

Upholstering a Wingback Chair – Frame Up Through Springs

Wingback chairs can be transformed to fit a variety of design styles and are a staple for your upholstery portfolio. Learning to set and tie springs is a valuable technique for any upholsterer and will help set the foundation for your custom chair designs going forward.



Upholstering a Wingback Chair – Frame Up Through Springs: Step-By-Step Instructions

This how-to guide covers the steps to prepare the chair from the frame up. It includes how-to's for setting and tying springs and applying foundation padding. This is designed as a high-level guide, and not intended to be used as a detailed training reference material for upholstering a wingback chair. For more information on tearing down the chair and doing a cut plan, please reference our webinar: Upholstering a Wingback Chair - Frame Up to Tying Springs.

Preparing the Seat Foundation:

- 1 On the bottom of the chair, stretch webbing front to back, folding over onto itself, and staple. Complete all rows.

Materials & Supplies

Rowley Products

Utility Scissors/Shears, 8"
R-TEC Upholstery Air Stapler - Long
71 Series Staples - $\frac{3}{8}$ "
71 Series Staples - $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Curved Needle
Jute Webbing
Upholstery Jute Stretcher
Polyester Batting
Wraparound Safety Glasses

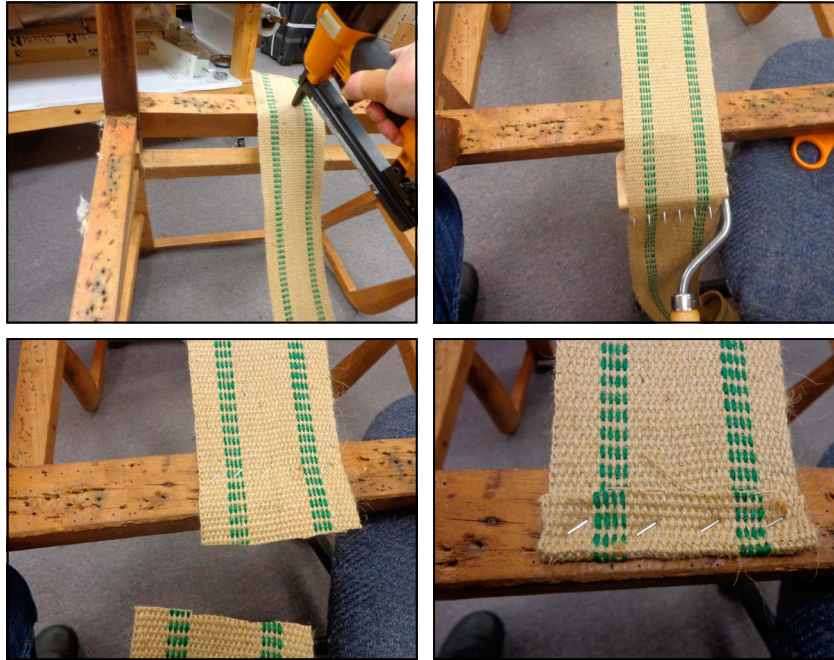
SKU

[CU8/U](#)
[NSG10](#)
[NS33/E](#)
[NS34/E](#)
[TP68](#)
[CS32](#)
[MH24](#)
[PF76](#)
[SG03](#)

Other Materials Needed

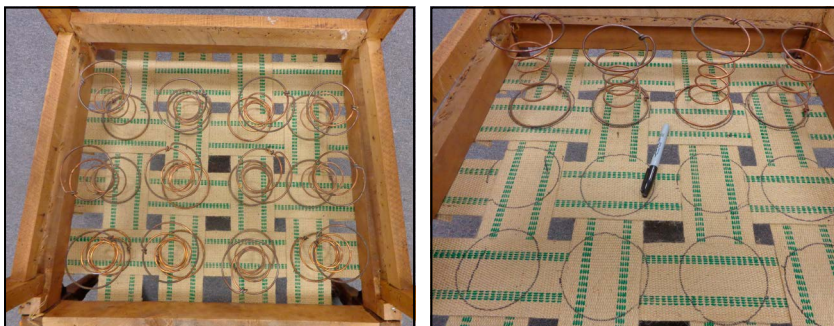
Permanent Marker
Burlap
Spring Twine
Jute Twine
1" Edge Roll
 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Edge Roll
Edge Roll Knife or Box Cutter
Deck/Spring Padding

- 2 Stretch and staple webbing side to side, making a weaving pattern. Complete all rows.



- 3 Place springs on top of webbing (so they sit in the chair frame).

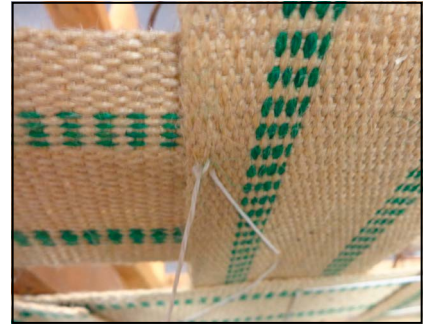
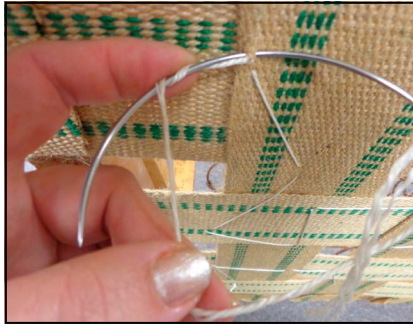
- 4 Mark around each spring and remove.



- 5 One at a time, place a spring onto its marks and secure it with spring twine.

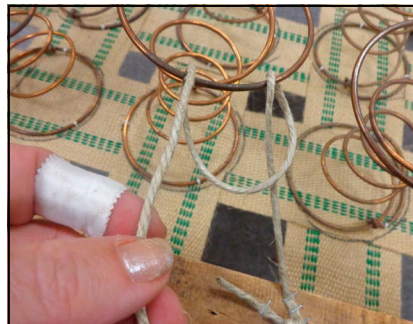
- A. Tie off each spring in three areas by sewing up, over and down on the side of the spring.
- B. Move onto the next spring and so forth until you run out of thread.
- C. Re-load the needle and continue until all springs are secured.
- D. Tie a knot at the end of the twine by looping twine over needle before pulling all the way through.



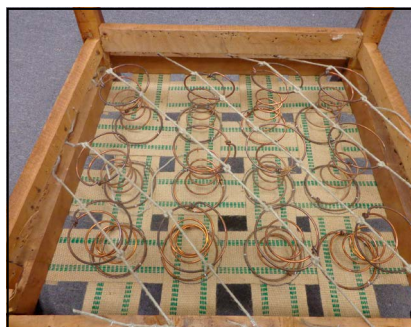


Tying the Springs:

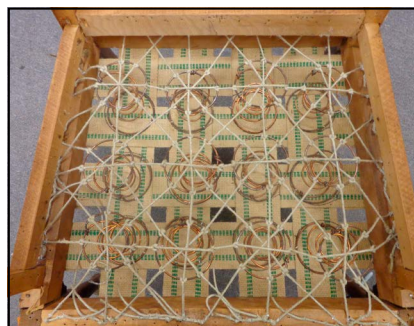
- 1 You will tie each spring four times – once front to back, once side to side and on both cross ways paths per row.
- 2 Secure twine to frame with tacks or staples.
- 3 Tie a hitch knot around the first spring in the line.
- 4 Depress spring to required height and tighten knot.
- 5 Move twine to the other side of the same spring and tie another hitch knot.



- 6 Move across the entire row until you come to the frame.
- 7 Tie off twine to frame.



- 8 Complete all rows of tying.



Completing the Seat Foundation:

- 1 Staple on a row of 1" edge roll to the front frame, making cuts to remove material to make a sharp corner.



- 2 Cover the area with a layer of burlap large enough to pull through on all four sides.
- 3 Stretch and staple burlap.

- 4 Remove excess from sides.



- 5 At the front, make a corner encasing the edge roll and staple.

- 6 Tie the top of each spring to the burlap by stitching through the burlap and a part of the spring.

- 7 Do this to each spring in three places until all springs are attached.



- 8 Lay in a layer of Deck Padding to cover the top of the spring burlap and tuck into the sides and back – it will be flush at the front.

- 9 Tuck, staple and trim away excess.

- 10 Add a layer of batting on top of the deck padding, pulling it over the front to the bottom of the frame and through the sides and back.

- 11 Staple sparingly and remove excess bulk at the front corners.



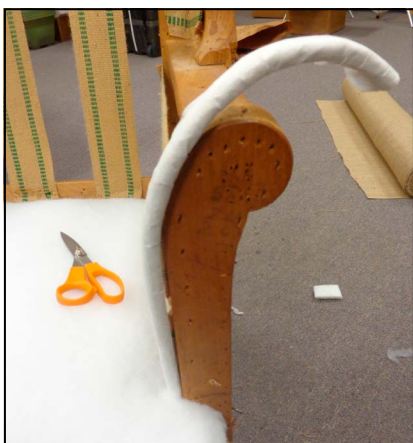
Preparing the Chair Foundation for Padding and Fabric:

NOTE: You can choose to do the foundation prep now or as you come to that area. These inside areas do not require using a webbing stretcher. Just make them hand-tight.

- 1 Web inside arm areas, webbing side to side then close the hole with burlap.
- 2 Web the inside wing area, webbing side to side and leaving a small space at the bottom for padding and fabric pulls then close the hole with burlap.
- 3 Web the inside back, webbing top to bottom then close the hole with burlap.



- 4 Cut and staple on ½" edge roll on the arm roll/key areas.



*For steps on how to add foundation padding and pulling final fabric please see our how-to guide on [Upholstering a Wingback Chair – Adding Fabric](#).