

New!

FROM
Woman's
Weekly

EASY TO ADVANCED PROJECTS

May
2014

Craft

107
CREATIVE
IDEAS

From-
Woman's
Weekly

UPCYCLE YOUR HOME
IN A WEEKEND!



Mirror Makeover
Painted Drawers
Stencilled Box
Patterned Walls

Papercraft



4 Fab Flower
Cushions
To Sew

PLUS
Flowers
To Crochet

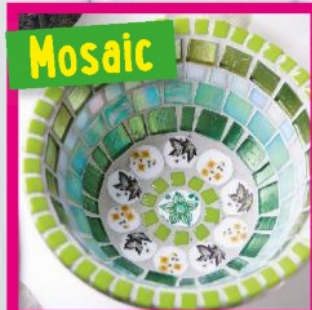


Knitting

Cross-stitch



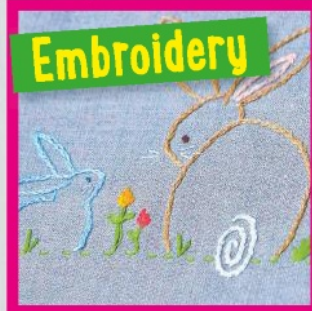
Mosaic



Button Art



Embroidery



Never Miss An Issue!



A VINTAGE VIEW MAGAZINE ON SALE

★ 29 MAY ★ 26 JUNE ★ 24 JULY ★ 21 AUGUST ★ 18 SEPTEMBER
★ 16 OCTOBER ★ 13 NOVEMBER

WOMAN'S WEEKLY KNITTING & CROCHET MAGAZINE ON SALE

★ 8 MAY ★ 5 JUNE ★ 3 JULY ★ 7 AUGUST
★ 4 SEPTEMBER ★ 2 OCTOBER ★ 6 NOVEMBER ★ 4 DECEMBER

WOMAN'S WEEKLY CRAFT MAGAZINE ON SALE

★ 8 MAY ★ 5 JUNE ★ 3 JULY ★ 7 AUGUST
★ 4 SEPTEMBER ★ 2 OCTOBER ★ 6 NOVEMBER ★ 4 DECEMBER

HEALTHY LIVING SPECIAL ON SALE ★ 14 AUGUST ★ 9 OCTOBER

FICTION SPECIAL ON SALE ★ 6 MAY ★ 3 JUNE ★ 1 JULY

★ 5 AUGUST ★ 2 SEPTEMBER ★ 7 OCTOBER ★ 4 NOVEMBER ★ 2 DECEMBER

GARDENING SPECIAL ON SALE ★ 22 MAY ★ 17 JULY

SUMMER SPECIAL ON SALE ★ 19 JUNE

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL ON SALE ★ 16 NOVEMBER

CUT OUT AND KEEP FOR 2014 ✂

Hello

...and a warm welcome to the May issue of *Craft*.

We're celebrating the start of summer with a vibrant Flower Show starting on page 8 - see how to bring the outside in and brighten up your home with colourful cushions and paper-crafted pictures of roses, dahlias, daisies and hydrangeas.

With the bank holiday on the horizon - turn to page 31 to see how you can transform walls, furniture and accessories with paint techniques following our easy step-by-step instructions. Plus we show you how to make your very own furniture on page 66 if you fancy trying your hand at some simple woodwork.

Or if you would like something simpler, it's as easy as ABC to make our gorgeous letter art garland on page 46 or make the cutest cards using the same technique.

Happy crafting!



Dilly
Dilly Orme
EDITOR

Next issue on sale 8th May

Never miss an issue –
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a copy for you.

See page 26 to take out a subscription

ART DIRECTOR Fiona Watson **DEPUTY EDITOR** Val Wotton **CHIEF SUB-EDITOR** Heather Seabrook
EDITOR IN CHIEF Jayne Marsden **SERIES EDITOR** Geoffrey Palmer **HEAD OF MARKETING** Mary Bird

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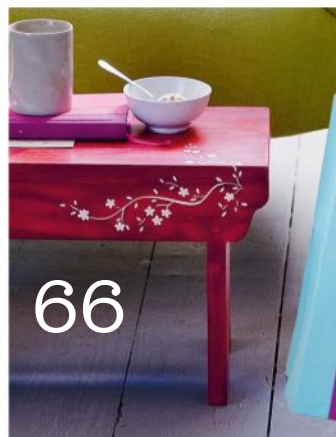
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Hardish

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Wooden Stool



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Pin board...

for the latest craft news

Prints Charming

We love trying out new crafts, especially when it's something you can do at home in an afternoon, so this exquisite block printing kit really caught our eye this month. Co-created by printmaker

and painter Angela Harding and Shropshire-based contemporary art gallery Twenty Twenty, it provides everything you need to carve and create your own unique block-printed designs, and is suitable for both beginners and experienced artists. The emphasis here is on quality: the Swiss-designed cutters are of a professional standard, the blocks are cut from Japanese vinyl – much softer and easier to use than standard lino – and the paper supplied is high-grade Heritage stock. Angela's accompanying guide (included), *Introduction to Print Making*, is packed with hints and tips to help you make the most of the set and try out this fascinating pastime at home. Presented in a chic wooden box, we think it would make a great gift for any craft lover. *Block printing kit*, £89.99, Twenty Twenty (01952 727952; twenty-twenty.co.uk).



Awash With Colour

Living by the maxim to 'find colour in a grey world', the work of world-renowned knitwear and textile designer Kaffe Fassett certainly adds a little visual cheer. The American Museum clearly think so too, and are currently hosting an exhibition to celebrate 50 years of his work as an artist and colourist. Filled with over 100 examples of his work, many items are taken from Kaffe's private collection, offering a unique insight into the personal tastes of this intriguing designer. We can't take our eyes off his striking hollyhock tapestry, pictured. The *Colourful World of Kaffe Fassett* is currently on show at The American Museum in Britain, Claverton Manor, Bath. (01225 460503; americanmuseum.org).



COURSE NOTES

Chalking it up to experience

Annie Sloan's Chalk Paint is fast becoming one of our favourite products to revive and upcycle old furniture, and whilst easy to use, with a little training you can greatly broaden the range of special effects and finishes that can be achieved with it. With over two decades working directly with Annie, official stockist Jane Warnick recently relocated from southern Spain to set up new shop and studio, Sheldon Paint Techniques in Hampton Hill, London, with her business partner Leigh. Benefiting from her years of experience both in teaching and commission work, the shop has already made a name for itself with the lively workshops hosted there. Jane's Introductory Workshop covers essential techniques before working through myriad topics including découpage, gilding, stencilling and free-hand decoration. To find out more, call 020 8943 0789, log on to sheldonspaint.co.uk or visit the store at 3 New Broadway, Hampton Road, Hampton Hill, London.



The bold shop front of Sheldon Paint Techniques



Scrap wood is provided to practise techniques on



The shop's colourful interior showcases Jane's love of paint and skilled restorations

Discover...

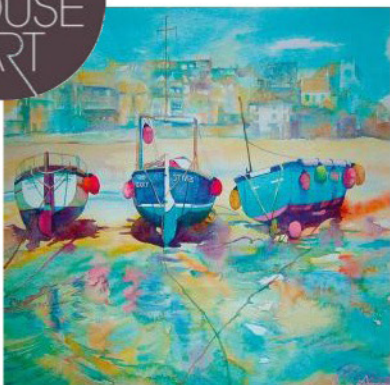
Open Art House

Discovering local artists and getting to nose around creative people's homes combines two of our favourite ways to spend a weekend. Every year, artists up and down the country open their doors, providing a unique opportunity to visit artists in their studios. The Open House Art website (openhouseart.co.uk) makes it easy to find out what's on, such as Open Studios Cornwall, running from 24th May–8th June, where featured artists include Sophie Penstone (penstoneart.com), whose St Ives watercolour print, £15, is pictured below.



Style Hotspot: Painterly Florals

It's not unusual for many designers' spring/summer collections to feature floral prints, but we're huge fans of the recent trend for more artistic, painterly blooms. Making a strong style statement, they can be a great contemporary way to introduce some flora and fauna into your decorating scheme. Glasgow School of Art graduate Fi Douglas has pioneered this trend over the past few years with her signature blousy style painstakingly recreated onto printed fabric from her original watercolour drawings as seen here: Devon fabric, from £85 per m; Bluebellgray (0141 221 0724; bluebellgray.com). Keep an eye out, too, for Dutch Designer Andrea Letterie, whose sumptuous floral illustrations can be found adorning a number of tableware items by Danish superbrand, Rice (rice.dk). Try out our own take on the floral trend in our Flower Show feature from page 8.



OPEN
HOUSE
ART

Focus on... Christine Leech

Some people are born with creativity in their blood and Christine Leech is no exception. After graduating with an illustration degree from the Bath College of Art, she began work as an Art Director for a range of high-profile magazines, including an in-store title from one of our favourite craft retailers, Hobbycraft. This led to her collaboration with fellow Hobbycraft colleague, stylist and designer Hannah Read Baldrey, which saw this creative duo produce two ingenious craft books, *Everything Oz* and *Everything Alice*, £14.99 each. Now with several of her own titles under her belt, including *Felt Sew Good*, £12.99, we share a gorgeous extract on page 22 taken from her current title, *Little Sew and Sew*, £12.99. We can't wait to see what Christine's thought of next in her latest title, *Fresh Prints*, £12.99, due out 24th April. All of Christine's books are published by Quadrille Publishing (quadrillecraft.com), and are available at all good book shops.



A homemade
tea cosy gives
yet another
excuse to put
the kettle on



Flower Show!

Enjoy glorious summer colour that will last all year
with these stunning bloom projects



Rainbow Felt Cushions



Paper Wall Art



Bold Brooch



Celebration Card

Felt Floribunda

Felt craft

Make a single rose, a dahlia, a hydrangea or a daisy – or a whole beautiful bunch of cushions to fill your home with vibrant colour



Styling: Dilly Orme. Photography: Ginette Chapman. Makes: Cheryl Owen. Amrapali wallpaper, £194 for panel, Designer's Guild (020 7351 5775; designersguild.com). Velvet Love Tub in Emerald, £625, Oliver Bonas (020 8974 0110; oliverbonas.com). Ribba picture frames, £9, Ikea (020 3645 0000; ikea.com). Notebook and pen, from a selection, Paperchase (020 7467 6200; paperchase.co.uk).

You will need

- 180cm wide felt for each cushion:
- 60cm length for the rose
- 25cm length for the dahlia
- 25cm length for the daisy
- 20cm length for the hydrangea
- 35 x 70cm piece of cotton fabric to match felt
- Matching sewing thread

- Access to a photocopier
- Paper for patterns
- A pair of compasses
- Sharp HB pencil
- 160g of polyester toy filling
- Forty 1mm beads for the hydrangea cushion
- Sewing machine

We used: Felt, £4.50 per 50cm, from Paper And String (01903 209724; paper-and-string.co.uk).

The daisy



1 From felt, cut 20 outer petals, 20 inner petals, one outer sepals piece (with cut-out centre), one inner sepals and one strip 70 x 4cm for the stamens.

2 Fold in the base corners of each petal (inner and outer) to meet at the centre, and pin in place. Arrange the outer petals on the cushion front, with the base of the petals on the outer petal line. Pin or tack in place, then machine stitch the circle 5mm above the base edges.

3 Pin the inner petals on the front, matching the base to the inner petal line, and so that the petal tips lie between the outer petals. Stitch in place 5mm above the base edges. Pinch together the adjoining sides of each two petals, and catch together about halfway up, 5mm in, with small discreet hand stitches.

4 Pin the outer sepals in the centre of the cushion front (you will see the cross centred in the cut-out circle). Stitch in place 5mm in from the cut-out circle. Pin the inner sepals centrally on top.

5 Fold the stamen strip lengthwise in half, and machine stitch 6mm in from the long raw edges. To make a fringe, snip into the folded edge – snipping almost to the stitching at 6mm intervals – all along the length. Coil the stamens, keeping the stitched edge level and, using doubled sewing thread, securing at regular intervals with small hand stitches. Sew the stamens to the centre of the front, taking the thread through to the underside of the front and so also securing the inner sepals in place.

The finished size of each cushion is 30cm in diameter.

FOR ALL CUSHIONS

To make templates, enlarge the petal templates for the hydrangea, daisy, dahlia and rose on pages 12–13 to 230% on a photocopier and cut out. Enlarge the spiral for the inner rose by 400% (this will mean joining pieces of paper so you may prefer to draw a circle 54cm in diameter and copy the spiral design – the wavy edge doesn't have to be exact).

To make paper patterns for the cushion fronts, draw a circle 32cm in diameter, mark the centre point, and cut out. Following diagram A on page 12 to set your compasses, draw the petal placement lines for the dahlia and daisy. For the rose, following diagram B, draw two circles for the outer and middle petal lines, with eight spots on each; copy (or trace from a photocopied enlargement) the spiral running from a dot 2cm from the centre mark outward to the middle petal line.

For a cushion back pattern, draw a second 32cm circle, draw a line across the middle, add a 1cm turning down the straight edge (as in diagram A), then cut out the extended semi-circle.

From cotton fabric, cut one cushion front and one pair of backs for each cushion. Use a sharp HB pencil to mark the centre with a cross and to draw the relevant solid and broken lines and dots on the right side of each cushion front.

Make each cushion front following the relevant instructions, then make up the cushions as explained, far right.

The hydrangea



1 Drawing round your template, cut 40 florets from felt.

2 Fold one floret into quarters. Pinch the folds together at the centre point and, using doubled sewing thread, sew through the folds about 2mm either side of the centre to secure. Repeat on each floret.

3 Arrange the florets on the right side of the cushion front, overlapping the petals, and pin in place, keeping the centre of the florets at least 3cm inside the outer edges of the fabric circle. Sew the centre of each floret to the front with doubled thread, catching in a bead at the centre.

The dahlia



1 From felt, cut 20 outer petals, 16 middle petals, 12 inner petals, one outer sepals piece (with cut-out centre), one inner sepals and eight centre sepals.

2 On each petal, all sizes, fold the base corners in to meet at the centre, and pin. Arrange the outer petals on the cushion front, matching the base of the outer petals to the outer petal line, pointing outwards. Pin or tack in place, then machine stitch around the circle of petals 5mm above the base edges.

3 Arrange the middle petals on the front, matching the base to the middle petal line and with petal tips lying between outer petals, then attach as before. Repeat with the inner petals on the inner petal line.

4 Pin the outer sepals in the centre of the cushion front with the cross centred in the cut-out circle. Stitch 5mm in from the cut-out circle. Pin the inner sepals centrally on top.

5 Coil one centre sepal keeping the straight edge level, and secure using doubled thread with a few small stitches 5mm above the straight edge. With the straight edges level, wrap another centre sepal around the coiled one and sew in place. Keep adding centre sepals, keeping the straight edges level and alternating the position of the tips. Sew the centre sepals to the centre of the inner sepal, catching them both to the cushion front. Splay the centre sepals outwards to complete.

Making the rose



1 From felt, cut 16 outer rose petals, and the large felt spiral for the inner rose.

2 Run a gathering stitch along the base of each petal. Matching the base edges to the petal line, pin eight petals to the right side of the cushion front between the dots. Pull up the gathers to fit, then stitch in place. Repeat to stitch the remaining eight petals to the middle petal line.

3 Starting at the narrow end, the centre of the flower, start to coil the inner rose clockwise, keeping the straight edge level. Using doubled thread, sew through the straight edge of the coil regularly to secure. When the coil is 8mm in diameter, make a 4mm deep pleat in the straight edge, and sew to the coil to secure, again keeping the straight edge level. Continue coiling the rose centre, making 4mm deep pleats at regular intervals to allow the upper wavy edge to fan out slightly, keeping the straight edge level and sewing to keep the shape until the base of the coil is 3cm in diameter.

4 Pin the coiled rose centre to the centre on the right side of the cushion front and lay the extending end along the start of the dotted line. Check that you have enough length to spiral out along the dotted line to the middle petal circle, then sew the coiled centre to the cushion front, taking the thread through to the underside of the front to secure.

5 Start to pin the straight edge along the dotted line. Hand sew onto the cushion front, stitching 5mm inside the straight edge. Continue pinning and sewing the inner rose to the cushion front matching the straight edge to the dotted line and middle petal line until you reach the end of the inner rose.

6 Overlap the sides of two outer petals by 1.2cm, and catch together about halfway up with a few small discreet stitches. Repeat all round the outer two circles of petals to help create the rose shape.

Making up the cushion

Note: Take 1cm seam allowance.

1 Place the two cushion backs together, right sides facing, and tack along the straight edge. Machine stitch this edge leaving a 20cm gap in the centre. Press the seam open.

2 Place the cushion front and back together, right sides facing, and pin or tack around the outer raw edge, taking care not to catch any petals in the seam. Machine stitch. Clip into the seam allowance around curves, remove tacking and turn right side out through the centre back gap.

3 Stuff the cushion evenly with polyester filling, then slipstitch the gap closed.



DIAGRAM A

Daisy and dahlia cushions - copy or enlarge by 200%

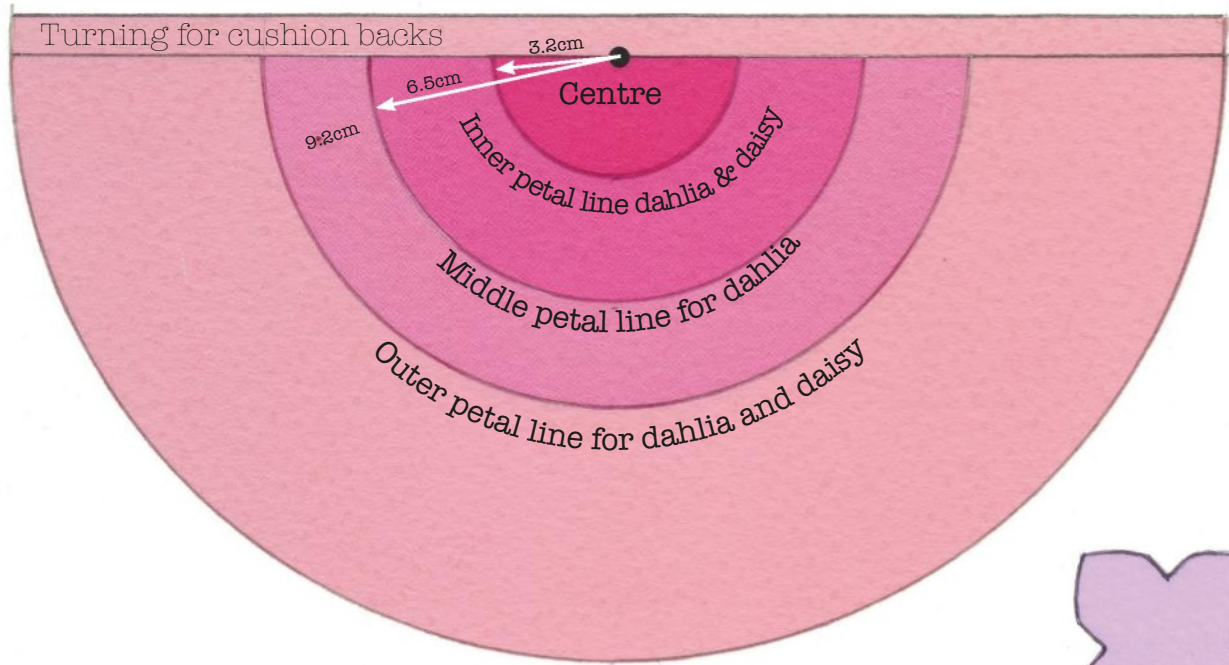
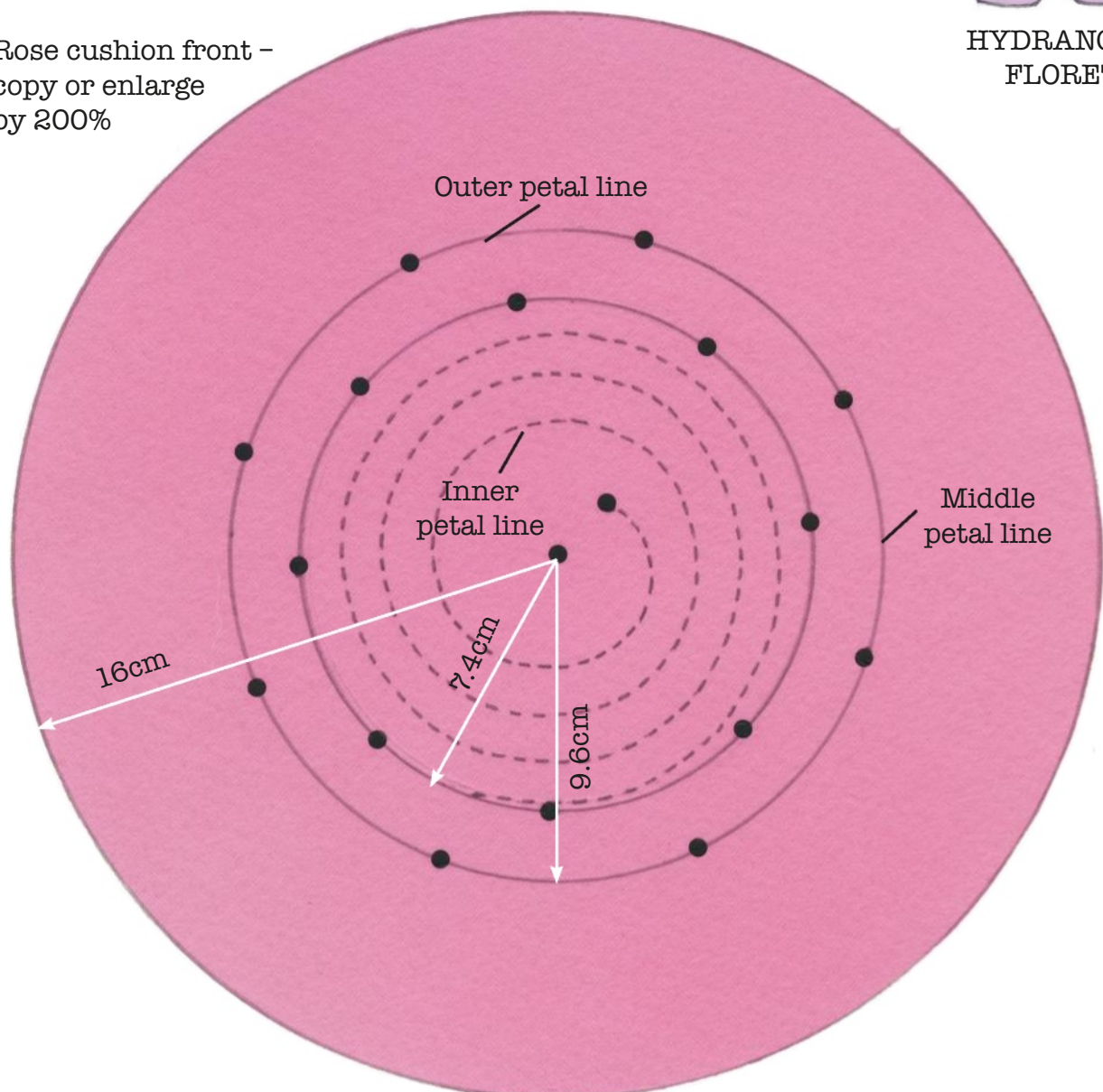


DIAGRAM B

Rose cushion front -
copy or enlarge
by 200%

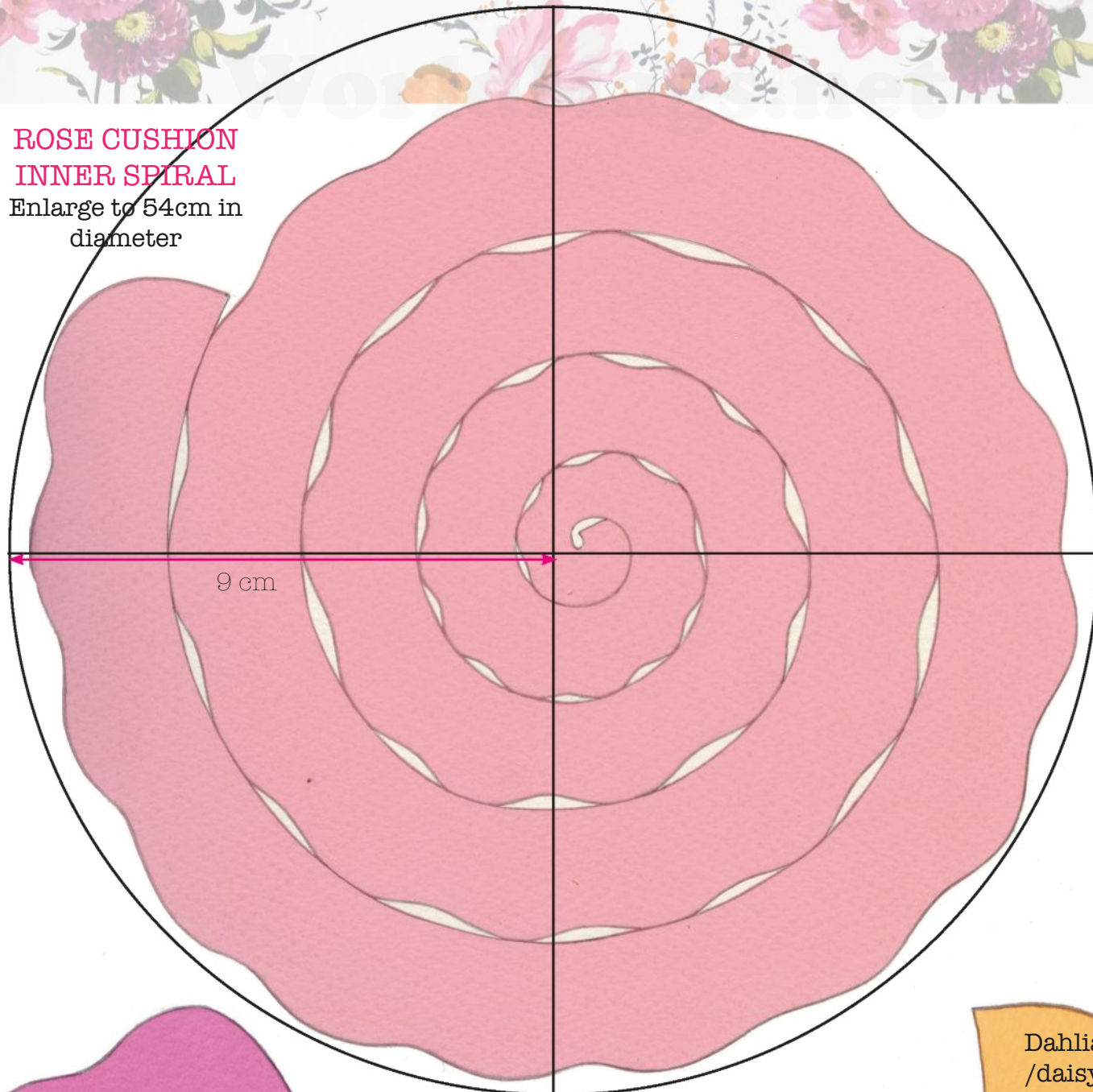


HYDRANGEA
FLORET



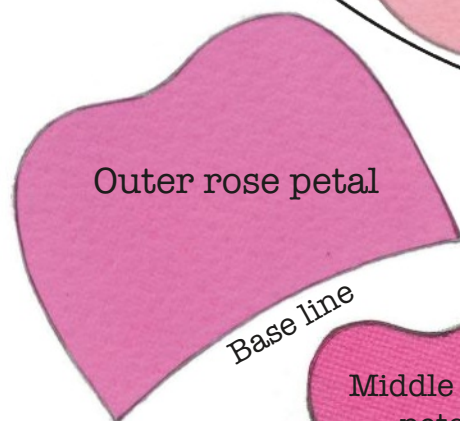
ROSE CUSHION INNER SPIRAL

Enlarge to 54cm in
diameter

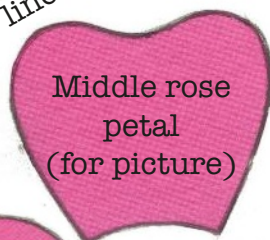


FLOWER TEMPLATES

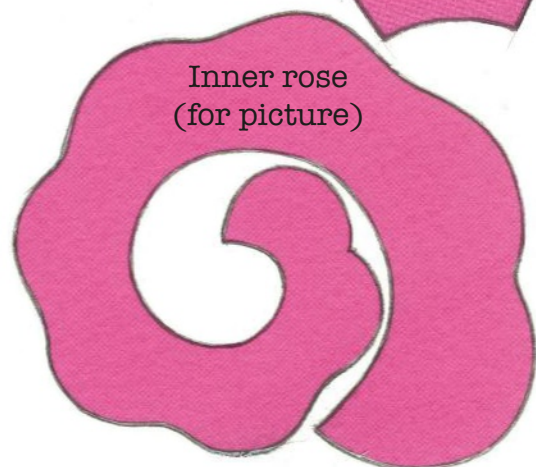
Enlarge by 230% for cushions;
trace off for pictures



Outer rose petal



Middle rose
petal
(for picture)



Inner rose
(for picture)



Inner
daisy
petal



Inner
daisy
sepals



Outer sepals

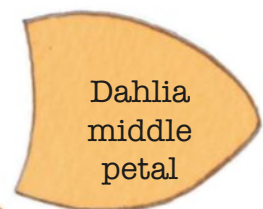
Daisy/
dahlia



Inner
dahlia
sepals



Dahlia
/daisy
outer
petal



Dahlia
middle
petal



Dahlia
inner
petal



Dahlia
centre
sepal



Perfect Pictures

Create blooming fantastic wall art with 3D florals, whether you make a single flower or a fabulous set of four



You will need

For each picture

- 23cm square of white card
- Two A4 sheets of coloured paper for the rose, dahlia and daisy
- A4 sheet of coloured paper and A5 sheet of paler paper for the hydrangea
- Sharp HB pencil and a pair of compasses
- PVA glue
- Cocktail sticks
- Paperclips
- 3D paint in co-ordinating colour for the hydrangea
- Spray adhesive for the rose and hydrangea
- 23cm box frame

Finished size: 23cm square

Cutting out

Tracing the templates on pages 12–13, cut the following from coloured paper:

For the rose, cut one 4.5cm diameter circle, 14 outer rose petals, 12 middle rose petals and one inner rose.

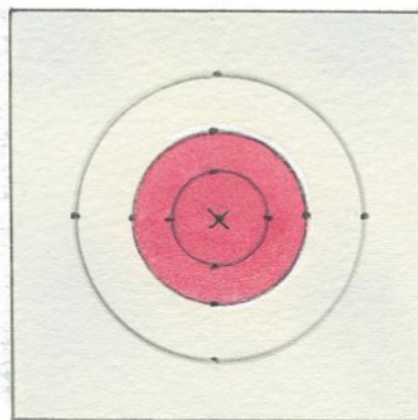
For the dahlia, cut 20 outer dahlia petals, 16 middle dahlia petals, 12 inner dahlia petals, one outer sepals, one inner dahlia sepals and eight centre dahlia sepals.

For the daisy, cut 20 outer daisy petals, 20 inner daisy petals, one outer daisy sepals, one inner daisy sepals and two strips 29.5 x 1 cm for the stamens.

For the hydrangea, cut 30 florets. From paler paper, cut one 12cm diameter circle.

Tip 120gsm is an ideal weight paper for making paper flowers.

Making the rose



1 Stick the circle to the centre of the white card square with spray adhesive. Use a sharp HB pencil and a pair of compasses to draw a 2cm circle on the coloured paper and a 7cm diameter circle on the white card square. Mark the centre with a small cross and mark the quarter points of each circle to help you position the petals evenly.

2 Pinch the base of all the petals in half. Fold a dart at the centre with the base of the dart on the outer petals about 7mm wide and with the base of the dart on the inner petals about 4mm wide. Glue the darts in place with PVA glue and secure with paperclips whilst



the glue dries. Roll the upper curves of the petals around a cocktail stick to curl them under.

3 Use a cocktail stick to apply PVA glue to the base of four outer petals and stick to the card, matching the centre of the bases to the outer circle line at the quarter marks. Stick four more outer petals on top between the first four.



4 Stick six outer petals, matching the centre of the bases to the circumference of the coloured circle. Stick six middle petals, matching the bases to the inner circle line.



5 Roll the narrow end of the inner rose around a cocktail stick. Remove the stick and glue the lower edge. Continue to coil and glue the inner rose keeping the lower edge level.



6 Stick the base of one middle petal to the inner rose, stick another middle petal to the opposite side of the inner rose, then stick the remaining middle petals around the inner rose. Leave the glue to dry then cut the base of the inner rose level. Glue the inner rose on the centre of the rose to complete.

Making the dahlia

1 Use a sharp HB pencil and a pair of compasses to draw three circles – 2.8cm, 5.5cm and 7.8cm in diameter – on the centre of the white card square. Draw a small cross at the centre. Divide the circles into quarters and mark with a pencil to help you position the petals evenly.



2 On each petal, fold in the lower corners to meet at the centre of the base, glue in place and secure the base with paperclips whilst the glue dries. Use a cocktail stick to apply PVA glue to the base of the outer petals and stick to the card, matching the bases to the outer circle line. Stick the middle petals around the middle circle line, and the inner petals, to the inner circle line.

3 Roll the tips of the outer and inner sepals around a cocktail stick to coil them upwards. Apply PVA glue around the cut-out of the outer sepal, and stick to the card with the cross centred in the cut-out circle. Stick the inner sepal centrally on top.



4 Roll one centre sepal around a cocktail stick to coil it tightly. Remove the stick and glue the lower

edge. Glue another centre sepal around the first, off-setting the tips. Repeat to glue another two centre sepals around the coiled sepals. Glue the remaining centre sepals around the coil, off-setting the tips and bending the tips outwards. Leave the glue to dry then cut the base of the centre sepals level. Glue the centre sepals upright on the centre of the dahlia.

Making the daisy

1 Draw two circles – 2.8cm and 7.8cm in diameter – on the centre of the white card square, then draw a small cross at the centre, and mark quarter points as for the dahlia picture.

2 On each outer petal, fold in the lower corners and glue, as for the dahlia. Apply PVA glue to the base of each outer petal and stick to the card, matching the bases to the outer circle line.



3 Fold each inner petal in half with right sides facing. Open out flat again. Use a cocktail stick to apply PVA glue to the base of ten inner petals and stick to the card so that the tips are between the outer petals and the bases are on the inner circle line. Stick the remaining 10 petals on top, off-setting the first set.

4 Roll the tips of the outer and inner sepals around a cocktail stick to coil them upwards. Apply PVA glue around the cut-out of the outer sepals. Stick to the card with the cross centred in the cut-out circle. Stick the inner sepals centrally on top.



5 To make a fringe on the stamen strips, make snips into one long edge at 2mm intervals. Start to coil one stamen strip by rolling one end tightly around a cocktail stick. Remove the stick and glue the lower edge with PVA glue. Continue coiling and gluing the stamens, adding the second strip when you get to the end of the first. Spread the fringe outwards and glue to the centre of the daisy.

Making the hydrangea

1 Stick the paler coloured circle to the centre of the white card square with spray adhesive. Fold each floret in half from tip to tip with wrong sides facing. Open out and repeat between the other tips. Open out and fold in half between two inner corners with right sides facing. Open out and repeat between the other inner corners.

2 Open the florets out flat. Dot the centres with 3D paint and set aside to dry.



3 Refold the florets and arrange them on the circle. Use a cocktail stick to apply PVA glue to the underside at the centre of each floret and stick in place.

Prize-Winning Brooch

Pin a flower to your lapels with a miniature version of the dahlia cushion

Bond two pieces of felt together and cut an 8cm circle for the brooch backing. On this, draw circles for petal lines 2cm, 4.2cm and 6cm in diameter. Reducing the dahlia templates on page 13 to 76%, make up the flower as for the dahlia cushion, then stitch a brooch pin to the back.



Say It With Flowers

Adapt the wall art flowers to make delightful greetings cards for friends and family

To make a slightly smaller daisy, perfect for a 15cm square card, we reduced the templates to 76%, and cut 25 x 8mm strips for the stamens.





Easy Peasy
 A Bit More Tricky
 Hard-ish
 Quite A Challenge

Bowled Over

CREATE A STUNNING, ONE-OF-A-KIND MOSAIC BOWL WITH RECYCLED CHINA AND PRETTY IRIDESCENT TILES

It may be a pain when you break a favourite bowl or plate, but why not save the pieces and use them to make something special, such as this beautiful bowl. You can either use an old ceramic or metal bowl as the base. If you use metallic, the shiny metal surface gleams appealingly through the iridescent tiles. We have given specific instructions for the 0.5 litre bowl listed right – adapt for a smaller or larger bowl accordingly, ensuring you plan out your design before you get started.

Tip A craft syringe helps with placing the adhesive accurately. Unscrew the adhesive tube and place the nozzle into the barrel of the syringe to fill it up.

You will need

- 10mm square tiles: we used Quadra mini Nebula – approx. 56 Ottoman Treasure in New Green, £1.32 for 50g; 40 White Diamond, £1.20 for 81; all Mosaic Trader (01227 459350; mosaictraderuk.co.uk)
- 15mm square tiles: we used Italian Quadra tiles – approx. 30 Starlight foil-backed ‘Scorpio’, £1.68 for 25; 25 Opaline iridescent ‘Asparagus’, 96p for 25; Lucid clear ‘Lawn Green’, 96p for 25; all Mosaic Trader (as before)
- Bowl – we used Farringdon

mixing bowl 0.5ltr in stainless steel, £2.84, Colanders Cookshop (01438 314011; colanderscookshop.co.uk)

- Several pieces of thin china – saucers or side plates are ideal
- Wheeled nippers
- Safety goggles
- Silicone glue
- Craft syringe
- 1kg grout
- An old pot for mixing grout
- Small stick to mix grout – a lollipop stick or coffee stirrer
- Disposable gloves
- Cloth/newspaper
- Craft knife or skewer

Buy a kit to make this project including: bowl; tiles; silicone glue; syringe: silver grey grout, (no china is included) £12; or with wheeled nippers, £22.80; Mosaic Trader (as before).



1 For the floral-printed tiles, you will need to cut 11 circles of china each measuring approximately 20mm in diameter. Select china with suitable motifs, including one feature piece for the centre. If you don't have a piece of broken china you'd like to use, find cheap pieces in charity shops and at car boot sales. Select the patterned areas required and roughly cut around them, wearing goggles – place the jaws of the tile nippers over the edge of the china and squeeze; repeat several times, trying to save the important areas of the plate.



2 Cut out the designs roughly and then nibble very closely and precisely using tiny 'nips' around the selected motifs. It's not essential to achieve a perfectly round shape; an approximate circle is fine. It's a good idea to work within a box to stop the pieces shooting away too far.



3 When you have 11 20mm circles of china, place your centre piece in the middle of the bowl, arrange ten 10mm square green Ottoman Treasure tiles around it, then the ten remaining circles. Using a syringe (see Tip opposite) to apply silicone glue to the bowl, stick the central piece of china into the base of the bowl, then the circle of green squares, followed by your cut circles. This part of

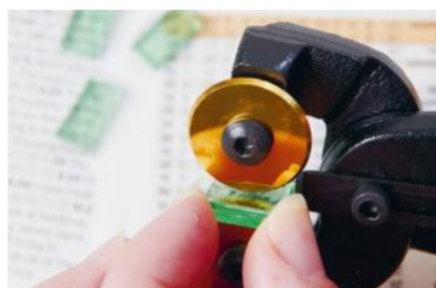
the design should measure approximately 80mm across and should finish just as the sides of the bowl start to curve upwards. Do not use so much adhesive that it squeezes up between tiles, as it will later show as peaks when the bowl is grouted. If there is excess glue, it can be removed when it has set using a sharp craft knife or skewer.



4 Apply a line of glue all the way around the top of the bowl where it becomes flat. Putting the adhesive into a craft syringe makes it very easy to be precise about the quantity of glue being laid, especially on fiddly areas like this. Press the green mini Ottoman Treasure tiles into the adhesive, close together but not touching, all the way around the top of the bowl. Try not to apply too much glue.



5 Select the foil-backed metallic Quadra Starlight tiles and lay them onto another line of adhesive under the rim, aligning with the top of the bowl. Gravity may pull the tiles down slightly, so keep an eye on them and reposition as necessary. Stick the next row of 10mm square Mini Nebula white tiles in place, followed by the row of mint-coloured Iridescent Opaline tiles. Keep checking the positioning of the rows, ensuring they are even and they do not slip.



6 The Lucid clear 'Lawn Green' tiles

are used to create the final row. To accommodate the curve of the bowl, every other one of the tiles in this last row must be a half tile. To nip into two equal pieces, place the nippers over the centre of the tile and squeeze. Hold onto the pieces as you do so, or they may disappear across the table.



7 Lay these clear tiles very carefully as they are totally transparent. It is essential that the entire back of each tile is completely coated in adhesive as any gaps will allow the grout to run behind the tiles and show from the front. Lay the tiles one by one and use plenty of adhesive, dispensing glue from the syringe helps with the accuracy required.



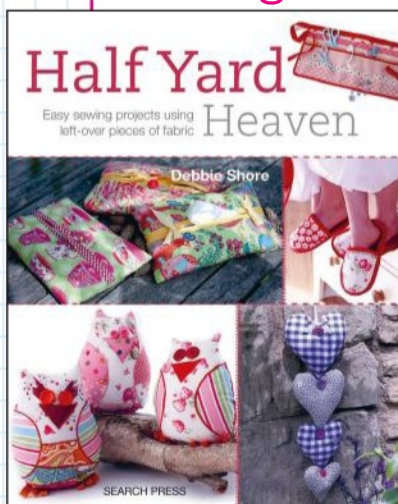
8 Leave the bowl aside for 24 hours for the adhesive to set. Before grouting, check there is no excess adhesive rising up between or on top of the tiles. If there is, it can be removed using a craft knife or skewer. Mix the grout to a toothpaste-like consistency wearing gloves and a mask. Use your gloved hands to place it into the bowl and push it into all the crevices, taking special care to make a neat edge around the top row. Clear as much grout away as possible using the side of your thumb, taking care around the sharp edges of the china.

9 Leave to dry for 10 minutes or so and then clear away the remainder of the grout using scrunched-up newspaper. If it is not coming away easily, leave for a few more minutes and try again. Sprinkling a little dry grout powder can help dry up the surface if the grout is a bit wet. Put aside until the grout is completely dry and polish with a ball of scrunched-up newspaper or a soft cloth.

Sew Smart

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Half Yard Heaven
by Debbie Shore, £9.99



Abbygale Sews
by Emma Curtis and Elizabeth Parnell, £9.99

Sewing Accessories



Steel Sewing Box in Chalk, £28.
Keep all your sewing equipment neatly organised in this compact portable box

Sewing Chest with Accessories, £29.99.
Functional portable sewing chest supplied with accessories.



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WorldMags.net

CAN YOU HANDLE IT?

Customise an old cupboard by updating its handles with these stunning knob designs. *Sass & Belle Bird Postcard Inspired Drawer Knobs*, £7.99 set of two, Mollie & Fred (01305 830095; mollieandfred.co.uk).



TAKE FLIGHT

Customise your walls with these fabric-effect removable stickers. *Vintage Bird vinyl wall stickers* by Oakdene Designs, £19.50 set of 14, Notonthehighstreet (0845 259 1359; notonthehighstreet.com).



BLANKET BIRD

Carefully stitched from pieces of vintage woven Welsh blankets, perch one of these charming birds to a lampshade or mantelpiece. *Little blanket bird*, £28, Sarah Moore (01428 707678; sarahmoorehome.co.uk).



FRAGRANT FEATHERED FRIEND

Too good to be confined to a drawer, hang one of these lavender birds around a door handle to delicately scent the room. *Bert handmade lavender birds*, £10 each, Heart Zeena (07752 731683; zeenashah.com).



Be Inspired By...

BIRDS

There's something cheery about a bird print – here's our crafty shopping round-up to help bring some feathered friends into your home



SWEET TREAT

Cake tins are great storage for craft supplies and look sweet to boot. *Magpie birdy cake tins*, £25.99 set of three, Cotswold Trading (01386 853331; cotswoldtrading.com).



STYLISH STAMP

Decorate giftwrap and blank cards with these pretty stamps. *Birds Rubber Stamp Set* by Lilac Coast, £12.95, Notonthehighstreet (0845 259 1359; notonthehighstreet.com).



ITS A WRAP

These giftwrap designs would be perfect for a découpage project. *Bird giftwrap* by Cavallini, £2.75 per sheet, Masque (masqueonline.com).



ON THE WIRE

Washi tape is a craft kit essential – use it to wrap gifts, customise cards or even decorate furniture. *Colourful bird on a wire washi tape*, £1.80, MoonStick at Etsy (etsy.com).



-  Easy Peasy
-  **A Bit More Tricky**
-  Hard-ish
-  Quite A Challenge

Bobtail Bunnies

CUTE EMBROIDERED RABBITS ADD A SPECIAL TOUCH
TO A NOTEBOOK OR PHOTO ALBUM

When you want to give your books a facelift, a fabric cover is ideal. It's easy to make and fun to decorate with an embroidered spring scene – mum and baby on the front cover, with grass and flowers running on to the back.

Our trace-off design just fits on an A5 (15 x 21cm) book, but will also fit A4, and can easily be enlarged or reduced on a photocopier.

You will need

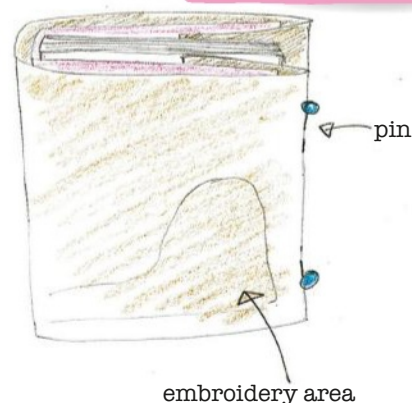
For the embroidery:

- DMC stranded embroidery thread in the following colours: white, beige 842, baby pink 819, baby blue 3325, avocado green 470, pale yellow 744, tangerine 741, raspberry 3832, brown 610, dark grey 413
- Embroidery needle
- Tracing paper and pencil
- Dressmaker's carbon paper
- Masking tape
- Ballpoint pen/blunt instrument
- 20cm-diameter embroidery hoop

For the book cover:

- 50 x 24cm rectangle of linen, calico or cotton for an A5-sized book (see Preparing fabric for other sizes)
- Matching sewing thread
- Tape measure
- 20cm length of ribbon, 5mm wide (optional)
- Sewing machine

Preparing fabric



1 If your book is not A5 sized, you will need to work out the dimensions of the piece of fabric you need. First, measure the height of the front cover and add 1.5cm to both the top and bottom. Using a tape measure, measure the closed book from the outer edge of the front cover, around the spine and across to the outer edge of the back cover. Add half the width of the

covers again for the flaps, plus 1.5cm to each end. Cut the fabric to this size.

2 Wrap your book in the fabric and close the cover. This will make creases for the front and back flaps and give you an indication of where to draw the embroidery pattern. Mark the creases with pins.

The embroidery

1 Trace off the bunny and flower patterns shown on page 24. To transfer the design to the fabric, place the material right side up on a hard surface, lay the dressmaker's carbon paper chalky side down on the fabric and the traced design on top. Tape the three layers to the work surface to prevent them from moving. Trace over the design with a ballpoint pen or similar blunt instrument

to transfer it onto the fabric.

2 Place the fabric in the embroidery hoop and work the embroidery following the pattern notes and stitch guide overleaf and referring below for how to embroider the daisies and tulips. Use four strands of embroidery thread in colours as shown on the pattern (noting that white is shown as black on the pattern) for the bunnies and flowers and two strands for their eyes and whiskers.

To embroider flowers



Lazy daisy

Sew a loose stitch from A to B, bringing the needle up at C. Bring the needle down at D over the loop fixing it in place. Bring the needle up at E and repeat for more petals.

Tulips

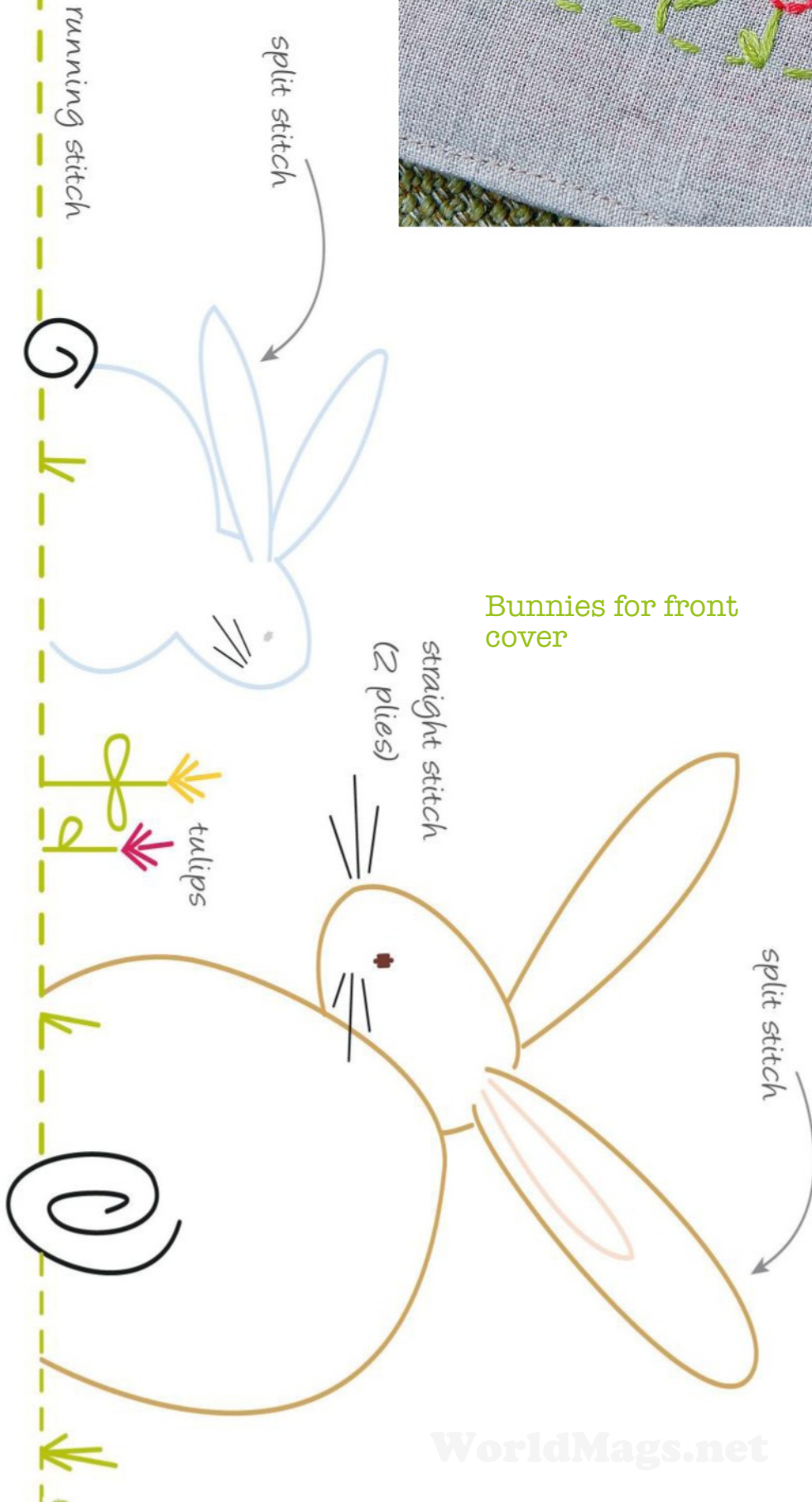
Sew a short stem using backstitch. Make two leaves by sewing a single lazy daisy petal for each leaf. Make a wide lazy daisy petal, then a second narrower one inside. Finish with a straight stitch in the centre.



Flowers for back cover



Bunnies for front cover



running stitch

split stitch

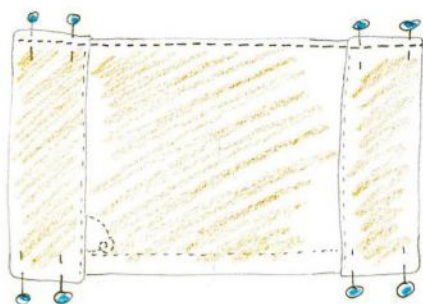
straight stitch
(2 plies)

tulips

split stitch

To make up the cover

- 1 Wrap the book in the embroidered fabric jacket again to check the creases.
- 2 Turn 5mm to the wrong side along both long edges on the fabric, then turn over another 5mm to make a double hem. Press in place. Repeat along both short edges.

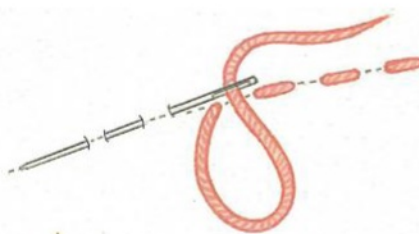


- 3 Machine-stitch the hems along both short edges. Fold the two flaps inwards and pin in place (the right side of the embroidery should be on the opposite side to the flaps). Machine-stitch along the top and bottom edges of the cover, securing the flaps in place.

- 4 Trim off all stray threads and press. To fit the cover onto the notebook, carefully fold the book's front and back covers backwards (towards the spine) and place one cover into each of the fabric flaps, then close.



STITCH GUIDE



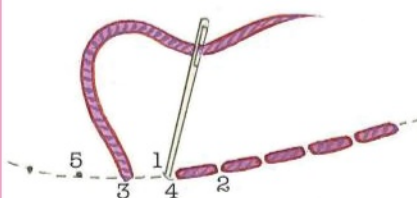
Running stitch

Take the needle in and out of the fabric to form small, straight stitches, evenly spaced and of equal length, along the desired line.



Straight stitch

Straight stitches, of the same or varying lengths, can be used to form stems, grass, stars or other shapes.



Backstitch

Work from right to left, bringing the needle up through the fabric at 1, down at 2, up at 3, down at 4, up at 5 and so on.



Split stitch

Sew a small straight stitch, then bring the needle up through the strands of the just-made stitch, splitting the thread. Repeat along the desired line.

Tip If you wish to make a bookmark, hand-sew a length of ribbon onto the book cover at the spine.



Buy the Book

Project taken from *Little Sew & Sew* by Christine Leech (Quadrille, £12.99). To buy this book at the special price of £7.99 including FREE p&p, call 01256 302699 quoting reference 9QH. Offer closes 18th June 2014.

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Dear Reader,

This marvellous new magazine, *Craft from Woman's Weekly*, is going to be published every month from now on. Every issue will be as packed as this one with fabulously inspiring things for you to make. There's a huge range of crafts, all with step-by-step instructions, and fantastic kids makes to enjoy with the whole family. You definitely won't want to miss out on such a brilliant selection of craft treats, so make sure you don't by taking out a subscription today. They'd make a perfect present for someone special too, so how about giving a gift subscription to a loved one who loves to craft? Better still, all subscribers have exclusive access to our new Craft Club.



Diane Kenwood

Editor, *Woman's Weekly Magazine*

SAVE
Up To 25%





- Easy Peasy
- A Bit More Tricky
- Hard-ish
- Quite A Challenge

Earn Your Stripes

KNIT THESE BRIGHT, MODERN HOODED TOPS FOR THE FUN-LOVING KIDS IN YOUR FAMILY

Measurements

To fit ages 2–3 (3–4) (4–5) (5–6) years.

Actual measurements 70 (75) (80) (85) cm/27½ (29½) (31½) (33½) in.

Side seam 23 (25) (27) (28.5) cm/9 (9¾) (10½) (11¼) in.

Length to back neck 37 (39.5) (41.5) (44.5) cm/14½ (15½) (16¼) (17½) in.

Sleeve seam 28.5 (32) (35) (38) cm/11¼ (12½) (13¾) (15) in.

Materials

For the girl's jacket: 4 (4) (5) (5) 50g (120m) balls of Patons Diploma Gold DK (55% wool, 25% acrylic, 20% nylon). DK in A (Pastel Pink 06305) and 2 (2) (3) (3) balls in B (Pastel Blue 06306) and 1 (2) (2) (2) ball(s) in C (Denim 06136).

For the boy's jacket: 4 (4) (5) (5) 50g balls of Patons Diploma Gold DK (55% wool, 25% acrylic, 20% nylon) in A (Apple Green 06125) and 2 (2) (3) (3) balls in B (Denim 06136) and 1 (2) (2) (2) ball(s) in C (Lemon 06222).

Both items: 3¾mm (No. 9) and 3mm (No. 11) knitting needles; 3mm (No. 11) circular knitting needle; open-ended zip fastener of appropriate length.

You can buy the yarn online at womansweeklyshop.co.uk/yarn.

For other yarn stockists, call Coats Crafts on 01484 681881.

Tension

24 stitches and 32 rows, to 10 x 10cm, over stocking stitch, using 3¾ mm needles.

Abbreviations

K knit; **p** purl; **st** stitch; **sl** slip; **tog** together; **dec** decrease (by taking 2 sts tog); **pssso** pass sl st over; **skpo** (sl1, k1, pssso); **p2togb** p2tog through back of sts; **ss** stocking st (k on right side and p on wrong side); **nil** meaning nothing is worked here for this size; **up1** pick up loop lying between needles and k into the back of it.

Note

Yarn amounts are based on average requirements and are approximate. Instructions are given for small size. Where they vary, work figures in round brackets for larger sizes. Instructions in square brackets are worked as stated after 2nd bracket.

Back

With 3mm needles and A, cast on 82 (90) (94) (102) sts.

1st rib row: K2, [p2, k2] to end.

2nd rib row: P2, [k2, p2] to end.

Rib another 14 rows, increasing 2 (nil) (2) (nil) sts on last row – 84 (90) (96) (102) sts.

Change to 3¾mm needles.

Beginning with a k row and working in stripes of 4 rows B and 4 rows A throughout, ss 60 (66) (72) (78) rows.

Shape raglan armholes: Cast off 3 (4) (4) (5) sts at beginning of next 2 rows.

1st dec row: K2, skpo, k to last 4 sts, k2tog, k2. **2nd dec row:** P2, p2tog, p to last 4 sts, p2togb, p2.

Repeat last 2 rows, nil (1) (2) (3) time(s) more – 74 (74) (76) (76) sts.

3rd dec row: K2, skpo, k to last 4 sts, k2tog, k2. Ss 1 row.

Repeat last 2 rows, 19 times more – 34 (34) (36) (36) sts.

Cast off.

Left front

With 3mm needles and A, cast on 39 (43) (47) (47) sts.

1st rib row: [K2, p2] to last 3 sts, k3.

2nd rib row: P3, [k2, p2] to end.

Rib another 14 rows, increasing 2 (1) (nil) (3) st(s) on last row – 41 (44) (47) (50) sts.

Change to 3¾mm needles.

Beginning with a k row and working in stripes of 4 rows B and 4 rows A throughout, ss 60 (66) (72) (78) rows.

Shape raglan armhole: Cast off 3 (4) (4) (5) sts at beginning of next row. P 1 row.

1st dec row: K2, skpo, k to end.

2nd dec row: P to last 4 sts, p2togb, p2. Repeat last 2 rows, nil (1) (2) (3) time(s) more – 36 (36) (37) (37) sts.

3rd dec row: K2, skpo, k to end. Ss 1 row. Repeat last 2 rows, 14 times more, then work 3rd dec row again – 20 (20) (21) (21) sts.

Shape neck: Cast off 10 (10) (11) (11) sts at beginning of next row.

Next row: K2, skpo, k3, k2tog, k1.

P 1 row. **Next row:** K2, skpo, k1, k2tog,

k1. P 1 row. **Next row:** K2, sl1, k2tog, psso, k1. P 1 row. **Next row:** K1, sl1, k2tog, psso. P 1 row. K2tog and fasten off.

Right front

With 3mm needles and A, cast on 39 (43) (47) (47) sts.

1st rib row: K3, [p2, k2] to end.

2nd rib row: [P2, k2] to last 3 sts, p3.

Rib another 14 rows, increasing 2 (1) (nil) (3) st(s) on last row – 41 (44) (47) (50) sts.

Change to 3¾mm needles.

Beginning with a k row and working in stripes of 4 rows B and 4 rows A throughout, ss 61 (67) (73) (79) rows.

Shape raglan armhole: Cast off 3 (4) (4)

(5) sts at beginning of next row.

1st dec row: K to last 4 sts, k2tog, k2.

2nd dec row: P2, p2tog, p to end.

Repeat last 2 rows, nil (1) (2) (3) time(s) more – 36 (36) (37) (37) sts.

3rd dec row: K to last 4 sts, k2tog, k2. Ss 1 row.

Repeat last 2 rows, 14 times more, then work 3rd dec row again – 20 (20) (21) (21) sts.

Shape neck: **Next row:** P to last 10 (10) (11) (11) sts, cast off these sts.

With right side facing, rejoin appropriate yarn to remaining 10 sts, k1, skpo, k3, k2tog, k2. P 1 row. **Next row:** K1, k1, k2tog, k2. P 1 row. **Next row:** K1, k3tog, k2. P 1 row. **Next row:** K3tog, k1. P 1 row. K2tog and fasten off.

Sleeves

(both alike)

With 3mm needles and A, cast on 42 (46) (46) (50) sts.

Work 14 rows in rib as on back, increasing 3 (1) (3) (1) st(s) on last row – 45 (47) (49) (51) sts.

Change to 3¾mm needles.

Beginning with a k row and working in stripes of 2 rows C and 2 rows A throughout, ss 8 rows.

Increase row: K2, up1, k to last 2 sts, up1, k2. Ss 9 rows.

Repeat last 10 rows, 4 (5) (6) (7) times more, then increase row again – 57 (61) (65) (69) sts. Ss another 19 rows.

Shape raglan top: Cast off 3 (4) (4) (5) sts at beginning of next 2 rows.

1st dec row: K2, skpo, k to last 4 sts, k2tog, k2. Ss 3 (3) (1) (1) row(s).

2nd dec row: K2, skpo, k to last 4 sts, k2tog, k2. Ss 1 row.

Repeat last 2 rows, 18 (19) (21) (22) times more – 11 sts. Cast off.

Hood

Join all raglan seams. With right side facing, using 3¾mm needles and B, pick up and k15 (15) (16) (16) sts up right front neck, 9 sts across right sleeve, 32 (32) (34) (34) sts across back neck, 9 sts across left sleeve and 15 (15) (16) (16) sts down left front neck – 80 (80) (84) (84) sts. P 1 row, increasing 1 (3) (3) (5) st(s) evenly along row – 81 (83) (87) (89) sts. Ss another 2 rows.

Continue in ss and stripes of 4 rows A and 4 rows B throughout, work 2 rows. Mark centre st.

Increase row: K to within 1 st of marked st, up1, k3, up1, k to end. Ss 3 rows.

Repeat last 4 rows 1 (2) (3) (4) time(s) more, then work increase row again – 87 (91) (97) (101) sts. Ss another 49 rows.

Dec row: K to within 3 sts of centre st, k2tog, k3, skpo, k to end. P 1 row.

Repeat last 2 rows, 5 times more – 75

(79) (85) (89) sts.

Next row: K30 (32)

(34) (36) sts, cast off

next 15 (15) (17) (17) sts, k to end. Work on last set of 30 (32) (34) (36) sts for left side.

Left side: P 1 row. Cast off 7 (7) (8) (8) sts at beginning of next row and following alternate row – 16 (18) (18) (20) sts. Cast off.

Right side: With wrong side facing, rejoin appropriate yarn to remaining sts. Cast off 7 (7) (8) (8) sts at beginning of next row and following alternate row – 16 (18) (18) (20) sts. K 1 row. Cast off.

Front edging

Fold hood in half and join top seam. With right side facing, using 3mm circular needle and A, pick up and k74 (80) (86) (92) sts up right front to beginning of hood, 110 (114) (122) (126) sts around hood and 74 (80) (86) (92) sts to cast-on edge of left front – 258 (274) (294) (310) sts.

Work backwards and forwards in rows.

Rib 3 rows as on back. Cast off in rib.

Left pocket

With 3¾mm needles, and C, cast on 35 (35) (39) (39) sts.

Beginning with a k row and working in stripes of 2 rows C and 2 rows A throughout, ss 13 rows. Mark end of last row. Cast off 8 (8) (10) (10) sts at beginning of next row.

Dec 1 st at end of next row and cast off 2 sts at beginning of following row.

Repeat last 2 rows, twice more. Dec 1 st at end of next row and at same edge on next 5 rows, then on 2 (2) (3) (3) following alternate rows – 10 (10) (11) (11) sts. Ss another 8 (8) (10) (10) rows. Mark beginning of last row. Cast off.

Right pocket

Work as left pocket, but begin with a p row to reverse shaping.

Pocket edgings

(both alike)

With right side facing, using A and 3mm needles, pick up and k 36 (36) (40) (40) sts between markers along shaped edge of pocket.

1st rib row: K3, [p2, k2] to last 5 sts, p2, k3. **2nd rib row:** P3, [k2, p2] to last 5 sts, k2, p3. Rib another 5 rows. Cast off in rib.

To make up

Press as given on ball band. Join side and sleeve seams. Sew in zip. Sew on pockets.



Knitting & Crochet
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Dilly Orme, Editor

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Wow Factor In A Weekend

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Projects: Jane Warnick. Feature: Joanna Thornhill. Styling: Dilly Orme. Photography: Ginette Chapman. Pampas Knitted Shetland Carpet, £36.99 per sq m, Kersaint Cobb (01675 430430; kersaintcobb.co.uk). Jars from a selection, Urban Surburban (020 8877 0022). Vase from a selection, Attic (020 8943 9626; discoverattic.com). Chest of drawers and mirror, from a selection, Princess Alice Furniture Shop (020 8549 9391)

A lick of paint can be one of the simplest and cheapest ways to transform walls, furniture and ornaments around your home. Here, we show you four fun projects to try out using Annie Sloan's specialist paint, Chalk Paint: so-called due to its matt, chalky texture.

This innovative paint adhere to almost any surface without the need for sanding or priming and can be manipulated in a number of ways to produce stunning decorative finishes.



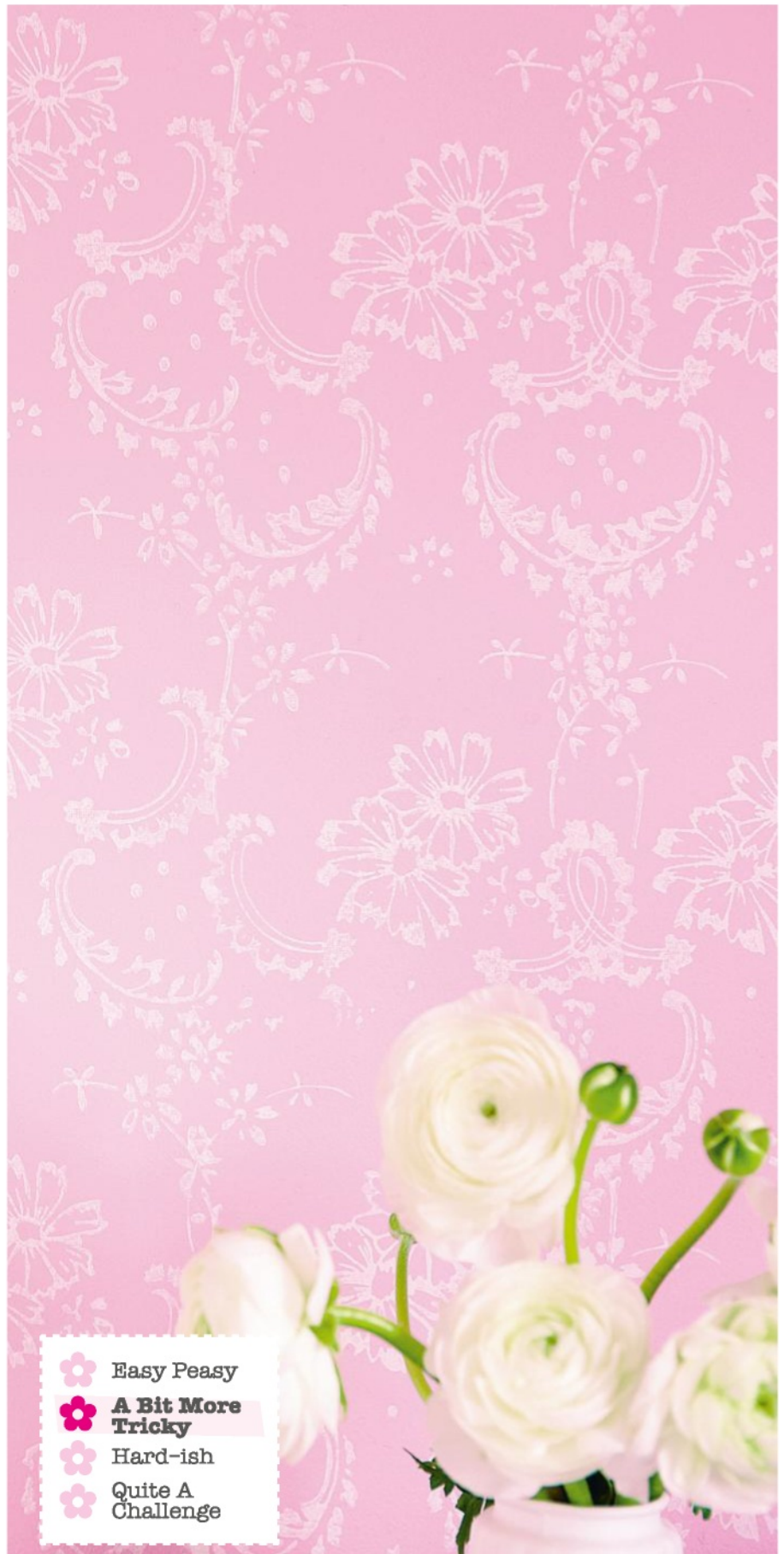
Roller Pattern Paint Effect

This fun technique gives a modern twist to traditional decorative paint-rolling and is a great way to add pattern to your walls if you prefer to paint rather than wallpaper. For a subtle effect, keep both your base and pattern colours close in tone, or choose contrasting shades for a stronger look.

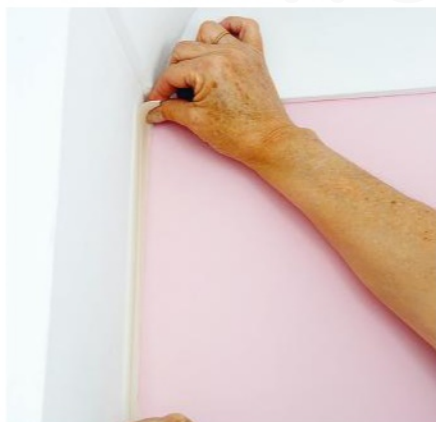
You will need

- A clean, sound wall to roller – we painted ours in Rose Trellis 4, £24.29 for 2.5ltr, Dulux (0844 481 7817; dulux.co.uk).
- 2in decorator's masking tape
- No. 12 patterned paint roller wall applicator, £15, The Painted House (the-painted-house.co.uk)
- Flat matt chalk or emulsion paint for use with the patterned roller – we used Annie Sloan Old White, £5.95 for 100ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques (020 8943 0786; sheldonpaint.co.uk)
- Old piece of wood, at least 30cm wide and at least 50cm long
- Newspaper
- A clean damp cloth or cotton buds
- Small artist's paintbrush

Chalk Paint by Annie Sloan is ideal for these projects as it allows you to achieve different finishes on almost any surface without the need for primer, making them hugely versatile as well as easy to use. For more information, see *Quick and Easy Paint Transformations* and *Colour Recipes for Painted Furniture and More*, both published by Cico Books and available at anniesloan.com or through her stockists.



Easy Peasy
A Bit More Tricky
Hard-ish
Quite A Challenge



1 Prepare your walls

Clear the wall or walls you wish to add the pattern to and ensure they are clean and dry. Run some 2in decorator's masking tape around the edges of the walls, as shown. Remove any plug sockets or light switches ensuring you turn off the power for that circuit at the fuse box first. A dead flat matt emulsion will work best as your base surface, so repaint this now if required, then leave to dry.



2 Load your roller

Place the patterned roller into the elongated slots in the handle bracket – if it doesn't spin freely, gently pull the arms of the bracket apart to loosen it. Once this is correctly spaced, remove it, place your foam roller into the middle of the three holes in the handle bracket. Prepare the paint you wish to use with the roller – we watered ours down in a plastic jug until it achieved a batter-like consistency for easier application. Pour a large blob of paint onto your board, then roll the foam roller over this repeatedly, ensuring every part of it is covered. Repeat several times until the colour has visibly sunk deeply into the foam (as it's made from high-density foam, it can absorb quite a lot). Roll it over a sheet of newspaper to ensure the paint is evenly distributed.



3 Add on the patterned roller

Replace the patterned roller into the elongated slots, as before.



4 Coating the roller

Using your finger, rotate the patterned roller for several full turns until it's coated with an even layer of paint. Once it's well covered, give it a final roll on some newspaper to ensure the spread of paint is even, and to check you have the pattern the right way up. The roller is now ready to go. If you've not used one before, try practising on a scrap piece of wood or paper before using on your wall.



5 Check your marks

If you intend on painting the walls in a repeat pattern, as shown in this project, you will need to ensure that the arrow (shown on the side of the roller) is facing vertically upright towards the ceiling. When you come to roll the second length, the plus symbol must face the top to ensure the patterns match up. Alternate as you go.



6 Paint!

Starting at the upper left corner of your first wall, run the roller down the full length of the wall, holding down the applicator handle at a 45-degree angle and keeping an even pressure as you go. Return to the top of the wall for your second length, ensuring your roller is in the right position (as mentioned in the previous step). Allow for a slight overlap between each length rolled, to avoid gaps in the pattern. There should be sufficient paint for 2–3 passes (more if using a simpler design) before needing to recharge the foam roller.

When you reach the end of the wall, fill in any slim gaps at the end by covering your last full painted pass with newspaper once it's dry. Keep the newspaper in place with decorator's masking tape, leaving a couple of centimetres of the right-hand edge on show, then run the roller over this to fill in the gap. If you make any mistakes, simply wipe them off as you go using a damp cloth or cotton bud. If you notice any once the walls are dry, or want to neaten up any sections of pattern, use a small artist's brush for touch-ups.



Smooth Painted Chest Of Drawers

Update tired furniture or tie in mismatched pieces into your existing décor with a coat of paint. Why not go the whole hog and replace dated handles with striking new ones for a completely new look?

You will need

- An old chest of drawers
- Fine sandpaper (plus superfine, if required – see step 4)
- Replacement drawer handles, if required – we used acrylic handles, £3.50 each, Sheldon Paint Techniques (020 8943 0786; sheldontpaint.co.uk)
- Drill with appropriately sized drill bit, plus wood filler, if replacing handles (see step one)
- Paint – we used Annie Sloan Greek Blue, £5.95 for 100ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before)
- Flat paint brush – we used Annie Sloan large flat brush, £8.95, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before), but any flat brush will do
- Annie Sloan clear wax, £8.95 for 500ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before).
- A clean, lint-free cloth – cut-up old bedsheets are ideal



1 Prep and drill
Remove the drawers from the chest of drawers' carcass and check over

their surfaces. Take off the drawer handles. If you plan to replace them with new ones afterwards and they require holes in different places, fill the holes with wood filler, then sand off the excess when dry. Create the new holes in the positions you need them, using an electric drill fitted with an appropriately sized drill bit for your new handle.

2 A light sanding
The aim with this piece is to achieve a really smooth flat finish so gently give a light sanding to each drawer front and the carcass (unlike most other paints, Chalk Paint by Annie Sloan will adhere just as well to unsanded wood, but for this



project it will help provide a lovely flat finish). Give everything a good clean and wipe down once you've finished sanding.



3 Coat of paint
Gather your paint – we diluted ours slightly with water, to help it flow more easily and achieve the smooth finish we were after. Take a flat-ended brush and hold it as horizontally as possible, painting each piece in long, continuous strokes. Allow to dry, then apply a second coat in the same way.



4 Wax to finish
Once thoroughly dry, apply the wax using a clean, lint-free cloth (the cloth will help achieve a slightly smoother finish). Gently rub it into the piece, using light pressure, until every painted section is covered. For an extra-smooth finish, you could give everything a very light sanding with some superfine paper, then clean all the dust off and reapply the wax using the same method. Fix your handles back into position then leave the piece to cure overnight – it will be touch dry after this time but will take around two weeks to fully cure, so treat with care during this time. To add a slight sheen, you can lightly buff any waxed pieces from time to time.



Distressed Mirror Makeover

Jazz up an old mirror with vibrant fuchsia paint then soften the look with this simple ageing technique to help it blend in with both modern and vintage-style interiors.

- Easy Peasy
- A Bit More Tricky**
- Hard-ish
- Quite A Challenge

You Will Need

- An old mirror with a wooden surround
- Masking tape and old newspaper, if required (see step 1)
- Paint for the first layer – we used Annie Sloan Old White, £5.95 for 100ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques (020 8943 0786; sheldonpaint.co.uk)
- Contrasting paint for the top layer – we created our own shade by mixing Annie Sloan Emperor's Silk with Old White, both £5.95 for 100ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques, (as before)
- Chunky or rounded brush
- for painting – we used Annie Sloan medium paint brush, £18.95, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before), but any textural brush will do
- Annie Sloan clear wax, £8.95 for 500ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before)
- Soft brush for waxing – we used Annie Sloan short wax brush, £23.95, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before), but any soft-bristled brush will do
- Superfine sandpaper or a 3M SandBlaster flexible finishing pad – try Amazon or your local DIY shop
- A clean, lint-free cloth – cut-up old bed sheets are ideal



1 Paint the first layer

Thoroughly clean the wooden surround, removing the mirror glass if you can (if that's not possible, use masking tape to attach newspaper over its surface to protect it, ensuring the tape goes right up to the edges of the glass). Once dry, paint the frame, including the rebate, using irregular, painterly brush strokes. Leave to dry completely before adding a second coat – to speed things up, you could use a hairdryer on a low heat if you wish. Both layers want to create a fairly thick, dense coat to ensure that, when you sand back the top layer later on, it reveals this coat rather than going straight back to the wood beneath.



2 Paint the top layer

Paint on a single coat of your top colour, watering it down a little first so it's slightly thinner and therefore easier to sand off later when administering the distressing technique. Allow to dry.



3 Wax on...

Apply a layer of wax to the frame, gently working it in with a brush using a series of backwards-and-

forwards motions to get the wax into all the nooks and crannies.



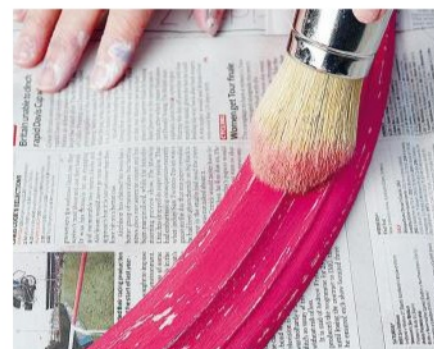
4 ...Wax off!

Once finished, use a lint-free cloth to wipe off any excess wax, gently rubbing it all over the surface. Waxing at this stage will help you achieve the best end result, as it will help control the paint as you sand it off to achieve your distressed effect, as well as minimising dust.



5 Sand it back

Sand the frame and rebate back, working very gently with a small piece of superfine sandpaper. Aim to knock back the top layer to reveal sections of the paint below, concentrating on areas such as edges, which would naturally receive more wear, for an authentic look. Don't worry if you sand back down to the original wood in places – it all adds to the charm.



6 Final wax

When you are happy with the finish, clean off the frame to remove all traces of dust, then apply another layer of wax, as before. Wipe off any excess with a lint-free cloth, then replace the mirror glass (or remove the masking tape and newspaper). Leave overnight to cure before hanging.

A pretty painted box is a lovely place to keep precious items such as jewellery. We decorated ours with a handmade stencil of a delicate bird motif, but you can use any pattern or motif you like!

You Will Need

- Wooden box – we used BCN3 box, £7.50 plus p&p, Boxy Lady (01579 384376; boxylady.co.uk)
- Paint for the box – we used Annie Sloan Old White, £5.95 for 100ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques (020 8943 0786; sheldonpaint.co.uk)
- Chunky or rounded brush – we used Annie Sloan medium paint brush, £18.95, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before)
- Stencil – try The Stencil Library (01661 844844; stencil-library.co.uk), or make your own (see opposite)
- Paint for the stencil – we mixed our own colours using Annie Sloan's Emperor's Silk, Antibes Green and Greek Blue, all lightened with Old White; all £5.95 for 100ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before)
- Old yoghurt pots
- Decorator's masking tape
- Stencilling (stippling) brushes
- Annie Sloan clear wax, £8.95 for 500ml, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before)
- Soft brush for waxing – we used Annie Sloan short wax brush, £23.95, Sheldon Paint Techniques (as before)
- Newspaper and a clean, lint-free cloth

Stencilled Trinket Box



Tip For a bespoke look, try creating your own stencil. Source an image you wish to use then print it out to the size you want (or recreate our design using this template). Lay a sheet of acetate on top of it, then tape it in place, sticking down the paper underneath too, on top of a cutting mat. Using a sharp scalpel, carefully cut out the design and discard the paper.



1 Paint the box
Coat your box with an even layer of paint, taking care not to get paint on the hinges (cover these in masking tape if you wish). Let dry, then add a second coat. We used our paint at full thickness but for a softer look, you could dilute it with water.



2 Time to stencil
Fix your stencil to the top of the box in your preferred position with masking tape along its edges. If you are creating your own shades, mix a small amount of each of the paints you wish to use in an old yoghurt pot or other container. Working one colour at a time (we started with the green), dip your stencil brush into the paint then paint it onto your newspaper until the brush head is virtually dry. Using a stippling motion, dab the paint through the stencil, building it up more heavily in some sections and lighter in others for a delicate and uneven, rather than blocky, finish. Hold your finger over any sections you want to use a different colour on to ensure the colour only goes where you want it to or mask the sections off with masking tape. To check how the pattern's coming along, lift the stencil back to one side, holding your hand over the other half to stop it moving. Once you've finished with your first colour, move on to the next one, washing and drying the brush as you go unless you have enough brushes to assign one to each colour. For a final flourish, use sections of the stencil to decorate some of the edges of the box.



3 A coat of wax
Once your design is thoroughly dry, use a brush to work some clear wax over all the painted surfaces on the box in a backwards-and-forwards motion, then wipe off the excess with a cloth, gently buffing as you go. Leave to cure overnight.



On A String

Let them act out their own play with a home-made puppet. Each kit includes paints, brushes and glue and is suitable from age six upwards. Other designs include a ballerina, dinosaur and horse. Paul Lamond Crafty Kids Puppet Kits, £14.95, Amazon (amazon.com).



House To Home

This charming felt craft kit contains everything you need to create this woodland cottage carry case. Make Your Own Woodland Cottage, £8.95, Dotcomgiftshop (020 8746 2473; dotcomgiftshop.com).

Fit For A Princess

The perfect toy for little princesses, this beautiful set can be reconfigured and redesigned to encourage creative play, complete with its very own knitted princess. Princess and the Pea play set, £86.50, Sister's Guild (sistersguild.co.uk).



Too Cute

With eight different animal designs to choose from, you will have a tough time deciding which kit to make. Make Your Own Animal Craft Kit by Clara and Macy, £18, Notonthehighstreet (0845 259 1359; notonthehighstreet.com).



Cuddly Crochet

Put on a show with these crochet hand puppet kits. Mary the Bear, Paul the Panda and Peter the Rabbit Crochet kits by Rico Design, £12.99 each, Woman's Weekly Shop (0844 848222; womansweeklyshop.co.uk).



Fly Me To The Moon

This rocket kit is just as much fun to decorate as it is to play with. Suitable from five years. Wooden space rocket, £8.99, Mulberry Bush (01403 70796; mulberrybush.co.uk).



Made To Fit

For the ultimate bespoke gift you can order this kit to suit the recipient. Personalised Make Your Own Doll Kit by Clara and Macy, £25, Notonthehighstreet (0845 259 1359; notonthehighstreet.com).

Teddy Bear's Picnic

Nothing beats a classic teddy bear toy, especially with a winning smile like this. Cream Bear crochet kit, £18.89, Woman's Weekly Shop (0844 848222; womansweeklyshop.co.uk).



Sock It To 'Em

Older children will love getting creative and making their own adorable Sock Giraffe or 'Sockosaurus'. Suitable from 12 years. Sockosaurus kit, £10, John Lewis (0845 604 9049; johnlewis.com).



Knitted Charmer

Create a toy they'll never forget with this adorable elephant kit. *Knit Your Own Humphrey Toy*, £22.99, Woman's Weekly Shop (0844 848222; womansweeklyshop.co.uk).



Cut Out And Stitch Up

100% British made, this lovely Tilda rag doll comes screen printed on cotton fabric, ready for adults or older children to construct. Tilda Rag Doll Kit, £22.50, Clare Loves (01494 874101; clareloves.co.uk).



Toy Craft Kits

Nothing evokes happy childhood memories like a favourite handmade toy – here's our round-up of possible future family heirlooms

Rumble In The Jungle

Create your own zoo menagerie in minutes with these cute critters. *Paper Animals – The Wild Bunch*, £7, Mibo (01273 208888; mibo.co.uk).



The Amazing Aerial Acrobats

These flying artistes make stylish decorations. Have fun creating different girls using various combinations of colours and patterns

Cutting cardboard templates that you can draw around makes it quick and easy to produce a whole troupe of acrobats, but you could simply trace the enlarged photocopies to produce just one or two.



-  Easy Peasy
-  A Bit More Tricky
-  **Hard-ish**
-  Quite A Challenge

You will need

For each acrobat:

- Access to a photocopier
- Card for templates
- 1 sheet of A4 medium-weight, double-sided flesh-coloured paper (or thin card) for the body
- Scraps of coloured and patterned paper for leotard, shoes and feathers
- Glue stick
- Self-adhesive jewels
- 6 x 26cm strip of coloured

tissue paper for underskirt or train

- 4 x 26cm strip of tissue paper for skirt or train
- Silver thread and needle
- Pencil
- Craft knife and cutting mat
- Scissors
- Narrow double-sided tape
- Pinking shears or other decorative-edged scissors

For the moon girl:

- 20cm square of double-sided gold card



4 Trim one long edge of the larger rectangle of tissue paper with pinking shears or decorative-edged scissors. Starting at the flying girl's back, and removing the protective backing from the tape, gather the tissue paper onto the double-sided tape, pressing it down to fix in place, to make the underskirt.

5 Repeat steps 3 and 4 with the smaller piece of tissue paper to make the top skirt. Glue the flying girl's belt to her skirt to cover up the raw edges.

6 To hang, run a needle and silver thread through the top of the flying girl's head and tie to secure, so she's ready to hang from a hook or drawing pin in the ceiling.

To make a moon girl

1 Repeat steps 1 and 2 of making a flying girl, then glue the moon girl to her moon.

2 To make her train, cut an 8cm length of double-sided tape and place it on the work surface, sticky side up. Cut 6cm off the length of the narrower strip of tissue paper, cut one end into a curve, then trim all round with pinking shears or decorative-edged scissors. Gather the centre of the tissue paper onto the tape with the curved end hanging down.



3 Trim the wider strip of tissue paper so it is the same width as the smaller one, with the same



Cutting out

Enlarge the templates overleaf on a photocopier, trace onto thin card and cut out. Drawing round these templates and using a craft knife and cutting mat, cut bodies from flesh-coloured papers and all the other pieces from coloured papers of your choice. If you are using paper that is only patterned on one side for the acrobat's shoes or leotard, make sure you get the paper the right way round so the pattern is on show. For a moon girl, also cut a moon from double-sided gold card (or cut two single-sided gold moon shapes and stick them together).

To make a flying girl



1 To make one of the flying girls, using our pictures as a guide, use a glue stick to stick the hair and bun front and back, leotard and shoe pieces in place on the body.

2 Add self-adhesive jewels to the wrists, neck and headpiece. To make a feather headdress, fold each of the three feather shapes in



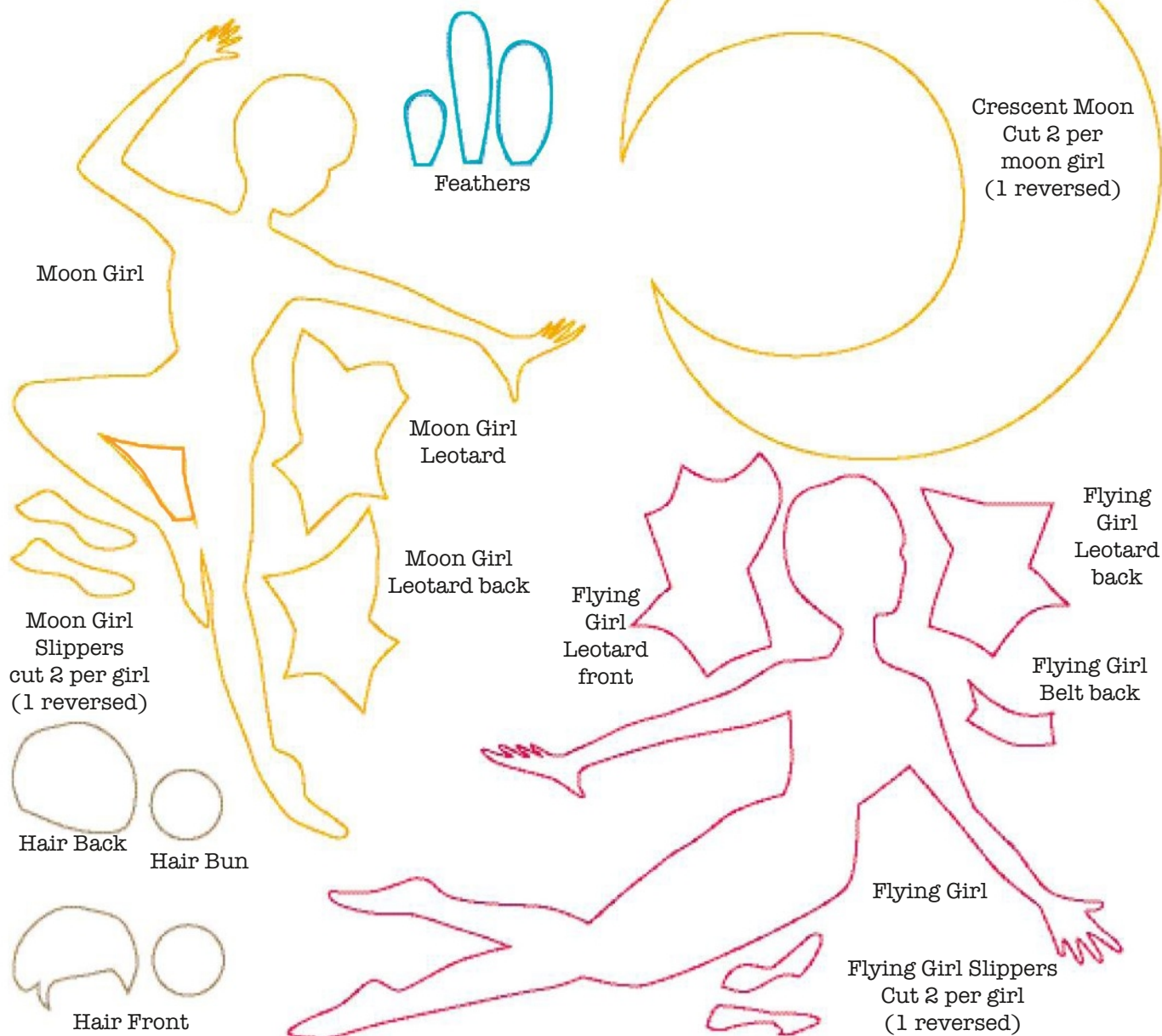
half lengthways and snip away narrow triangles of paper to 'feather' the edges. Glue the base of two or three feathers just above the hair bun.



3 To make a skirt, place a piece of double-sided tape across the flying girl's waist front and back, and trim it to the shape of her leotard.

Amazing Acrobat Templates

Photocopy at 200%



decorative edge. Remove the protective backing from the double-sided tape and gather the top third of this strip of tissue paper onto it to make the train. Gather the hanging strip, then glue the train to the moon girl's bottom with glue. Complete

with a jewelled paper heart or similar trim stuck over the top.

4 To hang, run a needle and thread through the top of the moon and tie to secure.



Buy the Book

Taken from *Scissors, Paper, Craft* by Christine Leech, one of the Simple Makes series by Quadrille, £12.99. Photography by Keiko Oikawa. To buy this book for only £7.99 inc. FREE UK p&p, call direct on 01256 302699 quoting reference 9ZL.

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Add a floral touch to your home with our cross-stitch cushion projects

Start a new project this week with our cross-stitch cushion front kits. They make great gifts to give or make. Choose from A) Pansies on Cream, B) Anemones on Cream, C) Thistles & Bumblebee, and D) Poppies on Blue. They make an easy-to-complete project and, once finished, will look great in your home or make a great gift. The kits have all you need to complete a 40cm sq cushion front, with simple-to-follow instructions, hand-painted 100% cotton canvas for easy stitching, and 100% acrylic yarn and needle – all for £29.99 each. Buy two for £54.98 and save £5, or all four for £108.96 and **SAVE £11**. To finish your project, there's a 100% cotton cushion back with a zipper for only £9.99 and cushion pad for just £7.99.



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'It is a good idea to start stitching the largest area of colour first, then build up the smaller sections of colour around it.'

Dilly Orme, Editor

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WWK1818/WWK1819 May

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Blooming Marvellous

MAKE THESE PRETTY CROCHET FLOWERS AND ADD COLOUR TO A PLAIN BASKET

Photography: Simon Taylor. Designer: Sara Mackin. These flower patterns were taken from *50 Sunflowers To Knit, Crochet & Felt* by Kristin Nicholas (Search Press £10.99) and *700 Flowers To Knit & Crochet* by Lesley Stanfield (Search Press, £10.99).

- Easy Peasy
- **A Bit More Tricky**
- Hard-ish
- Quite A Challenge

Crocheted Flowers

Crochet

Materials

1 x 50g (155m) ball of DMC Natura Just Cotton (100% cotton) in each of Ecru (Nacar N35), Red (Passion N23), Coral (N18), Green (Pistache N13) and Yellow (Tournesol N16). Size 4.00 crochet hook. Plain basket. **You can buy the yarn at womansweeklyshop.co.uk/yarn.** For other yarn stockists, call DMC Creative World Ltd on 0116 275 4000.

Abbreviations

Ch, chain; **dc**, double crochet; **tr**, treble; **dtr**, double treble; **slst**, slip stitch; **yrh**, yarn round hook; **htr**, half treble; **chsp**, chain space; **tr4tog**, work 4tr together (yrh, insert hook in next st, yrh and pull through, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook, [yrh, insert hook in same st, yrh and

pull through, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook] 3 times, yrh and pull through all 5 loops on hook); **tr5tog**, work 5tr together (yrh, insert hook in next st, yrh and pull through, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook, [yrh, insert hook in same st, yrh and pull through, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook] 4 times, yrh and pull through all 6 loops on hook); **popcorn**, work 4dtr in chsp, take hook out of loop of last dtr, reinsert hook under 2 strands at top of first dtr and in loop, yrh and pull through all loops on hook.

Note

Use 2 strands of yarn together throughout. Instructions in square brackets are worked as stated after 2nd bracket.



Passion flower

Centre: With 4.00 hook and Coral, make 5ch, slst in first ch to form ring.

1st round: 9dc in ring.

2nd round: 2dc in each dc – 18dc.

3rd round: [2dc in next dc, 1dc in next dc] 9 times, slst in first dc – 27dc. Fasten off.

Join Yellow with slst to any dc on last round.

4th round: [1dc in next dc, tr4tog in next dc, 1ch, 1dc in next dc] 9 times, slst in first dc. Fasten off.

Join Ecru with slst to top of tr4tog on last round.

5th round: 1dc in same place as last slst, [1dc in each of next ch and next dc, tr5tog in next dc, 1ch, 1dc in top of tr4tog] 8 times, 1dc in each of next ch and next dc, tr5tog in next dc, 1ch. Work back of centre thus:

6th round: [1dc in each of next 3dc, 1dc in ch] 9 times – 36dc.

7th round: [1dc in each of next 3dc, miss 1dc] 9 times – 27dc.

8th round: 1dc in each dc to end.

9th round: [1dc in each of next 2dc, miss 1dc] 9 times – 18dc.

10th round: [1dc in next dc, miss 1dc] 9 times, slst in first dc – 9dc. Fasten off.

Petals (make 9): With 4.00 hook and Coral, make 11ch.

Next round: 3tr in 4th ch from hook, 2dtr in next ch, 1dtr and 1tr in next ch, 2tr in next ch, 1htr in next ch, 1dc in each of next 2ch, 2slst in last ch, work along other side of chain thus: 1dc in each of next 2ch, 1htr in next ch, 2tr in next ch, 1tr and 1dtr in next ch, 2dtr in next ch, 3tr in next ch, slst in top of 3ch. Fasten off. Arrange petals around centre to form flower, placing fastened off edge of each petal to back of centre and secure in position.



Camomile

Centre: With 4.00 hook and Yellow, wind yarn around index finger of left hand to make a ring, insert hook into ring, yarn over hook and pull through, yarn over hook and pull through loop on hook.

1st round: 1ch, 5dc in ring, slst in 1ch, pull end of yarn to tighten the ring.

2nd round: 1ch, 1dc in same place as slst, 2dc in each of next 5dc, slst in 1ch – 12 sts.

3rd round: 1ch, [2dc in next dc, 1dc in next dc] 5 times, 2dc in next dc, slst in 1ch – 18 sts.

4th round: 1ch, [2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 2dc] 5 times, 2dc in next dc, 1dc in next dc, change to Red and slst in 1ch – 24 sts.

5th round: 1ch, [2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 3dc] 5 times, 2dc in next dc, 1dc in each of next 2dc, change to Ecru and slst in 1ch – 30 sts.

6th round: 3ch, 1tr

in next dc, 7ch, miss next dc, [1tr in each of next 2dc, 7ch, miss 1dc] 9 times, slst in 3rd of 3ch. Fasten off.

7th round: Keeping 7ch loop at front, join Red in any missed dc of previous round, [3ch, insert hook from back to front in next missed dc of previous round, yrn and pull yarn through to back over centre of 7ch, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook] 10 times. Fasten off.

Make 2 more camomiles using colours as follows: 1 in Coral, Yellow and Ecru, 1 in Coral, Red and Ecru.



Geranium

Centre: With 4.00 hook and Ecru, make 5ch, slst in first ch to form ring. **1st round:** 1ch, 7dc in ring, change to Coral and slst in 1ch.

2nd round: 1ch, 1dc in same place as last slst, 2ch, [2dc in next dc, 2ch] 7 times, slst in 1ch. Fasten off. Join Yellow with slst in any chsp of last round. **3rd round:** Work 2ch, popcorn, 2ch and slst in same chsp as join, [work slst, 2ch, popcorn, 2ch and slst in next chsp] 7 times. Fasten off.

Make 5 more geraniums using colours as follows: 1 in Ecru, Coral and Red; 1 in Red, Ecru and Yellow; 1 in Red, Ecru and Coral; 1 in Coral, Ecru and Yellow; 1 in Ecru, Yellow and Red.

Irish leaves (make 2)

With 4.00 hook and Green, make 12ch.

1st row: 1dc in 2nd ch from hook, 1dc in each of next 9ch, 5dc in last dc, work along other side of ch thus: 1dc in each of next 10ch, 3ch, 1dc in each of next 9dc, turn.

2nd row: 1ch, working in back strand of every st, 1dc in each of next 8dc, [1dc in next ch, 1ch] twice, 1dc in next ch, 1dc in each of next 9dc, turn.

3rd row: 1ch, miss 1dc, 1dc in each of next 9dc, [1ch, 1dc in next st] 4 times, 1dc in each of next 6dc, turn. **4th row:** 1ch, working in back strand of every st, miss 1dc, 1dc in each of next 20 sts, turn. **5th row:** 1ch, miss 1dc, 1dc in each of next 9 sts, make 7ch for stem, slst in 2nd ch from hook, slst in each of next 5ch, slst in next dc. Fasten off.

To complete

Arrange flowers and leaves on front of basket and secure in position.

Letter Art

USE STRIKING GRAPHIC LETTERS TO DECORATE YOUR HOME AND THEN
ADAPT THE TECHNIQUES FOR EYE-CATCHING GREETINGS CARDS



Card projects: Clare Youngs, Styling: Dilly Orme, Photography: Ginette Chapman, Letter ornaments, Attic (020 8943 9626; discoverattic.com), Letter rubbers, Urban Surburban (020 8977 0022), '1960s' 746 phone, £45; Alphabet voice candle, £6 each; all Oliver Bonas, (020 8974 0110; oliverbonas.com)

Alphabet Garland

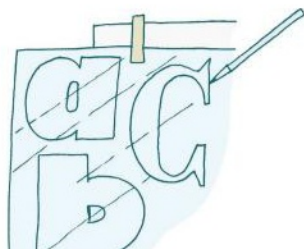
Papercraft

Brighten up a corner of a child's bedroom with this colourful alphabet. For added contrast, use a different typeface for each letter – some tall and thin, others chunky and condensed. This is an ideal project to re-use all those lovely birthday cards you can't bear to throw away. The more colours and patterns you use, the more fun the garland looks! Adapt the idea to create banners for special occasions such as birthdays or use to spell out names to decorate children's bedroom doors.

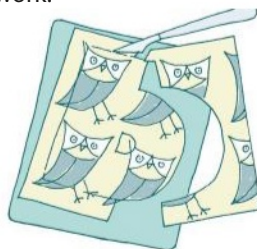
You will need

- Letter templates (page 50)
- Plain or graph paper
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Tracing paper
- Masking tape
- Patterned cardboard or paper stuck onto card
- Craft knife
- Cutting mat
- Craft glue
- Coloured ribbon or tape

1 Choose your letters, using a different typeface for each one, and enlarge them to the right size, either by using a photocopier or by scaling the letter up on graph paper. Ours are approximately 10–12cm in height. Transfer the letters onto some tracing paper.



2 If you are using patterned cardboard, transfer the letters onto that. Use masking tape to secure the tracing paper as you work.



3 Cut out the letters using a craft knife. Remember to protect your work surface with a cutting mat.



4 If you are using patterned paper, glue a sheet to some thin card – cereal boxes are ideal for this. Repeat steps 2 and 3 to make your letters.



5 Dab some glue onto a length of coloured ribbon or tape as you attach each letter. Leave to dry – then hang up on show.

Cut-out Letter Cards

Some letters you may find easier to make the fold at the top of the letter. We made a top fold for the letter 'a'.



1 To work out the size of card for any of the letters, make the card twice the length of the letter with 1 or 2cm extra x the height of the letter with 1 or 2cm extra.

2 Trace off the letter. Turn the trace over and go over the lines with a sharp pencil on the back of your chosen patterned paper.

3 Cut out the letter and stick it down onto the front of the folded card. The positioning of the letter is important. For example for the letter 'c', you need to place the left side curve 3mm over the edge of the fold of the card and the bottom curve 3mm over the bottom edge of the card. This is to give you some straight edges to accommodate the fold and to allow the card to stand up.

4 Cut out around the letter going through both the front and the back of the card. Do not cut the section that overlaps the fold.

5 Trim off the two bits of overlapping paper.



Tissue Paper Overlay

You will need

- Letter templates
- Plain or graph paper
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Tracing paper
- Masking tape
- Scissors
- Sheets of tissue paper in different colours
- White cartridge paper
- Spray adhesive (read instructions before use)
- Facemask
- Eraser

Use scissors to cut out the shapes. Lay some tissue paper over the first of your chosen letters, secure with masking tape, and trace out the outline.

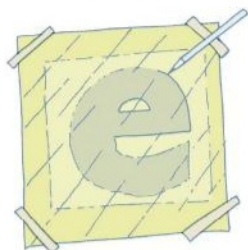


2 Cut out the letter. Repeat with more letters in different typefaces and contrasting widths. Use a different coloured tissue paper each time.

position of each one, then gently remove each layer until you reach the letter at the bottom.



4 Coat the back of the first letter with a light layer of spray adhesive. Be sure to read the instructions and wear a facemask. Place the letter on the cartridge paper and smooth down. Repeat to stick down each letter in turn. Gently remove any pencil marks you may have made using an eraser.



1 Choose your letters and enlarge them to the right size, either by using a photocopier or by scaling the letters up on graph paper. We made ours approximately 15cm in height.



3 Play with the letters on a piece of white cartridge paper. Move them around, trying different combinations of overlays and positions, until you have an arrangement that you like. Mark lightly around some of the letter edges using a pencil, in order to remember the



Layered Tissue Hello Card

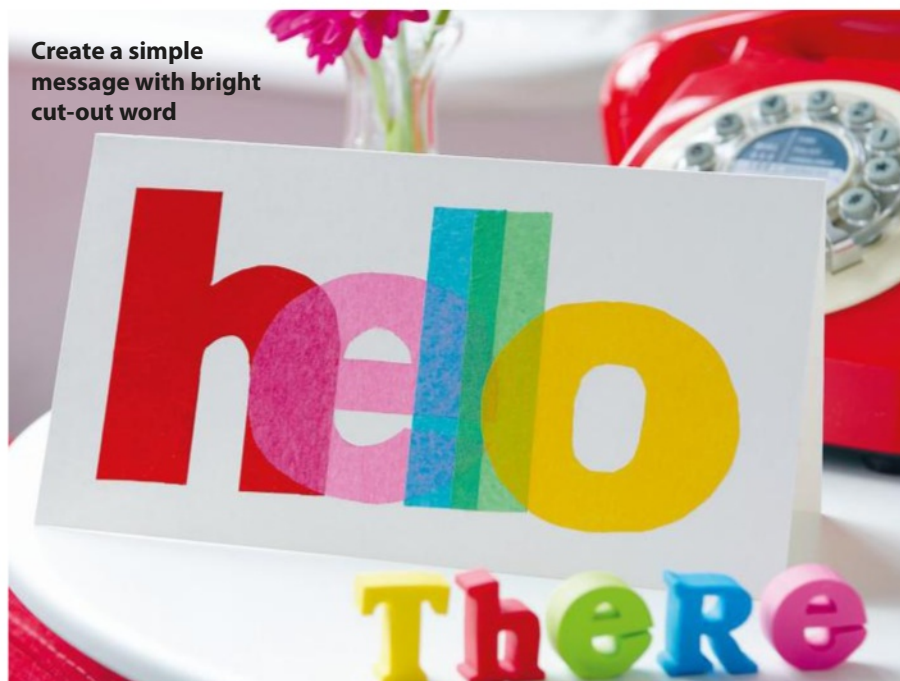
Create a simple message with bright cut-out word

1 Cut a piece of thin white card measuring 22 x 21cm. Fold this in half to make a card measuring 11 x 21cm. Press the crease down firmly.

2 Trace out the enlarged letters onto different coloured pieces of tissue paper and cut them out.

3 Spray a light coat of adhesive onto the back of the 'h'. Position it onto the front of the card, placing it 15mm in from the left edge and 15mm up from the bottom edge. Work gently as glued tissue paper tears easily. Once positioned, smooth down the letter to make sure there are no wrinkles. Use a soft eraser to rub any pencil marks out.

4 Position the remaining letters as marked on the template. Make sure that after you stick down each letter, you gently rub out any pencil marks before overlapping the next letter.



Issue paper is lovely to use in craft projects, especially when overlapping layers to create different shades and areas of colour. Using three or four cut-out shapes, you can also create wonderfully abstract designs. Add contrast by choosing different typefaces and group several letters together for an eye-catching display with a contemporary look.



Easy Peasy



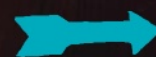
A Bit More Tricky



Hard-ish



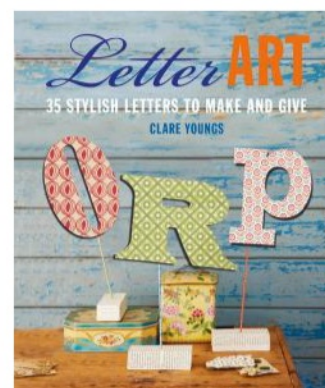
Quite A Challenge





Templates for Letter Art

Enlarge by 200%



Buy the Book

Letter Art by Clare Youngs is published by CICO Books priced £14.99, available from all good bookshops or call 01256 302699 quoting GLR 90Q to purchase a copy at the special price of £10.99 including free p&p. For more information, visit cicobooks.co.uk.

Can Do Attitude

Transform those empty tins into stylish storage pots



To make: Remove the paper labels from the cans. Paint the cans in your chosen colour using acrylic paint. Measure the distance between the top and bottom lip of the can and cut a strip of printed paper to wrap around the circumference of the can and glue in place. Wrap a strip of fabric around the can a couple of times securing with a knot and a dab of glue, if necessary. Add your choice of embellishments on top of the fabric strip to hide the knots, such as cut-out motifs, a button or a charm.

-  **Easy Peasy**
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Taken from *Creative Ideas to Organize Your Home* by Linda Peterson, published by Cico Books at £14.99. Available from all good bookshops or call 01256 302699 quoting GLR 9NV to purchase a copy at the special price of £10.99 including free p&p. For more information, please visit cicobooks.co.uk.

Craft Books

Books to get you inspired for your next project



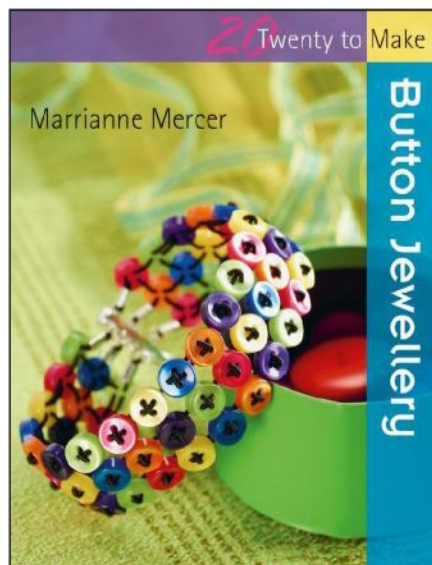
Playful Petals by Corey Yoder, £15.99



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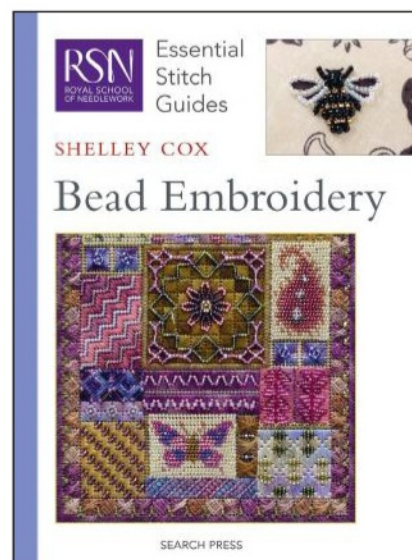
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- Easy Peasy
- A Bit More Tricky**
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Gorgeous Garland

PRETTY CROSS-STITCHED SQUARES INTERSPERSED WITH
PENNANTS OF LIBERTY-PRINT LAWN MAKE A ROOM
DECORATION TO TREASURE



Our garland is 2m long, with 23 square pennants – 15 embroidered and 8 in fabric. It's entirely hand-stitched – no sewing machine required!

The five little embroidery designs, inspired by Liberty prints, are easily worked in simple cross-stitch with a little backstitch and French knots – instructions for all stitches are opposite. The decorative motifs are also very versatile – ideal for making cards, trimmings or miniature pictures.

You will need

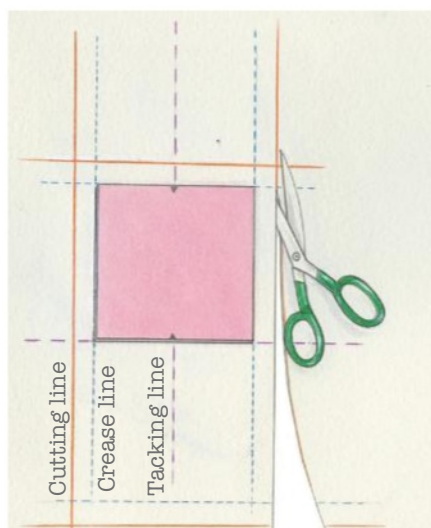
- Fifteen 17cm squares of 28count (11 threads/cm) ivory linen (DMC ref. 3865)
- DMC Special Mouliné stranded cotton: 1 skein of each colour listed in the chart key opposite
- Tapestry needle no. 24
- Eight 7 x 12cm rectangles of Liberty Tana Lawn – we used Tuesday Trees
- Matching sewing thread and needle
- 2m of 4mm wide lime-coloured ribbon
- An accurate 5cm square of Bristol board or smooth card

Working the embroidery

1 Press the linen and tack vertical and horizontal lines across the centre of each piece. The vertical line will coincide with the line indicated by arrows on the charts.

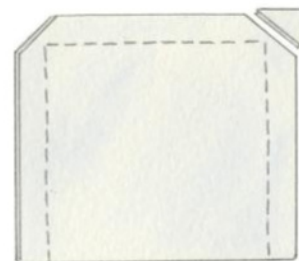
2 Following your chosen chart, the key and the stitch guides opposite, embroider the motif just above the centre of the linen, so the base line of your design chart coincides with the horizontal tacking, and the arrowed line corresponds with the vertical tackline. Counting squares, work each stitch over two linen threads, using two strands of Special Mouliné cotton.

Making up



1 Press your finished embroidery and lay face down. Centre the card square over the embroidered square (see Tip, right), so the base sits on the horizontal tack line. Turn the right and left sides of linen over the card, and crease, extending the crease up and down to make a 5cm wide strip. Trim the turnings 1cm from the folds.

2 With the card square still in position, crease the upper edge over the board and trim to leave a 1cm turning.



3 Fold up the lower edge up so that it lies on top, forming a backing, and crease a fold along the top of the card; trim 1cm above the fold. Remove the card, fold in all the seam allowances, trimming excess fabric at corners and aligning edges of the square, and press. Repeat with each square of your embroidered linen.

4 On each piece of Liberty fabric, press 1cm turnings to the wrong side on all the raw edges and trim corners. Fold in half to form a square and press.

5 Arrange all the squares in a line with the folds at the tops, distributing the fabric squares evenly among the embroidered ones. Slip the ribbon under the top fold of the first square, leaving a 20cm end for hanging the garland. Slipstitch the edges of the square together, catching it in place on the ribbon at the same time. Attach the remaining squares to the ribbon in the same way, leaving a bare 2cm between each one. Form a loop at each end of the ribbon and hang up.

TIP Mark the centre of the top and bottom edges of the board square and align these marks with your tack line to help position the square centrally.



Buy the Book

This project is from *Liberty Cross Stitch* by Hélène Le Berre. This book combines pretty cross-stitch designs with classic Liberty prints to create gorgeous, hand-stitched items for you, your home, and your family and friends. Buy online for £10.99 plus p&p at womansweeklyshop.co.uk, where you'll find more great craft ideas.



Design Charts

Each coloured square represents one cross-stitch worked over two threads of linen. Work lines in backstitch and dots as French knots.

Key

Numbers refer to DMC threads.

	728
	3708
	3053
	3731
	169

Chart 2

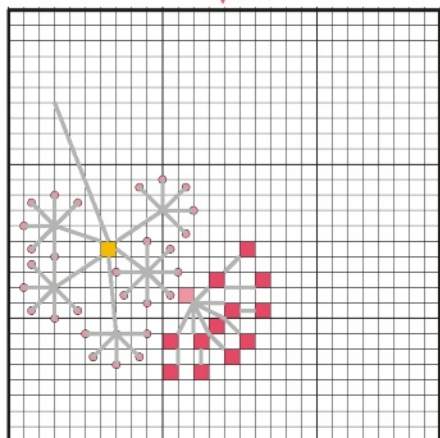


Chart 4

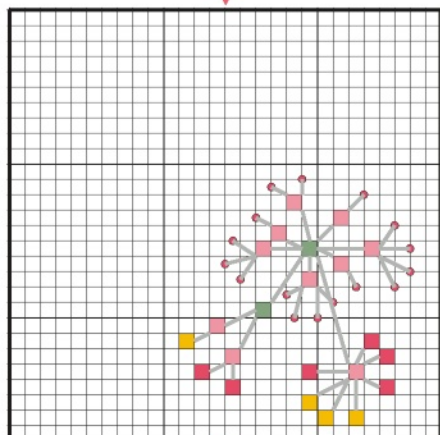


Chart 1

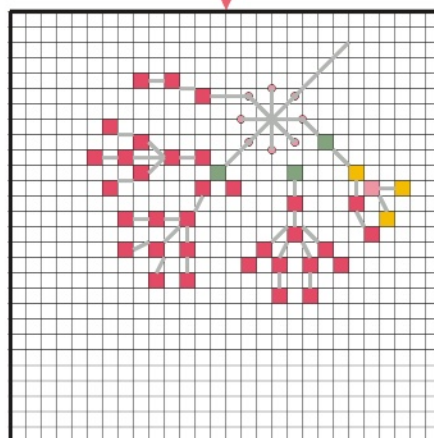


Chart 3

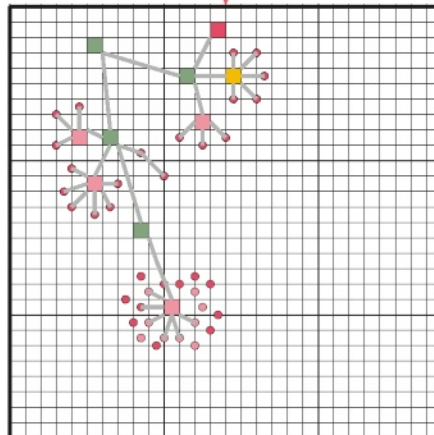
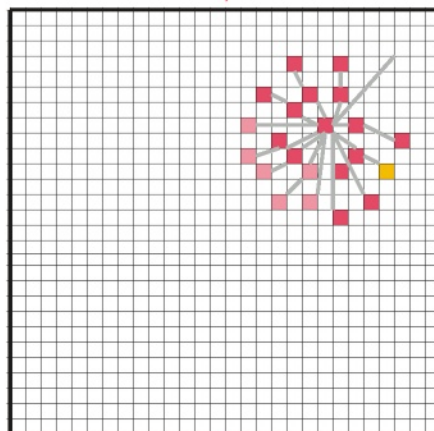
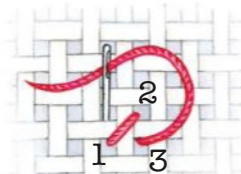


Chart 5

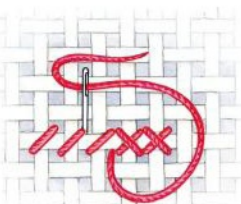


STITCH GUIDE

A



B



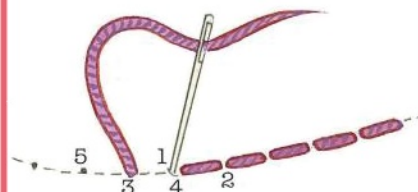
Cross-stitch

Cross-stitches can be worked either individually or in rows. It doesn't matter which direction you work in, but make sure the bottom halves of all stitches slope in the same direction, so the top halves will do the same. To work either individual stitches or rows, bring the needle up at 1, and insert one block up (or two threads up) and one block to the right at 2, forming a diagonal stitch. Bring the needle up at 3. Either complete an individual stitch as in diagram A, or continue in this way to form a row of half crosses, then work back, finishing the upper half of the crosses, as in diagram B.



French knots

Bring the needle out from the back of the fabric to the front, wrap the thread two or three times round the needle and, holding wraps with your thumb, reinsert the needle at the same point. The wraps will form a knot on the fabric surface.



Backstitch

Work from right to left, bringing the needle up through the fabric at 1, down at 2, up at 3, down at 4, up at 5, and so on.

Creative Craft Days

At WW Headquarters

From
**Woman's
Weekly**
HOME SERIES

**22nd
APRIL**

Button Makes Craft Day

Join us for a fun Button Craft Workshop and meet *Woman's Weekly* Lifestyle Editor, Jayne Marsden, and Home Editor, Emily Dawe, who will be demonstrating how to create stylish makes using buttons. You'll get to make a gorgeous framed initial for someone special, using buttons of all colours and sizes. Plus we'll show you how to create a fabulous button posy and, as seen at *Woman's Weekly* Live show last September, Emily will lead a jewellery-making demonstration where you will make a necklace using buttons.



Meet Lifestyle Editor Jayne (left) and Home Editor Emily (right)



About the day

Itinerary for our Craft Day

- 10am** Tea, coffee and meet and greet
- 10.30** How to make a framed button initial
- 11.30** Tea and coffee
- 11.45** Continue with your button picture
- 12.15** Make a button posy
- 1pm** Lunch
- 2pm** Continue with your button posy
- 3pm** Tea and coffee
- 3.15** How to make a button necklace
- 4.30** Workshop ends

Tickets cost £59 per person for the workshop, and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Please keep your booking confirmation, as this is your ticket for the event. A guest list policy will be in operation at the event. Shortly after purchasing tickets, you will receive an email booking confirmation normally within one week of placing your order: this is your ticket to the event, so please retain it for future reference. Tea, coffee and water will be provided on the day, but lunch is not included. *Woman's Weekly* reserves the right to change the itinerary of the day.

The Button Craft Day is sponsored by Hobbycraft

Visit Hobbycraft, the arts, crafts, making and baking superstore, and discover hundreds of great value offers, like 3 for 2 on all knitting yarns, and new arrivals like the exclusive range of Kirstie Allsopp kits. For store locations and to find out what's on at your local Hobbycraft store, visit hobbycraft.co.uk

hobbycraft

TO BOOK ONLINE GO TO

Buttons: womansweeklyshop.co.uk/buttons2014

Sewing: womansweeklyshop.co.uk/bag2014

OR FILL OUT AND SEND COUPON ➔



Terms and conditions *Woman's Weekly* has the right to change the itinerary of the day. Tickets will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. The day will start at 10am with tea and coffee and finishes at 4.30pm. A guest list policy will be in operation at the event. Shortly after purchasing tickets, you will receive an e-mail or letter booking confirmation: this is your ticket to the event, so please retain it for future reference. Please note: makes may differ from images shown.

BOOK NOW!

Meet Our Experts And Make A Gorgeous Tote Bag

7th
JULY

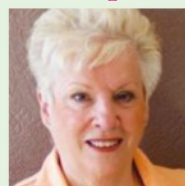


Have you been inspired by the recent TV sewing programmes and want to learn more? Or want to return to sewing and need a confidence boost? Then, this is the workshop for you. Jane Bolsover, author of *Sewing Machine Basics* and *Sewing School Basics*, will advise you on cutting out fabrics and threading a machine, to stitching seams correctly, working buttonholes and creating a stylish bag or cushion (depending on which workshop you attend), in her friendly and reassuring style, assisted by sewing experts Thelma Judge and Linda MacDonald. Once you've mastered these skills, you can adapt them to make many other sewing projects. Come along and get to grips with sewing!



Jane Bolsover has over 25 years' experience as a designer and writer specialising in the sewing and craft industry. A fully trained fashion designer, Jane has appeared on TV also.

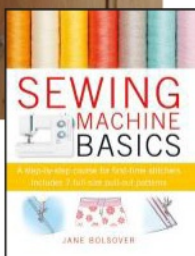
Our Experts



Thelma Judge worked as the Dressmaking Advisor for John Lewis, London for over 14 years. Thelma currently teaches workshops and undertakes commissions for commercial fabric and pattern companies.



Linda MacDonald worked for Butterick and Vogue Patterns as Dressmaking and Promotions Co-ordinator. She currently sews, advises on patterns/sewing at exhibitions and presents workshops.



PLUS get a free copy of *Sewing Machine Basics* worth £14.99

About the day

Itinerary for our Sewing Day

10-10.30AM Meet and greet with tea and coffee

10.30-1PM Jane will discuss and demonstrate how to use a pattern, cut out accurately, attach interfacing and thread up your machines ready to start sewing. Thelma and Linda will be there to assist as you start your own projects and give you practical advice. Jane will explain how to stitch accurate seams for a professional finish, and if time allows, sewing will begin before lunch.

1-2PM Lunch

2-4.30PM In the afternoon, sewing gets underway at full throttle to create your own bag, covering: making a lining, top stitching, bagging out, hand slipstitching, making buttonholes and attaching a button.

For both days...

- Tickets are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.
- *Woman's Weekly* HQ is within walking distance of London Bridge, Waterloo, Waterloo East, Blackfriars and Southwark stations.
- There is a restaurant on site, and you can buy a cooked meal or sandwiches to eat on our roof terrace if the weather is fine or in the canteen, which has amazing views over London. There are also local sandwich bars or you may bring your own lunch.

The sewing day is
in association with

SINGER

FISKARS



Gütermann
creativ

Hemline



WOMAN'S WEEKLY CREATIVE WORKSHOPS Please complete this coupon and send it to *Woman's Weekly* Marketing, Blue Fin Building, Room 06-N2-02, 110 Southwark Street, London SE1 0SU

Event	Price	Number of tickets	Subtotal	
22nd April Button Craft Day	£59 per ticket			
7th July Make a Tote Bag Day	£69 per ticket			
Grand Total				

I enclose a cheque made payable to *Woman's Weekly* (no cash please) for the sum of £

Please use block capitals

(Mrs/Miss/Ms/Mr/Title).....Address.....

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**Woman's
Weekly**

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WorldMags.net

Take a... HANDFUL OF BUTTONS

...to make pretty jewellery and lovely decorative accessories



Photography: Ginette Chapman. Styling: Dilly Orme. Jewellery, heart and words: Sam Redfern. Picture project: Emily Dawe

-  **Easy Peasy**
-  **A Bit More Tricky**
-  **Hard-ish**
-  **Quite A Challenge**

Hanging Heart

This gorgeous decoration is so simple to make and affordable too

Thread a length of fine wire through 24 small shell buttons, then form a circle, twisting the ends together securely behind the last button. Carefully bend into a heart shape. Hook a short length of wire to the back of the heart

and it's ready to hang somewhere special in your home.

Shell buttons, from 20p each, John Lewis.
Silver-plated jewellery wire, £2.25, Beadtime.
Hemnes dressing table, £200, Ikea.

Tip

The buttons tend to slide apart as the wire is pulled through, so closely overlap them as you go.



- **Easy Peasy**
- A Bit More Tricky
- Hard-ish
- Quite A Challenge



Button Jewellery

Shiny shell buttons make an attractive alternative to beads to create colourful, handmade jewellery

Earrings

Glue earring backs to the underside of two buttons and allow a few minutes to dry.

Bracelet

Knot a length of fine cord at one end, creating a loop, which will slide over the final button to fasten – we used a slightly smaller flower button for this. Thread the cord through two-holed buttons, tying a knot behind each one. Finish with a small button for fastening,

making the bracelet the required length, and tie off securely. Apply glue to the final knots to prevent unravelling.

Pendant

Double up a length of fine cord. Knot at the folded end, creating a loop equal to half the width of the main button. From the underside of the main large button, thread each of the two cord ends through a hole, then through a hole of one of the smaller buttons. Pass the ends of the cord back through the loop and

pull taut. Knot together and trim to make the necklace your desired length.

Shell buttons, from 20p, John Lewis. Earring backs, £1.05 for 100; Hasulith jewellery glue, £3.65 for a 31ml tube, 1mm wide cotton cord, £1.35 for 10m, all Beadtime.

Tip

Try layering tiny flower or heart buttons over the larger buttons to enhance the design.





Easy Peasy

A Bit More Tricky

Hard-ish

Quite A Challenge

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN WOMAN'S WEEKLY AT THE BUTTON CRAFT WORKSHOP? See page 56.

Flower Picture

Use buttons to make this summer bloom

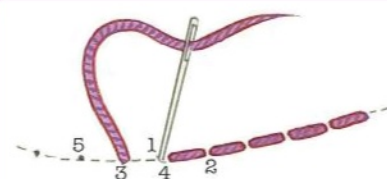
Measure and cut a piece of green fabric slightly bigger than the aperture of your frame.

Position a selection of different-sized buttons on to the fabric, layering some of them. Once you are happy with the arrangement, use a dressmaker's pencil and a ruler to draw vertical lines from the buttons to just above the bottom of the picture. Using a contrasting embroidery thread, backstitch along the drawn lines and sew the buttons in place. Position in

the frame – attaching the fabric to a piece of cardboard, if necessary.

Lacquered wood picture frame, for similar try Debenhams. Green glass vase, £8.25, Urban Surburban.

Tip Remember to take the glass into account when layering up buttons. You may have to take the glass out altogether or use a box frame.



Backstitch

Work from right to left, bringing the needle up at 1, down at 2, and up at 3, down at 4, up at 5, and so on.

STOCKISTS: Beadtime, 020 3166 0046; beadtime.co.uk. Bombay Duck, 020 8749 3000; bombayduck.co.uk. Debenhams, 0844 561 6161; debenhams.com. Ikea, 020 3645 0000; ikea.com. John Lewis, 0845 604 9049; johnlewis.com. Urban Suburban, 020 8977 0022.

Bookshelf

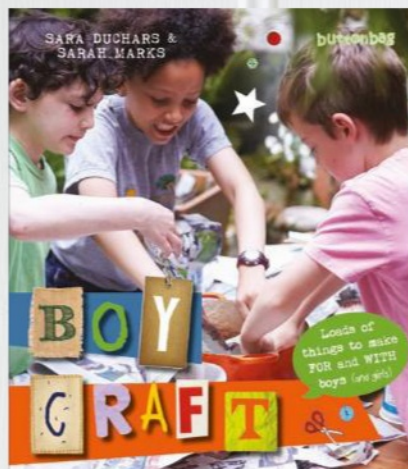
Be inspired by our pick of this month's craft titles

Boycraft

by Sarah Marks and Sara Duchars

£12.99, Frances Lincoln, (020 7284 9300; franceslincoln.com)

Written by the same talented women who run one of our favourite craft kit companies, Buttonbag, this book proves that craft isn't just for the girls. Packed with projects that will inspire and delight young minds, this guide features gruesome 'creepy crafts' (egg eyeballs, anyone?) alongside practical makes, such as a recycled t-shirt bag.



Creative Ideas to Organize your Home

by Linda Peterson £14.99, Cico Books (01256 302699; rylandpeters.com)

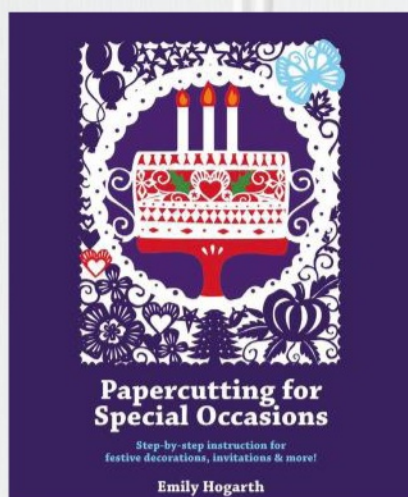
We're sure we're not the only ones who can relate to craft designer Linda Peterson's description of herself as a 'clutter keeper' but luckily for all of us, she's come up with some novel ways to both store and transform pieces from her hoard into clever and useful household items.



Papercutting for Special Occasions

by Emily Hogarth £12.99, Search Press, available at Woman's Weekly Shop (0844 848 2222; womansweeklyshop.co.uk)

The art of papercutting dates as far back as the 1st century AD, and in recent years it has seen a resurgence with innovative designers, such as Rob Ryan. In this book, its fascinating history is examined before moving on to outline the tools, materials and techniques required to have a go.



The Great British Sewing Bee: Sew your own Wardrobe

by Tessa Eveleigh (£25, Quadrille Publishing, available at Woman's Weekly Shop (0844 848 2222; womansweeklyshop.co.uk))

We are huge fans of BBC2's *The Great British Sewing Bee* and with five full-sized pattern sheets for every project in the book, suitable for sizes 8–18, it should keep us all nicely busy until the next series returns.



New Lamps From Old

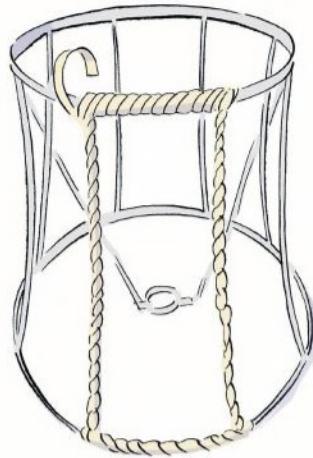
Cover a lampshade frame with salvaged scraps of old embroidered table linens for vintage-chic charm. Or use the same simple method with a striking modern fabric

Keeep hold of lovingly-made old embroideries, however torn and stained; rescue the good bits and give them a new lease of life by cutting out panels to cover a bell-shaped lampshade frame. Alternatively, use modern fabrics to create a style statement in your home!

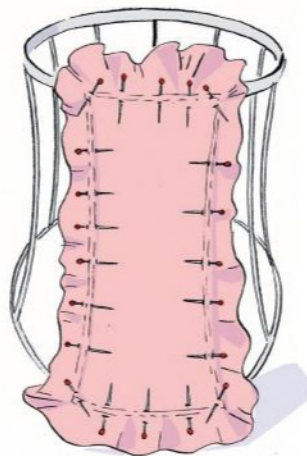
You will need

- Several vintage embroidered tablecloths, napkins or tray cloths, or fabric of your choice
- A bell-shaped lampshade frame, sanded and painted if necessary
- 2m bias binding in any colour
- Piece of scrap fabric larger than the height of the frame
- Dressmaker's pins
- Tailor's chalk
- Needle and white thread

1 Launder and press your vintage fabrics. If necessary, prepare your lampshade frame by removing any loose paint and sanding and repainting. The vertical struts will be visible inside, but the top and bottom rings will be covered in fabric.



2 Bind one section of your frame – the two adjacent vertical struts and the top and bottom rings that join them – with bias binding, winding it round and overlapping on each turn.

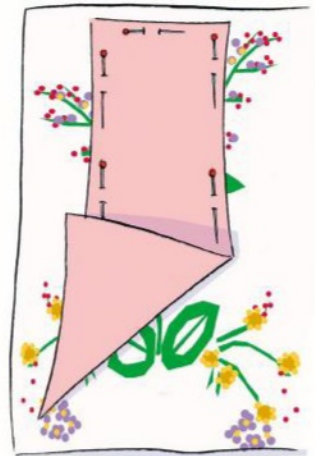


3 Pin your scrap piece of fabric onto the bound section of the frame starting at the corners. Pulling it

taut, pin down the two bound struts and then along the bound sections of the top and bottom rings.

4 When the fabric is stretched taut, use a soft pencil or tailor's chalk to mark the shape of the panel, drawing along the struts and rings between the pins.

5 Remove the pins and fabric from the frame and cut out the shape, adding 1cm down each side and 2cm at the top and at the bottom for seam allowances. Remove the binding from the frame.



6 Use this fabric template to cut eight panels – or the same number as on your lampshade – from your tablecloths, choosing areas with the most interesting embroidered details or patterns.

7 Using your sewing machine, stay stitch along the top and bottom edges of each panel to prevent stretching – simply machine stitch a line 1cm from the raw edges. This is particularly necessary if some of your panels are cut on the bias. Start stitching the panels together using French



Tip You could add a trim of vintage lace to the lower edge, simply fixing it in place with double-sided tape or fabric glue.

-  Easy Peasy
-  **A Bit More Tricky**
-  Hard-ish
-  Quite A Challenge





seams: place the first and second panels together, wrong sides together, and stitch 5mm from the edge down one side. Trim the seam allowance to 3mm, press the seam open, and then turn right sides together. Press along the seam and stitch again, 5mm in from the edge, enclosing the raw edges.



9 Using white thread (if this is the background colour of your fabrics), stitch around the top and bottom edges of the frame using a small running stitch, to secure the fabric cover in place. Stitch as neatly as you can, keeping close to the rings.



8 Continue until you have joined all the panels together in a line, then press all the seams to the same side. Turn the top and bottom edges under by 1cm, press, and stitch. Check the fit – it should be tight – then join the first panel to the last with another French seam. Press the cover, pressing all the seams in the same direction, and pull it down over your frame, matching the seams with the vertical struts. Turn the hemmed top and bottom edges over to the inside and pin in place.

MAKE YOUR OWN LAMPSHADES



35 original shades to make for table lamps, ceiling lights and more

Elizabeth Cake



Buy the Book

Project taken from *Make Your Own Lampshades* by Elizabeth Cake, published by CICO Books, priced £12.99 paperback, available from all good bookshops. For more information, visit cicobooks.co.uk. Save £3! To buy this book for only £9.99 inc. FREE p&p, call 01256 302699, quoting GLR 8UH.



What's On The Web



BLOG: Crafting Fingers
(craftingfingers.co.uk)

AUTHOR: Anna Simmonds

BLOG ETHOS: Living a fuller, simpler, handmade life

Having set herself a challenge to learn one new craft skill a month throughout 2013, Anna Simmonds' blog chronicles these crafting adventures, which range from crochet and sewing to more unusual pastimes, such as calligraphy, book binding and pyrography.



As well as regularly sharing tutorials (we fancy making her macramé camera strap, pictured below) she also looks at



the bigger crafting picture, posting on topics such as 'how do we define handmade?' and running interviews with fellow creatives. There really is something for everyone in this happy corner of the Internet.



If you're after a quick project, check out our Crafts page on Pinterest (pinterest.com/womansweekly/craft) – full of projects of all shapes and sizes. Here are our favourite three ideas:



Transform an old notebook into a unique clock for your shelf or mantelpiece.



Learn how to create your own original and personalised artwork using an artist's canvas and some wooden letters.



Enjoy the sight of bright blooms by creating your own from tissue paper.

loopknitting.com



Loop prides itself on being a local yarn shop, whether for customers visiting its charming bricks-and-mortar north London store, or online web visitors from the rest of the UK. Primarily aimed at knitters, this treasure trove includes everything from specialist yarns and knits, to books and patterns for inspiring new projects. Non-knitters are more than catered for too: its huge range of haberdashery also covers buttons, ribbon and pom-pom kits, as well as beautiful handmade items from innovative and talented craft designers.

Website of the Month

Download: OWL SOFT TOYS

This charming twit-twoosome would brighten up a child's nursery or a craft room with their good looks, and are great for using up fabric scraps. Download the pattern for £3.99 at womansweeklyshop.co.uk or call 0844 848 2222 to buy.



To buy this pattern and for loads more visit womansweeklyshop.co.uk



MADE BY YOU



We were super impressed by how quickly Kate Ireland, 11, had created her very own pegboard wall organiser (as featured in our February 2014 debut issue). Well done Kate! We'd love to see what you've made. Email pictures to womansweeklypostbag@ipcmedia.com and we'll upload them onto our gallery on our website.



-  Easy Peasy
-  A Bit More Tricky
-  **Hard-ish**
-  Quite A Challenge

Five Easy Pieces...

...OF WOOD MAKE THIS HANDY LITTLE STOOL/COFFEE TABLE

Making your own furniture doesn't have to be difficult, and this simple, traditional stool can be made with just a few basic tools and techniques. Paint it in a colour to complement your home, adding pretty painted motifs, and you'll have made a family heirloom.



You will need

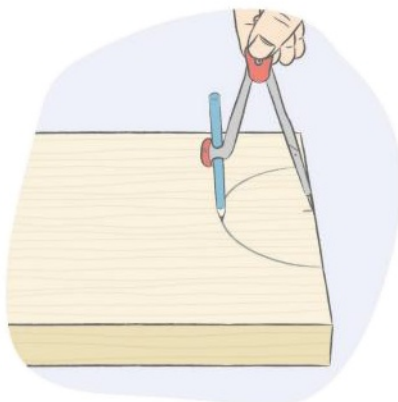
Materials

- 1m of 70 x 20mm planed pine for the side panels
- 127cm of 210 x 20mm planed pine for the top and legs
- Eight no. 6 x 40mm wood screws
- Four no. 6 x 45mm wood screws
- Water-based (acrylic) paint in your chosen colour(s)
- Water-based matt varnish
- Tracing paper and card to make templates

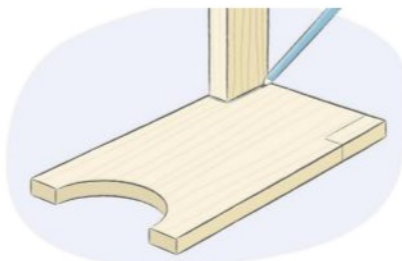
Equipment

- Pencil
- Tape measure
- Steel ruler
- Workbench and clamps
- Carpenter's tri-square
- Hand or panel saw
- Electric sander or coarse and fine sandpaper
- Pair of compasses
- Jigsaw or coping saw
- Access to a photocopier
- File/rasp
- Drill and 3mm bit
- Countersinking tool/bit
- Screwdriver
- Wood glue
- Paintbrushes
- Dust mask
- Safety goggles

1 Cut two 450mm lengths of 70mm wide pine for the side panels. Cut a 450mm length of 210mm wide pine for the top, and two 255mm lengths for the legs. This wood is probably too wide for a mitre saw, so mark and check cutting lines with a carpenter's square to ensure all cuts are straight and square. Label each piece for later identification. Decide which is the straightest and squarest cut on each of the legs and mark this as the edge that the stool top will rest on. Lightly sand all edges.



2 Place one leg piece on the workbench. Mark the centre of the bottom edge. Set your compasses to 55mm, place on the centre mark and draw a semi-circle. Securely clamp the leg to the workbench, then cut out the semi-circle using a jigsaw or coping saw. Repeat for the other leg.

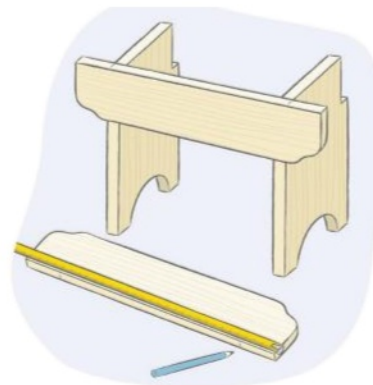


3 Place one leg flat on the workbench. Place one side panel in the top corner of the leg and draw around it to mark the area you will cut to make a rebate for the side panels. Checking all the lines are square with a carpenter's square, continue the lines up onto the top edge and across onto the side of the leg; these will be your guidelines for cutting out the rebate. Draw around the other side panel in the opposite top corner of the leg in the same way.

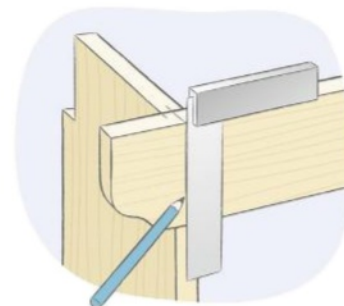
4 Securely clamp the leg into the workbench and cut each rebate, using a hand or panel saw. Check that each side panel will fit squarely into a rebate – if it doesn't, use a file or a rasp to remove any excess wood. Repeat steps 3 and 4 on the other leg.



5 Using a photocopier, enlarge the template for the curved-edge side-panel on page 68 by 200%, trace onto card, and cut out as your template. Draw around the template curves on both lower corners of each side panel. Securely clamping the wood into the workbench, cut each curved edge using a jigsaw or coping saw. You can finish the shape with a rasp or sander until you have the shape you require.

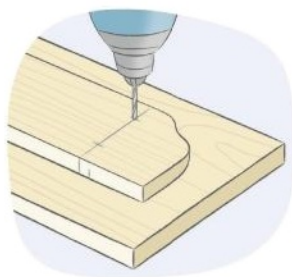


6 Place the side panels down on the workbench and measure and mark the overhang 45mm in from the top corner on each side. Place the two side panels in position on the legs, with the overhang marks on the outside edge of each leg.

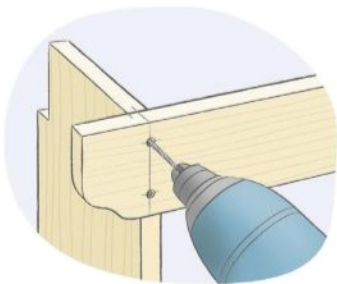


7 To help mark the position of the screw holes on the side panels, start from the top corner edge of each leg and mark the centre of the width. From that mark, use the square to bring the line across the top, then down the front face, of each side panel.





8 Place the side panels back down on the workbench and, on the lines you have just drawn, make a mark 15mm from the top and bottom edges for the the screw hole positions. Place the side panels on a scrap piece of wood and drill all eight holes using a 3mm bit. Countersink the holes, drilling with a countersink bit or tool, so the screw heads will lie flush with the surface of the wood.



9 Place one of the legs in the workbench and put the side panel into the correct position in the leg rebate; if you are unsure which way round the side panel goes, look at the corresponding marks you made earlier. When the side panel is in position, use a 3mm bit to drill back through the top hole only and into the side of the leg, creating a pilot hole. (This can be tricky, but take your time; after this first joint, the other three are a lot easier).

10 Place a 40mm screw in the top hole on the side panel and lightly screw the leg and side panel together. Check they are square to each other, then drill the

second pilot hole. Unscrew the side panel from the leg and apply a wiggly line of glue, then place the side panel back on the leg and screw together tightly. For the other joints you will not be able to clamp the leg into the workbench, but this first joint will act as a support for assembling the other three joints.

11 In the same way, attach the other end of this side panel to the other leg and then attach the second side panel.



12 The stool top is secured to the legs with the four 45mm screws. On each long side of the top, mark the halfway point, measure 10mm in from this point and mark again for the position of the screws that will fix the top to the side panels. Place the stool top on the legs, aligning edges. Place a tri-square on the line that was made earlier on the front face of the side panels, take that line across the top of the stool and mark the centre. This is the position of the screw holes to attach the top to the legs.

13 Clamp the top into position and drill the four marked holes using a 3mm bit. Countersink the holes, then screw the top into position with 45mm screws.

14 Sand the stool using either an electric sander or sandpaper, making sure you remove all pencil lines.



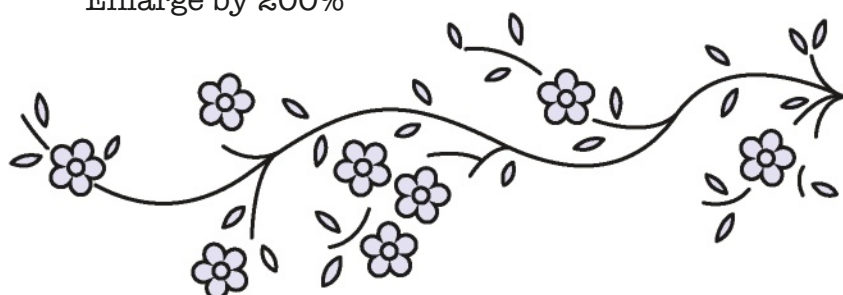
15 Paint the entire stool in your chosen colour and leave to dry. Apply further coats as necessary. Either copy the design freehand, or enlarge the decorative motif below and trace it onto the stool, adding extra sprigs to overlap on the top. Paint the motifs in your chosen colour and leave to dry. Protect with a coat of water-based matt varnish and leave to dry.

Side Panel Template

Enlarge by 200%

DECORATIVE MOTIF

Enlarge by 200%



Reader Offer

Project taken from *Cute & Simple Woodworking* by Jennifer Burt and Joanna Teague is published by CICO Books, priced £12.99, paperback, available from all good bookshops. For more information, please visit cicobooks.co.uk. To buy this book for only £9.99 including FREE p&p, call 01256 302699, quoting GLR 8UK.

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The Rocket

Turn a cardboard box into a space-age playhouse, and let the kids have fun painting it and decorating it with stars, numbers or their favourite stickers.

You will need

- Tall cardboard box, (see The Big Yellow Storage Company, 0800 783 4949; bigyellow.co.uk for similar)
- Sample pots of emulsion paint in blue, purple, orange, yellow, red and lime green
- Large round foil pie case
- Silver spray paint
- Ruler/pencil
- Craft knife
- Paint brush
- PVA glue
- Double-sided tape
- Access to a photocopier (optional)

We used: Crown emulsion tester pots, from £1.48 each, B&Q (0845 609 6688; diy.com). Plasti-kote Fast Dry Enamel Chrome, £3.99 for 100ml, Hobbycraft (0330 026 1400; hobbycraft.co.uk).

1 Cut off the base flaps (unless you prefer to keep them) and lay the box flat. Using a ruler and pencil, draw a triangular roof section on each of the four top flaps, adding a 3cm wide tab down one side of each triangle. Cut around the triangles and tabs.

Tip: If your box flaps are too small, cut triangles (with tabs) from another box and stick on top.

2 Using our picture as a guide, draw a door on one side of the rocket and, leaving one side attached, cut out. To make a window, draw round the rim of a large foil tin and cut out just inside the line.



3 On each of the roof sections, run a blade back of a knife down the length of each tab to help it fold. Stand the rocket upright, apply double-sided tape to the first tab and stick it behind the next roof section. Repeat to stick the four roof sections together to form the rocket cone on the top.

4 Paint the sides of the rocket in blue emulsion, the roof sections in orange and yellow and the door

in purple. When dry, paint or stencil a number on the door (see templates on page 73) in lime green, and glue the foil pie tin into the window.

5 Using the star templates on page 73, draw six stars onto some spare cardboard and cut out. Spray two of them with silver paint and paint the other four red. Leave to dry before sticking onto the roof and the front of the rocket.

Spaceman's Helmet

You will need

- Round punch-ball balloon
- Bowl
- Jug or similar
- Newspaper
- Flour
- Water
- White emulsion paint (or silver)
- Silver foil
- Pencil
- Craft knife
- Paint brush
- Glue

We used: 12" Punch-ball balloon, 42p, Delights (0333 900 5000; partydelights.co.uk).

1 Blow up the balloon until it's slightly bigger than your child's head, knot it, and place on a jug or similar vessel. Mix 1-part flour with 2-parts water in a bowl to make a smooth paste. Tear up pieces of newspaper and put in the bowl of paste to make papier mâché. Leaving a small opening at the knotted end, apply the wet newspaper strips all over the balloon, overlapping them to cover completely. Leave to dry, then repeat with two more layers of papier mâché, and leave to dry overnight.

2 Pop the balloon and remove it from the helmet. Draw and cut around the bottom of the papier mâché to fit over your child's head and cut out a face section. Paint with white paint and leave to dry.

3 Cut out two small silver foil stars using the templates opposite and stick either side of the helmet to complete.



Jet-fired Backpack

You will need

- Two empty, clean and dry fizzy drink bottles with tops
- Sticky tape
- Silver spray paint
- Blue paper
- Cardboard
- Red paint
- Silver bottle top
- Orange card
- Elastic

- Pencil
- Scissors
- Paint brush
- Strong glue
- Face mask

We used: Plasti-kote Fast Dry Enamel Chrome, £3.99 for 100ml; A4 Sky Blue Paper and orange card, £4.79 per pack; 5mm elastic, £1 for 3m; all Hobbycraft (0330 026 1400; hobbycraft.co.uk). Sticky Fingers Crown Matt Emulsion tester pot, £1.48, B&Q (0845 609 6688; diy.com).

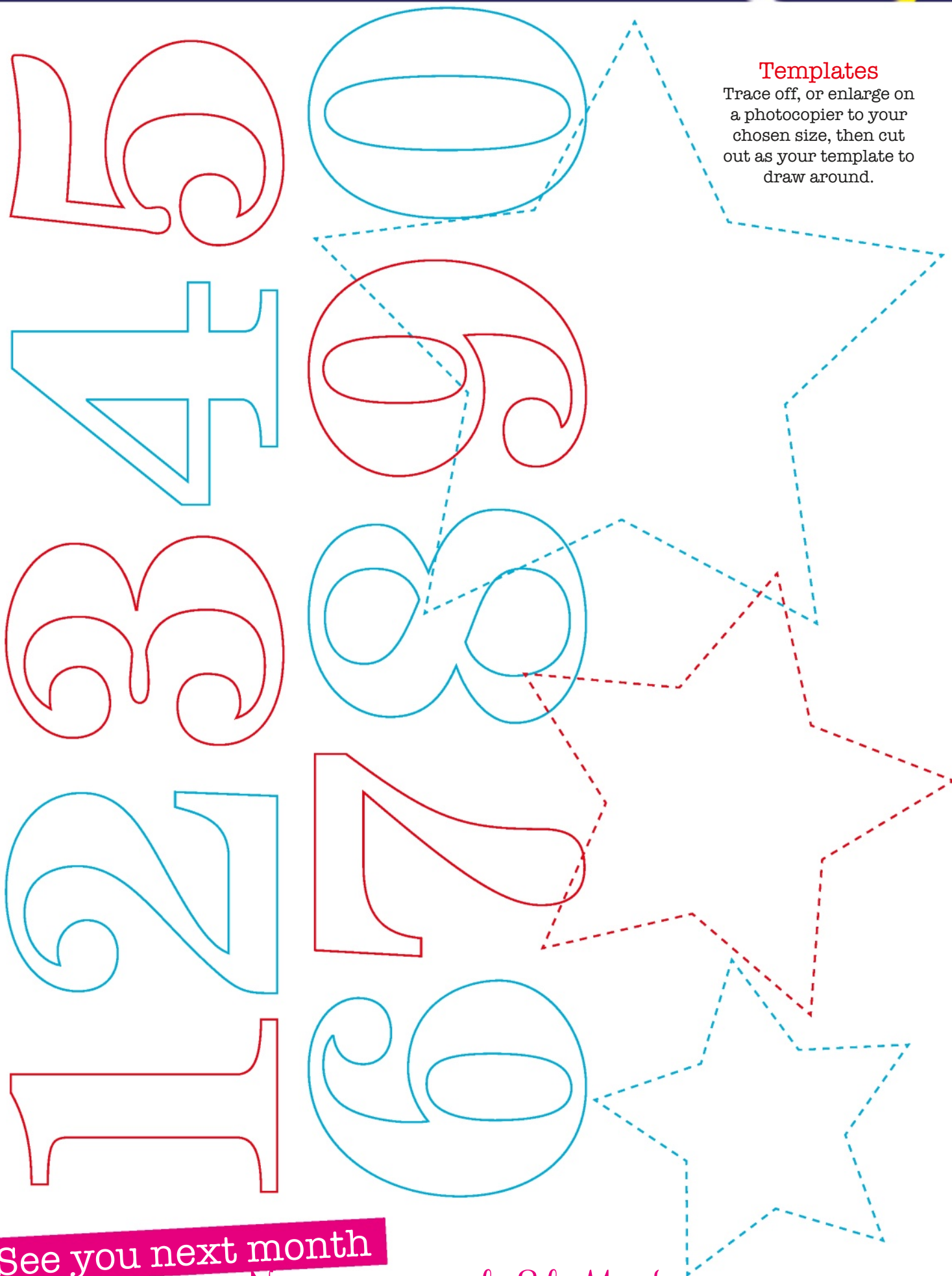
1 Stick the bottles together with sticky tape. Working in a well-ventilated area and wearing a mask, spray the bottles and their tops with silver spray paint and leave to dry before repeating with another coat.

2 Cut out a strip of blue paper and stick around the middle of the bottles. Using the templates opposite, draw and cut out a cardboard star and paint it red. When dry, stick to the middle of the blue

paper then add a silver bottle top 'button'.

3 Using our picture as a guide, draw some flames onto orange card, cut out and stick inside the neck of the two bottles.

4 Cut two loops of elastic and stick one to the back of each bottle to fit over the wearer's arms.



Templates

Trace off, or enlarge on a photocopier to your chosen size, then cut out as your template to draw around.

See you next month

Next issue on sale 8th May!

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