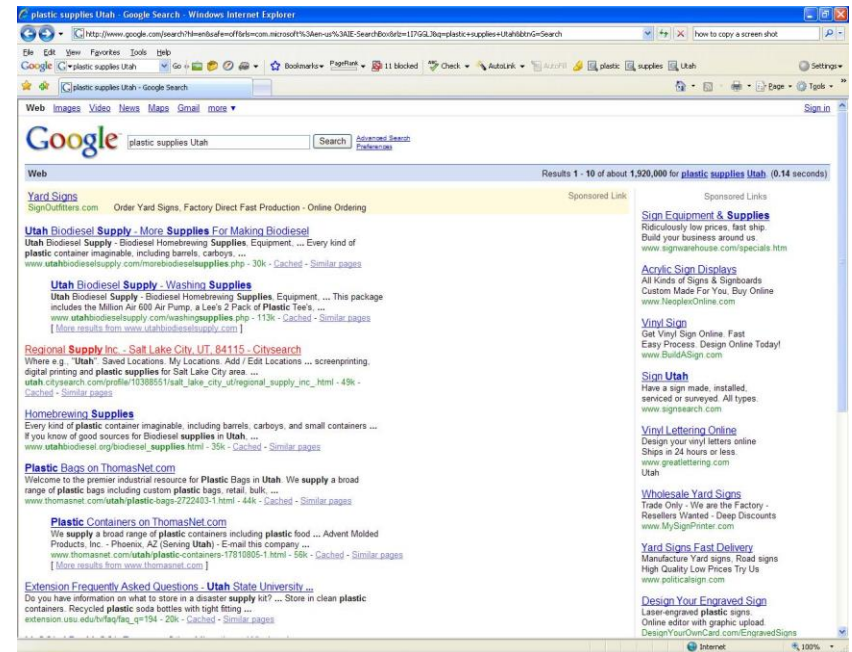
Corrugated plastic is available in a variety of lengths, widths and thicknesses, and comes in sheets of up to 48" x 96"

The most commonly available thickness of corrugated plastic is 3mm (approx. 1/8" to 3/16"), but other sizes are available.

What Can You Do With Coro?

Where to Purchase Coro

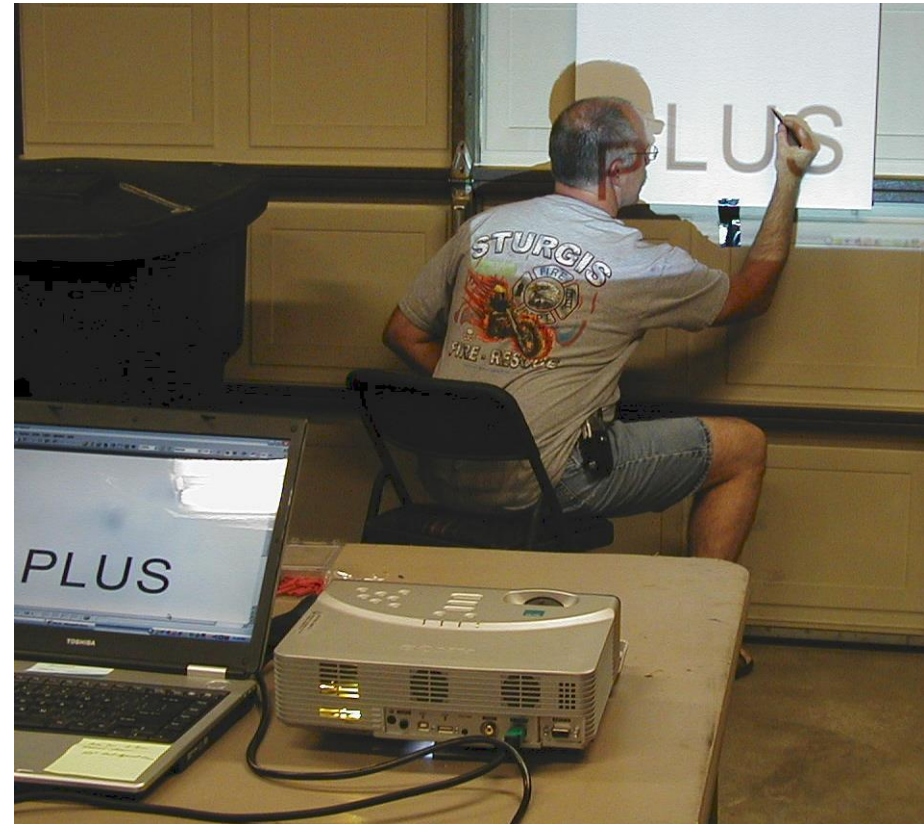- Plastics Suppliers
- Sign Shops

Cutting Coro

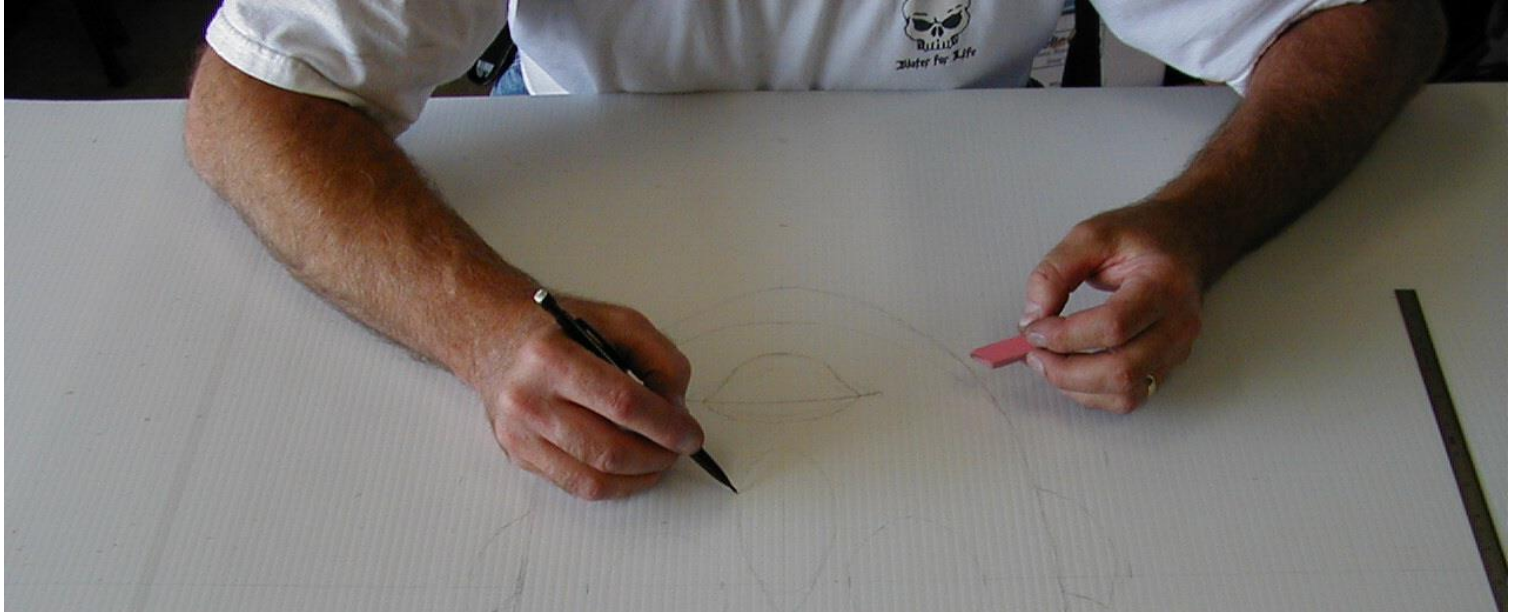- Cut with a sharp Razor Knife or Box Cutter.

Transferring Drawings

- Digital Projector
  - Project a mirror image onto the back side of the board.
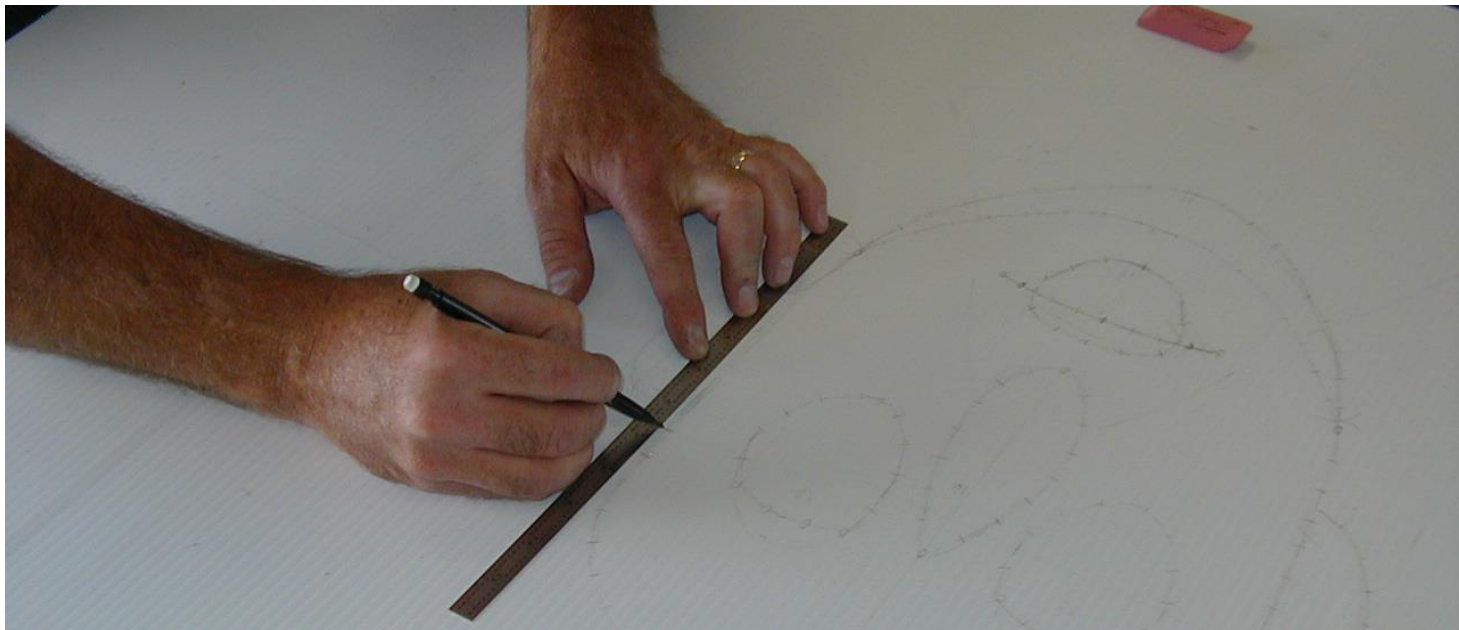 - Trace the drawing.

Transferring Drawings

- Free Hand Drawing
  - Trace the drawing onto the back side of the board.

Mini Lights

- ¾ to 1 Inch Spacing
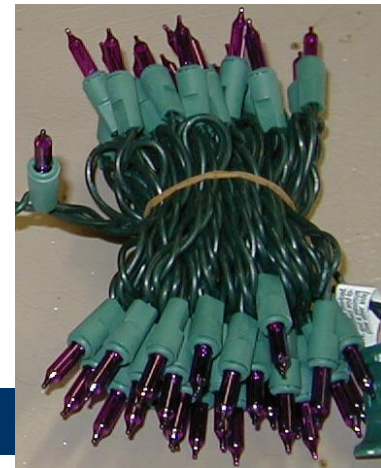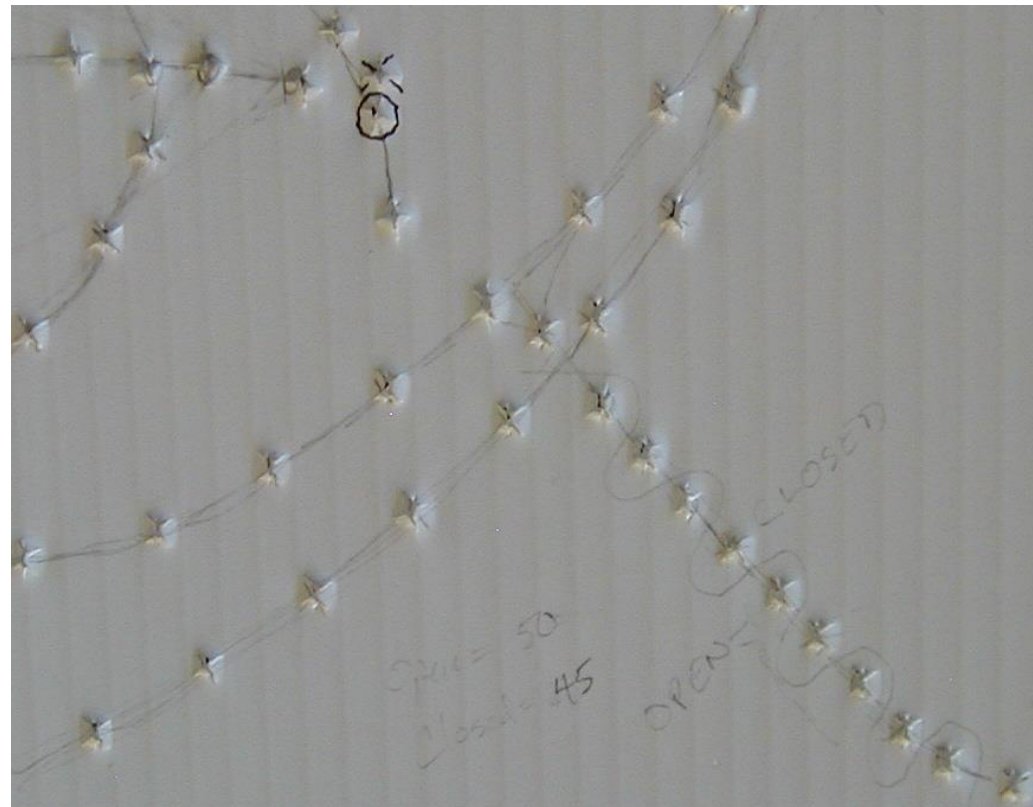- Multiples of 25/35/50 lights

Mini Lights

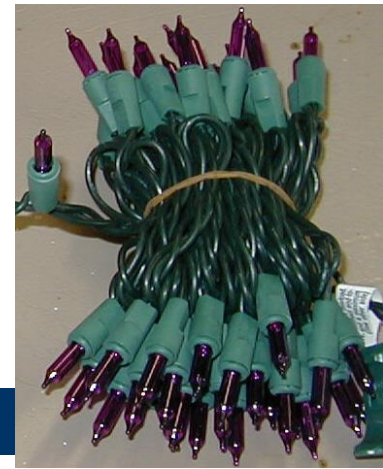- Punch out holes for the lights from the back side using a Punch Awl.

Mini Lights

- Make notes to help you remember where the lights will go.
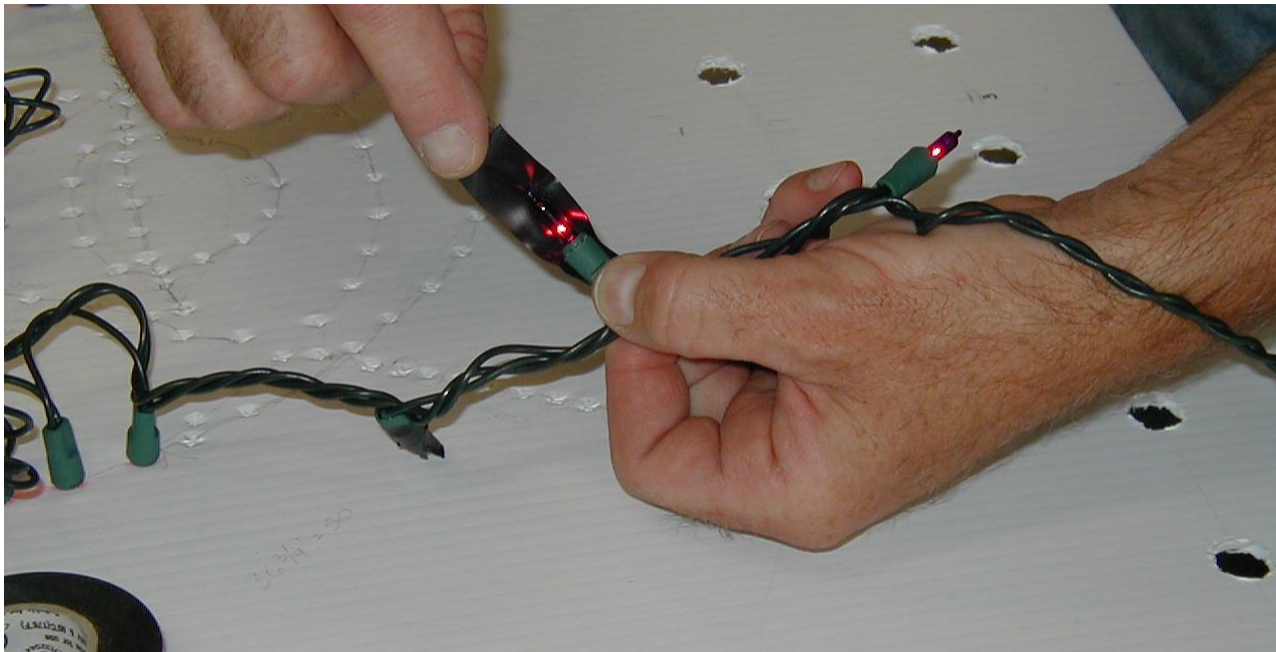
- Plan your route.

Mini Lights

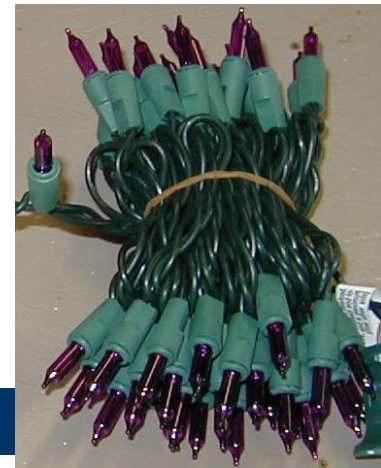- Insert the lights by pushing through the holes from the rear.
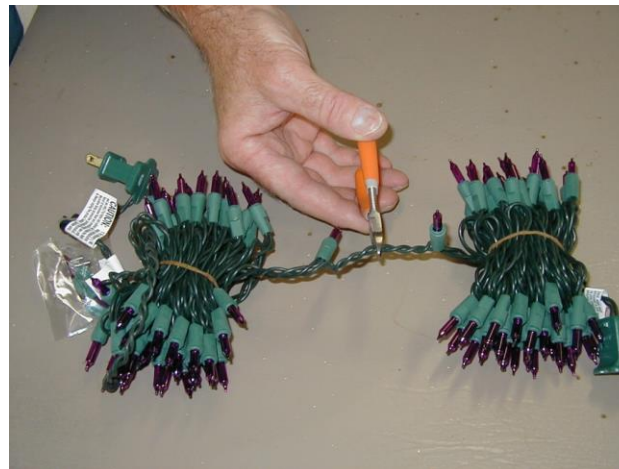
Mini Lights

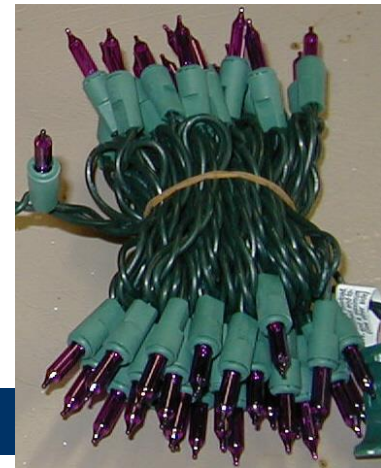- Cover unused lights with electrical tape or blackout caps.

Mini Lights

- Most Mini-Lights must operate in multiples of 35/50. LEDs often use multiples of 25/35.

- Light Strings can be cut and spliced to have the correct number of lights (50, 100, 150, etc.)
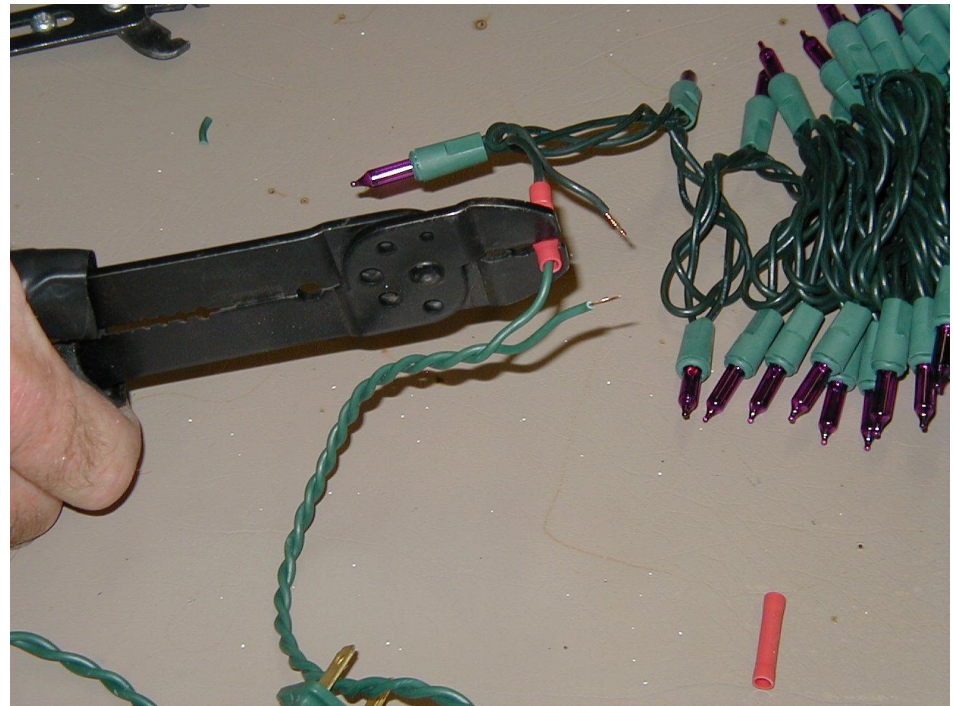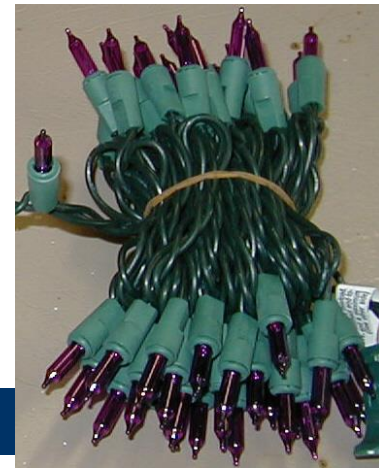
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Mini Lights

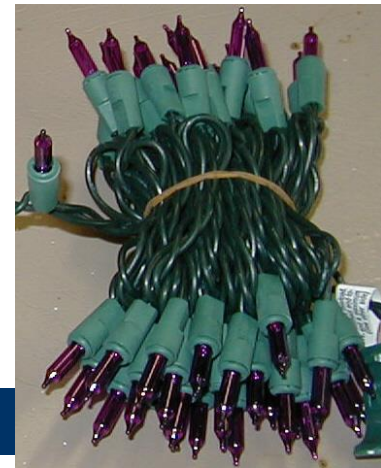- Light Strings can be spliced with a few simple tools and parts:

Mini Lights

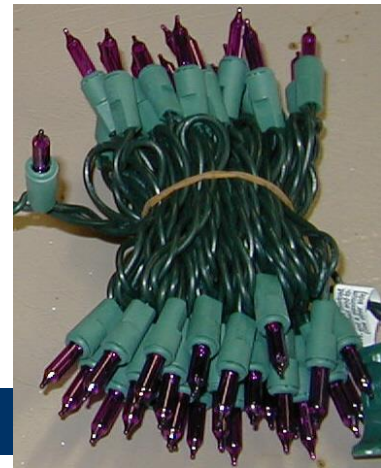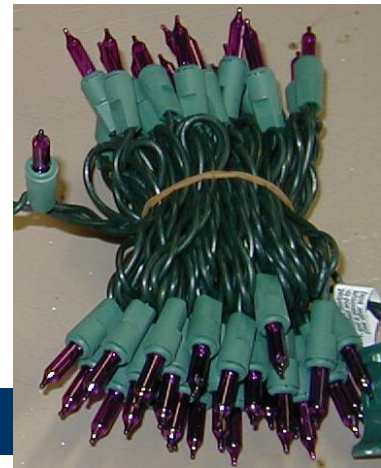- Butt Connectors provide a strong reliable connection.

Mini Lights

- Seal any unused wires to prevent electrical hazards.
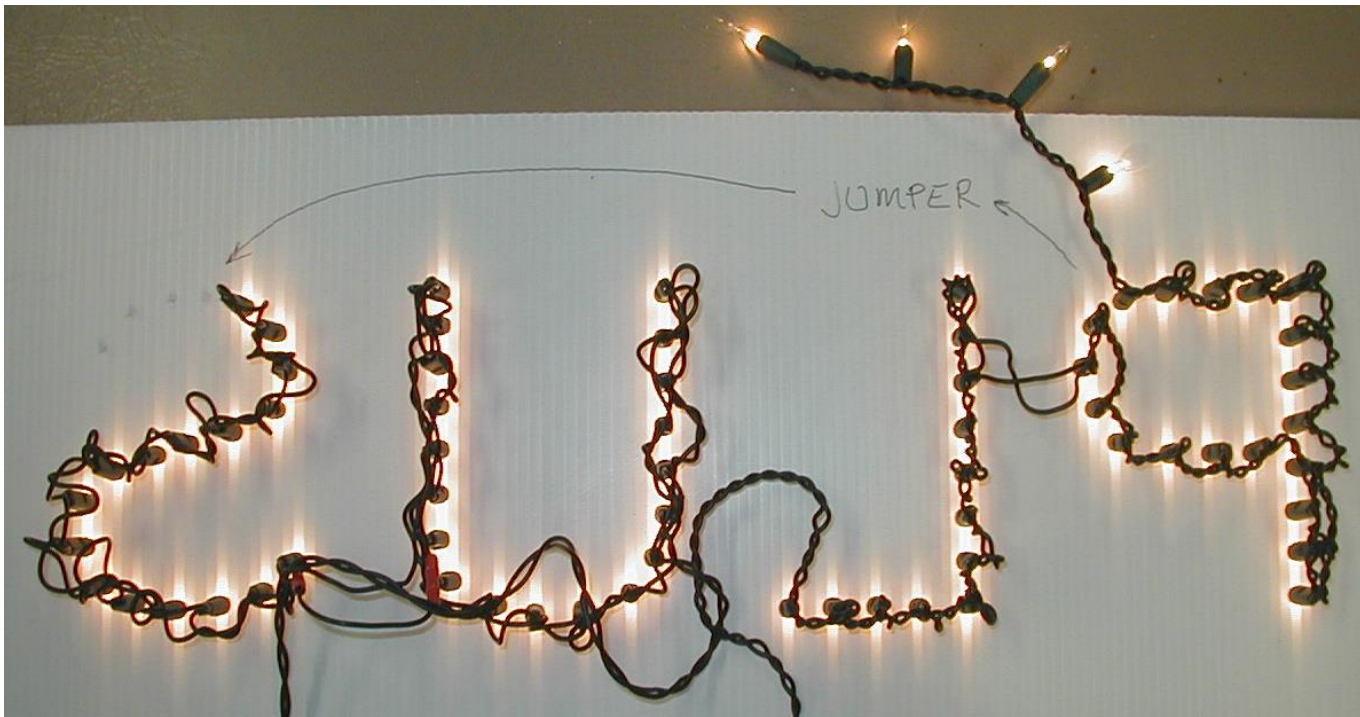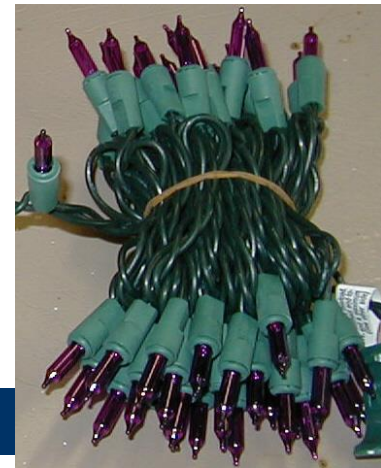
Mini Lights

Mini Lights

- Jumpers: How to span distances.

Mini Lights

- Jumpers: How to span distances.
    - Cut and splice in wires.
    - Make sure you don't cross wires when splicing.
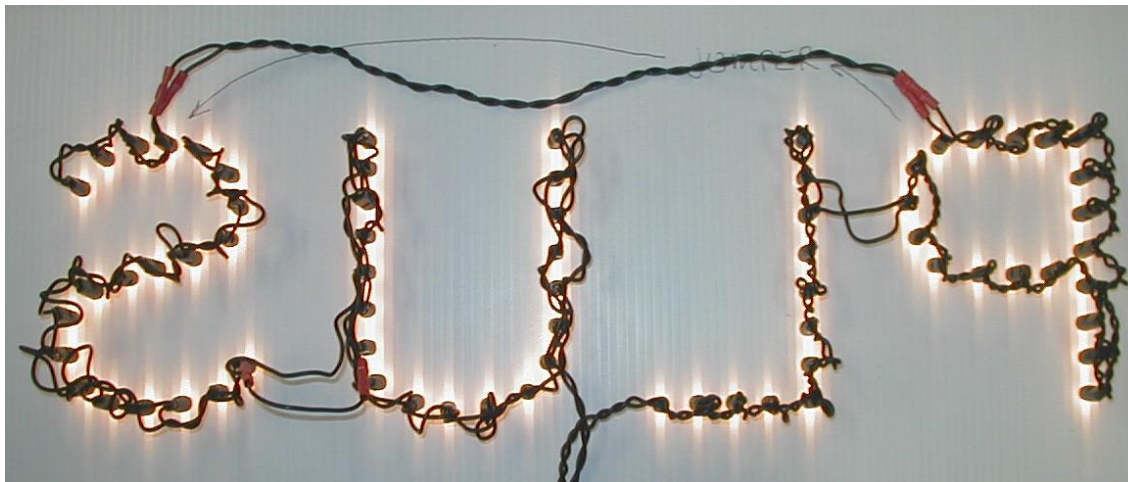
Mini Lights

- Jumpers: How to span distances.

  – Some spans can be made by cutting the short wire between bulbs, untwisting the remaining wire(s), and splicing in a single jumper.
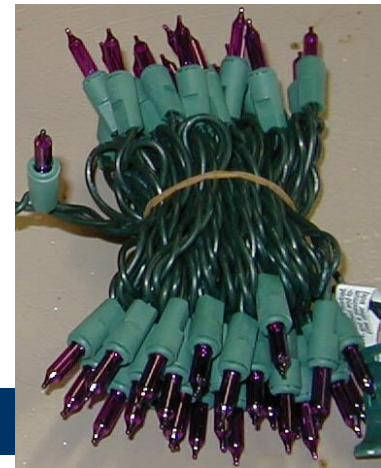
C7 and C9 Bulbs

- Use a drill and a "Speed Bit" to make holes for the bulbs.
- C7: use a 5/8 inch hole.
- C9: use a 3/4 inch hole.
- Attach by inserting the bulb through the hole from the front and screwing into the socket.

C7 and C9 Bulbs

- PARTS:
  - SPT "Zip" Wire
  - Sockets
  - "Vampire" Plugs
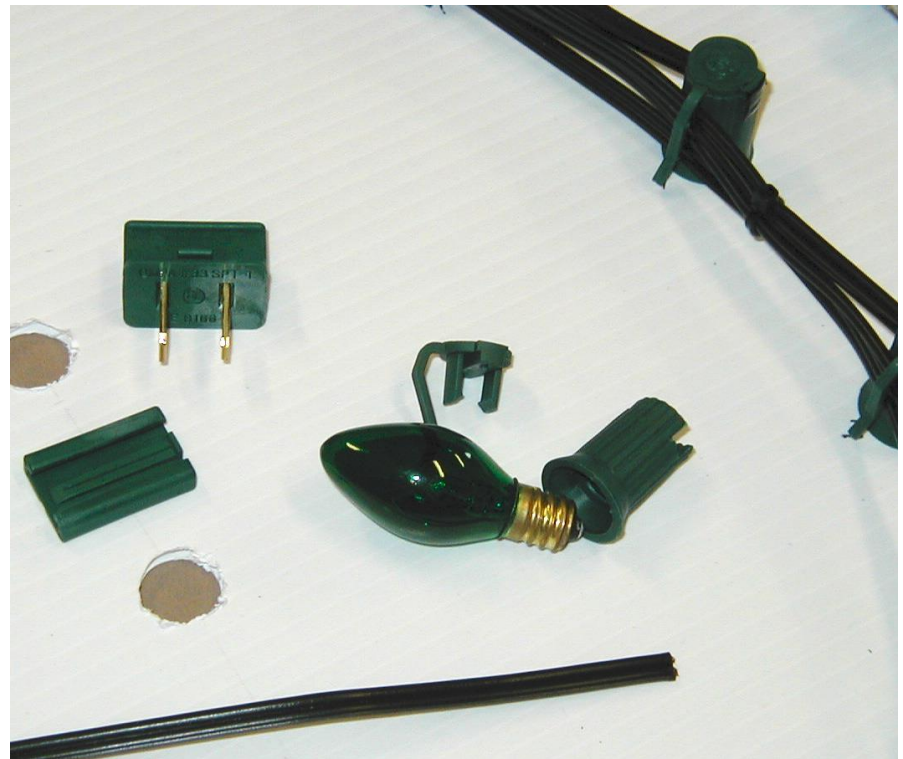
C7 and C9 Bulbs
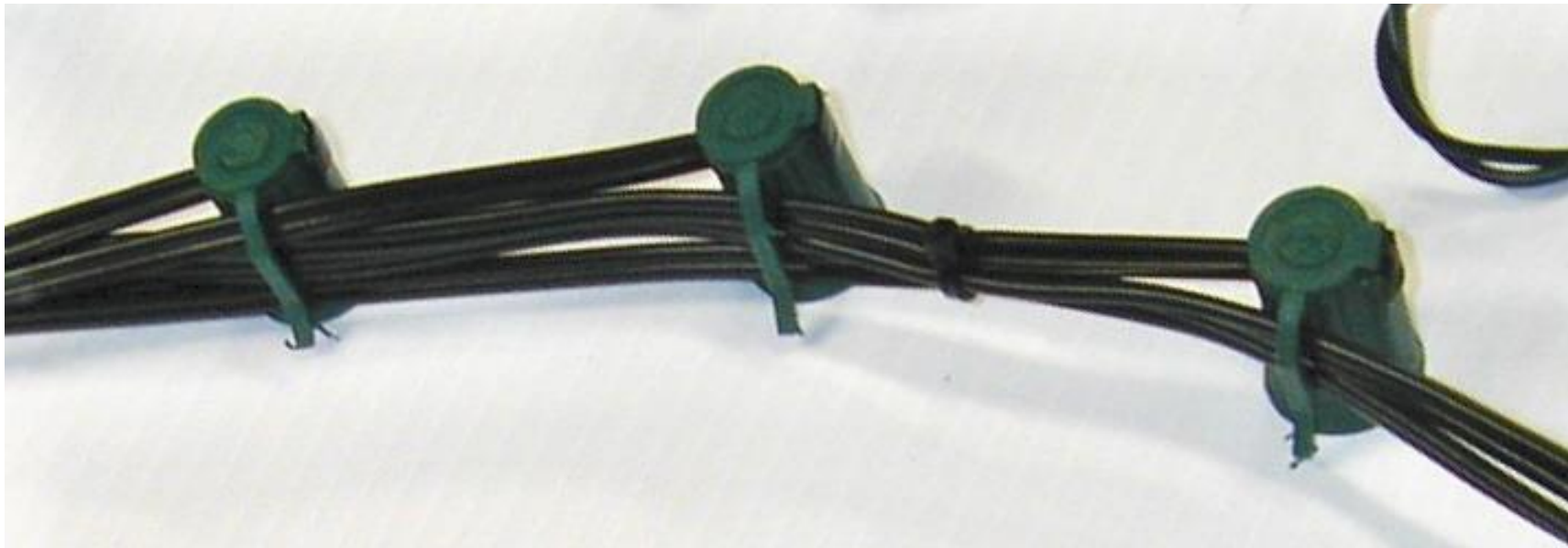
Ropelight

- Position the rope where you want it and punch holes through the Coro on both sides of the rope.

Ropelight

- Attach the rope to the Coro with zip ties.
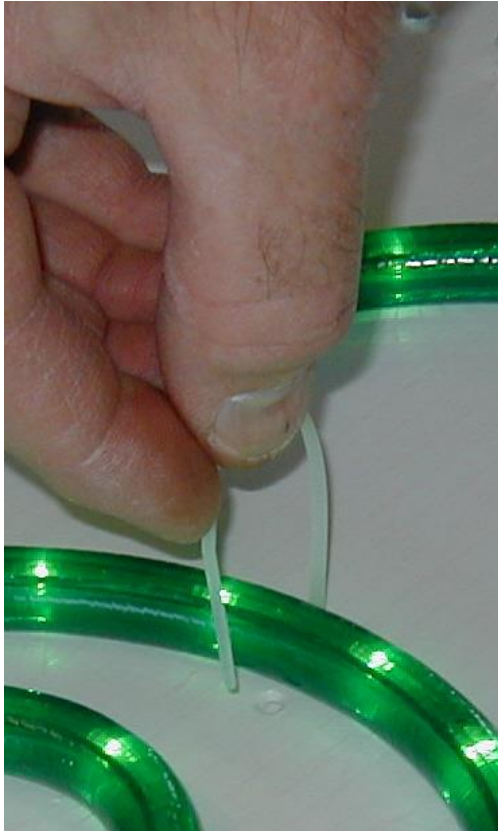
Ropelight

- The buckles of the zip ties are out of site on the back side of the coro.
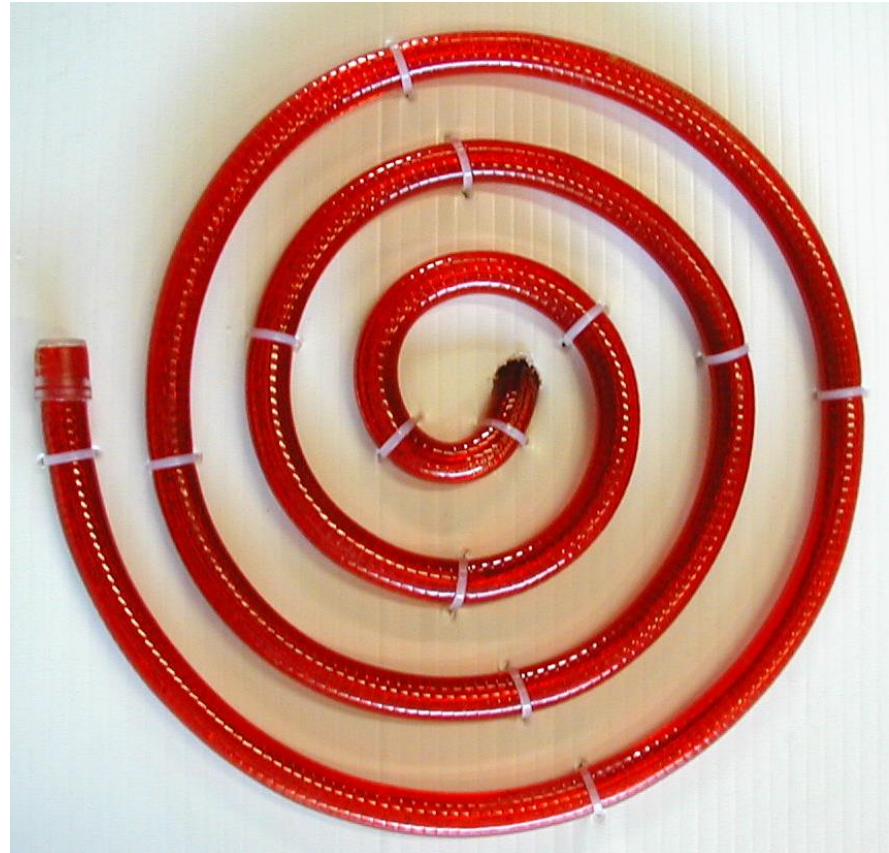
Reflective Lighting Methods

- Flood Lights
- Black Lights

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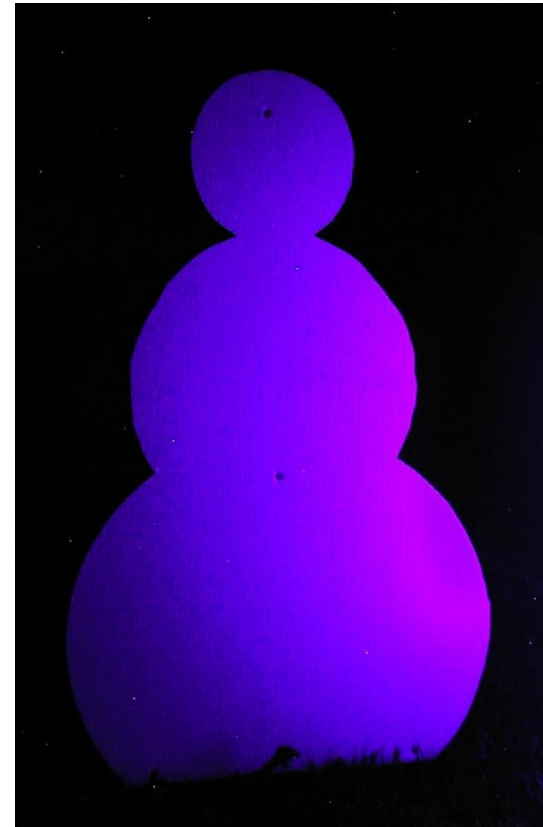
Frames and Supports

- Metal Studs
  - Easy to cut with tin snips.
  - Assemble the frame by overlapping the corners and connecting with self-tapping screws.
  - Attach the Coro to the frame with self-tapping screws.

Frames and Supports

- Recessed 2x4
  Wood Frames:
  - Cut a 3/16" groove
    with a table saw or
    router.

Frames and Supports

- Recessed 2x4 Wood Frames:
  - Cut each leg of the frame using miter cuts.
  - Insert the Coro and assemble the frame.

Frames and Supports

- Other Wood Frames
  - Simple wood frame.
  - Coro is face mounted to the frame with screws or tacks.
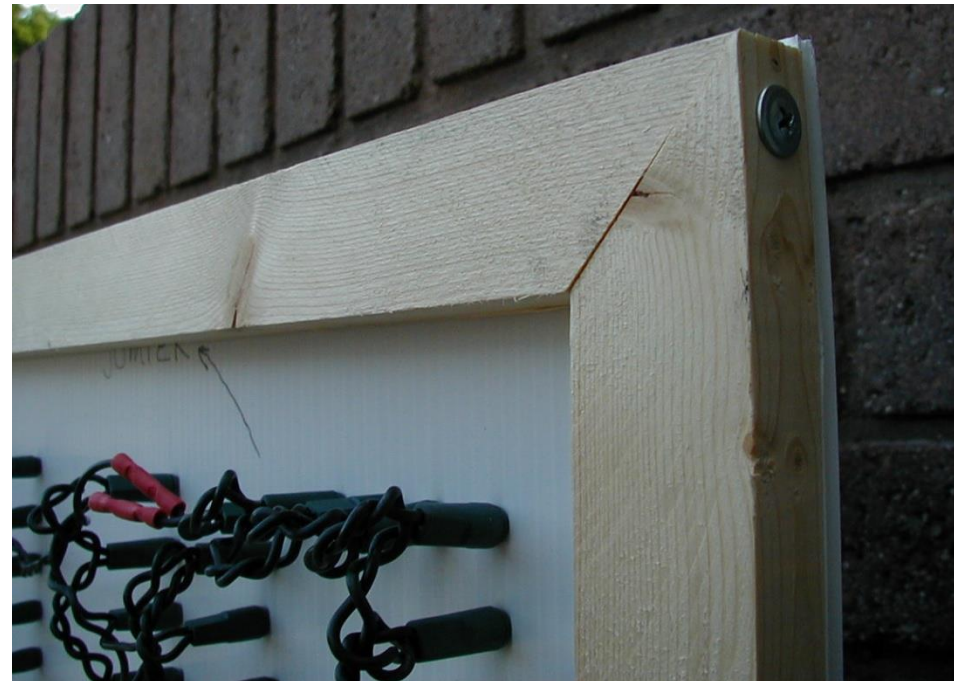
Frames and Supports

- Other Wood Frames
  - Simple wood support.
  - Coro is face mounted to the supports with screws or tacks.

Frames and Supports

- Welded Steel Frames

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Frames and Supports

- Displays can be attached by screwing through the frame, or hanging on hooks.
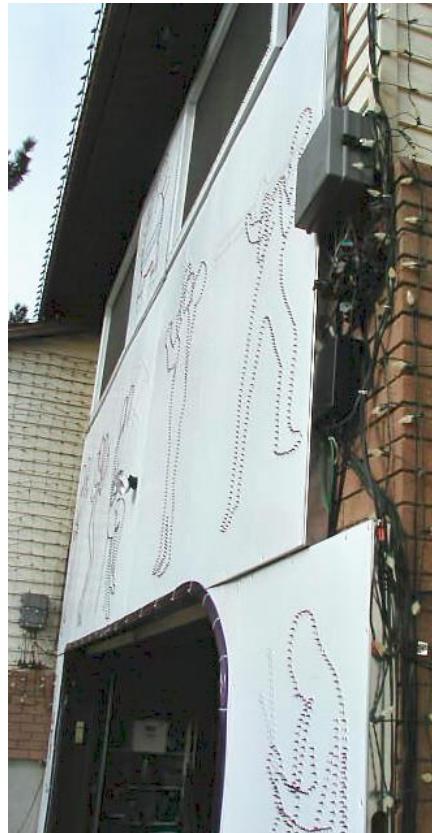
Frames and Supports

- Large displays can be supported with angled braces staked into the ground.

Frames and Supports

- Roof Supports can be held in place with sandbags.

Painting Coro

- Coro comes in multiple colors
- Coro can be painted with any plastic safe paint (ie Krylon fusion)
- High gloss is recommended
- It is not necessary to prime the coro if using plastic compatible paint, and the background color is acceptable

3D Shapes

- Fold similar to origami.
- Cut or score one side of the Coro to create a fold line.

Working With Coroplast

In conclusion, you can make just about anything you can imagine out of Coroplast.

Why not give it a try?