

# Imbolc Mini Ritual and Bridey Doll Making Craft

Imbolc is a cross quarter day between the winter solstice and spring equinox. In the Celtic world it marked the beginning of spring and the first lambs in the bellies of their mothers. As if this wasn't cause enough for celebration, it is the festival celebrating the beloved Goddess Brigid.

In honour of Brigid, one Imbolc tradition is to create an effigy of Her. This is called a corn dolly, Brigid's doll, or Bridey doll. Typically she would be made out of reeds or straw, be dressed in white or fancy clothes, and decorated. Back in the day the young girls would lay the doll in a basket and parade her around the village. They would even go door to door and people would put food or coins, some kind of offering, into the basket to receive Brigid's blessing. She would then assume Her position of honour at the feasting table throughout the night's festivities.

She would later be placed at the heart of the home: the hearth. Brigid is a Goddess of many things, but she is the Goddess of hearth and home. People would lay their dollies into a decorated "bed" and leave it on or near their hearth. It is said that on Imbolc eve Brigid walks the land, and the dolly in her bed is a welcoming invitation to the Goddess to come take Her rest at the hearth in hopes she will bless the household.

We are going to create our own dollies! It can be as simple or complex as you wish. You can use any materials you have on hand like cloth, pantyhose, packing paper, straw, raffia, corn husks, you can even cut up old t-shirts, or things you would like to upcycle. Some materials like reeds or corn husks will need to be soaked to make them pliable, so don't forget to give yourself time for this step. You will need string, ribbon, twine, rubber bands, or something to bind your doll to define the head, body, etc. Yarn can be great to make hair. You can use whatever you like to decorate your Bridey doll. Let your imagination run wild, and create your Goddess Brigid.

If you need inspiration here are videos to watch showing what can be done.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_axrwXKBMuA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_axrwXKBMuA)

<https://youtu.be/2C1t3UyBFEG>

If you'd like to learn more about Imbolc and the other holi-days throughout the Wheel of the Year, you can subscribe to my [newsletter](#).