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Issue 280 June 2015

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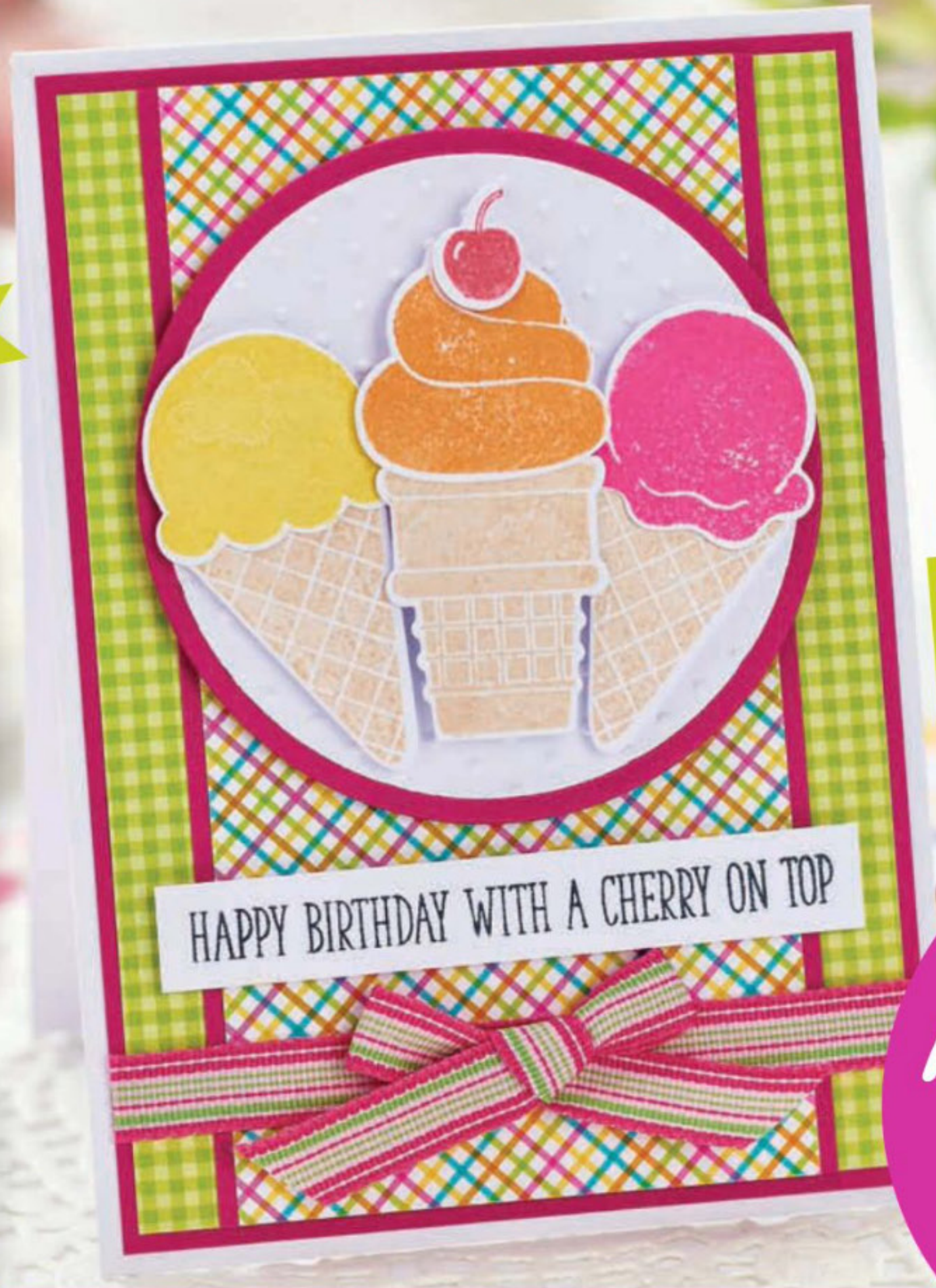


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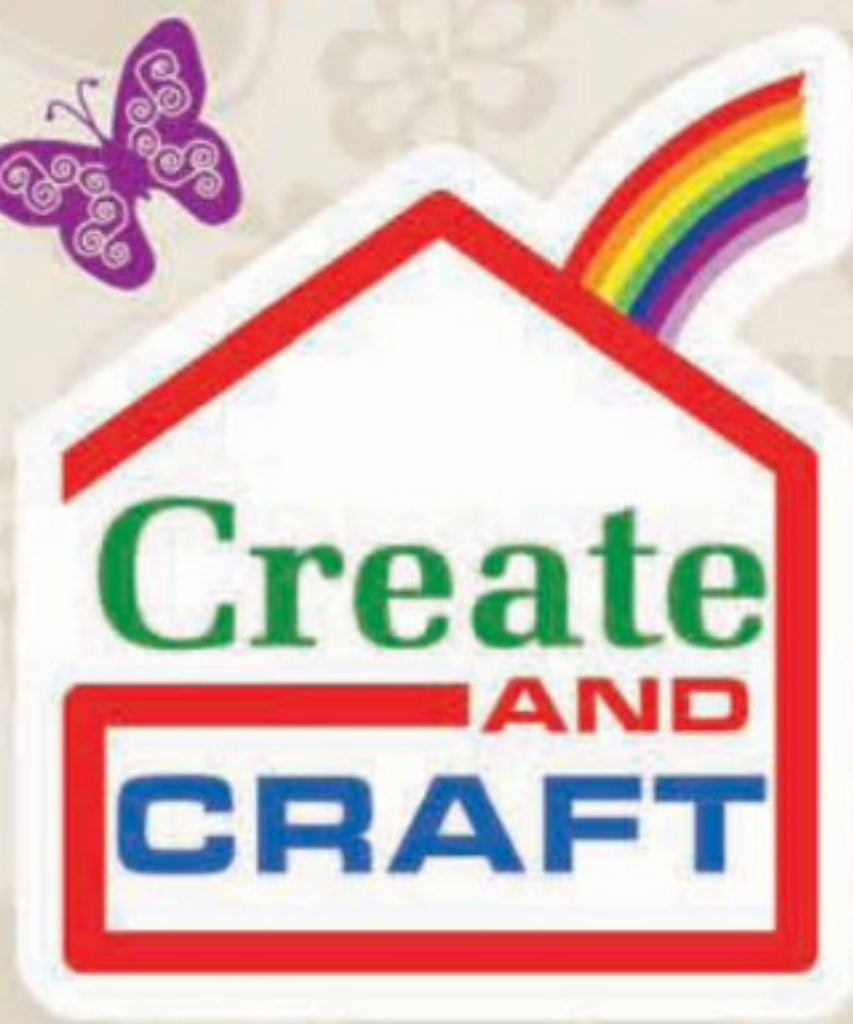
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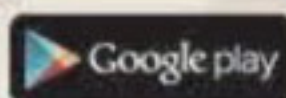
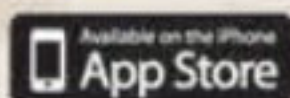
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Welcome crafters...



SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

Turn to p36 for your FREE parchment craft kit!

Top 3 designs we love this month...



Golden sunshine, warm breezes and longer days: summer is finally here! We're happily celebrating along with everyone else, planning trips to the seaside and getting our supplies ready for months of **blissful seasonal**

creativity. With this in mind, we've got tons of things for you to tuck into such as a **strawberry tea cosy** (p67), pretty gift ideas using our free Dovecraft papers on page 44 and painted china (p74). **Father's Day** is not too far off and we've got plenty of easy treats for dad including gorgeous map resin trinkets (p104) and a vintage vehicle card on 70.

Ever fancied making a living **crafting in your pyjamas**? We talk to designers who do just that. Plus we catch up with a few of our giveaway winners and look at how to start stamping with a bite-size guide.

We're also delighted to introduce our new regular section **Bead Boutique**, so watch out for lots of delightful jewellery inspiration and pieces to make over the coming months.

From all of us, have a jolly time crafting this June!

Sarah

Sarah Crosland, Editor

*Treats for your craft stash....
best buys, papers, inspiration*

MEET OUR EXPERTS...



WENDY TURNER-WEBSTER
Prepares her garden for summer



MARISA EDGHILL
Tells us about working with washi tape



JACQUI JOSEPH
Star crafter, shares her ideas with us



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www.crafts-beautiful.com



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How to use your **FREE** Dovecraft Papers

This month we share a range of fun, bright makes using our Dovecraft Paper Collection

Sponsored by



60 exclusive designs in a range of pretty patterns



Generous 20cm squares of paper - perfect for all your creative needs!

Turn over to make these fabulous projects

Greeting Card



Little Sachets



Magic Box



How to use your Free Gift

Start with...

- ✿ Your FREE Dovecraft Summer Paper Collection
- ✿ Card: white, dark pink
- ✿ Paper, white
- ✿ Grey board
- ✿ Washi tape
- ✿ Twine, various
- ✿ Adhesives: Glue Dots; glue, PVA
- ✿ Punch, hole
- ✿ Pinking shears

Magic Box

1 Take card, 12cm x 30cm, and score at 7cm, 14.2cm, 21.4cm and 28.6cm intervals. Fold along the lines and cover the outside with patterned papers. Cut four card squares, 13cm, and score at 3cm on all sides. Fold before snipping into the corners for tabs.

2 Arrange and glue to make trays. Cover with papers, leaving one outer side blank on each. Fix the plain side of

one tray to the inside-left of the card using Glue Dots, lining it up with the bottom. Decorate the panel above with paper. Fold the card around the left side of the drawer, position and attach the second one above it on the next panel, then decorate.

3 Continue this process for the last two so the final tray rests at the top of the inside-right. Trim the corners of the small flaps and stick to the drawer. Create a lid for the box from a 13.5cm square but following the tray method, then adorn with papers.



Garden Journal

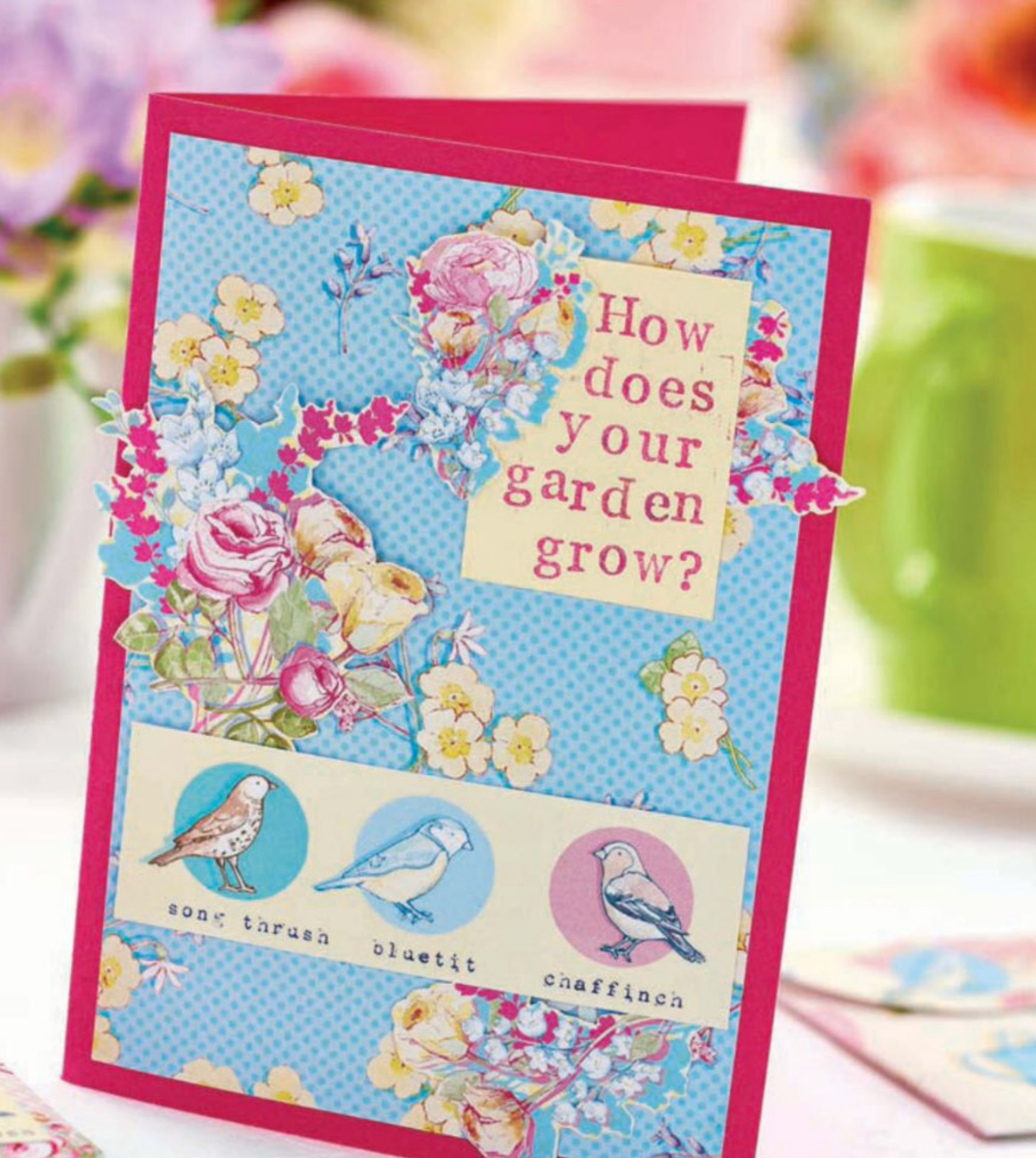
1 Cover one side of two greyboard sections with chevron paper. Adorn the edges with washi tape, wrapping to the back, before fixing paper panels to the reverse of both covers.

2 Cut several sections of quality white paper. Add binding holes into the covers and papers using a hole punch, then join the pages inside with white binding wires. Cut patterned strips and fix to the outer edge of a few sheets using washi tape for dividers. Embellish the cover with panels and motifs.

Little Sachets

Cut floral paper, 10cm square. Roll into a tube and glue with a 1cm overlap, then leave to dry. Press down and flatten one end, glue it shut and trim the edge with pinking shears. Press the other end in the opposite direction to form a wedge. Adhere and trim as before. Punch a hole in one edge, thread a tag onto twine and attach to finish.





Garden Card

Glue blue floral paper to the centre of a dark pink A6 blank. Cut and fix a strip of birds along the bottom. Stamp a pink sentiment

onto cream and fix to the top-right. Trim several bouquets from floral paper and adhere to the front, tucking under and overlapping where appropriate. CB

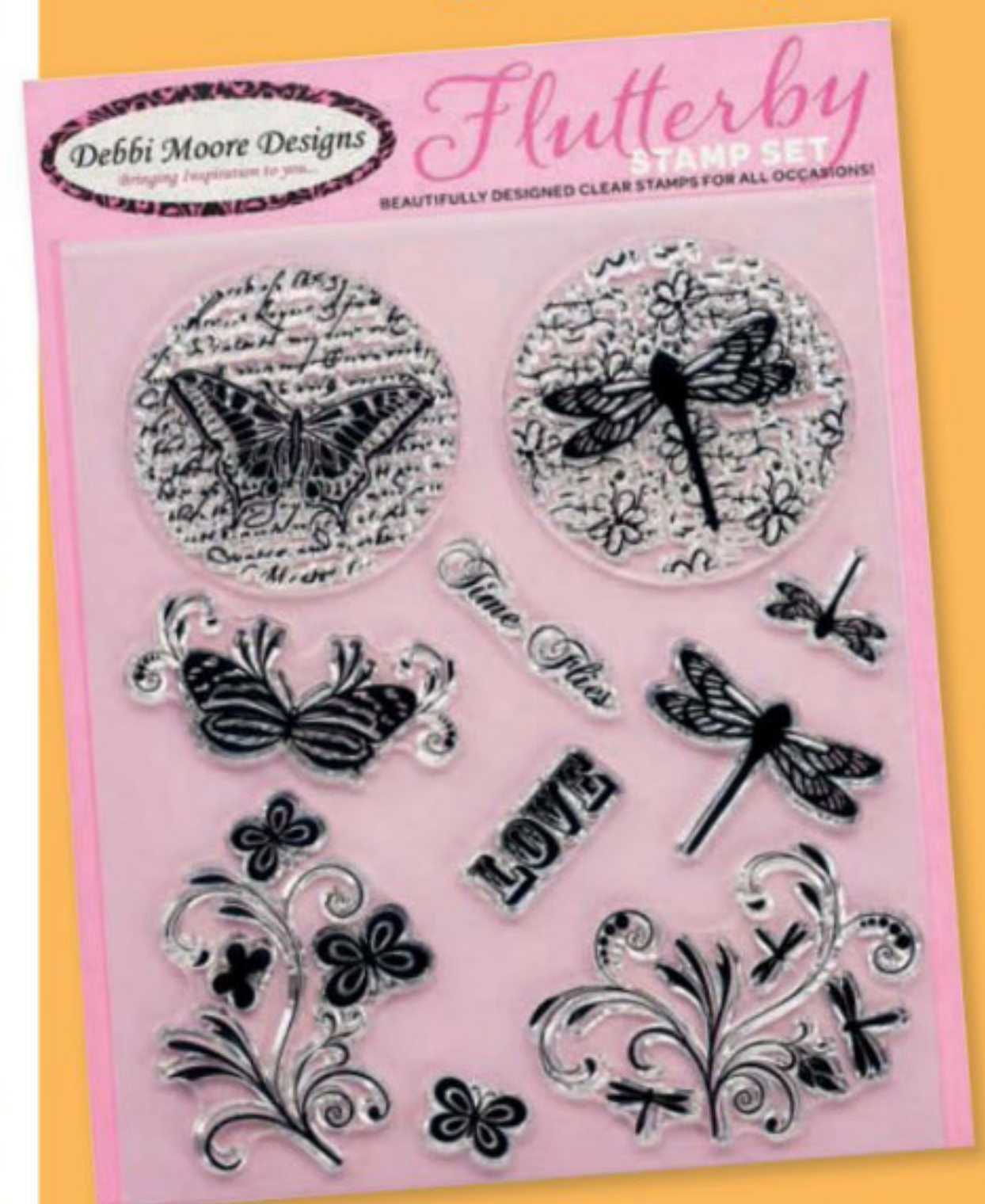


Your Exclusive Gift next month

what's inside...

- Ten beautifully designed acrylic stamps in various sizes and shapes
- An exclusive art therapy colouring-in book to wind down and relax with

Debbi Moore Flutterby Stamp Set



PLUS an art therapy colouring-in book with 12+ different designs



July issue on sale Friday 29th May

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Let's Get Lost

Dream of far-off places with our selection of travel-themed crafts

Whether you're creating for Father's Day, making an inspirational pin board in the run-up to a big holiday or scrapbooking a recent adventure, your crafty collection could do with some travel memorabilia. And you can get exactly that with our array of products – from iconic destination charms to map print papers, there's something here to ignite the wanderlust within.



Clockwise from top-left: 1 Priory Square fabrics by Katy Jones, artgalleryfabrics.com 2 Eiffel Tower and Big Ben charms, from 12p each, spoilrottenbeads.co.uk 3 Airmail ribbon, £1, Par Avion rubber stamps, £15.95, luckandluck.co.uk

4 Heidi Swapp Wanderlust charms and veneer quotes, from £1.99, heylittlemaggie.com 5 Decoupage papers, craftconsortium.co.uk 6 Come Away With Me paper collection, visit g45papers.com for stockists 7 The Great Outdoors fabric, spoonflower.com 8 My Mind's Eye Hello World paper collection, from 99p, onestopcraftshop.com 9 October Afternoon Daily Flash travel roller stamp, papermaze.co.uk



Over to you

“Join the crafty community and share your makes and stories with fellow CB readers!”

Jacelyn

Star Letter

When my daughter had her baby son Jacob in December 2010, our lives changed forever. He started having seizures and was eventually diagnosed with Leigh's Disease. He passed away in April 2012 at just 16 months old. Our family and friends formed a group called Team Jacum, because that's how his cousin pronounced his name, to raise funds for the charities that were so much help to us. These include Brainwave, The Sick Children's Trust and The Lily Foundation. We started in November that year and to this day we've raised £25,000. I've contributed around £1,000 of this by sewing things such as personalised bags, bibs, Christmas decorations and fabric covered notebooks which I sell on Facebook, at craft fairs and other events. It's lovely knowing that my crafting has been for a good cause. For more info visit justgiving.com/teams/teamjacum

Liz Doe, via email

What an incredibly wonderful thing to do in response to such tragedy, Liz. Keep up your amazing efforts.



STAR PRIZE



This month's winner will get a Pocket & Pin haberdashery subscription box for three months! With a selection of gorgeous ribbons, trims, felts, fabrics, threads, buttons and more, each box is lovingly put together and filled with a range of complementary goodies to keep your craft stash in tip-top shape. There's nothing better than knowing that you're going to receive a wonderful little gift every 30 days! Visit pocketandpin.co.uk

COMING NEXT MONTH

Submit your entries for our July issue for the chance to win a Grace Cole Sweet Peony & Vanilla Lavis set



We asked you on Twitter...

What do you love most about crafting?

It's relaxing and an easy way to unwind - also, how great is it to have made something from scratch?!

@Happy_Louise

Simple: to see someone's eyes light up and smile when they select an item I've made @PaperSimplicity

Having lots of washi tape, because it covers all evils!

@GwendlynD



KITTY CARD

I made this card by layering die-cut elements, floral papers, frames and a decoupage kitten with cupcakes motif to the front. I'm pleased with how it turned out!

Sarah Douglas, via Facebook

Cute kitten and cupcakes? Two of my favourite things rolled into one gorgeous card!

Show us your CB craft creations!

We love to see what our readers are making. Have you been influenced to create something special? Why not send us a picture?

Meet a mate!

Swap hints, tricks and stories with new friends



Pam Curzon, 35

My favourite crafts include cross-stitching, card making, quilting and others. I would like to hear from anyone who is looking for a penfriend.

34 Fenwick Lane, Halton Lodge, Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 5YU

Christine Milne, 66

I enjoy making felt brooches, cards, quilling and other papercrafts. I would like to hear from anyone who crafts similar items.

Flat 9, Servite Court, 21c High Street, Monifieth, DO5 4AA

Julie McLaughlin, 40

I love knitting, sewing, cross-stitching, drawing, reading, doing jigsaws and owls! It would be nice to hear from someone with similar interests.

16 East Street, Batley, West Yorkshire, WF17 5QY

Diane Bradbury, 63

I like scrapbooking, papercrafting, calligraphy and making mini books. I'd like to hear from any crafter in Leicester.

27 Sussex Road, Wigston, Leicester, LE78 4WP

Please be aware that entrants to the pen pals section submit personal details at their own discretion

GET IN TOUCH! Email your details to social.cb@aceville.co.uk or fill out the form on page 102



Forum Member of the Month

Craftysandy

This month's winner is forum newcomer Craftysandy! As well as celebrating our long-term members, we also like to take the opportunity to highlight our rising stars. She's been contributing to lots of crafty conversations. Well done!

Thrifty Thursday

This month, Steven Pennock has been upcycling to create something special for his mum

"I took my mum's old wooden jewellery box and covered it with some leftover wallpaper and chalk paint (with her permission, of course!) that was used to decorate her bedroom with. The box now matches the room perfectly and she's very happy with it. My next project is to upcycle another container using glitter tiger wallpaper for my sister."

What have you been upcycling as part of Thrifty Thursday?

Join us for Thrifty Thursday every week at facebook.com/craftsbeautiful



WALTER'S FRIENDS

I've been flicking through your May issue and had to congratulate you all on another wowzer edition. Inspiration indeed! I was taken with Walter Bear from your April issue and have made my own versions. I adapted it to make bunnies too, which I think has worked quite well! Thanks for a great magazine.

Barbara McGeehan, via email

Thank you for being such a fab reader - your takes on Walter are marvellous!



FREE GIFTS

Hello CB! I made these using the free box template from the April issue. They were so simple to put together but the results are stunning, and I just had to share my delight. Thanks for a fab publication, I love it!

Kerry Cooper, via email

What a stunning collection. Always makes us happy to see our free gifts being used, top marks Kerry!

Write in and WIN!

Want your makes featured in Crafts Beautiful? Email us a picture at social.cb@aceville.co.uk or post your project to **Crafts Beautiful, 1 Phoenix Court, Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JY**

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5 ways with... LAWN FAWN

MAKE A SUMMERY SET OF CARDS FEATURING CACTI, TOADSTOOLS AND BEAUTIFUL BLOOMS



turn over for projects

5 ways with... LAWN FAWN

Start with...

LAWN FAWN PRODUCTS:

- Papers: Polka Mon Amie, Pint Sized Patterns in Beachside
- Stamps: Stuck on You, Flutter By, Flirty Frames, Baked With Love, Gleeeful Gardens
- Dies, Hearts
- Wood veneer packs: Hearts, Stars
- Bakers twine: pink, grey

OTHER PRODUCTS:

- Cardstock
- Pens: gel, white; alcohol markers
- Inks: Hero Arts, various; Distress, Weathered Wood; Broken China; Memento, Tuxedo Black; London Fog
- Mini Ink Blending Tool, Ranger
- Punch, square, Xcut

See our Shopping List opposite

Hey There

- 1 Create a side-opening blank, 13.5cm square. Trim a slightly smaller piece of white cardstock and stamp black frames over it, allowing some to run off the page.
- 2 Colour in parts of the frames, adding shading in darker colours. Print a sentiment in the centre of one. Stamp flowers and colour with markers, then cut out and stick to the right of the frame. Add a thin strip of paper at the top and bottom of the cardstock. Fix to the base.

Sweet Birthday

- 1 Stick patterned paper to a card, followed by a smaller layer of white. Punch squares from white glossy cardstock and create a grid in the centre.
- 2 Trim polka dot paper, 3cm x 8cm, and make folds at 1cm and 2cm to create a 'c' shape. This is the top of a table. Add foam pads in the middle to give stability. Pleat matching paper to make a tablecloth and fix so it's poking out from underneath.
- 3 Stick to base of grid, adding a twine bow. Stamp baking imagery in black, then colour. Cut out and fix to 'table', using foam pads. Add a sentiment to finish.



Best Wishes

- 1 Fix pink paper to a white card blank, 10.5cm x 13cm, then add a smaller layer of white cardstock on top. Trim pieces of white, 5mm wide. Stamp wooden images with brown ink onto each piece. Adhere to the card base.
- 2 Create a table by folding green striped paper. Cut a hole out of one of the sides, then stick it onto the base so the cut-out is at the front. Stamp some cacti and pots. Stack 3-D foam pads behind some of them and secure onto the table.
- 3 Print a sentiment in black and a heart in red, then cut out. Fix twine onto the front of the table and stick the pieces on top. Add a wooden veneer star to one of the pots.

Pick a theme, any theme

Buying themed stamp packs allows you to create really fun scenes, as you can see with our baking set-up and mushroom landscape. They encourage you to make your very own story when card making, which is all part of the fun. Sending birthday wishes? You could put together a full-on party scene with balloons, cake and bunting. Or why not create a stunning bouquet with an abundance of stamped flowers?

So Mush

- 1 Cut out cloud shapes from cardstock, then arrange them onto a card blank. Use a blending tool and distress inks to apply ink over the clouds, moving the shapes around and down to create a sky. Leave a gap at the bottom.
- 2 Print the edging and some leaves from the Gleeful Gardens pack onto green paper in black and cut out. Add to the bottom. Stamp and trim mushrooms from different papers. Fix to the card, using foam pads for some of them.
- 3 Colour a wooden veneer heart in red using an alcohol marker, then adhere it along with two other hearts. CB



"Cover wooden shapes in ink, patterned paper, embossing powder or just add Glossy Accents to provide shine!"

Keren Baker, Designer

Make this floral greeting using the same techniques!



VIEW ALL THE PRODUCTS AND A LIST OF STOCKIST AT... lawnfawn.com



Make it! Been inspired by our creations? Send yours to social.cb@aceville.co.uk to be featured!

Got five minutes?

Paper Trail

Tribal Adventure is a gorgeous new collection from top craft brand, Craft Asylum. Designed to co-ordinate with Sizzix Bigz and Thinlits dies with their super steel-rule technology, you'll be able to create professional-looking cards and home décor projects in no time! View the full range at creativerox.com



What we're loving this June

Get creative with our **bright ideas!**



Kids' Club

The latest interactive craft products from Baker Ross will keep the kids entertained inside or out. The Princess Castle kits and Star Hero colour-in gliders are easy to assemble, plus the creative element is great for developing hand-to-eye co-ordination. bakerross.co.uk



Baker's Dozen

No need to struggle getting your home baking out of its container. Whether you just want a slice of sponge for tea or need to transport a decorated masterpiece to a craft fair or bake sale, the Lakeland Cake Lifter is the answer. Priced £12.99, lakeland.co.uk



Party People

Take a break from all that crafting and gather friends around for a bit of a spread in the garden or on the beach. Perfect for picnics and general celebrations, Mina paper plates, napkins and cups will add style to your bash whatever the weather. berryred.co.uk



Click & Craft

The new Cardcraft Plus website stocks the very best products from all the brands you love. The site is easy to navigate with additional sections to peruse such as knitting and stitching, MDF and

scrapbooking. Make your shopping experience effortless and take advantage of the order tracking, wish lists and international shipping extras. cardcraftplus.co.uk



Eastern Promise

Kimono from Crafter's Companion whisks you away to faraway lands where Geisha girls stroll through cherry blossom orchards. The illustrations are by talented British artist Marilyn Robertson whose distinctive artwork is popular around the world. Kimono features dies, embossing folders, stamps and a papercrafting CD.

crafterscompanion.co.uk



Summer Style

Here at CB we get dreamy about pretty china, so the Pip Studios Love Bird collection with its quirky design is just up our street. Vibrant and joyful, fill tea cups with flowers and dot around the home for a bright visual display.

pipstudios.com

Cutting Edge

The FingerGuard Hand Trimmer T1500 is a new addition to the Woodward Craft Collection. This crafty gizmo has all the safety features of its bigger brothers and comes in a choice of 11 designs to get creative with. Use it freehand to make curves and waves for layered backgrounds. Priced £10,

woodware.co.uk



Out & About

15th-20th June, Hever in Bloom, Hever Castle, Kent. See the famous gardens at the height of their summer beauty. Aspiring florists and flower arrangers looking for inspiration can create their own fabulous hand-tied bouquet to take home. Workshops, £8 per person and includes materials. To book, call **01732 865224**, hevercastle.co.uk

14th June, Papercrafts @ Taunton, Somerset. Don't miss this annual extravaganza. Shop the latest products and chat to designers and personalities. Pre-booked tickets will be entered into a draw to win one of three £50 vouchers. Advance tickets, £3 and £3.50 on the door. **01684 561061**, sincerely-yours.co.uk

28th June, PaperArtsy Demonstration Day, The Craft Den, Bamber Leisure, Lynn Road, Wisbech. Join designers Jo Firth-Young and Linda Brown for a fun-filled day packed with tips and techniques. **01945 586962**, thecraftden.co.uk

Gadget of the Month

Brother ScanNCut

The award-winning Brother ScanNCut is the first home and hobby cutting machine that can scan images, photos or hand drawing and turn them into unique die-cuts. As well as duplicating artwork, it contains 600 built-in designs including resizeable shapes, quilt and appliqué patterns and fonts. Priced from £449, find out more at scanncut.co.uk



5 Papers for your stash...



Flutter
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Kit £11.95
or download
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tutorial online now!

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 £25

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 South of England



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Hippy Chic Kit
 £5.95



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MARILYN ROBERTSON

KIMONO

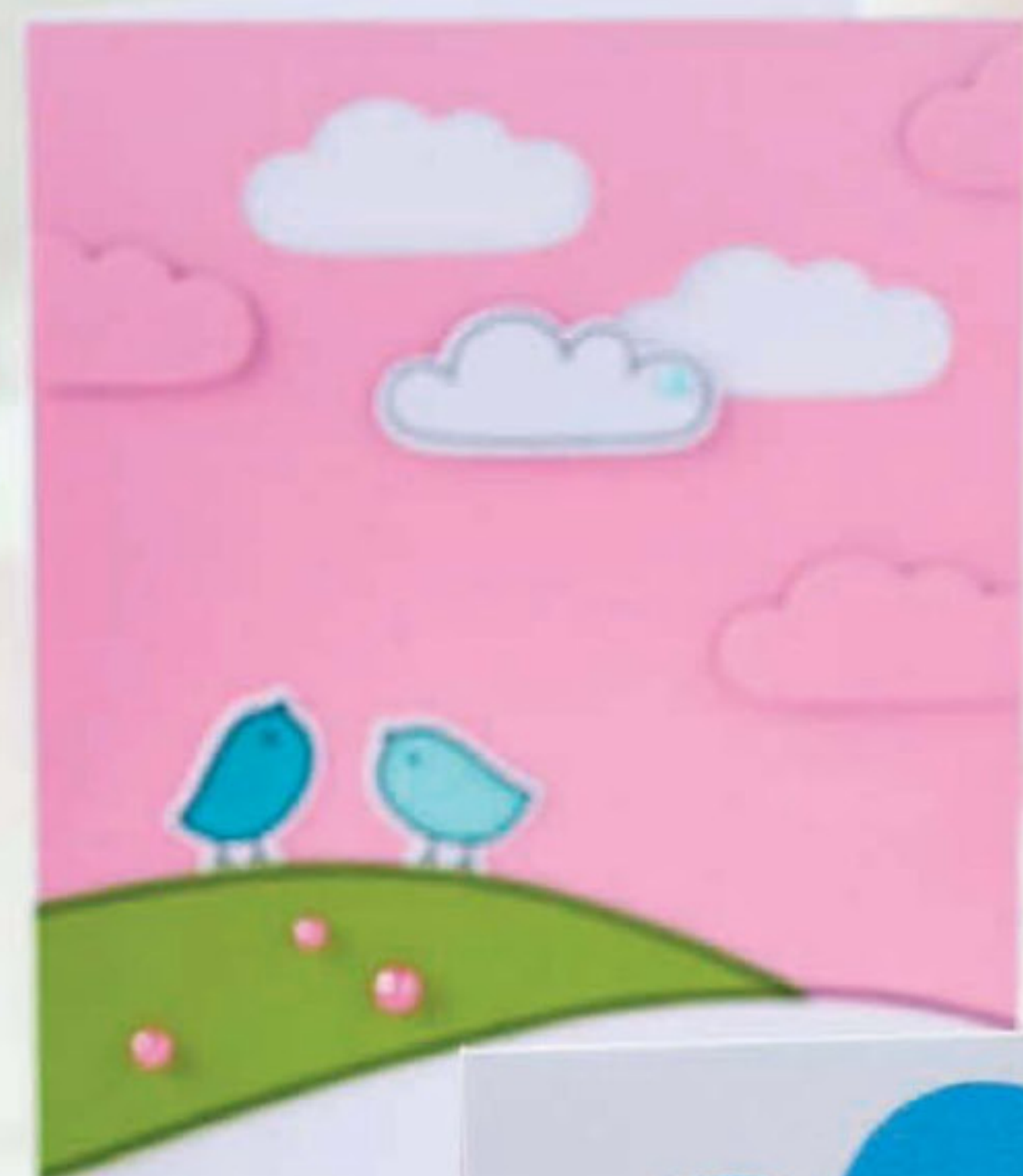
The enchanting new collection
 from Crafter's Companion

The collection includes:
 4 unmounted rubber stamps sets,
 6 5" x 7" embossing folders,
 8 metal die sets and a papercrafting CD-ROM

Ask at your local craft store for more details or visit
www.crafterscompanion.co.uk

Hello sunshine

Create a set of cheery seasonal cards in next to no time using die-cuts, stamps and Colette Smith's style



FLY
away
WITH
me

Hello Sunshine



"The sun die would make a fantastic daisy head. Create a white one and add a large yellow gem to the centre, then stick to a green stalk"

Colette Smith, Designer

Turn over



Fly Away With Me

Stamp a sentiment to the top-right corner of a square blank. Trim scallops along a blue square so that it frames the text, then fix to the front. Stamp several suns onto white in different colours. Cut around the top, stick to the bottom of the blue and trim any excess. Stamp three outlined clouds and two bees. Colour and die-cut the motifs. Print two swirly lines to the middle of the blue, then fix a bee to the right of each. Adhere the clouds and add gems.

Hello Sunshine

Cover a blank with aqua, leave a gap at the bottom, then round the top-right corner. Die-cut a sun and six clouds, then adhere. Stamp a curved dotted line and create leaves using a raindrop stamp. Make a bird and fix to the branch. Print drops under the darkest clouds, then a sentiment along the bottom. Tie twine around the join and add gems.



Oh Happy Day

Stamp a curved line in black onto the bottom of pink card, then cut the excess underneath. Die-cut two clouds from the top, then adhere the panel to a blank. Stamp curved lines onto the top and bottom of green so they meet at a point. Cut out, then glue over the pink. Stamp a cloud and two birds. Colour the birds and die-cut all the motifs before fixing in place. Stamp a sentiment to the bottom-right corner and finish with adhesive pearls. CB



Shopping List

Lawn Fawn stamps and dies, visit lawnfawn.com for stockists

VersaMagic ink-pads,
Card-io, 01942 216345,
card-io.com



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LIZ MOAD'S QUILLING MASTERCLASS

Pretty harebell greetings

USE A SIMPLE TECHNIQUE TO CREATE A SELECTION OF FLOWER TOPPERS

It's amazing how many beautiful shapes you can make simply by quilling strips of paper. The width and length of each determines how your finished coil will look, whether you want a sleek petal or bulky dome, and come in a range of lovely shades. For this project I've used 10mm lengths to make cones for harebell flowers, otherwise known as fairy's wands. They really remind me of summer, with lots of fresh hanging blooms swaying in a gentle breeze. By keeping a coil on a quilling tool and angling it away whilst twisting, the cone grows in shape. Once mastered, it's another wonderful skill to add to your budding collection!

Happy quilling, Liz x

Start with...

- Quilling tool
- Quilling papers: green, 1mm; green, orange, 3mm; purple, lilac, mauve, 10mm
- Card: purple, cream, mauve
- Ribbon, organza, purple, 6mm
- Pearls, adhesive
- Adhesives

Thank You

1 Trim small petals 6cm along a strip of mauve quilling paper, 40cm. Fix a 4cm green length, 1mm, to the other end so that it forms a right angle. Insert the end into a tool and coil tightly for 10cm. Keeping the coil tight, angle the paper away from the tool gently as you turn to form a cone. Wrap the rest of the length, making sure the petals are level at the top, then glue into place and remove the tool.

2 Bend the petals outwards slightly, then add PVA glue onto a cocktail stick and coat inside the cone to secure. Next, take a 2cm orange length



and fringe into one end for a stamen. Adhere to the inside and leave to dry. Create four more flowers in this way.

3 Mount cream onto mauve card, then fix the panel to a tall purple blank. Cut a 3mm green strip and secure the stem to it, then trim five various lengths for leaves and curl by running your nail along them before sticking to the piece.

Adhere the flowers to the front. Write a 'Thank You' sentiment onto mauve, fix a pearl to both ends, then secure below the panel using foam pads.

Congratulations

1 Mount mauve card to a cream top-folding blank, then fix a circle to the top so that it sits over the edge.



Liz says...

"Make a matching tag featuring three quilled blooms tied together with ribbon"

Print or write a 'Congratulations' sentiment onto mauve and attach using foam pads.

2 Make five mauve flowers. Cut a 3mm green strip and three leaves, fix to make stems, then tie a length of ribbon into a bow around it and glue the blooms into place. Adhere pearls to finish.

Triangle Box

1 Print or copy a box template from our pattern pages, then trace onto mauve card. Cut out and score along the dashed lines as indicated. Assemble by gluing one long edge to another, making sure to hold it in place whilst drying.

2 Create three lilac blooms following the same method as before, then secure the stems together so that the heads are staggered vertically. Insert a gift into the box, close the folds at the top, then secure with purple ribbon. CB

Shopping List

Quilling papers, JJ Quilling,
020 8295 1822, jjquilling.co.uk

Pearl gems, Craft Creations,
01992 781900, craftcreations.com



How to make... a harebell bloom



Freebies & Offers

Enter online at

Four Amy Butler fabric bundles worth £50 each

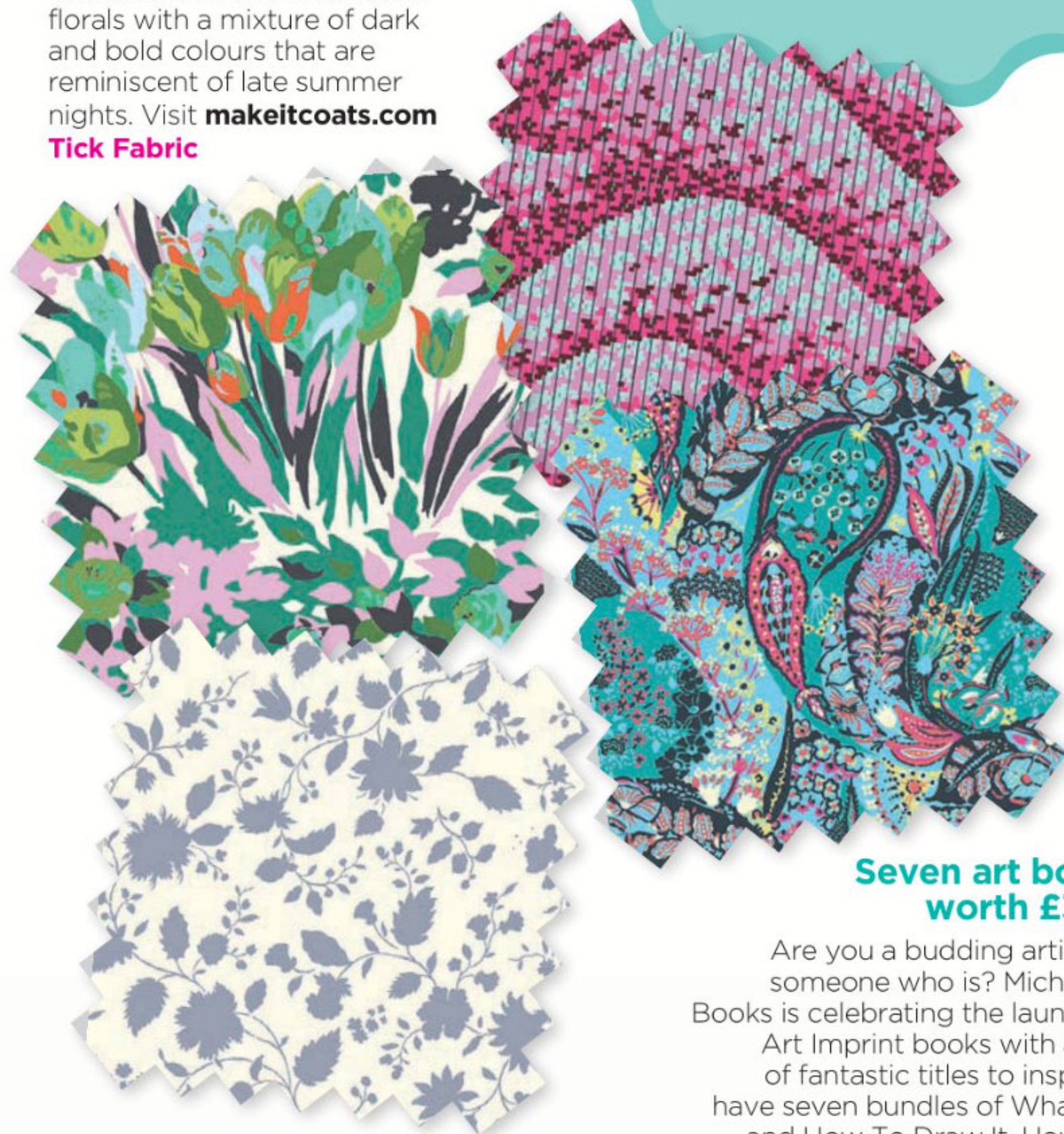
Fancy something stitchy? We have four bundles comprised of two Amy Butler collections worth £50 each available to win: the traditional Violette and the quirky Glow. Both collections combine beautiful florals with a mixture of dark and bold colours that are reminiscent of late summer nights. Visit makeitcoats.com
Tick Fabric

Guess what? We've got a whopping **£1,390** worth of prizes up for grabs this month!



Six Fiskars Tag Makers worth £24.99 each

In just three easy steps, the new Tag Maker from Fiskars can help create the perfect finishing touches for gifts and a whole host of other projects. Available in four designs, the Fiskars Tag Maker punches a tag, then a centred hole and it even sets an eyelet. It's quick, easy and in one simple movement you have beautifully finished custom made tags. We have six to give away. Visit fiskars.co.uk
Tick Tags



Seven art book sets worth £30 each

Are you a budding artist or know someone who is? Michael O'Mara Books is celebrating the launch of LOM Art Imprint books with a selection of fantastic titles to inspire all. We have seven bundles of What To Draw and How To Draw It, How To Draw Everything, and An Artist Once Said worth £30 each up for grabs. Visit mombooks.com
Tick Books



Ten Duck Tape bundles worth £18 each

Your imagination is your only limit! Duck Tape has launched lots of new coloured and patterned tapes just in time for the summer, allowing you to create a plethora of lovely crafts whilst having fun combining it with other materials. We've got ten sets of three rolls from the range to win. Visit ducktapecolours.co.uk
Tick Tape



Sizzix Big Shot Plus and dies worth £250

Vintage Travel is the latest collection of Sizzix Thinlits dies designed by Eileen Hull, which celebrates those fond memories of summer holidays. One lucky winner will not only receive this set but also a Big Shot Plus Starter Kit and a 'Keep Calm and Travel On' embossing folder worth over £220. Six runners-up will receive a folder each too.

Visit **creativerox.com**
Tick Big Shot



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Ten bracelet kits worth £40 each

In celebration of National Beading Week (25th July to 2nd August) Spellbound Beads has put together ten brand-new bracelets as part of the BeadEasy range, which is designed for jewellers of all levels. We're giving away ten sets of four kits worth £40.50 each. Visit **spellboundbead.co.uk**
Tick Bracelets

10% off Specialist Crafts

Love being creative? You'll definitely want to know about this offer: Specialist Crafts is giving CB readers a fantastic 10% off its range including art materials, paper, pens and pencils, modelling, printing, jewellery and much more! Simply enter CBP7 at the checkout. Visit **specialistcrafts.co.uk**

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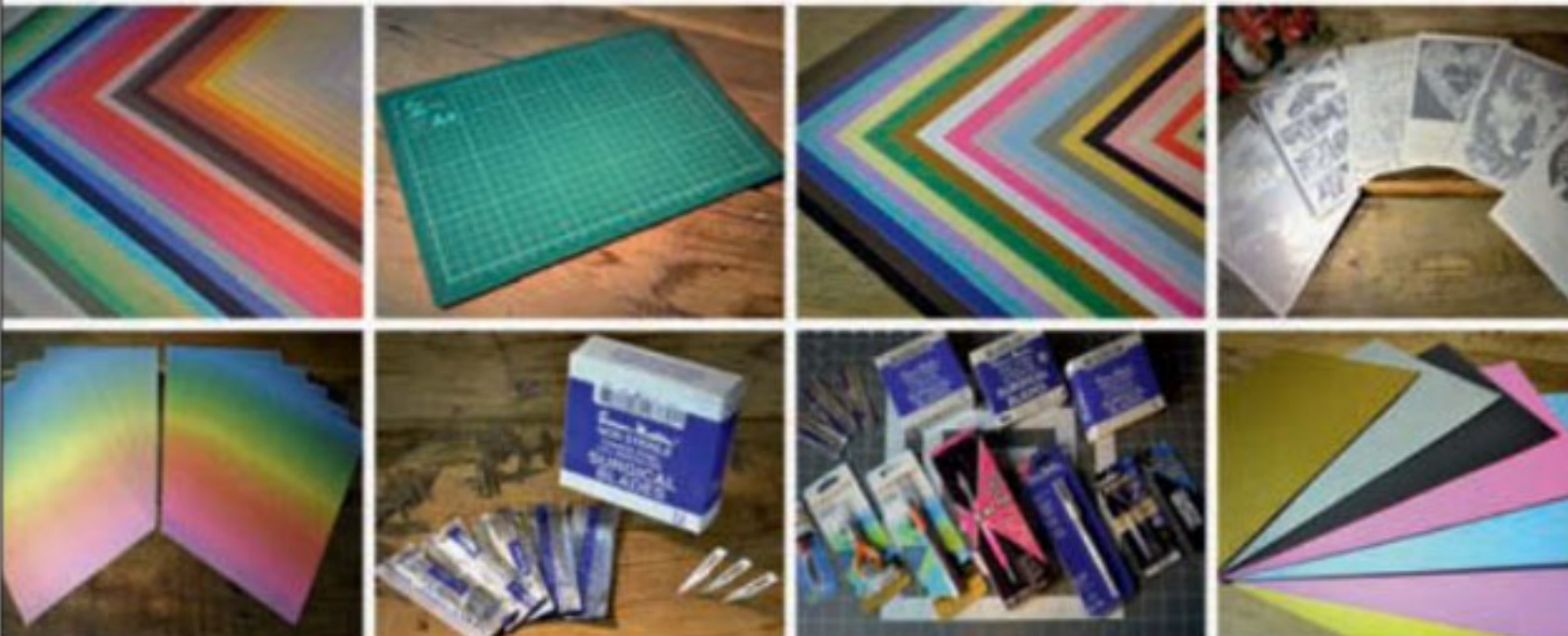


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JULIE & WENDY



TV crafters **Julie Peasgood** and **Wendy Turner-Webster** turn their garden into a creative haven with a little handy upcycling...

Crafty Beggars TV presenters Julie Peasgood and Wendy Turner-Webster are enthusiastic crafters, recyclers and upcyclers – and this month they’ve been especially creative with items that have been saved from the bin! Who would have thought that rubbish could be turned into such unique Father’s Day gifts?

Since becoming full time ‘Crafty Beggars’ our calendar year is punctuated by specific crafting opportunities: Valentine’s, Mother’s Day, Easter and now Father’s Day. We’re not complaining! In fact, no sooner have we finished one project than another event to inspire creativity is just around the corner which is just how we like it. For Mother’s Day we found ourselves busy with flower-based crafts, but back in March our hearts were fully in the gardening aspect of the subject. We are both ‘fair weather’ gardeners and can only bear to don our gloves if the sun has put in a heartfelt appearance; and a trip to the local garden centre is so much nicer when you don’t have to stamp your feet to keep the circulation going! We were relieved therefore when summer poked its nose through the clouds and we could indulge in our fair weather gardening. Neither of us has a huge garden but what we have we try to make the most of. And we can be a bit crafty about it too as Wendy’s broken flower pot shows.



Julie: When I was five years old I made a container for my dad to keep his pens in. It was a jar which I covered in plasticine, then I stuck shells I had gathered from the beach at Cleethorpes on it. My dad kept it for the rest of his life – in spite of every shell but one falling off it! This desk tidy I have made is a bit more elaborate but it’s still easy for kids to have a go at and would make a useful gift for Father’s Day. Just glue some used cans and boxes together, then paint them. Decorate when dry with ribbons and/or motifs (I haven’t risked any shells!).



Wendy: I hope my dad doesn’t mind getting something broken for his Father’s Day present, but why waste a rather expensive terracotta plant pot just because your son happened to mistake it for the back of a goal net?! Seriously, like all recycled crafting projects there is something wonderfully unique and charming about a broken plant pot which has been given a second bite of the cherry. In fact I love them so much I may be breaking a pot on purpose next...

TURNING OUR ATTENTION INDOORS, JULIE CAME UP WITH A CRAFTY IDEA FOR SOMETHING RATHER SPECIAL TO TAKE PRIDE OF PLACE ON DAD’S DESK – A DESK TIDY MADE FROM AN ARRAY OF BITS AND PIECES YOU WILL UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE IN YOUR RECYCLING BIN. WE’D LOVE TO SEE WHAT YOU’VE MADE FROM BROKEN OR ‘RUBBISH’ ITEMS – GET IN TOUCH!

Join us! Crafty Beggars is currently on Community Channel – Freeview 63 • Freeview HD 109 • Sky 539 • Virgin 233 • Freesat 651
For all the latest news, visit CraftyBeggars.tv @CraftyBeggarsTV



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Lunchtime make

Stamp and die-cut your way into summer with a colourful ice-cream card

Cherry On Top

1 Cut green paper and mount onto bright pink card, 10cm x 14cm. Create a smaller panel with a criss-cross pattern and adhere to the top. Fix ribbon along the bottom, then attach a bow to the middle. Glue the background onto a blank, 10.5cm x 14.5cm.

2 Die-cut a circle from white and a larger one in pink. Emboss the white circle using a Nestabilities Swiss Dots folder, then stick together and place on the front with 3-D foam pads. Add a sentiment onto a white strip. Die-cut three white ice creams, then stamp the co-ordinating shapes onto each. Fix to the circle using foam pads. CB

Shopping list...

Find all you need to make this delicious card with these crafty essentials



Clearly Besotted Super Cool stamps, 01376 330979, clearlybesottedstamps.com



Memento inks, Card Craft UK, 0844 357 0943, cardcraft-uk.co.uk



Doodlebug Design Hello Sunshine papers, 0116 2744 754, craftsuperstore.co.uk



More ideas!

Fancy having a go at making more sweet greetings? Here are two other top ideas



Create an eye-catching design with a combination of fishtail panels and bright colours



Team pretty pinks, yellows and candy stripes with a main ice cream topper for a summery look



"Embossing folders are a great option for adding more texture to your greetings"

Kitty Frampton, Designer



COLETTE SMITH'S MASTERCLASS

Watercolour designs

USE COLOUR WASH TO DECORATE THIS JAUNTY FATHER'S DAY GREETING

Watercolour is a wonderful medium to work with; its lovely delicate transparency transfers really well to card making and there is a wide choice of materials to get you inspired. Paints are available in tubes or pans with oodles of soft brushes and tons of watercolour papers in different weights and textures. You can get great results with just a small watercolour starter set. You actually only need the three primary colours to be able to create all the colours in the spectrum too - just decide whether you want soft, medium or bold hues. Here, I've come up with a very simple boat illustration which is really easy to do.

"I have a set that holds 14 half pans of paint - it's great for on the go because it's portable. It also includes a small water tray and two palettes"

Colette Smith, Designer

the basic technique Watercolour

- ✱ Wet the paper before painting to stop the paper warping and buckling. You can either do this by taping it to the board, or soaking it in water, then using gummed tape to secure it.
- ✱ Don't worry about staying within the lines of the image or filling in every gap. It's what's wonderful about using watercolours, you can be more relaxed with your style.
- ✱ Keep the paint watery for a wash. However, if you prefer bolder, vivid or more detailed work, don't add as much water.
- ✱ Use a ball of damp kitchen roll instead of a large brush to remove some of the paint for the clouds.



To add depth to your painting, build up the colours



Start with...

- Watercolour paints: Cadmium Red Hue, Crimson, Payne's Grey, Ultramarine
- Brushes: Cotman No.5, mop brush
- Black fine liner, size 0.1
- Tracing paper
- Paper pad, Langton Rough Grain A5
- Bakers twine
- Masking tape
- Kitchen roll
- Adhesives

Boat Card

- 1 Tape watercolour paper to a board or a cutting mat with masking tape. Use a large brush to cover the whole area with water and allow to dry.
- 2 Keeping the paper attached to the board, tilt it up and brush another layer of water over the paper. Whilst the paper is still wet, brush Ultramarine across the top. Allow the paint to blend with the water, then use a clean damp mop brush to remove some of the colour from the top, giving the illusion of clouds. Allow to dry.
- 3 Copy the illustration onto tracing paper. Flip it over and draw over the lines again. Trace the boat onto the coloured watercolour paper. This will leave a faint outline for you to follow and can be rubbed out later.
- 4 Make sure the paint is watery and start adding the colour to the illustration. Let each colour dry before adding the next to stop them from bleeding.
- 5 Draw in detail with a fine liner and rub out any pencil lines. Trim the illustration, matt onto a slightly bigger piece of bright blue card, adhere to the top of a 13.5cm square blank. Add a sentiment to the bottom of the card and finish with bakers twine wrapped and tied around the join. CB

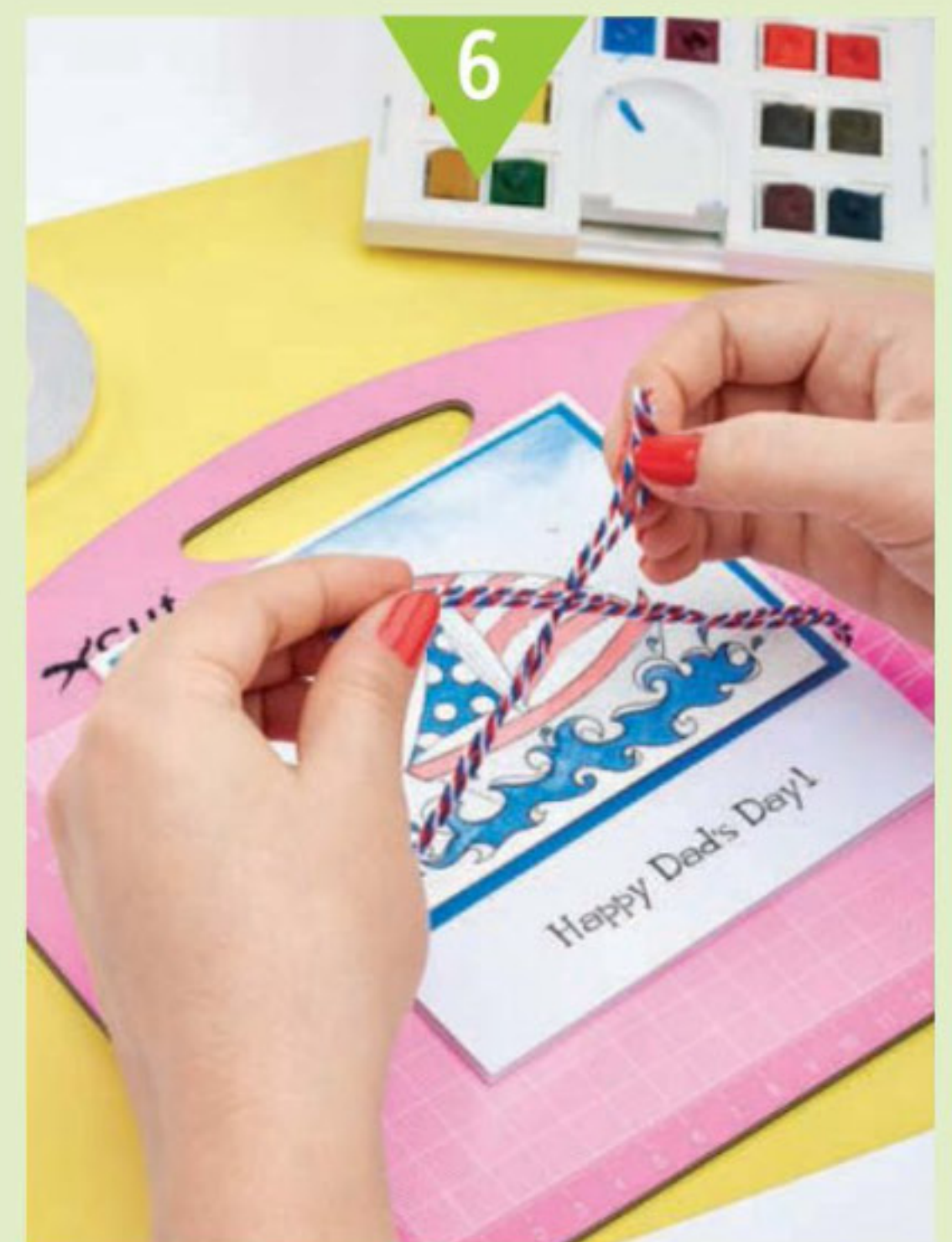


Shopping List

Watercolour paints, Specialist Crafts,
specialistcrafts.co.uk

Paintbrushes and paper pads, Cass Art,
cassart.co.uk

gradually allowing each layer to dry inbetween





A



B



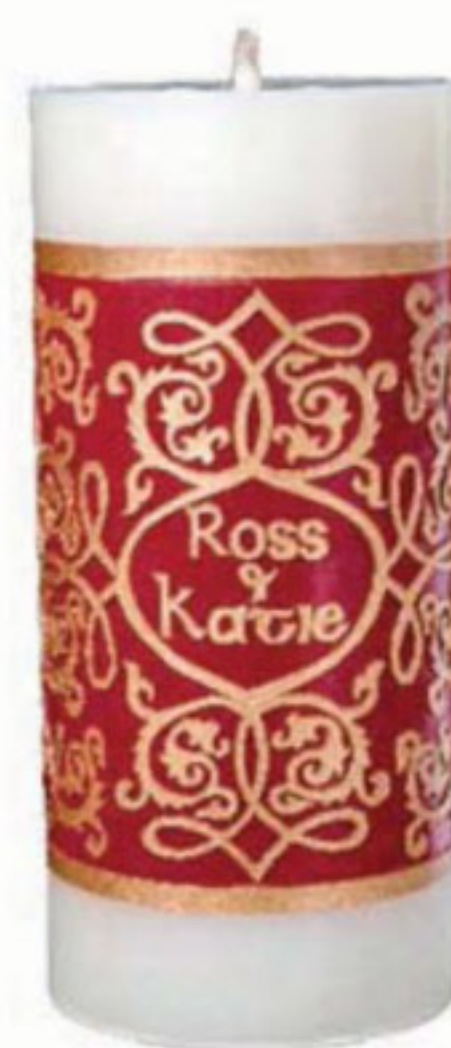
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D

June's Wish List

A collection of this month's most sought after crafting products to add to your crafty stash.



E



F



G



BREAK THE FRAME

H

A With Summer just around the corner; grab an ice cream, pop on your flip flops and see what summery craft shapes we have at Daisymoon Designs.. not only for Summer; but for every occasion and every special person. At our lovely laser cut factory we cut everything from beach huts to candy carts... from cats to card displays! Craft Happy with Daisymoon this summer!
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B Store your creative kit in these versatile, acid free, clear storage boxes. Features include shallow tray with removable dividers to customise the space to suit your craft stash and deep internal compartment ideal for work in progress. Additional features include; fold down side bins, secure clasps, carry handle and they are stackable. Visit our website for more crafty storage solutions.
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C Get inspired with our 100% cotton vintage themed patchwork fabrics; Paris newspaper; Victorian ladies, a Stitch in time panel and all over white. For more information please visit www.rosarhodesltd.co.uk or call 0115 9402828

D This ribbon is great fun and just right for Summer. The Bertie's Bows range has something for everyone, whether you need prints or plains, cotton or burlap ribbon, we have a massive selection. See the full range at www.bertiesbows.co.uk

E Make your own Custom Wedding Candle using our easy to use Applique Wax. For instructions go to our website and click on 'tutorials'. Candle Makers Supplies 102/104 Shepherds Bush Road, London W6 7PD.
T: 0207 602 1812 M: 07855 340 132
www.candlemakers.co.uk

F The new Cardcraft Plus website is packed with hundreds of new products at great prices. You can take your crafting to another level with this MDF Heart with Chain – paint it, stamp it, distress it – the choice is yours! Available at www.cardcraftplus.co.uk £2.50.

G These beadable products start from only £3.95 and range from beadable letter openers to beadable cutlery. They come in a high polish stainless steel finish, with secure screw top fastenings to hold your creations in place. For more info visit our website: www.tuffnellglass.com

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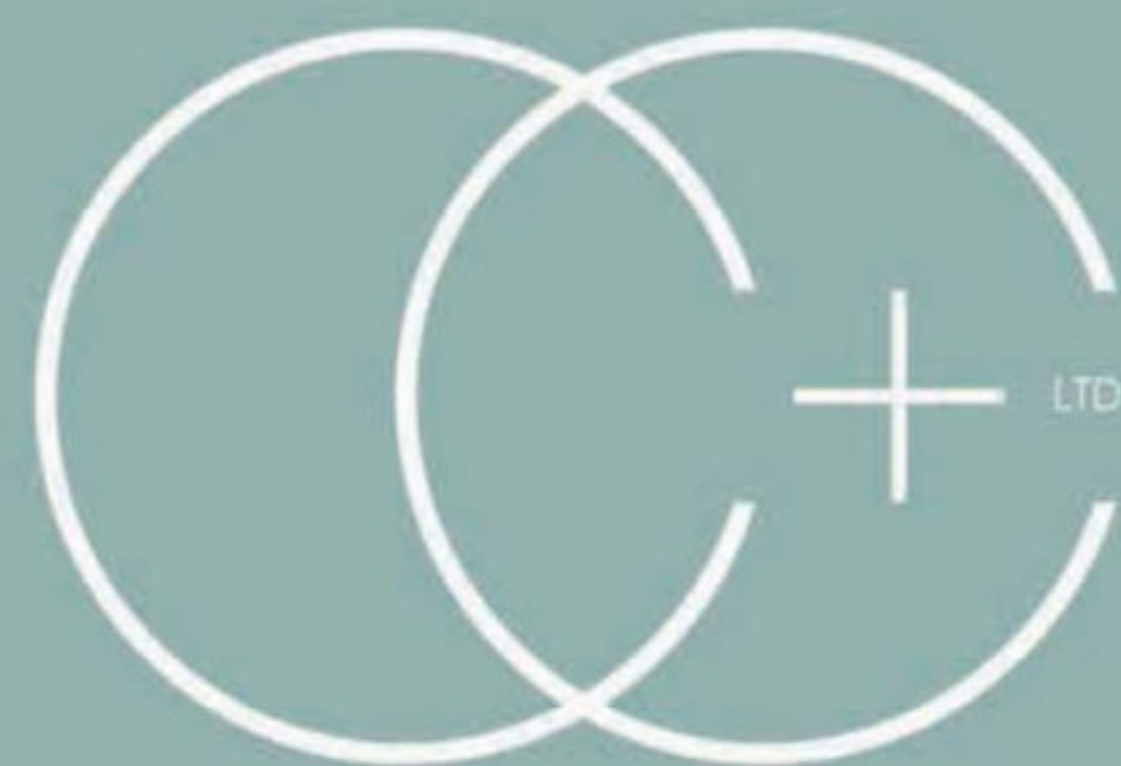
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K Tickets for Hunkydory's multi-award winning craft show are now on sale. The Great British Craft Festival North at Bolton Arena is already in our diaries for 30th & 31st May. To find out more about GBCF and to order your tickets visit www.greatbritishcraft.co.uk

L We will be showing a few period costumes over the bank holiday weekend made by our customers using Simplicity patterns so that you can see with a little inspiration and effort you can achieve some fantastic pieces of work.
01763 268686 craft.corner@hotmail.co.uk
Phillimore Garden Centre, Cambridge Road, Melbourn, Royston, Hertfordshire SG8 6EY

M We love the new Minc Foil Applicator: It can be used for cardmaking, scrapbook layouts, party supplies and more. Jazz up your next project with this amazing tool. This applicator and other compatible products are available now at Peaches Gifts.
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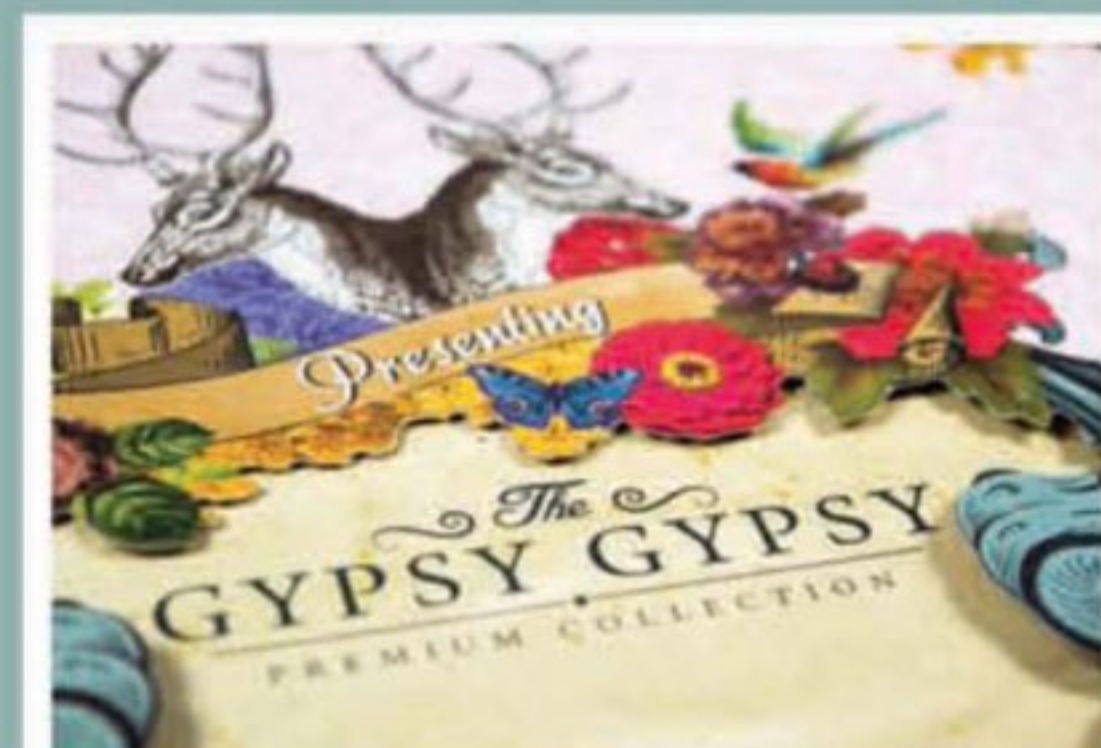


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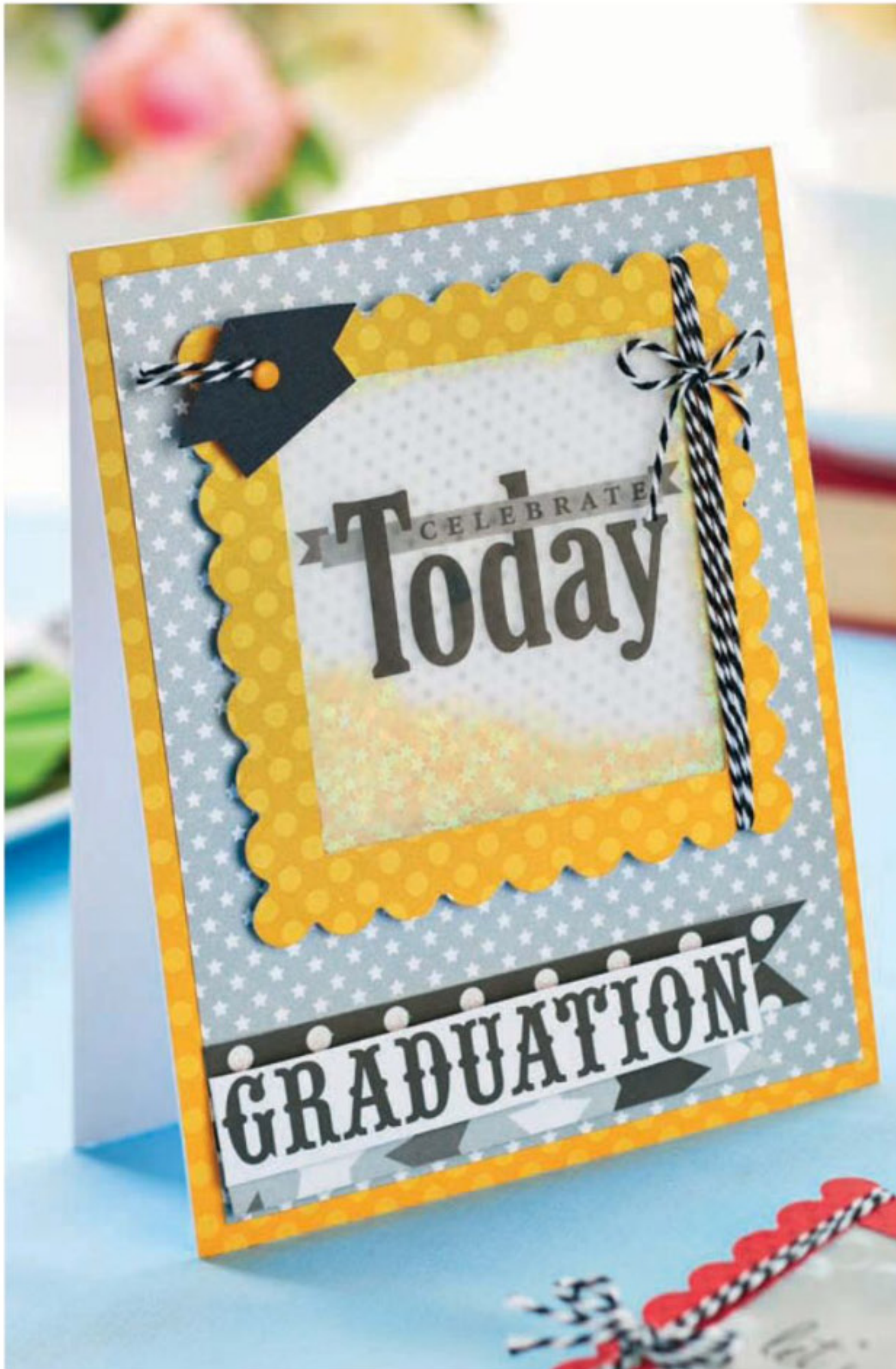
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Our papercraft hero

Congratulate your nearest and dearest with Katie Skilton's graduation makes – they're top of the class!



Start with...

- Papers, 12"x 12", Doodlebug: The Graduates
- Vellum quotes, Celebration
- Framelits Die Set: Scalloped Square; Square; Circle
- Paper, assorted
- Card; white, black glitter
- Distress ink, brown

Top Notch

Create a stunning shaker card for your best boy or girl

- 1 Cover a card blank with orange paper, then a strip of grey. Die-cut a frame and attach the vellum quote. Fix foam pads to the back of the frame, ensuring there are no gaps.
- 2 Sprinkle the star sequins onto the vellum quote and add a square back. Wrap twine around the side of the frame. Trim two pennants from paper and the word, Graduation. Fix to the back.
- 3 Create the hat from two triangles and stick together at the back. Add a brad, and some twine. Position the hat on the corner of the shaker element and fix the panel to the card.

Tip...

TO REMOVE ADHESIVE FROM THE JAR USE AN ALCOHOL-BASED HAND CLEANER

Sweet Treats

A fun little token to tuck into a satchel on graduation day

- 1 Take a small jar and cover the rim with a 1.5cm strip of black glitter card. Add foam pads to the lid. Die-cut a square from the glitter card. Punch a hole in the centre and add a brad.
- 2 Wrap twine around and tie a knot in the bottom. Adhere foam pads to the lid. Attach star paper around the jar, then a strip of ribbon. Add the word 'Congrats'.
- 3 Trim a section of white card, 4cm, and roll into a scroll. Secure with glue. Ink the edges and tie twine around, then fix to the jar.



"I have used a black and white theme, then added a blast of vibrant colour to make the projects more eye-catching"

Katie Skilton, Designer

Shopping List

Big Shot die-cutting machine and dies, Sizzix, **0844 499 8181**, sizzix.co.uk

Paper and vellum quotes, The Glitterpot, **01444 247644**, theglitterpot.co.uk



Tip...

USE WASHI TAPE TO HOLD THE TWO DIES IN PLACE TO CREATE A PERFECTLY EVEN FRAME

Stellar Style

Add sparkle to present giving for a simple yet stylish effect

1 Die-cut a frame and adhere the vellum quote inside. Add sequins to the centre. Place foam pads all around the edge, ensuring there are no gaps. Adhere a square panel to the foam pads.

2 Punch a hole in the top of the tag and thread the ribbon through. Trim a pennant and 'success' and fix to the base of the frame. Wrap twine around the edge of the tag and add a bow.

3 Make the graduation hat as before. Trim a small rectangle and adhere to the base. Add a brad to the centre and thread twine around it.

Tip...

USE PAPER THAT IS NOT TOO THICK AS IT CREATES A BETTER FOLD

Lucky Dip

Create fortune cookies from paper for a novel twist

1 Die-cut a circle for each cookie. Bend the circle in half and fold 2.4cm in the centre.

2 Bend the circle in the opposite direction. Gently push the fold inward with your finger so that the two ends come together.

3 Type and trim the fortune messages and place inside the cookie. Hold both ends together and glue in place.

Nursery elephants

Welcome a newborn into this world with adorable papercrafts, designed by Cathie Shuttleworth

Start with...

- Paper: plain, patterned
- Pen: acrylic, white; black
- Crayons: white, red
- Punch, circle
- Gems
- Thread
- Ribbon
- Adhesives

Find templates on our pattern pages

Wall Decoration

1 Copy the template from our pattern pages onto paper. Score all the dotted lines and trim along the solid ones. Fold the scored lines, then glue the tabs along the side of the face and join to the trunk. Fix the tabs on the ears and attach to the head.

2 Cut a strip of paper the width of the head and shape the end to a point with scissors. Attach it to the head, following the folds. Decorate the head with cut-out flowers and gems to give detail. Use a white acrylic pen to draw on highlights.

3 On contrasting paper, draw two circles using a compass, one bigger than the other. Draw semi-circles around the outer edge of the bigger circle, using a stencil as a guide, and cut both shapes out. Mount them together.

4 Write a message or name using a black pen, then highlight with white. Attach the

3-D elephant head to the circle. Fix a loop of ribbon to the top of the circle for hanging.

Greeting Card

1 Make a side-opening card from patterned paper and face with purple. Cut two elephants from decorative

papers and adhere. Top each one with an ear, using the tabs on the template, and eyes.

2 With a black pen, write a message in the available space and use a white acrylic pen and crayon to add highlights. CB



"Use the same techniques to make sweet bunting for a baby boy or girl!"

Cathie Shuttleworth, Designer



Gift Bag

- 1** Copy the template onto pink paper. Score the dotted lines and cut along the solid ones. While the pattern is flat, use white and red crayons to add detail. Apply sections of decorative paper to the body. Fold the scored lines and join the edges with glue, creating the base of the bag.
- 2** Fix decorative paper along the base and sides of the bag. Fold over the tabs on the ears and attach them to the sides of the head. Make two small slits in the top of the bag, feed ribbon through, glue the ends in place and tie in a bow.



Shopping List

Acrylic pens, uni Posca Pens,
hobbycraft.co.uk

White crayons, Staedtler,
therange.co.uk

Cool for kids

Jane Gill's trendy stencilled backgrounds are perfect for teen cards



Start with...

- Stamps, Woodware: Sneakers (JGS389); Graffiti (JGS387); Essential Birthdays (JGCL9)
- Stencil, Dutch Dobadoo (470.715.035)
- Ink-pads: black, grey, yellow
- Stencil brushes
- Card: white, black, yellow
- Glossy Accents
- Pens: markers, yellow, grey; blender
- Eyelets, silver
- Paper scruffer

See our Shopping List opposite

Sneaker Card

1 Create a white tent-fold card, 12cm x 18cm. Edge the front with yellow ink. Trim yellow card, 7.5cm x 12.5cm. Edge with yellow and adhere to the base card.

2 Cut white card, 11cm x 16cm, and run a paper scruffer along all four sides to roughen up the edges. Edge with grey ink. Stamp the sneakers image in black.

3 Use parts of the Dobadoo stencil to make the background. Apply yellow and grey ink around the image with a brush. Stamp

the word from the Graffiti set in black. Colour in the sneaker using marker pens.

4 Stamp words from the Graffiti and Essential Birthday sets. Hand cut the word 'cool' and colour in yellow and grey. Trim the others, edging in yellow and layering onto black card.

5 Attach three silver eyelets to an area on the card. Layer the stamped piece on black card, then mount onto yellow, and finally onto the card base. Fix the words to the card with foam pads and highlight areas on the sneakers with glossy accents. CB

Crafts Tip

THIS STYLE IS PERFECT FOR TEENAGE BOYS. GO FLORAL FOR GIRLS, COLOURING THE SNEAKERS IN PINKS

Shopping List

All products used for this card are available from Woodware Craft Collection stockists. For details, visit woodware.co.uk

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Crafts Tip

HOLD THE SUITCASE TOGETHER USING CLOTHES PEGS WHILST IT DRIES TO FREE UP YOUR HANDS

Start with...

- Paper, Canson Mi-Teintes, various
- Card: brown, white, A3; cream
- Stamps, various
- Ink-pads, Versacolor: Peony, Violet, Rose Red, Dark Orange
- Pens: fine liner, black; gel, white; felt, red; purple
- Paint, acrylic, pink
- Embellishments: twine, burlap; gems, clear; fasteners, brass
- Acetate, clear
- Punch, flower, 1cm
- Adhesives

See our templates on the pattern pages

Dolly Card

1 Print or copy a card base template from our pattern pages, then score and fold at 9cm intervals to form three sections. Do the same to create a green one, however this time cut out the three

panels and stick to the card. Trim three strips of acetate, 2cm x 7cm, then glue the sides of each and adhere to the panels.

2 Punch out 19 flowers in various colours and trim six tufts of grass, then arrange and stick over the acetate edges. Copy doll and clothes templates to make four figures, six dresses and six hair pieces. Add cheeks and lips using pink acrylic paint and watered down paint for body highlights, then use a fine black pen for eyes and noses. The shoes are created using a mix of red, purple and black pens. Colour a short hairstyle onto one doll only.

3 Stamp a dress in a pattern of your choice, then take another in a different shade and decorate the bottom. Cut off this end piece, then draw a black line to the top and stick onto the other frock. Do this for the other five using assorted colours and motifs, then cut out various hairstyles. Embellish both with punched flowers, bands and gems.

4 Glue a dress and hair piece to three dolls. Stamp a black 'Have a great day!' sentiment onto cream card. Trim into a banner, fix flowers and gems to the front, then glue between one doll's hands. Slot this figure into the front pocket of the card, then pop in the other two to finish.

Mini Suitcase

1 Print or copy a suitcase template, then use it to make one from brown card

and another from white. Score all the fold lines on the white, then snip off each panel from the brown and adhere to the corresponding sections on the white. Glue the suitcase together, leaving the top free to open and close.

2 Cut three dark brown 5cm circles. Trim two in half for the back corners and two quarters for the top-front ones before sticking. Create two 30cm dark brown strips, 1cm wide, and draw on white stitches. Wrap both around the suitcase, 4.5cm in from each edge.



Turn over



3 Make a decorated handle and two clasps from beige and dark brown. Arrange the pieces to the front and adhere, securing a brass fastener to each clasp. Make a cream luggage label, add stitching and a name with a black pen,

then decorate with flowers and gems. Punch a hole at the top, thread burlap twine through, then tie to the handle. Place the paper doll elements made earlier inside to make a dressing-up box. CB



Papercraft Know-how

Helen Fitzjohn shares her favourite crafting knacks for getting the best results from paper

- A clear acrylic ruler makes lining up edges and cutting equal strips of card super easy
- When sticking tiny punched items onto a surface, use a cocktail stick to scoop up a little glue as it's much easier to control
- Experiment with cutting tools and see what suits you. Scalpels are great for straighter lines but scissors are much better for curves
- Store and colour code card scraps in clear folders: they're cheap to buy and don't take up lots of room
- When drawing templates onto card, always work on the wrong side so there aren't any marks to rub out later
- Mechanical pencils are great and much less hassle – not only do they give very accurate lines, but they also never need sharpening!



Shopping List

Canson Mi-Teintes pastel papers, Pullingers, 01372 741811, pullingers.com

Versacolor cube ink-pads, Crafty Devils Papercraft, 01271 326777, craftydevilspapercraft.co.uk

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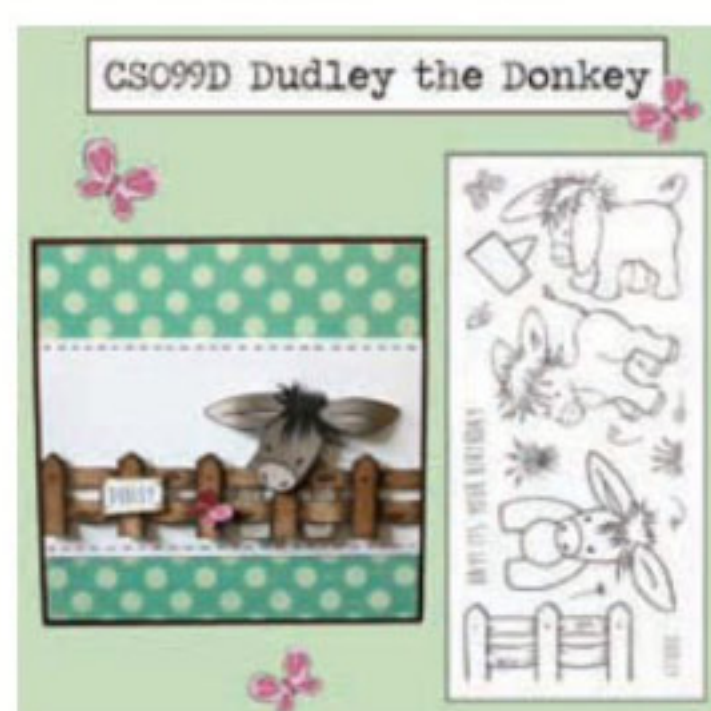
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7 STEPS TO Stamping



DECORATE SURFACES WITH EASE USING OUR BITE-SIZE GUIDE

1 Starting off

Versatile, affordable and fun – by playing around with different motifs and inks, stamping allows you to create original designs in no time at all. From sentiments, flowers, intricate pictures, everyday objects and more, you can choose to decorate surfaces with the patterns you love.

2 WHICH IS WHICH?

There are two main types of stamps: rubber and acrylic. Rubber stamps are usually mounted onto wooden blocks and take an array of intricate designs that are made to last. If you want value for money, opt for acrylics. These easy-to-store stamps come on sheets which can be peeled on and off of mounting blocks and, because they're transparent, you can use them with precision.

3 On the surface

When applying ink to a stamp, turn it over and lightly tap a pad onto the face to build up colour. To achieve the best results, don't push the pads down too hard – press designs firmly onto the surface and hold for a few seconds. Make sure there's no excess ink around the edges by running a cotton bud over them before pressing. You may wish to experiment using acrylic paints too.

4 MATERIAL WORLD

Stamps are incredibly versatile, allowing you to embellish a range of surfaces such as card, paper, wood, fabric, clay and more. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions when setting ink onto certain materials to secure the design. Fabric ink, for example, normally needs to be set using the heat of an iron.

5 What's your shade?

The type of ink you need will depend on what you're stamping. Pigment ones are great if you're after bright, colourful tones for card and paper, whereas solvent inks last for a very long time and are well matched for various surfaces.

6 TAKE CARE

Commercial cleaners are suitable for all stamps, but alcohol-free baby wipes are ideal for wiping off ink without any hassle. Be careful when cleaning very delicate designs as you don't want to break any pieces away. Avoid washing wooden stamps with water as it gets absorbed into the block and loosens the adhesive.

KIT LIST

7 Stamping extras

There are plenty of video tutorials online such as stampingschool.com which gives you access to lots of free content. Alternatively, if you fancy making your own unique stamps, you can easily do so by transferring a hand-drawn image onto a rubber block and carving the image out using a few tools.



- 1 VersaMagic Dew Drop ink-pads, £1.49 each, **01271 326777, craftydevilspapercraft.co.uk**
 2 Butterflies stamps, £13.95, **hamptonblue.co.uk** 3 Clear daisy stamp set, **01536 481778, creative-expressions.uk.com** 4 Assorted acrylic blocks, **01756 700024, woodware.co.uk**
 5 Pebbles I Kan'dee Chalk, £16.99, **0871 712 3455, createandcraft.tv**

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We're the winners!

We catch up with a few of our giveaway winners to see how they've been using their crafty prizes



Fair Ladies

I just wanted to say thank you so much for the tickets that I won to attend the Country Living Spring Fair. My daughter and I had a wonderful time and we went home with lots of goodies – just as well we took the car! Thank you again for making our visit possible.

Sara Goodman, London

Stamp & Share

My crafty friend Barty and I had a fantastic day at Stamperama. We didn't stop talking all day and ended up having to rush around the last few stalls. I bought some small stamps and die-cutting essentials. Thank you for the tickets, Crafts Beautiful!

Dawn Tucker, Berkshire



PAMPER TIME

I won a SoukSouk beauty box subscription from the January 2015 issue. When I received my first package I was so excited to give the products a try. They didn't disappoint – the shampoo smells absolutely delicious! Thanks for a lovely prize.

Anne Nelms, Bristol



Creative Leisure

I won a Lapdog crafting tray from the January 2015 issue. I'm very impressed with it, as it has lots of useful storage areas and features. I already have a lovely craft room, but I do bring projects downstairs and now I will be able to hold everything I need whilst sitting on my sofa!

Margaret Mumford, Somerset



Family Fun

My two nieces and nephew had a wonderful day getting creative with a few bits I bought using the £100 Create and Craft voucher that I won. We've only used a portion but so far we've made a puppet theatre, princes and princesses, castles and paper bag puppets. We'll have another crafty day soon to use the rest of the supplies – I'm thinking clay creatures, more puppets and keyrings!

Louise Grant, Wiltshire



SHOW TIME

I entered to win one of ten pairs of Hobbycraft tickets at the end of last year and to my surprise I won! I attended the show at the end of March with my daughter and had a good browse through all of the crafty products. We had a great time, thanks again!

Marilyn Wheatley, Warwickshire

I wish for...

You got in touch to tell us what your dream crafty prize would be!

● A lot of lovely sewing patterns!
Maria Pujol, via email

● A manual die-cutting machine – I already have a digital one, but there are so many pretty metal ones!
Jennifer Grace, via email

● A full metal stamping kit with a decent supply of blanks
@preciousfairies, via Twitter

● An endless supply of fabrics. No, make that card. No, perhaps all the dies I could wish for!
Ruth Bond, via email

Want it? Win it! Visit p122 and enter our current giveaways

Got a question for our crafty team? Send it in to sarah.crosland@aceville.co.uk

Ask the experts

Clever solutions and creative know-how from our top team of talented crafters

Meet our Panel...



BARBARA GRAY

is an award-winning designer. Barbara is the pioneer of clear stamps and her range of products have become famous all over the world. claritystamps.co.uk



CORINNE BRADD

is our talented in-house designer. Corinne likes nothing better than the challenge of turning car boot finds into upcycled treasures



ELAINE BENNETT

as well as editing our fabulous sister mag PaperCrafter, she is an ace knitter and card maker. papercraftermagazine.co.uk



ROSIE SAVAGE

is our Deputy Editor, in between putting your fave mag together, she makes cards and enjoys sewing



“What's the best fabric for appliqué? I've got lots of scraps to use up”

CORINNE SAYS... It is really a matter of preference. The beauty of appliqué is that virtually any weight of fabric can be used. However, a little common sense is necessary. For instance, attaching a heavyweight tweed onto a fine lawn is

going to cause the background fabric to pucker. I'd also stay clear of stretchy materials and chiffons. Most everyday fabrics are fine, especially if you use a interfacing on the reverse before cutting out the motifs to minimise any fraying.

Do you need special paper for paper stitching projects?

ELAINE SAYS... No, most paper can be stitched through either by hand or with a sewing machine. The best type of paper would be between 100gsm and 150gsm. Thinner types are susceptible to tearing if the stitching is pulled taut and thicker papers can be hard work on your hands or the machine. For heavyweight cardstock, pre-prick the holes with a needle tool before hand sewing. If using a machine work with a new sharp denim needle set on a slow speed.



Card designed by Carolyn Letten

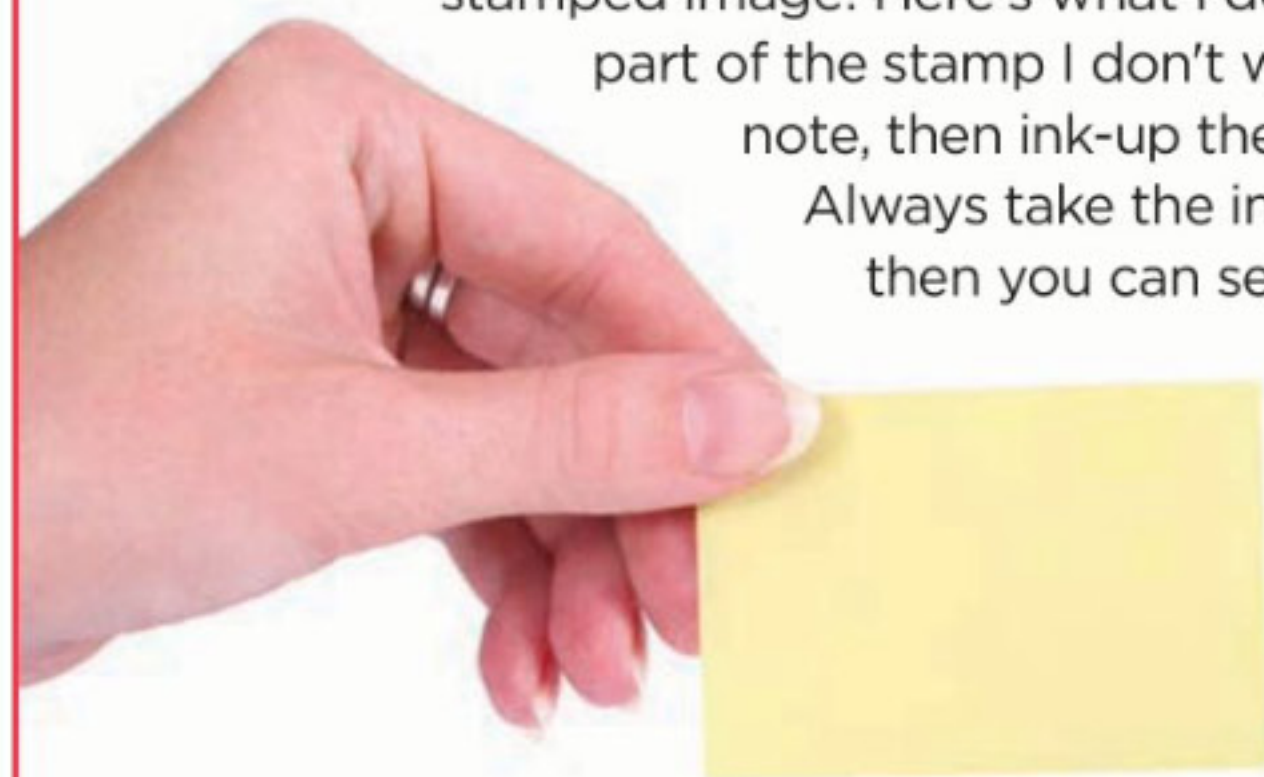
What's the best way use clear stamps, I struggle to get a clear crisp image – what am I doing wrong?

BARBARA SAYS... This question is right up my street! Not all clear stamps are made of the same material, and even if they are the quality can vary greatly, simply because the manufacturing process and material grade vary so much. Photopolymer will usually provide a much better image than acrylic stamps. So often people give up on stamping because their efforts have been less than satisfactory and they conclude it must be their own incompetence. Nay, nay, and thrice nay, I say! Check the ink and cardstock are good quality and work well together – these ingredients are also important for a crisp stamped image.

How do I mask off part of a stamped design, is there a knack?

BARBARA SAYS... It's all about applying ink to the part of the stamp you want to use; masking off the area you don't want to stamp is another way of saying, don't want to ink up. No ink, no stamped image! Here's what I do: Cover up the actual part of the stamp I don't want with a Post-it note, then ink-up the part I do want.

Always take the ink-pad to the stamp; then you can see where you are applying the colour too. Remove the Post-it note, as it is sure to have ink on it. Hey presto! The ink is only on the part you want.



What's the best way to tidy loose fabric ends and threads?

ROSIE SAYS... All my machine stitched projects seem to have far more loose ends than I remember sewing. I've discovered the best way to deal with them is to make sure the ends of each line of stitching are secured by locking with a few backwards stitches. I then forget about the threads until I come to press the finished piece, trimming them away with small scissors as I do so. For hand stitched projects I secure the sewing, then run the thread back through some stitches on the wrong side before clipping.



WHERE CAN I FIND?

FLOWER BUTTONS...

Wooden flower buttons are ideal for card making and will brighten paper and stitchy creations. We love these from Hobbycraft, priced £2 for 18. **0330 026 1400, hobbycraft.co.uk**



CRAFT PAINT...

PaperArtsy's Fresco Finish acrylics can be used without a primer or undercoat. The paint dries to a smooth chalky finish which is ideal for stamping. Priced £3.30 for 50ml, **paperartsy.co.uk**



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MORRISONS

YOUR REALLY USEFUL Craft Tips

CB readers share their crafty advice

BEADING GOOD

If you want to save space and organise your beads, store them in labelled grip seal bags
Sophie Matthews, via Facebook



EASY FLOW

Keep craft glue bottles upside-down in a cup so you don't have to wait for it to flow into the tip
Louise Andrews, via Facebook



Petite Appliqué

Save scraps of interfacing as they're perfect to use as tiny appliqué pieces – just store them in folders
Judy Finnegan, via email

Paint Straight

The secret to painting perfect lines? Start on the tape and stroke inwards using a small brush, not up and down the tape edge
Angela Connelly, via email



Tear Easy

Sections of fabric can be cut easily by snipping into the selvedge, then ripping
Beth Wood, via email

DIY TOOLS

If you've lost your quilling tool, create a temporary one by making a slit into one end of a cocktail stick
Tabitha Smith, via email



SALT 'N' GLITTER

Reuse your old pepper pots and store glitter in them for simple, low-mess applications
Clare Wright, via Twitter

FABRIC TYPE

Having trouble sewing oilcloth with your machine? Rub a little talcum powder onto the right side of the fabric and it will glide through – just make sure to clean your bobbin case after
Sara Valentine, via email



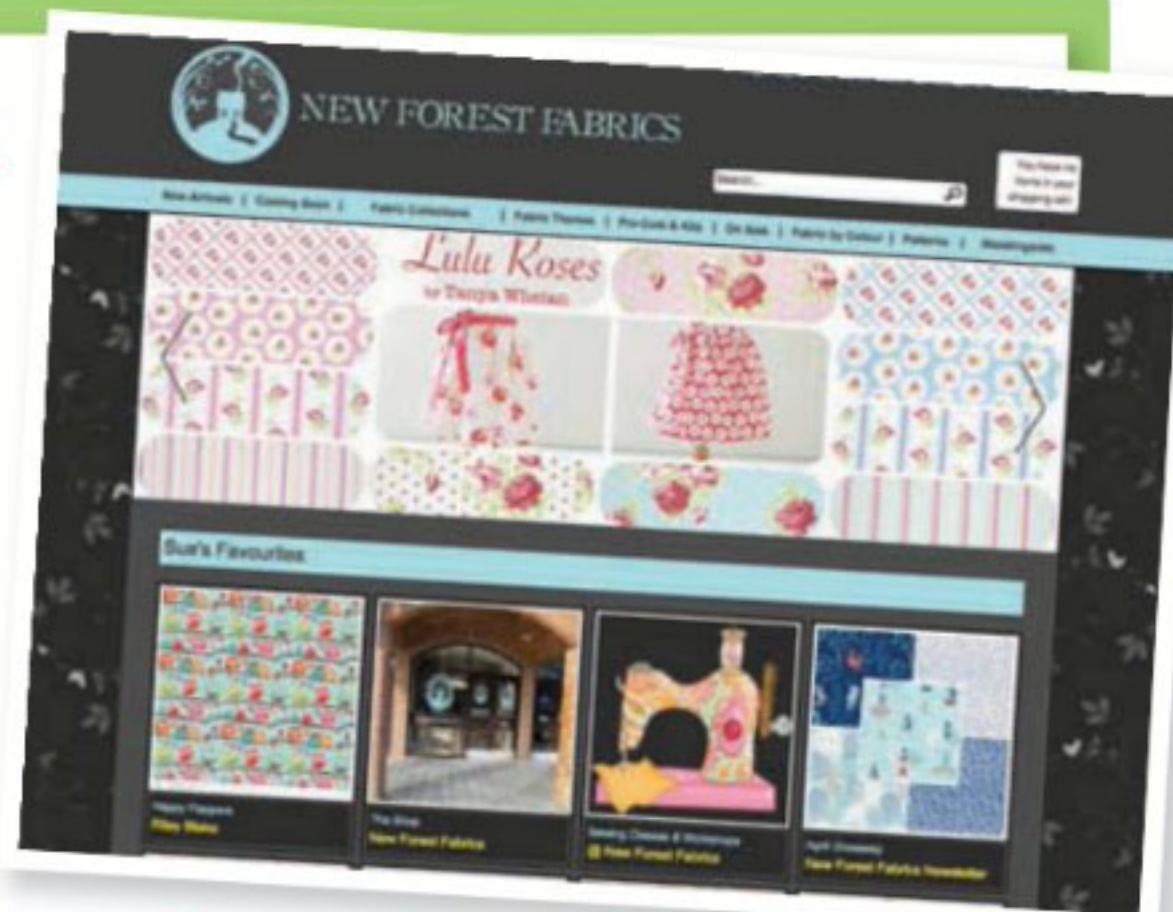
"I always use photo corners to hold pictures in place when scrapbooking as they don't damage them"

Katy McIntosh, PaperCrafter Deputy Editor

newforestfabrics.co.uk

New Forest Fabrics is an independent fabric retailer with a shop on the edge of the beautiful New Forest in Hampshire and a bespoke, easy-to-use website. All of the fabrics are displayed in their collections for inspiration and to help with colour matching. Owner and life-long quilter Sue Pepper shares her three top quilting tips...

- When purchasing fabric for a new project, always buy more than you think you will need. This allows for mistakes or a change of plan and is good for building your stash too
- For accuracy, cut only two layers of fabric at a time. You should



buy a large cutting mat for the greatest flexibility

- When pressing the seams, lift the iron and place it down in a new area without moving it across the fabric. This avoids stretching or distorting the material



Share it!

If you've a crafty tip or trick you'd like to share, get in touch via **Twitter, Facebook** or **social.cb@aceville.co.uk!**





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Boho florals

Let your home radiate warmth with Rosie Savage's flowery favourites

Growing up, many of my friends would tentatively say that my parents' house was unusual. Large Indian rugs grace the floors, black and white photographs of Hollywood's finest line the living room walls, Moroccan lanterns hang in every possible crevice, and somewhat scary statues are in abundance. But rather than be embarrassed, I always thought it was amazing. My mum also has a penchant for bohemian florals – just to add to the madness – so here I am sharing a selection of projects for you to get the rich and colourful look in your abode... though maybe on a subtler scale.



refurbish a trunk

Want to give a new lease of life to an old steamer trunk? Remove the strengthening ribs and fastenings from it, then sand it down and cover with your favourite fabric. Use a spray adhesive when placing the material, then secure the edges inside with a staple or hot glue gun. Replace everything removed earlier, and you're done!



"I want to try this technique on a small chest I found in my parents' loft"

Reader Details

Find more home projects like this in our sister magazine *Homemaker*!



3 reasons to love... boho blooms

They add warmth

Bohemian florals come in rich, warm colours such as reds, oranges, yellows, purples and greens. They'll feel comforting and cosy, resulting in a happy home resembling somewhere far more exotic. Upholster a chair in an appropriate fabric, stitch a patchwork throw with lots of clashing prints, or be more subtle with a framed illustration.

They're beautiful

Flowers are stunning so it makes sense to not only have real blooms in your abode, but crafted ones too. The more the merrier! Place a vase of flowers on your kitchen table, which could also be home to a gorgeous floral tablecloth. Make a watercolour painting and fix it to the wall with flowery washi tape. You get the picture...

They're thrifty

You can create this look with lots of offcuts, so it can be quite a savvy way of crafting. Flowers are everywhere – they're popular in the creative world, as well as magazines and books. Photocopy or cut out a selection of blooms, then use them to make a collage or decoupaged delight. The busier, bolder and brighter, the better!

Start with...

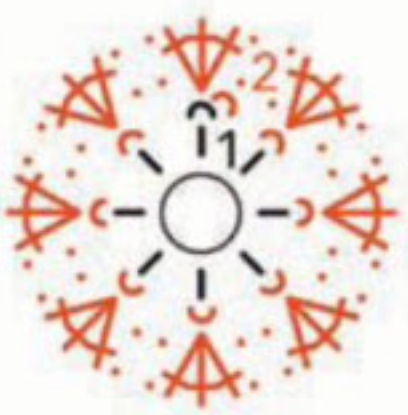
- Yarn, cotton, various colours
- Crochet hook, 5mm
- Wooden bar

crochet
a flower
curtain

1 To crochet a flower, work rounds 1 and 2 of pattern 1 into a loop. Choose the colours in any sequence, and change the colour after round 1. Work the desired number of green leaves to pattern 2. Work as many flowers and leaves as you like.

2 Next, work long ropes of chain stitches in green to suit a wooden bar. Crochet on flowers and leaves in turn. Finish by making a line of chains the length of the wooden bar and work 1 row of double crochet. Work as many rows of double crochet as required to cover, then sew it over the bar.

Crochet Pattern 1



Crochet Pattern 2



Symbols

- = 1 chain
- ^ = 1 slip stitch
- | = 1 single crochet (UK double)
- T = 1 half double crochet (UK half treble)
- † = 1 double crochet (UK treble)

Reader
Details

This project is from Great New Ways with Granny Squares by Rosa P. (Search Press, £7.99).



Start with...

- Embroidery hoops
- Fabric
- Sewing machine or needle and thread
- Glue, craft
- Paintbrush, small

stitch embroidery hoop lanterns

1 Measure the outside circumference of the inner ring of an embroidery hoop. Cut fabric, making one edge the same size as the circumference plus 2.5cm. The other edge can be as long as you want the lantern.

2 Fold in half, wrong side out, aligning the lengthwise edges. Sew a seam 1.25cm from the edge to make a tube. Turn out and press. Paint on some glue around the outer edge of the inner hoop.

3 Stretch the fabric tube around the hoop, lining it up so that the fabric edge is flush with one edge of the hoop. Place the outer piece of the hoop over and tighten. Repeat for the bottom hoop, rotating the screw fastener 180 degrees opposite the top one so the weight is balanced.

4 Thread a needle with 90cm of cotton. Double it and knot. Stitch the thread to one side of the top of the lantern, then to the opposite side to finish.



Reader Details



This project comes from *Crafting a Colorful Home* by Kristin Nicholas. Photography by Rikki Snyder. Reprinted by arrangement with Roost Books, an imprint of Shambhala Publications, Inc. Boston, MA.



make paper flowers

1 To make an anemone, use the template to cut a shape from crepe paper. Drag the paper over the edge of a table to loosen the fibres, then cut a slit as indicated. Crinkle the petal by alternately folding over a pencil and skewer.

2 Overlap at the base to create a cup shape and glue in place – each petal should be able to stand up and have a flat base. Make a second petal, then overlap the bases and secure with hot glue. Repeat with more petals then, once done, curl the tops of the outer ones.

3 Cut a circle, 8cm, from another colour of paper and fringe with scissors all the way around. Shape it into a cup and glue in the centre. To make a stem, wrap wire with florist tape and secure with glue at the back. Use a similar technique to create poppies and peonies.



"Spray the crepe paper lightly with bleach and allow to dry before cutting to create a speckled effect"

Nancy Straughan, Designer



BOHO FLORALS

Fiji floral cushion, £12.99, dobbies.com



Cath Kidston Clifton Rose mug, £6.50, onebrown.cow.co.uk

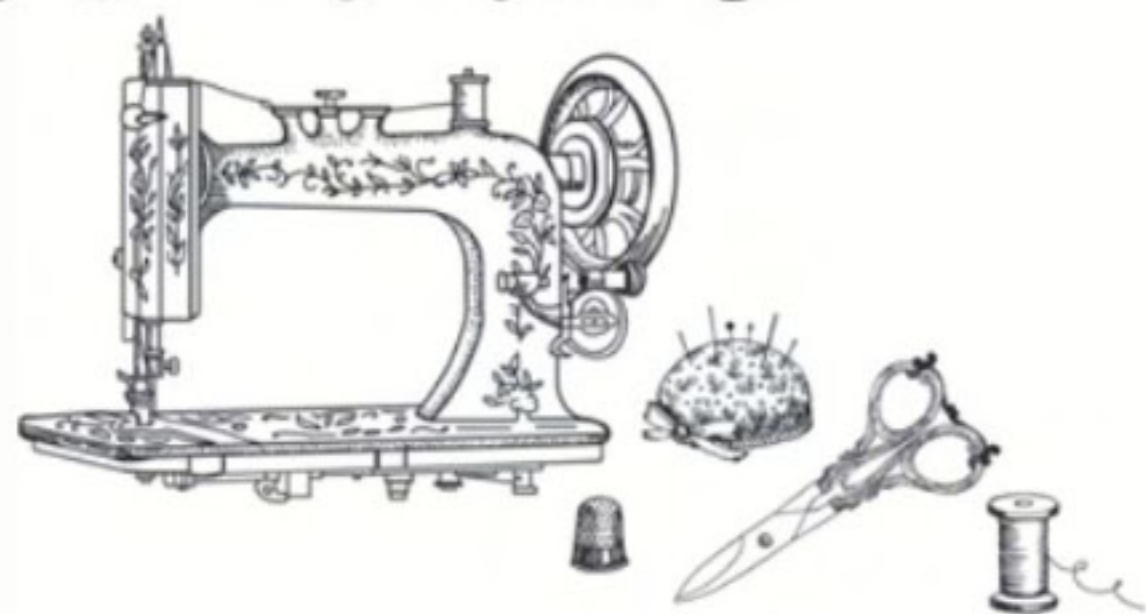


Rodie's Pick

Mini floral wooden pegs, £4 for ten, hamptonblue.co.uk



Stitch Essentials



Advertising Feature

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Sew Crafty's new online store is now open packed with beautiful sewing treats and essentials, Sign up for our fabulous newsletter for great deals and fun projects



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Crafter's notebook

Personalise stationery with themed embellishments thanks to Helen Philipps' how-to



Turn over

Start with...

- ✿ Aida, white, 14 count
- ✿ Threads, DMC
- ✿ Paper, patterned
- ✿ Card, white, thin
- ✿ Notebook, spiral bound
- ✿ Embellishments: flowers, paper; sewing room elements; tape measure, paper; ribbon; ricrac, aqua; buttons; twine, pink
- ✿ Stamp, sewing-themed
- ✿ Ink-pad, magenta
- ✿ Needle, tapestry, size 26
- ✿ Adhesives

For templates see our pattern pages

Cross-Stitch Notebook

1 Following our chart, backstitch over one block of Aida with one strand of cotton to create the words 'crafts ideas'. For the key line around the words, use two strands of cotton and backstitch. When complete, cut out one hole away from the stitching all around and back with white card using double-sided tape.

2 Attach pink patterned paper to the top part of a notebook cover. Fix aqua spotted paper to the bottom part, then glue a strip of paper tape measure across the join. Matt the cross-stitch word embellishment onto pink and white striped paper, then place it at an angle in the top-right corner.

3 Using a sewing-themed rubber stamp and a magenta ink-pad, print two stamps above the tape

measure and half a motif on the left side of the aqua paper near the bottom. Decorate the rest of the cover with buttons, flower motifs and sewing-themed paper embellishments. Tie tape measure ribbon and aqua ricrac to the spiral binding to complete.

Crafts Tag

1 Follow the chart for the pink heart and word embellishment. Work over one block of 14 count white Aida using two strands of cotton for the cross-stitch and one strand for the backstitch. Stitch the outer line over two blocks. Trim the design two holes away from the stitching all the way round.

2 Back the design with white card. Cut a tag shape, 5cm x 9.5cm, and cover with pink and white striped paper. Punch a hole in the top. Stamp part of a sewing motif twice onto the edges.

Mat the cross-stitch embellishment onto aqua spotted paper and fix to the tag. Thread pink twine through the hole and tie.

Spool Tag

1 Cross-stitch a spool of thread, following our chart. Back with white card. Cut out the shape all the way around, leaving a small border of white fabric.

2 Trim a tag, 5cm x 9cm, from white card. Stamp a sewing motif at the bottom. Attach a paper tape measure strip across the width. Glue on the cross-stitch motif, then add a sentiment. Thread pink twine through the hole and tie to finish. CB

Crafts Tip

LOOK OUT FOR PAPERS AND EMBELLISHMENTS TO CELEBRATE OTHER CRAFTS AND HOBBIES - THEY MAKE GREAT CUSTOM GIFTS!





"Make a set of cross-stitch tags for your stash to give to crafty friends on their birthdays"

Helen Philipps, Designer



Shopping List

Aida fabric and DMC stranded threads, The Homemakery, **01483 361132, thehomemakery.co.uk**

Blank spiral bound notebook, The Range, **therange.co.uk**

Kaisercraft Needle and Thread papers and embellishments, Merly Impressions, **merlyimpressions.co.uk**

a day in the life of a craft designer...

"You never know who will stumble across your work – a single discovery can lead to great opportunities!"

Marisa Edghill is a Canadian craft designer with her own business, an author and **washi tape aficionado**. In her latest book, *Washi Style!*, Marisa demonstrates the versatility of the decorative tape using it in a range of papercraft projects as well as home crafts and children's party decorations. Her online shop Omiyage is a hot spot for cute, clever and crafty goodies. She lives with her husband in an old house in a small town on the southern shores of Georgian Bay, Ontario. We caught up with this talented designer to find out what goes on behind the scenes in an international craft business.



What is your daily routine?

Every day is different – which keeps things interesting! I usually update my social media, then tackle emails and pack orders. My husband comes home from work for lunch so I get to spend an hour with him, which makes for a nice break (and gets me away from the computer for a while). Afternoons are for writing, shooting pictures and crafting, whether that be for a book project or my blog, plus any other shop business.

Do you work from home?

My work is home-based, which is a mixed blessing. It makes it much easier to get a home cooked meal on the table or keep up with the laundry! But it also makes it much harder to shut off my work brain at the end of the day. Ha! Who am I kidding? There is no end of day around here! It takes a real effort to not go back to work for a few hours in the evening – I try not to do that too often.

Have you always been crafty?

I grew up in a creative household so crafting has always been a part of my life. After university, I spent a few years teaching in Japan and fell in love with the wonderful craft

and stationery stores there.

When I moved back to Canada, I really felt like there was a hole in the market for unique craft and paper items so I started Omiyage, my online shop, to bring lovely things from Japan to Canada. While you can now find washi tape here, there and everywhere, I was one of the first (if not the first) to offer it in Canada. One of my main marketing tools has been my blog where I share projects. Over the years I've had the opportunity to grow my papercraft and tutorial writing skills and have garnered attention from publishers through those projects.

Did you need any training?

Not at all really, my degree is in theatre. I do occasionally wish I had taken a few business courses while in university though – that's the sound of my mother saying "I told you so!"

How did the idea for *Washi Style!* come about?

I was actually approached by the publisher with an idea for a totally different book, but I had been thinking about a washi tape theme for a while. It's a fantastic multi-tasker and I loved dreaming up new ways to use it. The writing

process was fantastic too.

Since I'm generally a team of one, it was thrilling to get to work with a team of editors, photographers and designers.

Does your family get involved?

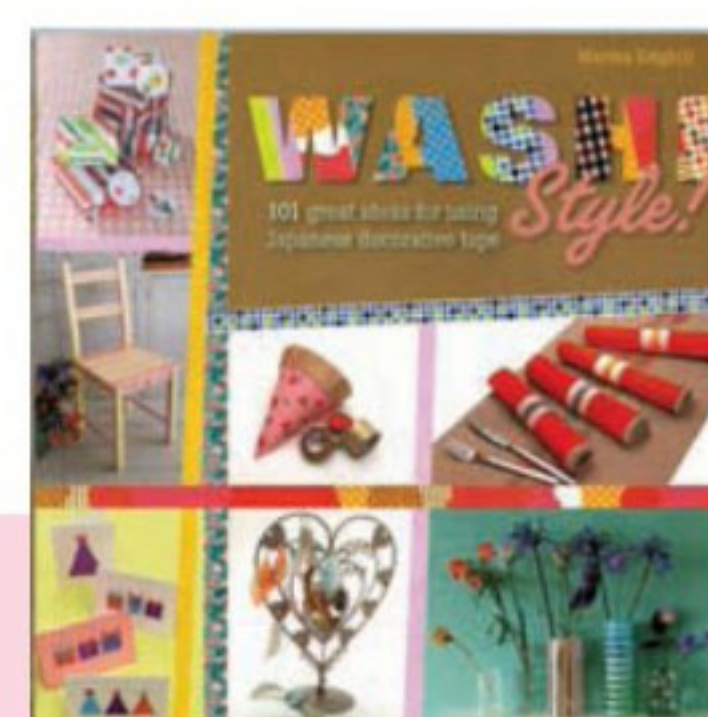
My husband Elias is a great help with some of the bitty gritty of daily business (like trekking packages to the post office) and being a second pair of eyes when I'm designing a new project.

Why do you think people enjoy crafting so much these days?

Craft is the perfect antidote to our fast-paced, technology-centric daily lives. It's nice to unplug for a bit, make something with your hands and remember to breathe and slow down. For me, it's a great way to de-stress; meditation through craft.

Do you have any exciting plans for the future?

On the business side, I'm currently working on my next papercraft book. On the personal side, no grand plans as of yet but we're hoping to squeeze in some travel this summer.



Further info... See Marisa's website at omiyage.ca and visit her blog for more ideas. Buy *Washi Style!* from searchpress.com

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JANOME

Strawberry tea

Stitch yourself a selection of floral afternoon tea essentials with Sophia Palmer's appliqué treats

Crafts *Tip*

TO MAKE SURE THE COSY WILL FIT, MEASURE A TEAPOT FROM HANDLE TO SPOUT FOR WIDTH AND FROM BASE TO LID FOR HEIGHT, THEN ADD FOUR INCHES TO BOTH

Turn over

Start with...

- ✿ Fabric: Clarke & Clarke, English Rose, Sage; Rosebud, Chintz; John Louden, spots, pink; cotton, plain, red; pink; white; green
- ✿ Thread: machine, white; embroidery, red; green
- ✿ Ribbon, red
- ✿ Wadding
- ✿ Interfacing, fusible, medium weight
- ✿ Card, white
- ✿ Paper, white
- ✿ Pinking shears

See our templates on the pattern pages

Tea Cosy

1 Fold paper, 24cm x 30cm, in half and round off the top to create a domed template, making sure it's large enough to cover a teapot. Use this to cut out two inner and two outer fabric pieces, then two wadding sections. Pin one outer panel to wadding for the front of the cosy.

2 Cut pink spotty fabric, 10cm square, using pinking shears and sew to the upper-middle of the cosy front. Print or copy a large strawberry template from our pattern pages and draw the top and body onto interfacing. Cut out loosely, then iron onto red and green cottons and cut out. Position and glue to the centre of the square, then appliqué and add seed details in white.

3 Make a sandwich of the fabrics by putting the cosy

front right sides together with an inner fabric piece, then sew along the bottom edge and press open. Repeat the steps to make a cosy back. Lay both sections right sides together so that the outer and inner fabrics match and the bottoms are lined up exactly.

4 Add a loop of ribbon between the outer fabric tops, then pin to secure and sew around the whole cosy, leaving a small gap in the inner fabric. Use it to turn the cosy out, then close. Pop the pouch inside, then topstitch around the bottom lip to finish.

Invite Card

1 Cut patterned floral fabric to the same size as a blank, 11cm x 16cm, and trim the edges using pinking shears to make it slightly smaller than the card. Write out invitation details on a computer or by hand onto paper.

2 Print or copy a cupcake template and separate the base, top and strawberry into individual pieces, then draw onto interfacing and cut out. Iron the three motifs onto various fabrics, then trim each out and adhere to the panel.

3 Freehand machine embroider the cupcake into place and write the words 'you're invited' above in red. Topstitch the invite details to the bottom, then finish by attaching the panel to the card front.

Fabric Napkins

Cut three patterned cotton squares, 40cm, or more depending on how many you want to make. Using your machine, finish all the edges with rolled hems, 1cm wide. Create another fabric strawberry motif as before but this time smaller, then iron onto a napkin and topstitch into place to finish. CB



"Practise your embroidery on thick scrap cotton - the trick is to use the needle as you would a pencil"

Sophia Palmer, Designer



Sew Simple

If you love to sew or want to get started, then you'll fall head over heels for the Janome XL601. An ideal machine for anyone to use, it has plenty of stitch options and easy-to-use features that

make it perfect for creating a whole range of projects. Fully computerised, this full-sized machine weighs less than 6kg, making it easy to carry around. Not only that, but with its maximum speed controller, auto needle threader, one-step buttonhole option and a start/stop button for footless control, this machine makes sewing an absolute dream!

For more details and stockists, visit janome.co.uk



Shopping List

Clarke and Clarke fabrics, visit clarke-clarke.co.uk or call 01706 242010 for stockists

John Loudon prints, Doughty's Fabrics, 01432 267542, doughtyonline.co.uk

Thread, Purple Stitches, 07900 828431, purple-stitches.com

Vintage Stamps

Stamp, emboss and layer Tracey Daykin-Jones' Father's Day card to make your dad smile

Crafts Tip

USE AN ANTI-STATIC BAG BEFORE STAMPING AND EMBOSsing WITH WHITE POWDER TO AVOID STRAY SPECKS SHOWING



Start with...

- Paper, patterned
- Card: white, red, mint green, navy, beige
- Stamp, Vintage Vehicle (C1325)
- Ink-pad, black
- Embossing powders: clear, white
- Texture sheet
- Ribbon, grosgrain, wide, red
- Adhesives

See our Shopping List below

Car Greeting

1 Trim white card, 12cm x 24cm, and lay horizontally. Score a vertical line 6cm in from each side and fold inwards to create a gatefold blank. Cover both front panels with dot paper, then layer mint green and navy card on top.

2 Stamp a car image onto white card using black ink, then clear emboss. Create a mask by stamping a second image onto a Post-it note and cutting out the car, including the inside of the tyres.

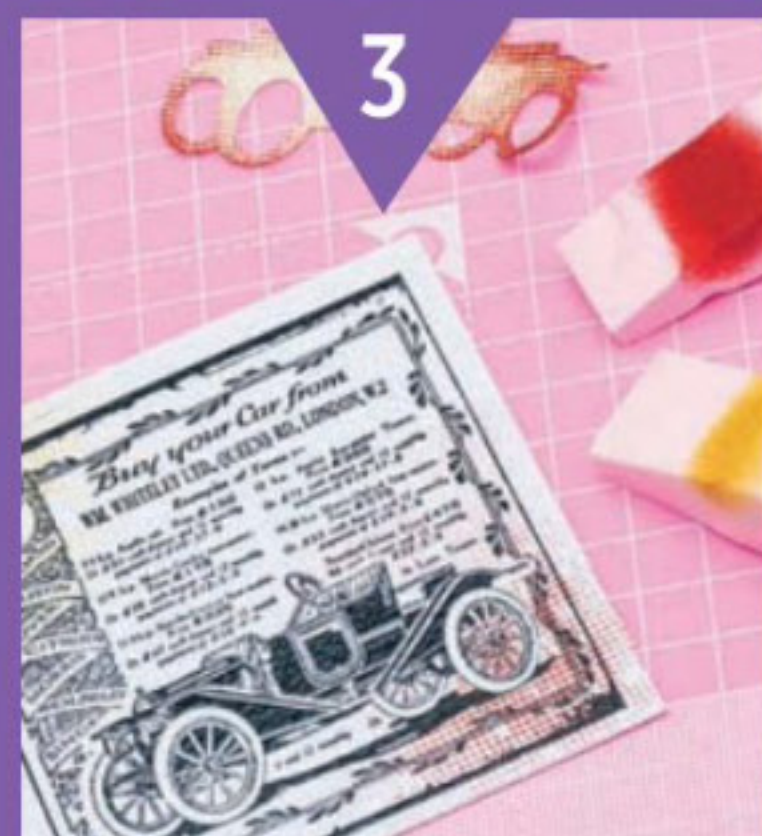
3 Add the mask to the stamped image and lay a net texture sheet over the top. Sponge red ink to the bottom of the image



"The Vintage Vehicle stamp is so intricate and stylish - I thought it would be ideal for Father's Day"

Tracey Daykin-Jones, Designer

How to make... A CAR CARD



and blend yellow from the top downwards, creating an orange shade where the colours overlap.

4 Stamp and clear emboss a Father's Day message onto white paper using black ink, then trim to 12cm square. Add a little colour to the background using the texture sheet and stick to the inside of the card. Mount the stamped image onto red and stick to the left panel of the gatefold using 3-D foam pads.

Alternative Card

1 Cover a blank, 12cm square, with navy card. Matt and layer patterned paper and green card onto the centre. Stamp a car image onto beige and emboss with white powder. Trim and mount onto red.

2 Attach wide red grosgrain ribbon down the centre of the blank, securing the ends

on the back and inside. Score a horizontal line 3cm down from the top of the back of the card, stick double-sided tape to the small area at the top and close the card. Fix the stamped image to the centre of the card using 3-D foam pads. CB

Shopping List

Stamp, Crafty Individuals,
01642 789955,
craftyindividuals.co.uk



SARA NAUMANN'S MASTERCLASS

Magic monoprinting

CREATE ONE-OF-A-KIND CARDS WITH YOUR OWN BACKGROUND PAPERS

Monoprinting is a fascinating technique with which you can design a selection of prints to use for card making and beyond. Simply brayer acrylic paint onto a specialist gel printing palette, create texture with found objects, then press a sheet of paper on top and lift to reveal a printed design! I recommend using a glazing medium to keep the paint from drying too quickly on the palette. Once you lift your monoprinted paper, it won't take long to dry and you can put it to use. Cut the sheets apart, punch them, die-cut them or use for card backgrounds. Don't like the print you've made? Let it dry, then use it for another print. And remember, monoprinting can be addictive!

Crafts Tip

USE BABY WIPES OR WET KITCHEN ROLL TO CLEAN THE PALETTE BETWEEN PAINT APPLICATIONS. YOU DON'T NEED TO CLEAN IT COMPLETELY; SOME OF THE PRETTIEST PRINTS ARE THOSE THAT INCLUDE PAINT FROM A PREVIOUS PRINT

"Because the paint layer is so thin, your monoprinted papers will dry very quickly"

Good to know... Monoprinting essentials

- * Place a few drops of acrylic paint on the palette. Add a glazing medium.
- * Use a brayer to spread the paint across the palette. Create patterns by pressing household items into the wet paint.
- * Place paper onto the palette. Smooth with your hand. Lift to 'pull' the print.
- * If the paper sticks to the palette, lift off, add more paint or glaze and try again.



Start with...

- Creative Palette, Stampendous
- Acrylic paint, PaperArtsy, Fresco Finish: Guacamole, London Bus, Beach Hut
- Satin Glaze, PaperArtsy
- Copier paper, white
- Print making items: cardboard rolls, plastic cups
- Brayer
- Stipple brush
- Cosmetic wedge
- Card making materials

Coming next month...

Stencils and embossing paste team up for easy, dimensional card backgrounds!

Sara says...

"Look out for interesting shapes to press into the wet paint before making your print, as well as rubber or acrylic stamps"

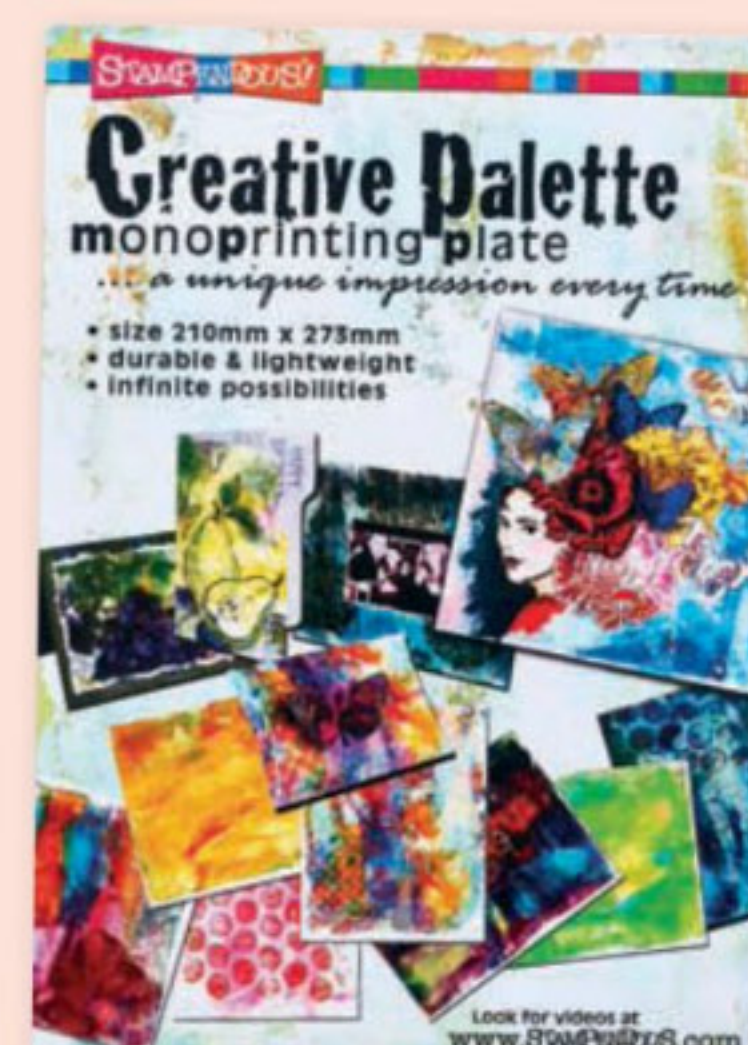
Inspire

Look in your recycling bin for tools. They're readily available and you won't have to worry about cleaning them up. Jar lids and empty yoghurt pots all make great circles

1 Brayer Guacamole, Beach Hut and Satin Glaze on the monoprinting plate. Press a large jar lid into the wet paint, then repeat with a round cardboard roll, overlapping the circles. Press with paper, then lift and leave to dry.

2 Trim the paper, 11.5cm x 16.5cm, then stamp and emboss the word at the bottom-right. Use a cosmetic wedge to paint the sides with Beach Hut. When dry, add a horizontal strip of red card. Mount on white, then black card, then glue onto white folded card, 3cm x 18cm.

3 Paint white card with Guacamole, then die-cut a leaf. Die-cut a second leaf from black card. Offset the two and glue them to the card front. Add two pieces of twine as shown and a red button. CB



Shopping List

Stampendous Creative Palette, £19.90,
The Stamp Man, 01535 601554,
thestampman.co.uk

Fresco Finish acrylic paint, £3.30,
PaperArtsy, 01277 212911,
paperartsy.co.uk

Sponsored by



Paint designer china

Decorate plain tableware with
Posca Pens and Sharon Bennett's
enchanting artwork



Start with...

- uni Posca Pens: 1MR Violet, Metallic Pink, Metallic Red, Metallic Blue, Light Blue
- China, white
- Card, assorted colours
- Adhesives
- Varnish, matt

See our Shopping List below

Painted Mugs

1 Prepare the china mugs by washing them in warm soapy water. Dry with a clean lint-free cloth.

2 Whilst applying the pen work, hold the mug from inside so as not to get finger grease on the outside or smudge the patterns. Use masking tape to seal off an area at the top of the rim.

3 The guide can be added using carbon copy paper, or simply draw over tracing paper on the back of a template. Always secure the tracing paper onto the item to stop it moving about.

4 Using the pens, apply all the work in metallic red and the smaller detail in pink. Fill in the curl shapes in bright blue.

Milk Jug

1 Transfer the illustrations from the pattern pages. Apply a strip of masking tape just above the base of the jug.

2 Use the violet pen to draw on the motifs in this area, keeping the lines evenly spaced from one another.

3 Once all the motifs are drawn, fill the spaces in between with the same colour. Finish off by adding in any details missed out the first time round.

4 Trace down the wording or apply free-hand. As the paint goes onto the surface it will appear quite wet, so take care not to smudge it. At this stage you can wipe off any marks with a tissue. To make the decorated items more durable, seal with a suitable varnish.



Teabag Sachets

1 Copy the envelope template from the pattern pages onto thin card. Cut out, score and fold.

2 Leave a space on the front face of the sachet for your message. Trace or draw lightly with a pencil the flower scroll

and leaves, then colour in using a 1MR pen.

3 Use another colour for the stems and flower centres. Add a line of detail inside the flowers and leaves. Apply small dots of each colour along the flower line. Add a message using a metallic pen if working in a dark background. CB

Shopping List

uni Posca Pens are available from all good stationery outlets, or purchase them online at hobbycraft.co.uk



Paint with POSCA

Our designer Sharon Bennett shares her advice on getting the best out of paint markers

✓ Posca Pens have a paint quality with strong opaque colours and all the control and ease of a pen, which means your designs can have precision and a very rich paint feel to them.

✓ Colours work over each other providing that the layer underneath is completely dry. Should the colour come off onto the nib, simply draw out onto spare paper;

within seconds the true colour will flow through.

✓ The pens are water-based, so mix them with water to achieve a colour wash effect.

✓ Nibs can be removed and washed or turned around. When the colour dries a little, simply replace the cap and lightly shake the pen a couple of times.



Magnolia cake

Let your sugarcrafting skills take centre stage with this floral show-stopper

Simple buttercreamed cakes can be elegant enough to take the spotlight at any celebration, and this bake certainly makes stars out of the sugar magnolias. Each petal is handcrafted from flower paste and painted to achieve the perfect finished result.



"You can create these sugar magnolias weeks in advance, making this cake super easy to put together!"

Charlotte White, Designer

Start with...

- Cake, lemon drizzle, round, 20cm
- Buttercream, 500g
- Flower paste, white, 150g
- Lemon curd
- Food colouring, Sugarflair Blossom Dusting Colour
- Equipment: cutters, magnolia petals; cel board; foam mat; ball tool; paintbrush; florist wire, 26 gauge, white; tape, florist, brown; piping bag; nozzle, open star, large; posy pick, plastic
- Glue, edible
- Fruit tray, round, large
- Cake board

See our Shopping List below

Sugar Flower

1 Shape a white flower paste ball, 2.5cm, into a cone. Create a tiny hook at the top of a length of wire, dip in edible glue, then push the other end through the top of the cone and stop when it reaches the centre. Make ridges around the bottom half, then snip tiny triangles into the top. Cover three lines on a cel board with a thin layer of flower paste. Cut out three small petals, making sure the lines run down the middles as veins, then remove.

2 Dip a small length of wire into edible glue, then push it halfway into the vein and pinch the bottom to secure. Repeat for the others. Put the petals on a foam mat and, vein side down, frill the edges using a ball tool. Use the same method to make three medium and three large petals, then leave to dry in a fruit tray overnight.

3 Once dry, colour using food dusts. Tint the

Reader Offer!

This recipe has been adapted from *Deliciously Decorated* by Charlotte White (Ryland Peters & Small, £16.99). To order a copy for £11.99 including UK postage, call **01256 302699** and quote GLR CL3.



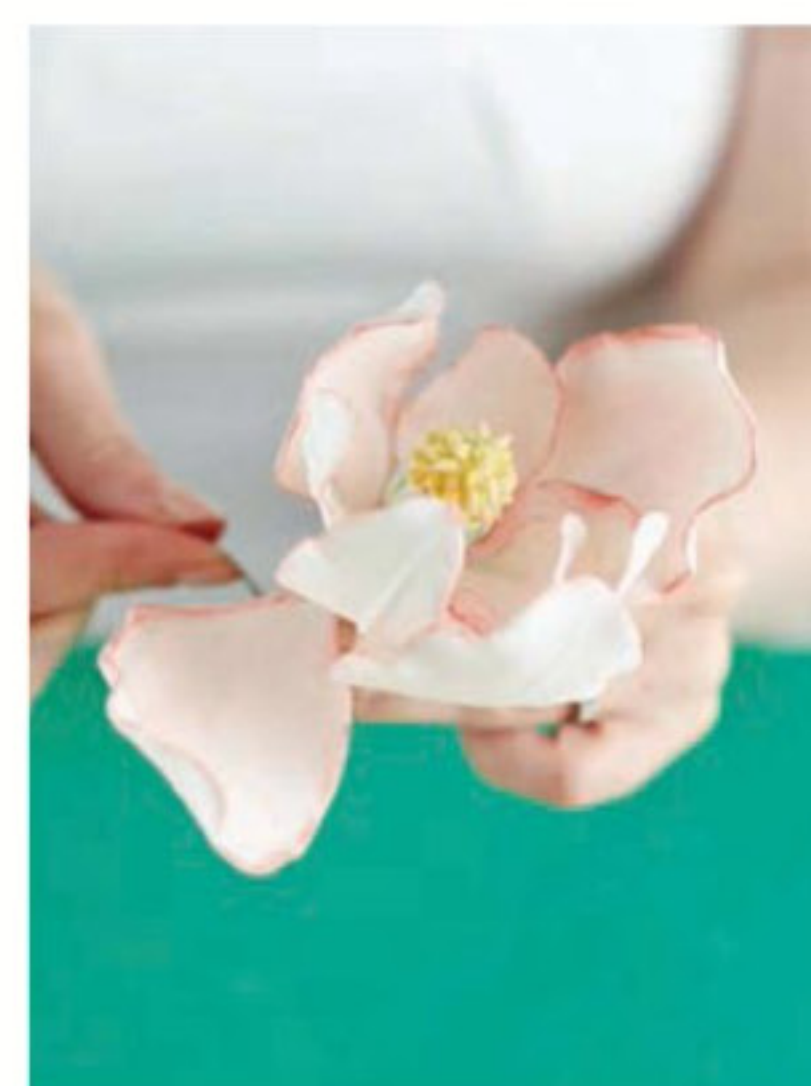
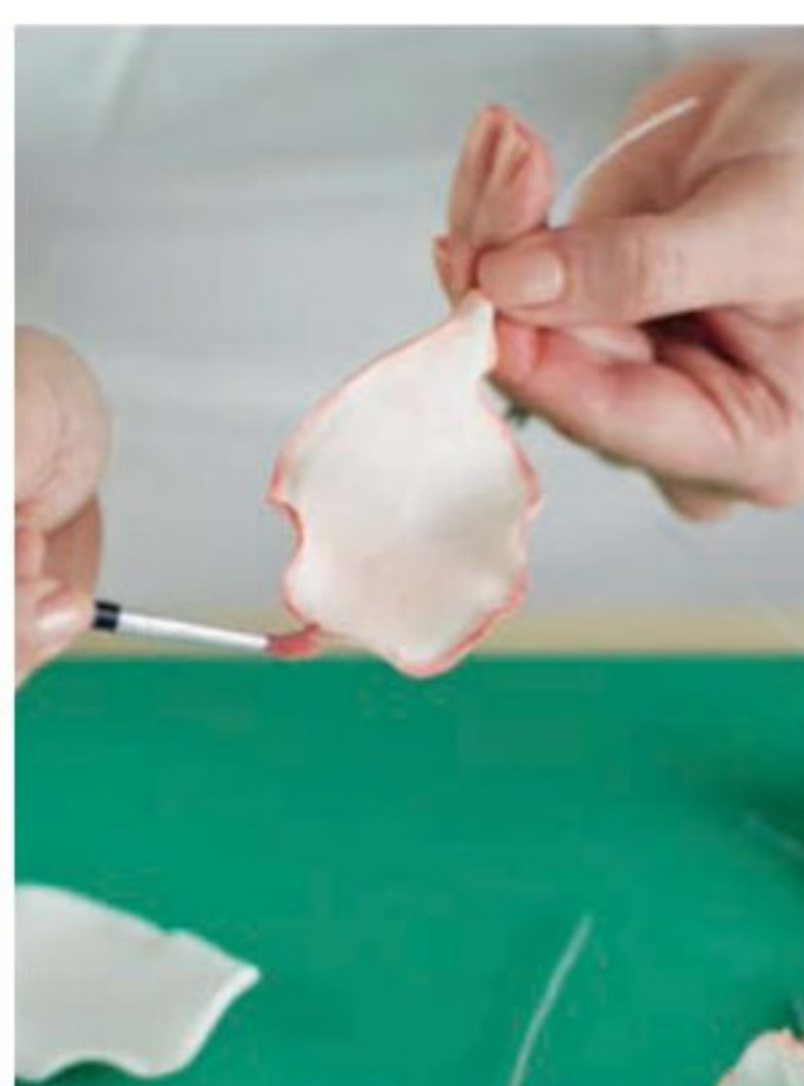
petals using pale pink, then edge with hot pink and add a tiny amount of green to the ends. For the bud, colour using green and yellow. To assemble, wrap each wire in brown florist tape and layer from the bud centre, smallest to largest. Create four more complete magnolias, then secure three flowers with tape to form two branches before binding into one.

pale pink using a little dust, crumb coat the outside and refrigerate for an hour. Spread buttercream onto a cake board, 25cm, or serving plate and put the cake on top. Fit a large open star nozzle to a piping bag, fill with buttercream and pipe a shell border around the bottom.

2 Insert a plastic posy pick into the top of the cake. Pop the magnolia branch into it, bending each flower so they rest on top and trail down the side to your liking, then remove it and add royal icing into the pick before reinserting the branch. Place on the cake to finish. CB



How to make...
a magnolia flower



Renshaw Flower and Modelling paste, from £2.99, renshawbaking.com

Shopping List

Tala icing bag set, £11.99, **01539 488100**, lakeland.co.uk



Jane Asher cake lining, Poundland, to find your nearest store visit poundland.co.uk

Our advice

To make your flower paste more pliable, knead in a little vegetable shortening

Golden butterfly

Team BoBunny papers with gold glitter to create this beautiful greeting, designed by Pia Johnson

Start with...

- ✿ Papers, BoBunny, Sweet Life: Inspire, Flutter
- ✿ Cardstock, Island Mist Dot
- ✿ Embellishment, Sweet Life, Noteworthy, butterfly
- ✿ Stamp, sentiments (10105761)
- ✿ Glitter paste, gold
- ✿ Pearlescents, gold
- ✿ Ink: black, brown
- ✿ Palette knife
- ✿ Acetate
- ✿ Adhesives

See our Shopping List below

Butterfly Card

1 Cut Sweet Life Inspire paper, 18cm x 25.5cm, then score down the middle and ink the edges. Trim Island Mist Dot cardstock, 11.5cm x 16.5cm, and adhere to the front of the card.

2 Cover the rest of the Sweet Life Inspire paper with two layers of gold glitter paste using a palette knife, ensuring it dries fully between each coat. Once dry, trim to 11cm x 16cm and adhere on top.

3 Cut a tag from Sweet Life Flutter paper and stamp a sentiment at the bottom. Fix to the card using foam

squares. Cover a butterfly embellishment from the Sweet Life Noteworthy set with gold Pearlescents. Once dry, adhere the body to the top of the tag, leaving the wings free to add dimension. CB

Shopping List

All materials used for this project are available from BoBunny stockists. Visit bobunny.com to find your nearest retailer.



"I do my best work in my pyjamas!"

EVER DREAMT OF EARNING A LIVING DOING SOMETHING YOU LOVE, AND ALL FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME? WELL THESE TALENTED BUSINESSWOMEN HAVE DONE JUST THAT

WORDS BY EMMA ZUCKER



Nancy's Top Tip:

It took time to get there but now I understand how important it is to grow organically. So many brands go from working from their kitchen tables very quickly into renting a space, resulting in serious debt. I never want to be in that situation.

Nancy Straughan

Nancy is a textile designer who established herself in 2013 and has her own organic range of largely Scandinavian-inspired fabrics. She also runs workshops.

Over several years Nancy has collected lots of natural objects which she scans for their interesting textures – tree bark, fur, metals... you name it.

Although she used to make the textiles herself, increased demand meant she required some production help. "I have now sourced some great small manufacturers in the North of England," she says. "I'm so pleased as now I can focus more on being the designer."

Nancy finished university with a strong portfolio demonstrating her distinct style, moved to London and began being featured on a number of design blogs which prompted her to give her brand more focus.

When it comes to working from home, she is sure she has made the right decision. "My boyfriend and I share a teeny flat in North London, but we adore it," she explains. "I used to rent a studio space and it became such an expense – plus, you can't wear your PJs all day! I've also found that I make so much more effort to see people now I work from home."

nancy-straughan.com

Turn over

Keren Baker



Keren is a card maker who teaches workshops and offers a freelance service. She's also a project contributor for Crafts Beautiful.

"Initially I was working for a couple of magazines but decided to develop my business when my youngest went to school," explains Keren. She wanted to make a career from crafting, as it seemed ideal to fit around her expanding family – she has five children! "If someone is ill, I can look after them and then work in the evening," she says. "It's a brilliant way of combining work and family."

Working from home means that Keren doesn't have to pay any unnecessary overheads such as rent, and it's also practical for her. "My husband is trying to persuade me to work in an office nearby, but being at home is much simpler." Her work area is a through space between the hall and kitchen, so peace and quiet comes at a premium. Her children are now familiar with the need to give her space to work.

"Lack of social interaction is a challenge," she tells us. "Social media is really important for networking but you need to make sure you don't lose yourself in Pinterest doing 'research'!"

kerenbaker.wordpress.com



Keren's Top Tip:

Treat it like your job. If it's a hobby, it doesn't matter how seriously you take it. If you want to earn money, get things organised from the beginning. Accounts are important. So, perhaps wearing your pyjamas isn't the best idea actually...!



Katie Skilton



Katie is a papercrafter, demonstrator and works as a freelancer for some major craft companies, including Sizzix.

Katie started her business by accident after she had her third child and gave up work to spend more time with her family. "Once I was offered some work by a large craft manufacturer, I realised I could actually build a business as a designer," she explains.

As a mum, working from home suits Katie perfectly but she still likes to remain disciplined with her routine. "I treat working from home in the same way I would going into an office," Katie says. "I get dressed in the mornings and always put my make-up on! This is how I differentiate between working and relaxing."

katieskilton.com

Katie's Top Tip:

Being self-employed means you never switch off, but give it a go. You have nothing to lose and it's amazing what you learn and the wonderful people you meet along the way.



Helen Philipps



Helen is a designer, author, illustrator and cross-stitch expert with a range of books.

"I am currently working on a new title for David & Charles called Modern Vintage Gifts due for publication later this year," Helen explains. "I particularly enjoy making fabric gifts, toys and doing patchwork and quilting."

When Helen graduated, she began selling her designs at exhibitions and through agents to earn a living and has done this ever since, gradually growing her business.

Crafting runs in the family so it seems only natural that she took up a similar profession. "My mother and sisters are all crafty and love to make things," she says. "My mum used to create gorgeous clothes for my little sisters and I loved the fabrics she worked with."

For Helen, working from home evolved from when she was a student and, as she had children, it was ideal work to fit around her family. "Now my children have children of their own, I've plenty of time for my own work," she says. "And our old house has room in it for me to have a studio and sewing room."

helenphilipps.blogspot.co.uk



Keren's Top Tip:

I can't really advise on starting a business as such as mine has grown organically over the years, however it really can lead to amazing opportunities.

Try it for yourself... all by mama

If you'd like to use an online marketplace to sell, how about All By Mama?

It features a unique range of beautiful products all made by mums working around family life. It couldn't be easier to get involved and start selling, and you'll be continually inspired by the mothers around you. Hear from three women who sell on this friendly site...



Mama Becky, Jewellery

"It's never easy juggling work and family, but I do feel as though I have the best of both worlds. Being my own boss gives me flexibility. I can be finishing off a pair of earrings in my PJs at 5.45am but able to make it to my littlest's class assembly at 9.15am, which is a pretty good deal."

allbymama.com/vendor/becky-pearce-designs

Mama Emma, Textiles

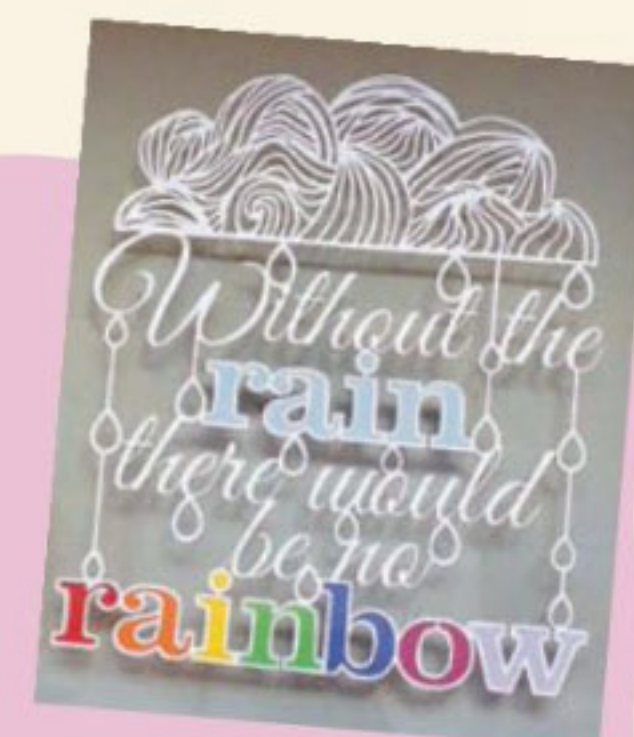
"I try and make the most of every precious spare minute! I have a dedicated work space, and I multi-task whenever I can – post office runs on the way to the park spring to mind. But it's also important to make time for a break – a pause for a cup of tea once my son goes down for his nap is a must."

allbymama.com/vendor/emma-allard-smith-art-design



Mama Sharron, Papercuts

"Running your own business is like having a baby – it needs time to develop, thrives from encouragement and gives you a rollercoaster of emotions. It will take over your life but doesn't need to rule it. My family and I will go out if the weather's nice, because I know I can work when my daughter's asleep." allbymama.com/vendor/the-crafty-calf



To find out more, visit allbymama.com

NET Savvy

It's papers galore this month with plenty of freebies and inspiration

BLOG LOVE



Corey Willis is a decorator, DIY-er and creator of Tiny Sidekick, where she shares everything that goes into making her dream home

I've always loved decorating and figuring out a way

to do it on a budget, so I decided to start sharing my ideas and love for everything home-related through a blog. It became the perfect way for me to keep my creativity going! I mostly craft things related to making my abode feel wonderful and look at fun ways of entertaining guests. One of my favourite projects was when I decided to give my outdoor living room a makeover as I was able to create a stunning, communal place without breaking the bank. The blogging community is also fantastic as you get to meet so many interesting people, whether they're fellow bloggers or readers – they're always there with great questions and really push me to do my best work! However, I am first and



foremost a mother and, whilst the blog is very important to me, there are weeks when I have very little time to get everything done and have to prioritise – it isn't easy being a one woman show! If you'd like to start your own blog, the best piece of advice I could give you would be to study ones you love and write 15 posts before you start uploading so that you can find your rhythm.

tinysidekick.com



We asked you...

What's your favourite summer crafting activity?

Jo Taberner

I love painting in the sunshine with a coffee listening to music in the background



Seren Dips

Crocheting garden items – it's so much better creating something to go outside

Marlene Barnett

Embroidery, because I can sit in the sun and embroider to my heart's content

Kathy Morris

Cross-stitching as the light is much better this time of the year

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Digi Designs

We share our favourite selection of free papers to use in your craft and scrapbooking projects



digitaldesignessentials.com

Morning Story papers and sentiments by Gina Cabrera



mygrafico.com

Ladybug digital paper pack by Shery K Designs



pixelscrapper.com

Vienna digital papers by Marisa Lerin



crafts-beautiful.com

Free bonus papers by Rachel Cave



FREEBIES FOR YOU TO USE IN YOUR CRAFT PROJECTS

redheart.com

Free crochet owl cutie blanket for little ones to love

craftpassion.com

Adorable little sock dragon for you to whip up

mellysews.com

Find out how to make an easy zipper pouch

julieblanner.com

Learn calligraphy with this handy back to basics tutorial

artfulparent.com

A guide on how to make melted bead suncatchers

Download Yours For FREE!

Feel the need for a bit of artistic therapy this month? We have free pages from The Colour Therapy and Art Therapy Colouring Books (Michael O'Mara, £12.99 each) for you to download on our website! Simply print them off, pick up a few pens, and find a quiet spot to lose yourself in. Visit crafts-beautiful.com



BEST BUY

Papercrafting is a great way to relax and unwind, and you can find all the essential tools to get started with Paper Panda. For just £30, this beginner's kit contains everything you need: a self-healing cutting mat, scalpel with extra blades, step-by-step instructions, practice templates and various Paper Panda designs complete with pretty papers and glue to complete your final pieces of artwork.

paperpandacuts.co.uk



Must visit!

craftydevilsapercraft.co.uk

Whether stocking up on paper or looking for that special something to make your dream project, you'll be sure to find it at Crafty Devils Papercraft. With big-name brands such as Tonic Studios and Sizzix, its user-friendly website lets you search for card making, scrapbooking, stamping and die-cutting supplies with ease.



Pinterest

Celebrate the start of summer with a selection of gorgeous paper blooms

FIND US ON PINTEREST
PINTEREST.COM/CRAFTSBEAUTIFUL



liagriffith.com



thussfarrell.com



ellinee.com



bloggingcornerblog.blogspot.co.uk



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We're all over the web – come say hello!



WEBSITE

crafts-beautiful.com

We're constantly adding free projects, downloads, video tutorials and templates to our website. So if you're ever feeling stuck for inspiration, it's the place to be. Discover the most adorable hedgehog knitting pattern, cards for all occasions and more.

SPOTLIGHTS

INSTAGRAM

instagram.com/craftsbeautiful

A delicious rainbow cake, blooming plant, copies of the magazine before they hit the newsstands, the mechanics of our photo shoots... these are just some of the things you'll see on our Instagram feed.

You'll get a real taste of what it's like at Crafts Beautiful HQ. Better still, you will see projects before anyone else and be privy to what we've got coming up – hurrah!



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Don't forget to 'Like' us on Facebook, then you can be involved with Crafts Beautiful every day. We share what's hot in the crafting world, our new uploads to the website, funny memes, and more. Plus, don't miss Thrifty Thursday each week for upcycling tips and tricks, savvy creativity and other money-saving ideas.



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Can't get enough of Crafts Beautiful? Follow us on Twitter for even more updates, crafty chats, bonus giveaways and exclusive extras. Plus, you can share your makes and creative tips with fellow tweeters! What could be better?

CRAFTS BEAUTIFUL FORUM

crafts-beautiful.com/forums

Have you ever had a crafty dilemma and don't know who to turn to? You'll find cyber friends at hand on our forum, who are always up for a good natter. Plus, you can share your makes, take part in challenges, and discover threads linked to your specific crafting needs.

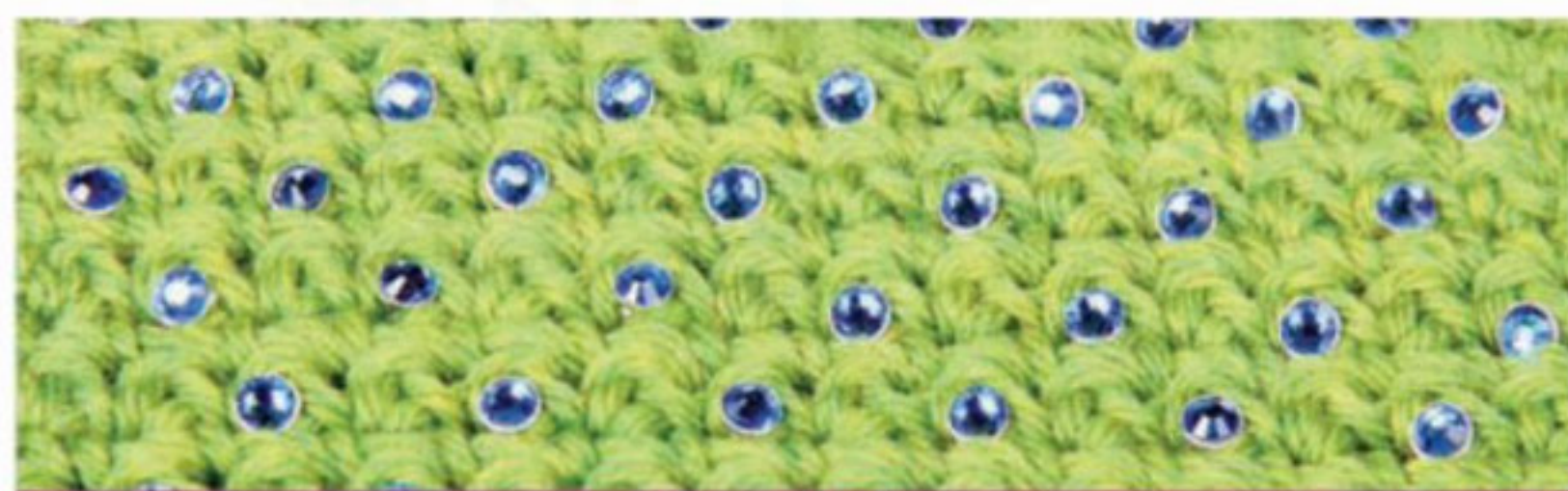


PINTEREST

pinterest.com/craftsbeautiful

If you're yet to experience Pinterest, you don't know what you're missing. It's a smorgasbord of creativity, with pages and pages full of inspiring images. Love something you see? Click through and you'll be taken to that project. Genius!





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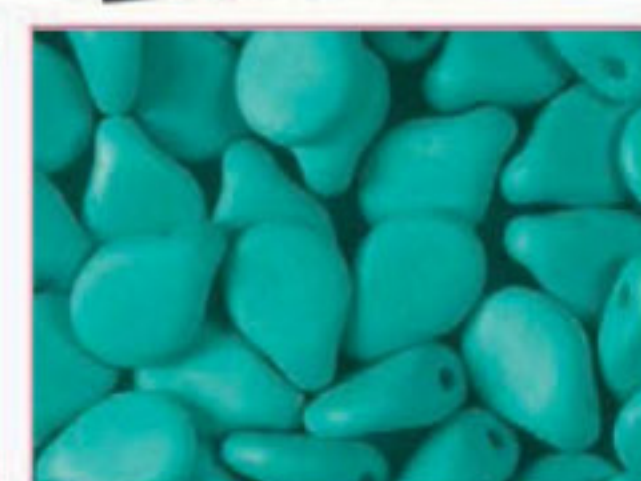


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Shop Talk with **FOLKSY**

Give a warm welcome to Folksy's **Camilla Westergaard**, who is here to share the benefits of an online marketplace

The tricky stuff is taken care of

Marketplaces like Folksy are designed to make it as easy as possible for you to set up a shop and start selling your crafts. You don't need to know html coding or have any fancy design skills because it's already been done for you – all you actually need is your shop

name and you're good to go. You won't need to worry about techy things either, like whether your online shop is mobile-friendly or if it's optimised for the latest Google algorithm change, because your marketplace will take care of that for you too. Payments are automated and secure as well, so there's no faffing about with invoices or bank transfers.

Low cost, low risk

Marketplaces vary in their pricing structure, but generally you pay a small fee to list an item (on Folksy that's just 15p+VAT) and a commission fee when it sells (6%+VAT with us). This means it's a really inexpensive way to start selling your work and very low risk. You can test the market, experiment with products and try out new ideas without spending much at all. It's also nice to know that when something sells, over 90% of the money goes directly to the maker – unlike when you sell through a shop or gallery.



Promotion



Another advantage of selling on a marketplace is that they have established mailing lists, loyal fans on social media and press contacts. If you have great

product photographs, a marketplace might promote your work through some of these channels. They could include it in emails to their subscribers, online gift guides, social media posts, blog posts and press releases. Marketplaces also regularly receive requests from journalists looking for products to fit a particular brief. But to maximise your chance of being included in any of these, you need to have good product shots, so it's worth investing some time and money in your images.

A READY AUDIENCE

You need your makes to be seen. If you sell through your own site, visitors to your shop will be a mixture of those who find you through search engines like Google, those who come direct (maybe after a recommendation), those who are referred from elsewhere (a blog post, for example) and those who come as a result of your own marketing efforts. You have to work hard. The same applies if you have a shop on a marketplace, but they offer the additional advantage of having their own footfall – on Folksy that's ¼ million people every month – and some of them might just find



you! Marketplaces usually attract a higher number of visitors from organic search too. This is because Google takes into account the 'authority' of a domain, so in most cases products and shops on established marketplaces tend to rank higher on Google than the same products in individual ecommerce stores.

Case Study



Heather and Steve craft silver jewellery from their home in Cornwall and run *Written in Silver* at [folksy.com/shops/writteninsilver](https://www.folksy.com/shops/writteninsilver)

- Setting up our Folksy shop was easy: all the software is already set up and the security issues are taken care of too.
- It's inexpensive, which gives us a chance to try out new products and see what the response is. We always want to explore new ideas, so it's great to be able to add in and take out items easily. We can also keep our Folksy shop looking fresh by moving collections around and adding new photos.
- An online marketplace takes some of the pressure off promoting your own work. To be successful there needs to be plenty of footfall and we know there will be plenty of people looking via Folksy – plus it's always open!
- We love the feedback facility too as we try very hard to give a great service, so it's heart-warming to have that connection with the person you have made a piece for. Folksy is a very friendly place and in many ways feels as local as the Cornish galleries we make for.

Learn more about running a successful online business at blog.folksy.com

Travel accessories

Start someone's holiday off in the right way with a stitched passport cover and luggage tags

A holiday is a real treat, so jetsetters will often want to make the most of the occasion, treating themselves to little knick-knacks to take with them such as hand-held fans or miniature bottles of shampoo that last for one use. And you can add to the excitement by making passport covers and luggage tags to sell – not only are they really pretty, but they'll keep your customers' belongings safe and sound. Perfect!



"I've used bright fabrics on the tags so my suitcase can be spotted from a mile off!"

Corinne Bradd, Designer

Start with...

- ✿ Fabric, Carnaby Street, ArtGallery Fabrics
- ✿ Interfacing, fusible
- ✿ Card
- ✿ Acetate
- ✿ Trigger clasp or split ring

See our alternative fabrics opposite

Passport Cover

1 Cut interfacing, 13.5cm x 26cm, and fuse to the wrong side of printed fabric, 14.5cm x 29cm, to leave a 5mm border. Place the panel right sides together with plain cotton of the same size, then sew around the edges in line with the interfacing, leaving a 5cm gap on one short edge.

2 Clip the corners and turn out. Press the fabric, folding in the raw edges of the gap. Topstitch the two short edges with a co-ordinating thread 3mm in from the seam, closing the gap. Fold the fabric in half and press. Open out, fold in the short edges by 3.5cm and pin. Topstitch the long edges, securing the side folds as you sew.

Luggage Tag

1 Cut two lots of interfacing, 7cm x 10cm. Trim a 1.5cm wide aperture from one piece. Fuse to the wrong side of printed fabric, 8cm x 11cm, to leave a 5mm border. Place the panel right sides together with plain cotton and stitch around the inside of the frame in line with the interfacing. Cut out the centre, leaving a 5mm seam allowance, and clip the corners.

2 Turn the plain fabric through the centre. Press and topstitch 3mm in from the edge of the aperture. Fold the printed fabric over the edges of the interfacing and press. Turn in the raw edges of the plain and press. Pin the folded edges together and topstitch one short edge. Fuse the other bit of interfacing to fabric,

8cm x 11cm. Place right sides together with the plain and stitch around it, leaving a 4cm gap on one short edge.

3 Clip, turn out and press, folding the raw edges of the gap in. Cut fabric, 4cm x 12cm, fold in half lengthways, press and open out. Fold the sides to the middle and refold in half. Topstitch the long side, 3mm in from the hemmed edges. Thread the strip through the base of a trigger clasp. Slip the ends into the gap of the rectangle and topstitch the short seam to enclose them.

4 Pin the two rectangles together, patterned sides out. Topstitch around three sides through all layers, leaving the sewn short edge open. Cut card and acetate, 6cm x 9cm, and slip inside. CB

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Pretty in pink

Swarovski 4mm Xilions, from £1.50 for 50, crystalparade.co.uk



Swarovski sew-on gems in light rose and rosaline, from £1.93 per pack of 4, swarovski.com



6mm WireLace in dusty rose and blush, £5.10 per yard, palmermetals.co.uk



Must read

Having previously designed jewellery for Marc Jacobs and Kate Spade, Janet Crowther and Katie Covington decided to create a tutorial handbook. Featuring basic techniques and materials, *Make a Statement* (Chronicle Books, £14.99) showcases a range of jewellery projects to suit all skill levels. chroniclebooks.com.



©Janet Crowther



"The summer season is upon us so it's time to get accessorising! We've been loving light-coloured shades, so why not consider handmade pastel jewellery?"

Rosie Savage, Deputy Editor

Pastel Promise

Take a peek at our colour trends and stock up on the latest beading essentials

Green with envy

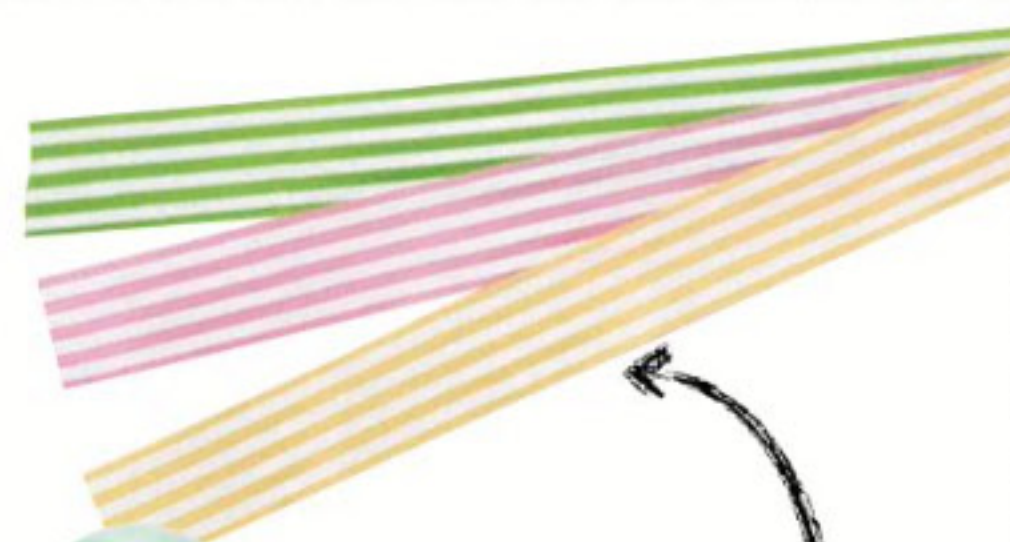


Multi-coloured quartz nuggets, £6.95, jewellerymaker.com

Mint green Czech glass pearls, £3.50 per strand, raggletagglebeads.co.uk



Pastel striped ribbon, 95p per metre, ribbongirl.co.uk



Tool on test

The Dremel 3000 is the perfect all-round multitool, allowing you to sand, polish and engrave your jewellery work with ease. The new design offers a comfortable grip, plus a variety of speed options and reduced vibration for better handling. The tool can also be used for other decorative projects too, such as light woodwork or furniture customisation – it's a great little product to have in your kit! dremel.com

SHOP OF THE MONTH: RIVERSIDE BEADS

Situated in the depths of Lincolnshire, Riverside Beads has everything you need to top up your jewellery stash this June. From high-quality findings to a plethora of bright-coloured beads, you're bound to find inspiration for your next jewellery project! The shop also hosts a variety of workshops, priced from just £10 per person. Visit www.riversidebeads.co.uk or call 01778 346810.



Save the date: June 6-7th Kempton Park Gem 'n' Bead show, Kempton Park racecourse, rockngem.co.uk

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Beads • Crystal Pearls • Buttons

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Going green

Combine copper clay with a verdigris finish to make Jane Kharade's striking jewellery

Rich copper and turquoise tones make this set a real eye-catcher. Copper metal clay was used to create the focal point on these pieces, including the toggle clasp. The metal has then been patinated with rich verdigris and sanded back to reveal copper highlights. The beads are made from polymer clay and add a lovely textural contrast.



Turn over

Start with...

- Polymer clay: mint, translucent white, peppermint, jade, cognac
- Copper Art Clay
- Swellegant verdigris patina
- Nylon coated wire
- Crimps
- Clam shell necklet ends
- Clasp
- Jump rings: 5mm, 6mm
- Round copper wire, 1mm x 10mm
- Basic jewellery making kit
- Metal clay kit

See our Shopping List below

Necklace

1 Roll out a piece of copper clay to 2mm thick, then stamp into the surface with a swirly hearts texture tile. Cut out a 35mm flower shape and pierce a hole for hanging with a needle. Leave the copper to dry out completely; this could take two to three days. Alternatively the copper can be dried out in an oven on a low temperature for several hours.

2 Fire the copper on a soldering block; note that copper clay fires at a much higher temperature than silver clay. As with all metal clays you shouldn't breathe in the fumes whilst firing. When the copper glows a steady cherry red, the sintering process is taking place. This temperature should be timed and held for six minutes. Do not let the flame drift from the piece. If the flame doesn't

cover the copper, the piece is too big to be fired.

3 Quench the copper as quickly as possible in cold water to remove surface oxidation and prevent internal oxidation forming as this will cause the piece to break. Pickle and rinse the copper. Apply Swellegant verdigris according to the manufacturer's instructions. Once the green patina has appeared, rub over the highlights with emery paper to reveal the copper.

4 Make up small chip beads by rolling mint, translucent white, peppermint, and jade polymer clay into 1cm rods. Cut them at angles with a scalpel. Shape them between a finger and thumb to look like stones and insert a needle to make a hole. The colours can also be intermixed to create several subtle shades.

5 Create four large beads from mint clay, and make a hole in each one. Twist a rod of cognac and peppermint together. Roll it out flat so the colours fuse and create interesting

Jane Kharade, Designer

"Go green with this gorgeous copper verdigris set and chunky feel polymer clay beads"



patterns. Cut off large thin slices and blend into a

larger bead. The leftover clay can be shaped and made into chip beads. Bake the beads according to the manufacturer's instructions on a paper lined tray.

6 Pass five lengths of nylon coated wire through a crimp and squash with pliers. Add a clam shell necklet end and divide the beads into five groups. Thread each set of beads randomly onto each wire; add a crimp to the end of a row of beads to keep them in place. When there are enough beads, pass the end of the wires through a crimp and squash with pliers. Add a clam shell necklet end and a clasp, and finish by attaching the flower charm to the pendant via a 6mm jump ring.

Bracelet

1 To make a toggle clasp and disc charm, roll out copper clay to 5mm thick and stamp with a texture tile. Cut out the ring using a 20mm cutter, remove the centre with a 10mm cutter and pierce a hole in the top using a needle. With a scalpel, cut out a 5mm x 25mm rectangle for the bar. Bend a small piece of copper

wire and insert it into the bar. From a 2mm thick sheet of stamped clay, cut out a 20mm disc for the charm and pierce a hole at the top.

2 Fire the copper as for the necklace. Apply patina and gently rub with emery paper to reveal copper highlights. Make up a number of chip beads from polymer clay and bake as before.

3 Thread them onto a length of nylon coated wire that has had a crimp and clam shaped necklet end attached to one end. Measure your wrist and make sure the bracelet will fit, taking into account the toggle clasp that will be added. Attach the bar and ring to the bracelet via two 5mm jump rings, and hang the charm centrally on the bracelet with a 6mm jump ring. CB

Shopping List

Polymer clay, Craft Cellar,
0113 815 0050,
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Summer Stunner

Look pretty in pastels wearing Karon Crawford's floral jewellery set

Purple is probably one of the most popular colours used in jewellery because it suits most skin tones. In this design, several different shades of purple have been used together with the olive green as an accent and just a flash of topaz yellow at the centre of the flower. Create a matching bangle and earrings for full impact.

Turn over

Start with...

- ✿ Glass pearl rice beads; 4mm x 7mm, burgundy x 13; amethyst x 13; lilac x 12; lavender x 8
- ✿ Glass pearl drop beads, 6mm x 9mm, light purple x 12
- ✿ Preciosa crystal bicones: 3mm, olive x 135; 4mm, topaz x 2; 5mm, deep tanzanite x 9
- ✿ Miyuki seed bead, size 11, purple/gold/green rainbow, 15g tube
- ✿ Wire, silver-plated: 0.315mm, 0.4mm, 1mm
- ✿ Memory wire, silver coloured, bracelet size
- ✿ Earring hooks, silver-plated x 1 pair
- ✿ Eye pins, silver-plated x 2
- ✿ Basic tool kit
- ✿ Memory wire cutters

See our shopping list opposite

Necklace

1 Cut 120cm of 1mm silver-plated wire and bend in half. From the bend, measure in 3cm, wrap one of the wires twice around the other and bring them back together. Bend the 3cm piece into a hook shape. From the wrap, loosely twist the wires together. Depending on the length of necklace you require, trim the wires as necessary leaving 10cm untwisted at the other end. Trim one of the wires by 9.5cm. Make a double

loop with the other wire and wrap it twice around the shorter one. Trim wire to finish the necklace base.

2 Cut 1m of 0.4mm wire. Attach it, just off-centre, to the bottom of the necklace base, wrapping it around three times. Thread on a rice bead to the desired point, wrap the wire around the bead until the wires meet and twist them together to make a branch. Wrap the wire around the necklace base twice and continue to make branches with four or five of each shade of purple, except the lavender. Make the branches different lengths and finish by curving them all in the same direction. Make another five longer branches with two of the lavender rice pearls and three of the deep tanzanite bicones and curl them around the necklace base.

3 To make the flower, cut a 30cm length of 0.4mm wire, thread on a pearl drop bead and a seed bead leaving an 8cm tail. Take the wire around the seed bead and back down through the pearl drop bead. Wrap the wire twice around the tail wire and thread on another drop bead and seed bead for the next petal. Repeat to make another three petals. Take the wire around the back

of the first drop bead added, between the beads, thread on a 0.4mm topaz bicone, take it across the centre of the flower and between the opposite beads. Bring the wire ends together at the back of the flower and twist them. Trim any excess wire and use the tail wires to attach the flower to the necklace base at the same point as the twisted branches.

4 To make the leaves, cut a 50cm length of 0.315mm wire and thread three 3mm olive bicones onto the centre of the wire. Pull beads around into a circle and take wire back through first two bicones so that the wires cross each other. You should have one bicone with the other two above it. Add another three bicones to one of the wire ends and thread the other wire through all three so that it crosses the first wire; pull both wires to ensure that this row of three bicones sits neatly above the previous rows. Continue to add rows, increasing each one by an extra bicone until you reach a row of seven beads. Then continue with another six rows decreasing each one as you go.



"Try this design using gold-plated wire with pearls, crystal AB drops and bicones to make beautiful wedding jewellery"

Karon Crawford, Designer

5 Twist the wire ends together and use to attach the leaves next to the flower. If you have enough twisted wire you can form it into a spiral. Cut a 1m length of 0.4mm wire and attach it to one of the ends of the necklace base. Thread on 4cm of seed beads and an olive bicone. Thread on another 4cm of seed beads and an olive bicone. Thread on another 4cm of seed beads and a lavender rice bead. Bring the wire around the rice bead and twist it together at the base of the bead.

6 Repeat with another rice bead and thread on an olive bicone. Keep adding two rice beads, graduating the shades as you go, with an olive bicone and 4cm of seed in between. Start to wrap this around the wire base, but when you get to the flower focal stop adding rice beads until you come to the other side of the necklace. Repeat with the same sequence for the other side of the necklace, wrap the end of the wire around the end of the necklace base and trim to finish.

Bracelet

1 Cut three separate coils of memory wire to the required size (this should be the wrist size plus 10cm so that it wraps around the wrist) and make a small basic loop at one of the ends of each one.

2 Thread one of them onto an eye pin followed by a deep tanzanite bicone, thread on another memory wire coil, another deep tanzanite bicone and another memory wire coil. Trim the head pin leaving 7mm, then finish with another basic loop.

3 Thread seed beads onto each memory wire coil and finish each one with a basic loop. Loosely plait the coils and repeat step one to finish the ends.

4 Make a flower and leaf focal and rice bead branches to match the necklace and attach them to the centre point of the bangle. CB

Shopping List

Glass pearls, totallybeads.co.uk

Preciosa crystals, preciosa.com

Seed beads, memory wire and earring hooks,

crystals-and-ice.co.uk

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Jewellery School

We give you the low-down on the basic techniques to start making wire jewellery today!

Creating your own necklaces, earrings and more is so satisfying and the basic skills are easy to master. In our new regular guide, we'll provide expert tips and show you different techniques each month that every jewellery maker should know, from making loops in head pins to attaching clasps and more. Soon, you'll be looking at jewellery in the shops and thinking, 'I could make that myself...'



All findings available from palmermetals.co.uk

Basic findings

Our guide to the components that hold your jewellery together. Available in a variety of metals and finishes, these items are vital to most pieces of jewellery. Typically they are available in packs so make sure to stock up so you always have enough findings for your projects.

1 Calottes

Also known as clam shells, these are used to hide knots and raw ends of thread, wire or fine ribbon, and are closed with pliers.

4 Clasps

Used to join up necklaces and bracelets, there are various types including S-shaped, toggle and lobster clasps, ranging from practical to decorative shapes and designs.

2 Crimp beads & covers

These tiny metal tube beads are used to connect clasps and space out beads; simply squash with pliers to secure. Add a cover on top for a neat finish.

5 Earring wires

The most basic type of earwire is the fish hook variety for single drop or cluster designs, or try a chandelier component with multiple loops.

3 Eye pins & head pins

Eye pins are thin wires with a loop at the end for linking sections together. Head pins are similar but feature a small disc to stop beads from sliding off.

6 Jump & split rings

The basic jump ring is a loop that can be twisted apart, while split rings have two loops, similar to a keyring.

Eye and head pins



Linda Jones specialises in wirework and has written a number of books on the subject. See more of her work at wirejewellery.co.uk

Is it possible to make your own head pins and eye pins from wire?

Linda says: If you can thread beads with wire to make links, you will already know how to create eye pins. Working off your spool, thread through the bead hole leaving about 1.5cm projecting. Bend this to 90° to the bead and pick up the very end with round-nosed pliers. With lots of small movements, manipulate the wire around the shaft of the pliers, back towards the bead, until it's positioned about the hole. Turn the bead around and repeat for the opposite end.

For head pins there are many types of designs, but the simplest way is to create a tiny hook at the end of wire. Squeeze it together to double the wire, then thread your chosen bead onto the other end. If the bead hole is larger than the head pin, bend it 90° to the vertical wire and this will provide a little shelf for the bead to sit on. You could also thread a bead cap on first to prevent the bead from sliding off.



WIRE KNOW-HOW

Discover which is the best type for your project at a glance!

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0.6mm	Binding and twisting
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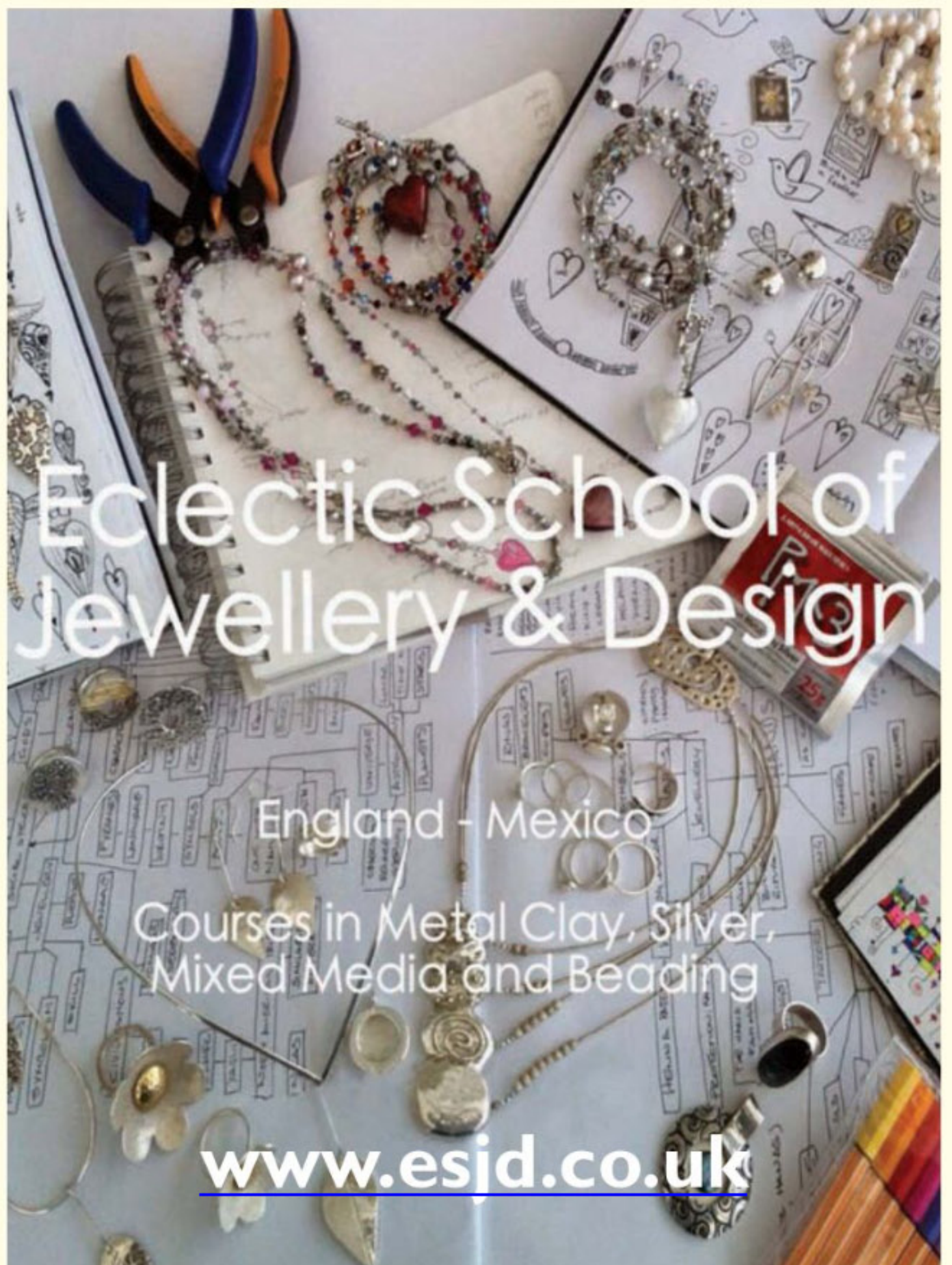
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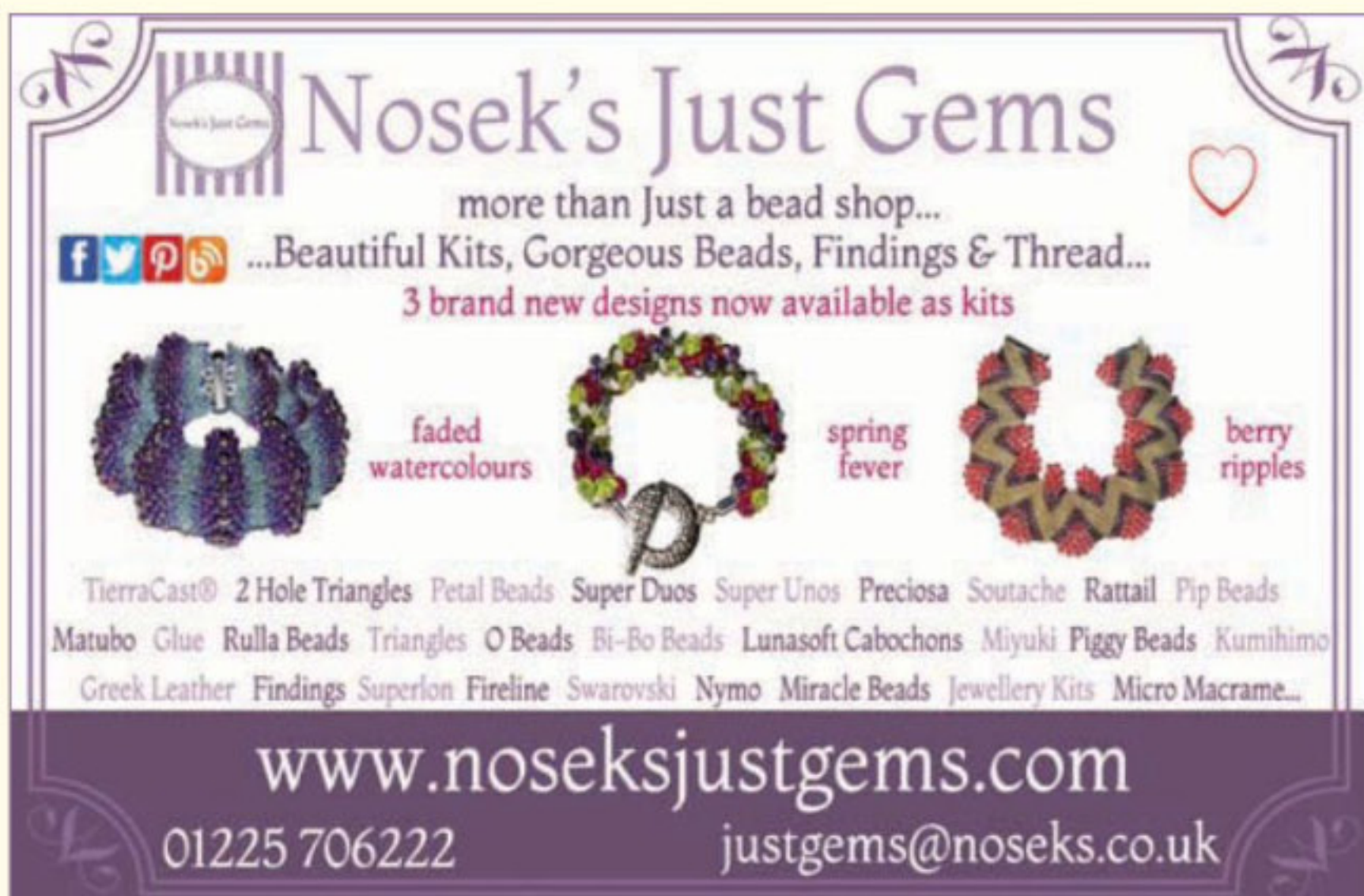


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Mapped out

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- ✿ Vintage road map
- ✿ Resin: Chemset Standard Resin ES 8102, Hardener ES 8203
- ✿ Resin making kit: digital scales, mixing cup, lollipop sticks, barrier cream
- ✿ Acetate, clear
- ✿ Cufflink blanks
- ✿ Cardstock
- ✿ Paper, decorative
- ✿ Gloss sealer, Mod Podge
- ✿ Empty tub, circular
- ✿ Tile, ceramic
- ✿ Stanley knife
- ✿ Scalpel
- ✿ Sandpaper, fine

See our Shopping List opposite

Create gorgeous gifts for Father's Day from resin with Ellen Kharade's swish makes

Any man would be thrilled to receive this sophisticated gift set on Sunday 21st June. The paperweight is made from just resin and a circle of vintage map paper, and is ideal for an office or study. The cufflinks are a fun addition to an accessories collection and are very simple to make. Top things off with a tailored card - hey presto!



Cufflinks

1 Place a cufflink bezel over map paper, then draw around the shape and cut out. Trim to fit. Cut out another and give each one three coats of sealer as for the paperweight. Leave to dry. Using more Mod Podge, glue the map ovals into the bezels and brush the sealer into the corners to create a seal and stop the resin from seeping under the motif.

2 Cover your work surface with newspaper. Push the cufflinks into plasticine to

hold them upright. Mix 10g of resin with 5g of hardener and carefully pour into the bezels. Cover with a tub and leave overnight to cure completely.

Father's Day Card

1 Cut map paper, 6cm x 12cm, and stick to scrap card using spray adhesive. Write out the letters to spell 'DAD', reverse them and trace onto the back of the map paper. Cut the letters out.

2 Trim green cardstock, 17.5cm x 25.5cm, and fold

it in half to make a blank. Cut blue paper, 11.5cm x 16.5cm, and stick it to the card. Add a smaller matt of patterned paper, followed by a small green rectangle adhered with 3-D foam pads. Cover the back of the map letters with foam pads and adhere on top.

3 Print sentiments onto blue paper - we used the font American Typewriter in size 18. Trim to size and stick to green card, cut the green, then fix them to the top and bottom of the card.



Paperweight

1 Discard the lid of an empty tub, then rinse and dry thoroughly. Using a knife, cut the base off and discard. Place the neat end of the pot on a vintage map, draw around it and cut the circle out. Give the circle at least three coats of Mod Podge sealer, both front and back, leaving each coat to dry in between.

2 Place a large ceramic tile or glass chopping board onto a newspaper-covered table and tape a square of clear acetate onto it. Lay the map circle face-up on the acetate and place the pot, neat side down, onto the map, lining up the edges. Paint Mod Podge around the base of the pot to create a complete seal. Repeat the process three times to ensure no resin seeps out. Leave to dry.

3 Apply barrier cream to your hands. Place a mixing cup onto measuring scales and zero them. Pour in 30g of resin and 15g of hardener. Stir gently with a lollipop stick until mixed, then pour slowly into the mould and leave covered overnight to cure. Repeat the process a second time, leaving overnight as before.

4 Carefully cut the seal using a knife; it should peel away quite easily. Slice down the plastic pot – it can be brittle, so take care and use pliers to help peel away the plastic until the resin piece is released. Measure 25g of resin and 12.5g of hardener. Stir and leave to thicken for 20 minutes, then carefully pour over the paperweight to top it up. Cover the paperweight with a tub and leave overnight to cure.

5 Using a scalpel, pair away any excess resin at the base of the paperweight and sand with fine grit paper until smooth. Cut out a disc of blue card and stick to the bottom of the paperweight with double-sided tape to finish. CB

Shopping List

Chemset resin, hardener and equipment, Cooksongold,
0845 100 1122,
cooksongold.com



"An old baking powder or bicarbonate of soda tub works perfectly as a mould"

Ellen Kharade, Designer



Crafts Tip

DO NOT TRY TO MIX THE WHOLE AMOUNT OF RESIN IN ONE GO – THE HEAT GIVEN OFF DURING THE CHEMICAL REACTION WILL CAUSE THE RESIN TO SPOIL BEFORE THE CURING TIME IS COMPLETE

Made By You

Nautical delight

Summer is upon us so it's time to prop open the doors and let in the warm breeze with this stitched doorstep

Fabric, Fabric Inspirations,
fabricinspirations.co.uk



Buttons and charms,
The Bead & Button Company,
beadandbuttoncompany.co.uk



Ribbon, Crafty Ribbons,
craftyribbons.com



What our readers say:

"I'd make a loop style handle for it. It would be easier to pick up and move this way. Plus, when not in use I could hang it from a door handle or suitable hook - pretty and practical!"

Dawn McGeachie, CB Reader

"I love the fabric behind the anchor, so would definitely use that. However, my hometown is Brighton so I would appliqué some pebbles, maybe seagulls or the Brighton Pier letters"

Miriam Faulkner, CB Reader

Crafts Tip

WHEN BLANKET STITCHING YOUR MOTIF, USE TWO STRANDS OF EMBROIDERY THREAD FOR A BOLDER LOOK



"Lucinda Ganderton made this coastal doorstop for us and I was so thrilled! It's the perfect way to bring the seaside into your home"

Steph Durrant, Sew Deputy Editor



1 Using the templates from our pattern pages, cut four triangles from contrasting fabrics. Trace the anchor onto the paper side of fusible webbing and cut out roughly. Press the adhesive side to the back of printed fabric and carefully cut along the pencil mark. Peel off the backing and press the anchor centrally

onto the plainest material. Neaten the edges with a contrasting thread or sew by hand using small blanket stitches.

2 Pin three of the triangles together to make a pyramid, then machine stitch using a 6mm seam allowance. Pin the fourth triangle to the base and

machine stitch each side in turn. Leave a 3cm gap in the centre of the last seam.

3 Press back the 6mm seam allowance on each side of the gap. Turn out, then spoon in some dry sand or plastic toy beads, filling the pyramid firmly. Slip stitch the gap with close, secure stitches. CB

Read more



For more stitchy projects like this, grab yourself a copy of Sew magazine – you won't regret it!

Start with...

- Yarn, DK, Cascade Yarns, Cherub: Classic Blue (A), Navy (B), Ecru (C)
- Needles: circular, 3.25mm, 40cm long; 60cm long; double-pointed, 3.25mm
- Stitch markers

Sizes: Instructions are written for size 6 months (12 months, 18 months).

Measurements

Chest: 47cm (54cm, 58cm)
Length: 35.5cm (42.5cm, 45.5cm)

Gauges

27 sts and 45 rows/rnds to 10cm over chart pat using size 3.25mm needles.
24 sts and 48 rows/rnds to 10cm over garter st using size 3.25mm needles.

Abbreviations

beg beginning
dec decrease
dpns double-pointed needles

k knit
k2tog knit two together
p purl
rem remaining
rnd round
RS right side
ssk slip, slip, knit
sm stitch marker
st st stocking stitch
st(s) stitch(es)
Sl slip
WS wrong side

Starting Off

With the longer circular needle and A, cast on 168 (192, 204) sts. Join, being careful not to twist

Baby dress

Diamonds are a little one's best friend with this adorable knitted number

sts, and use a sm for beg of rnd. Knit 1 rnd, purl 1 rnd with A; knit 1 rnd, purl 1 rnd with B; knit 1 rnd, purl 1 rnd with A; knit 1 rnd, purl 1 rnd with C.

Begin Chart Pattern

Chart is worked in st st (k every rnd).
Rnd 1: work 6 st rep 28 (32, 54) times around.

Cont to work chart in this manner until rnd 8 is complete. Rep rnds 1-8 for 3 (5, 6) times more.

Work rnds 9-20 twice, working 12 st rep 14 (16, 17) times around.

Cont in this manner to work rnds 21-34 for 4 times. Knit 1 rnd with C. Piece measures approx 25.5cm (30.5cm, 31.5cm) from beg.

Next (dec) rnd *K2tog, k1; rep from * around - 112 (128, 136) sts.

Purl 1 rnd with C. With A, knit 1 rnd, purl 1 rnd. With B, knit 1 rnd, purl 1 rnd 2 (4, 6) times.

Divide For Front and Back

Cont to work the yoke in garter st in rows (k every row) with B only.

Next row (RS): with B, bind off 5 (7, 7) sts, k until there are 46 (50, 54) sts on needle, bind off next 10 (14, 14) sts, k until there are 46 (50, 54) sts on needle, join a short length of B and bind off rem 5 (7, 7) sts.

Working on 46 (50, 54) sts for back only, work as foll:

Next row (WS): Sl 1, k to end.

Next (dec) row (RS): [Sl 1, ssk] to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1 - 2 sts dec'd. Rep last 2 rows 2 (3, 2) times more - 40 (42, 48) sts. Work even until armhole measures 6.5cm (7cm, 7.5cm) from the bind-off row. Sm to mark centre 22 (22, 24) sts on last WS row.

Neck Shaping

Next row (RS): Sl 1, k8 (9, 11), join a 2nd ball of yarn and bind off centre 22 (22, 24) sts, k to end. Working both sides at once with separate balls of yarn, cont to shape neck.

Next row (WS): Sl 1, k8 (9, 11); on 2nd side, k9 (10, 12).

Next (dec) row (RS): Sl 1, k to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1; on 2nd side, k1, ssk, k to end.

Next row: Sl 1, k to end; on 2nd side, k to end.

Rep last 2 rows once more - 7 (8, 10) sts each side.

Work even until armhole measures 9cm (9.5cm, 10cm).

Bind off sts on each side.

Rejoin yarn to 46 (50, 54) sts for front, ready to work a WS row, and complete as for back.

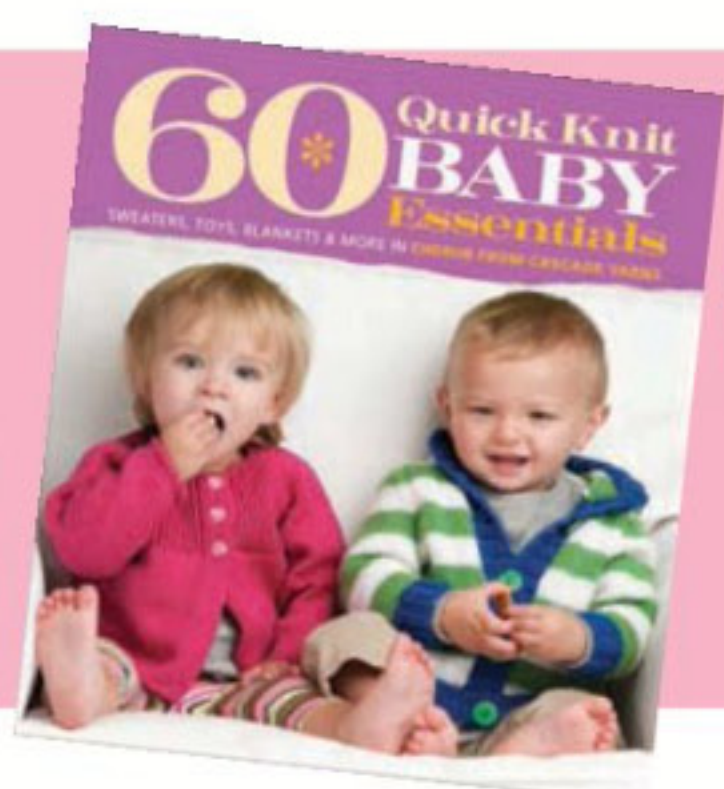
To Finish

Sew shoulder seams. With dpns and A and RS facing, pick up and knit 56 (60, 64) sts evenly around armhole edge. Bind off all sts purlwise on the RS. For the neck trim, with shorter circular needle and A, pick up and knit 80 (80, 84) sts around neck edge. Bind off all sts purlwise on the RS. CB



Reader Details

This project has been adapted from 60 Quick Knit Baby Essentials by Cascade Yarns (Sixth & Spring Books, £12.99).





"Don't have any stitch markers to hand? Cut a few strands of contrasting yarn to tie on instead"

Jecelyn Latimer, Editorial Assistant

For more amazing knitting projects, visit letsknit.co.uk

Find the chart on page 116

Shopping List

Yarn, Love Knitting, 0845 544 2196, loveknitting.com

Needles and stitch markers, Outback Yarns, 01556 504900, outbackyarns.co.uk



Corinne's Craft Space

"The main problem I have is that there's no real room to store my storage!"

Corinne Bradd discusses small storage and shares tip-top projects

"Can you write about small storage ideas?" they said. In my little world, all storage is small. And that's because my home is small. I'm sure it used to be bigger – when I moved in about 14 years ago, it seemed massive compared to the shoebox I used to rent. Now my daughter is 14 years older, it's not as spacious as it appeared. I can't blame it all on her, tempting as it may be; we have accumulated a vast amount of stuff over the years.

We come from a family of hoarders, stowing things away for generations and never getting rid of them. My dad and sister both have lofts which are in danger of collapse, filled with boxes of vintage books, bin liners of 80s clothes, odd bits of furniture, suitcases of old photos and Christmas cards. I'm lucky I don't have a loft. Can you imagine how dangerous it would be if I did?

I have lots of revamped boxes, cases and drawer units that hold a multitude of handy odds and sods. There is a kind of order to their contents: sewing stuff in one; twiney-tapey type things in another; old keys, tiny tins, buttons, broken jewellery, miniature lego figures in another... OK there is no order, but I do know more or less where I can find something quickly.

The main problem I have is that there's no real room to store my storage. No handy alcove under the stairs, no empty corners anywhere. It has to become part of the room so that the overall look is one of cosiness rather than clutter. I can only manage to keep one room looking great at a time. Currently it's the living room's turn, while my bedroom has a huge pile of stuff in front of the wardrobe. I can only wear clothes that have come straight from the washing line!

Corinne x



ME AND MY SHADOW

This shadow box from Graphic 45 bridges the gap between display and storage.

I added a few handmade drawers crafted from grey-board and covered in panels of beautiful Gypsy Gypsy papers from a fantastic new company called Craft Consortium. I especially like the random bits of wildlife that are included in the collage-style designs.



SMALL PRINT

I picked this typographer's tray up at a car boot for a tenner. It was dusty and cobwebbed but fulfilled a desire that I've had for a long time. I trained as a printer many years ago which involved preparing text passages using old lead type stored in trays like this. At the time I never gave them a second thought, but it's perfect for storing my wooden cotton reel collection. Find the full project in issue 31 of Homemaker magazine!

Another car boot find... Ikea drawers for £1. They're been covered with old sheet music and embellished with printed vintage images of flowers and birds. A good top coat of Mod Podge holds down all the paper edges and seals the surface. This too has been pinched by my daughter!



Q&A

"How do I upcycle an old ottoman whilst still retaining its vintage charm?"

Denise Allen, CB Reader

Firstly, I'd suggest you check for woodworm. There's no point spending time on a project that will fall apart! Make sure you're satisfied it's sturdy enough to withstand the weight of everything you're going to stuff in there too. Rub down flaky paintwork and re-coat in a similar shade or use a brush on wax to seal the distressed surface as it is. If it's covered in fabric, gently clean it with a little detergent. Work outside and avoid over-wetting the material. If the covering is beyond rescue, choose a fabric that you really like and re-cover using a staple gun.

If you've got a question for me, send it in to corinne.bradd@aceville.co.uk!



TOP DRAWER

The lady down the road had put a broken piece of furniture out for the bin men. I swiped a drawer, chalk painted it and added some copper sprayed legs to make a handy storage table. Grey-board dividers covered in lovely Liberty prints occupy the whole drawer area. My daughter has since taken possession, put it by her dressing table and stuffed it full of cosmetics.

Stowed Away

Want to buy or be inspired by high street storage? Here are our favourites...



Folklore storage tins, £12.99, cloth-ears.co.uk

Woven baskets, from £2, tigerstores.co.uk



Geometric triangles storage box, £12.95, thewisehouse.co.uk

Wedding style

Pair pink and grey papers together to make Amanda Walker's beautiful bridal stationery



"This was a lovely project for me to do as my eldest son is getting married later this year"

Amanda Walker, Designer

Start with...

- ✿ Card: grey, pink
- ✿ Paper, grey
- ✿ Punches: circle, hole
- ✿ Embellishments: buttons, mother-of-pearl, heart; ribbon, satin, pink; cord, grey; thread; lace edging
- ✿ Craft knife
- ✿ Sewing machine
- ✿ Adhesives

See our Shopping List opposite

Invitation

1 Make a grey square card blank, open it and cut a half circle from one of the short edges. Close the card and, using a sewing machine, stitch down each side in pink thread, 5mm away from the edge, to form an envelope.

2 Wrap satin ribbon, 3.5cm wide, around the width of the envelope and attach the two ends together with tape on the back of the envelope. Attach rows of lace to both sides of the ribbon.

3 From a computer, print the words 'wedding invitation' onto grey paper. Trim and stick to slightly larger pink card with spray adhesive, then punch a hole at each end of the pink strip. Thread a doubled length of grey cord through the holes of the strip, then wrap around the envelope and tie in a bow to secure.

4 Trim pink card to fit comfortably inside and punch a hole in the centre of the top edge. Thread grey cord through the holes in a heart-shaped button; slide to the centre and thread the two ends through the hole in the card. Use double-sided tape to secure the cords to the back of the button.

5 Type out invitation details and print onto grey paper. Trim and adhere to the pink card using spray adhesive. Stick a length of pink lace to the top and base of the grey paper. Slide the invitation into the envelope to finish.



Favour Box

1 Using the template provided, cut a box from grey card. Score the dotted lines and fold them all in towards the back of the card. Stick double-sided tape along the flap on the side edge and fold the box in half, tucking the flap underneath the taped edge.

2 Fold in the curved openings of the box to create a pillow shape. Decorate by wrapping satin

ribbon around the width of the box and attach the two ends together with tape on the back. Attach a row of lace edging to both sides of the ribbon.

3 Next, cut grey cord three times the circumference of the box. Thread through a button and slide it to the centre of the cord. Holding the button on the centre of the ribbon, wind it around the box and secure by tying a bow.

Place Name

1 Cut grey card, 10.5cm x 15cm, score across the centre and fold in half. Unfold and punch a circle in the centre. Trim pink card, 7.5cm x 10.5cm, and make a hole in the centre of one of the long edges. Stick inside the folded grey card, so that the pink and punched hole are showing through the circle.

2 Thread a button through the hole in the pink card, securing at the back. Type and print out the name of the guest onto grey. Trim and fix to pink, then punch a hole at each end.

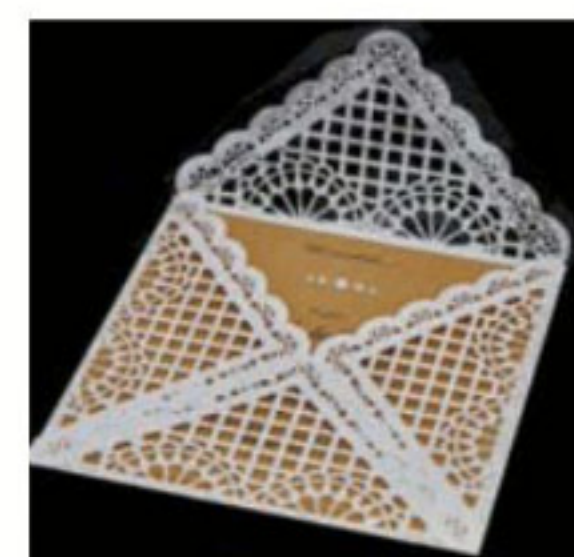
3 Cut grey cord, fold it in half and thread the folded part through the holes, around the card. Tie in a bow. Adhere lace edging to finish. CB

Say I do

Enjoy our pick of gorgeous wedding crafts



The Mulberry Bush,
01635 860900,
themulberry-bush.com



Imagine DIY,
01437 929317, imagine
doingityourself.co.uk

Shopping List

Lace and cord, The Range,
0845 026 7598,
therange.co.uk

Heart buttons, Pocket and Pin,
pocketandpin.co.uk



Easy mosaic

Grout your way to sophisticated home style with Jill Alblas' bright blue creations



Start with...

- Mosaic tiles, 5mm square: beige, royal blue, light blue, grey blue, light green
- Glass nuggets, blue
- Millefiori pieces
- Bottle, glass
- Coaster
- Grout
- Paint, acrylic, black
- Mixing pot
- Knife, blunt
- Card
- Peel off letters
- Adhesives

See our Shopping List opposite

Vase

1 Wash a glass bottle in warm, soapy water and dry thoroughly. Place it on its side. Glue five tiles along the base and press them down firmly. Stick a millefiori piece centrally just above the row of tiles, then adhere an arch of five matching tiles over it.

2 Refer to our picture and continue to work around and up the bottle by gluing millefiori pieces and glass nuggets in place, then adhering tiles around them in arches and circles. When you come to the top of the bottle, fix as many rows of tiles as you need around the neck.

3 Mix grout with a few spots of black paint, then add water and mix thoroughly to make a thick, grey paste. Spread it evenly over the surface of the mosaic and press the grout firmly between the pieces.

4 Wipe with a slightly damp sponge to remove the residue from the mosaic. Rinse and wring the sponge regularly as you work. Leave the grout to dry thoroughly, then buff the mosaic with a soft cloth.

Card

1 Cover a blank, 8cm x 11cm, with mid-blue card. Matt with a smaller section of pale blue. Cut five mid-blue petals,

3cm long. Glue them together to form a flower and adhere to the card. Trim slightly smaller royal blue petals and fix on top.

2 Glue a millefiori piece in the middle of the flower and a glass nugget on each petal. Trim a dark blue stem and three leaves. Fix the stem towards the bottom-right of the card. Fold the leaves

in half and glue them at the base. Use peel off letters to create a sentiment, then tie the fold with ribbon to finish.

Coaster

1 Glue a royal blue tile to the centre of a coaster. Glue alternate, evenly spaced glass nuggets and royal blue tiles around the edge of the coaster then, still working

Crafts Tip

VERY LITTLE PAINT IS NEEDED TO COLOUR THE GROUT BUT KEEP IN MIND IT WILL DRY LIGHTER THAN THE WET MIXTURE

between the nuggets, add beige tiles inside the row of blue ones. Glue a circle of light green tiles around the central royal blue tile, then follow this with two more circles. Make a final circle with beige tiles.

2 Press the mosaic down firmly and leave to dry. Make light grey grout as before, then use your fingers to spread it evenly over the mosaic. Wipe the surface with a slightly damp sponge. Leave to dry, then polish the surface with a soft cloth. CB

Shopping List

Mosaic tiles, glass nuggets and millefiori, Homecrafts Direct, 0116 269 7733, homecrafts.co.uk



"If you have sensitive skin or dry hands, use latex gloves when applying the grout"

Jill Alblas, Designer

June's Essential Templates

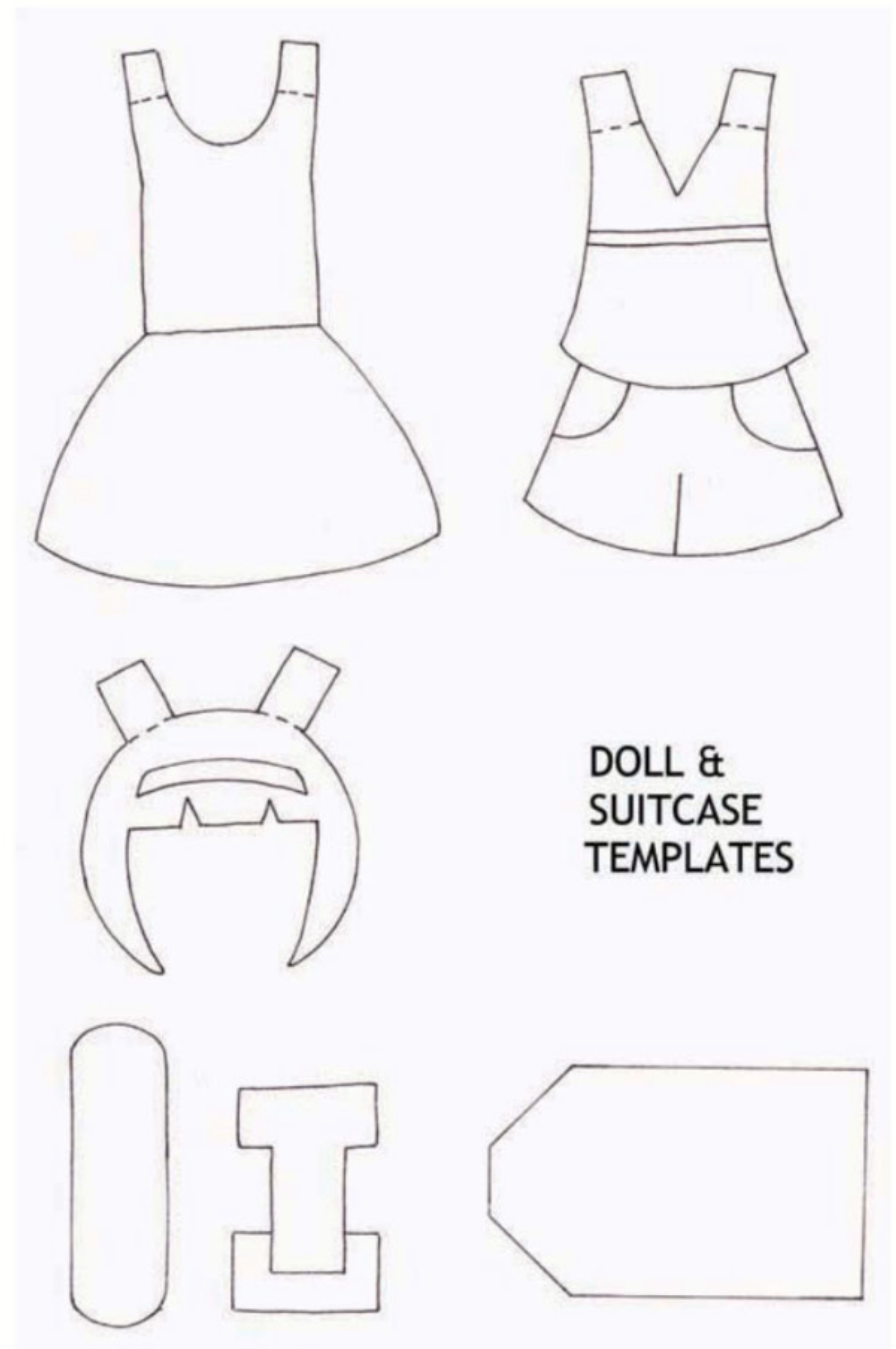
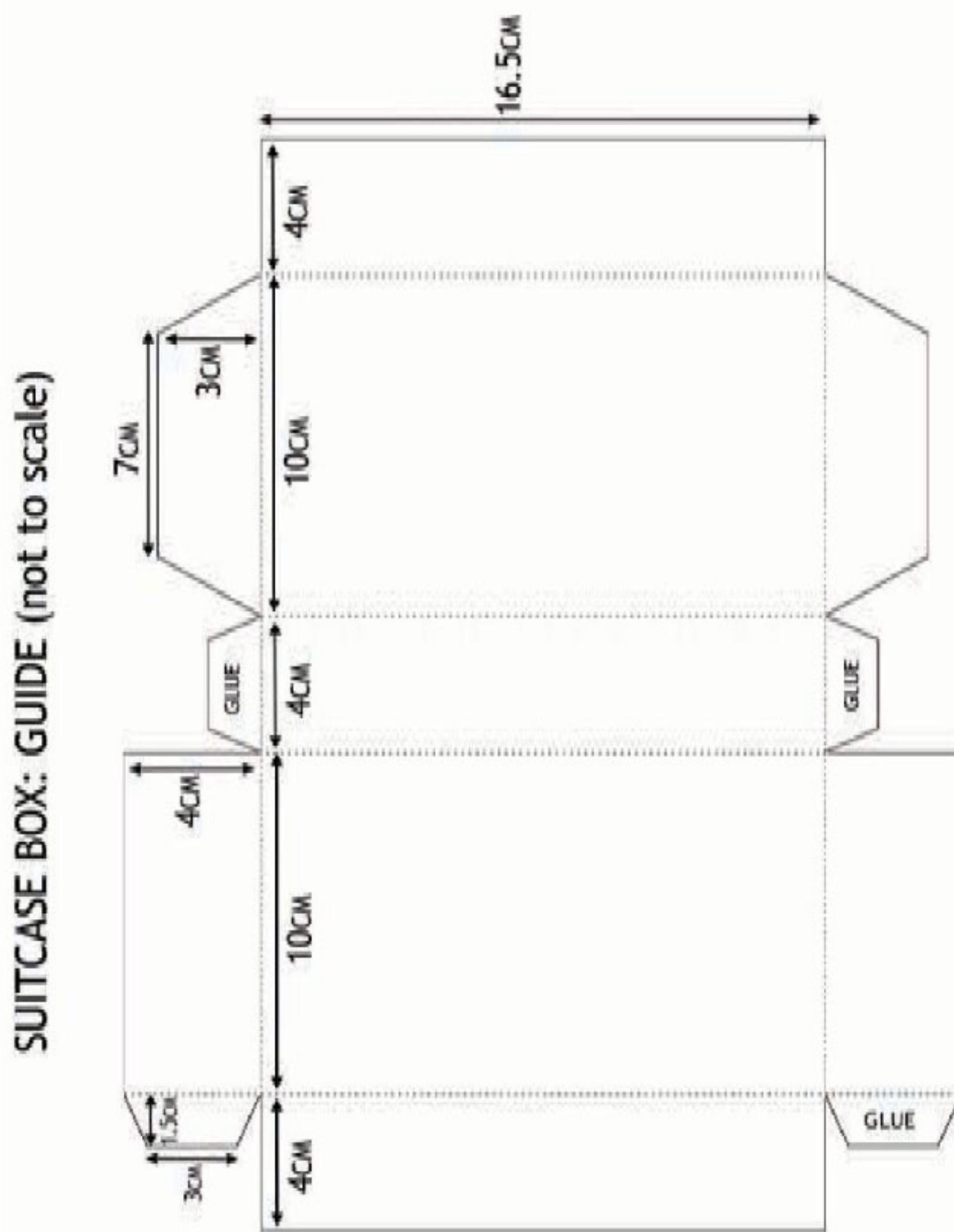
Copy these patterns to make the items that appear in the magazine

Click & Craft

- 1 To download actual-size templates for this issue's makes visit crafts-beautiful.com, then click on the tab to view our archive of craft downloads.
- 2 Select the June issue's templates and click 'Download now' on the new page. The pattern folder will automatically transfer onto your computer. Follow the instructions to print all or selected templates.
- 3 If you haven't already registered, you'll need to create a log-in for our website to allow you exclusive access to all of our free downloads and the masses of craft templates we have up for grabs.

Summer Holidays

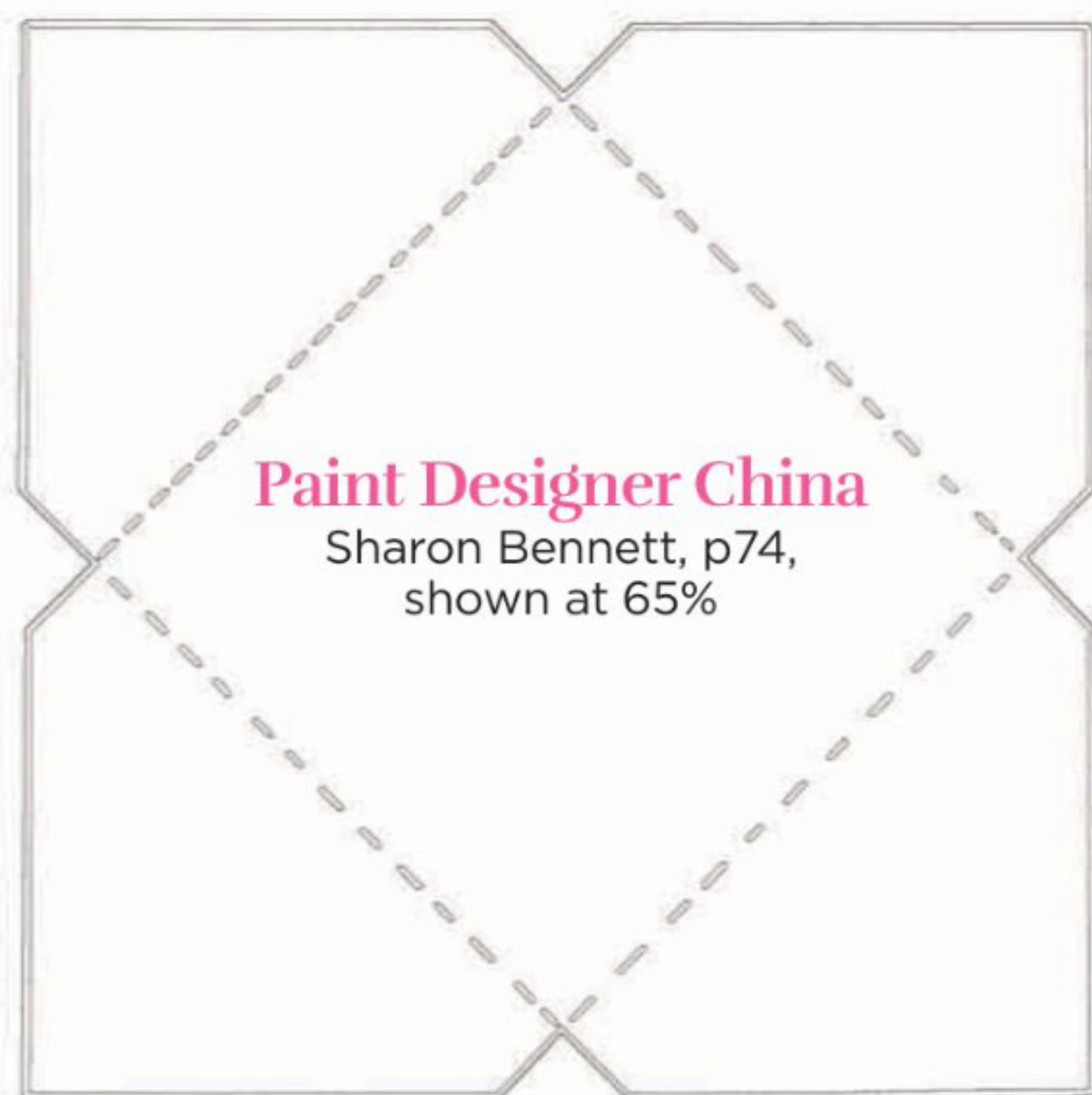
Helen Fitzjohn, p44
Shown at 65%



CARD BASE



Your Essential Templates

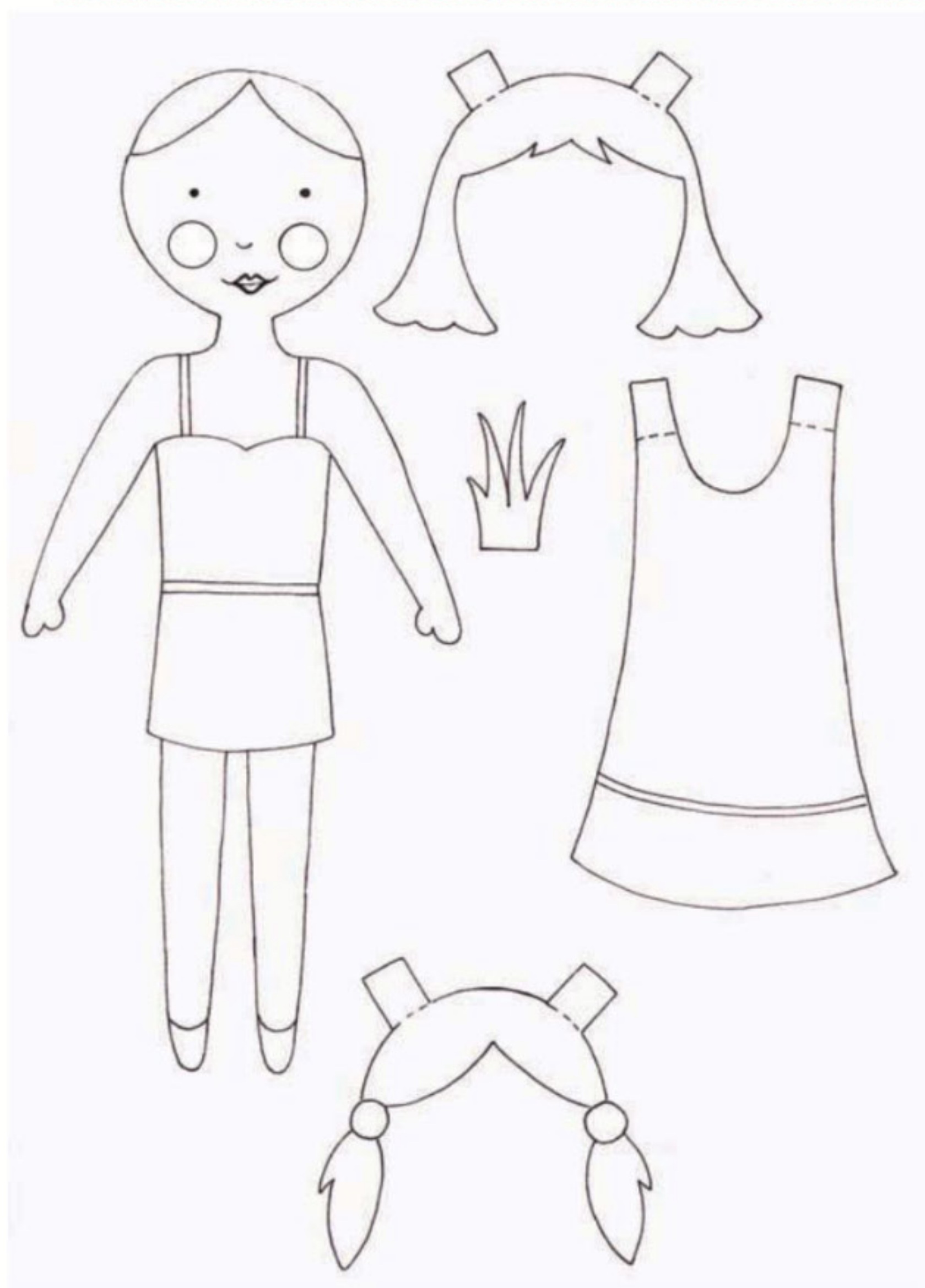
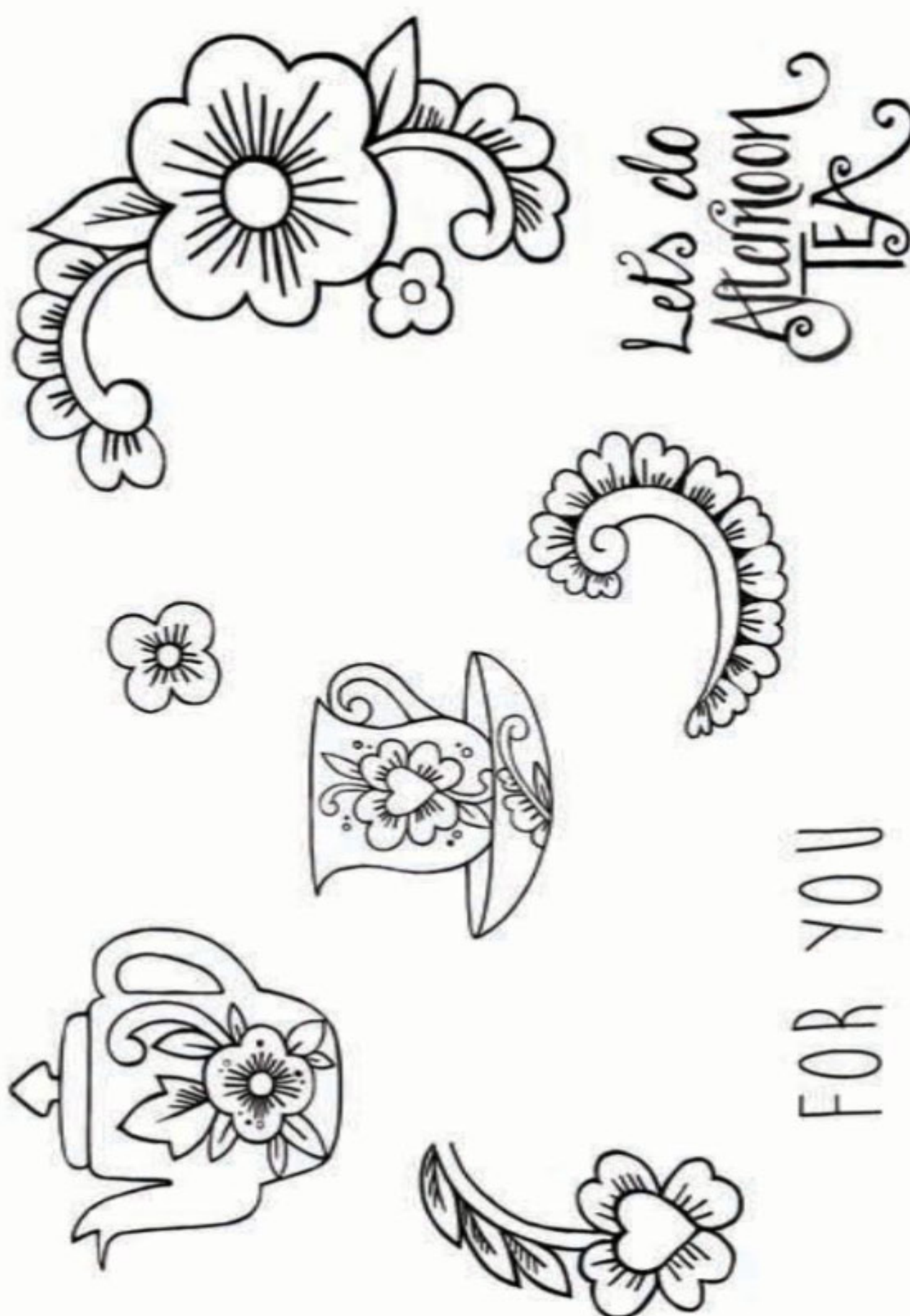


Paint Designer China

Sharon Bennett, p74,
shown at 65%

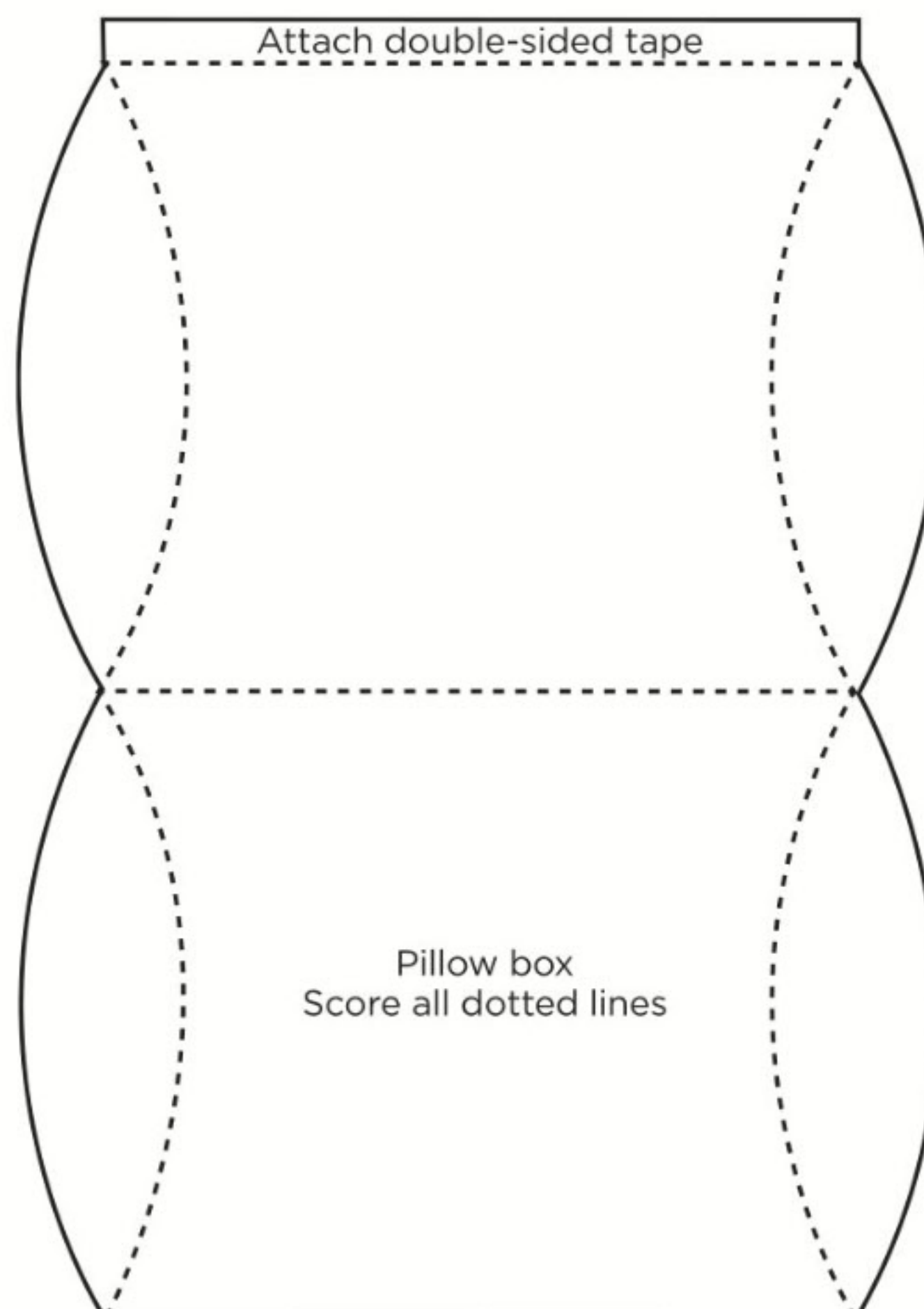
YOUR
SPECIAL
day

TEA
WHITE
No sugar



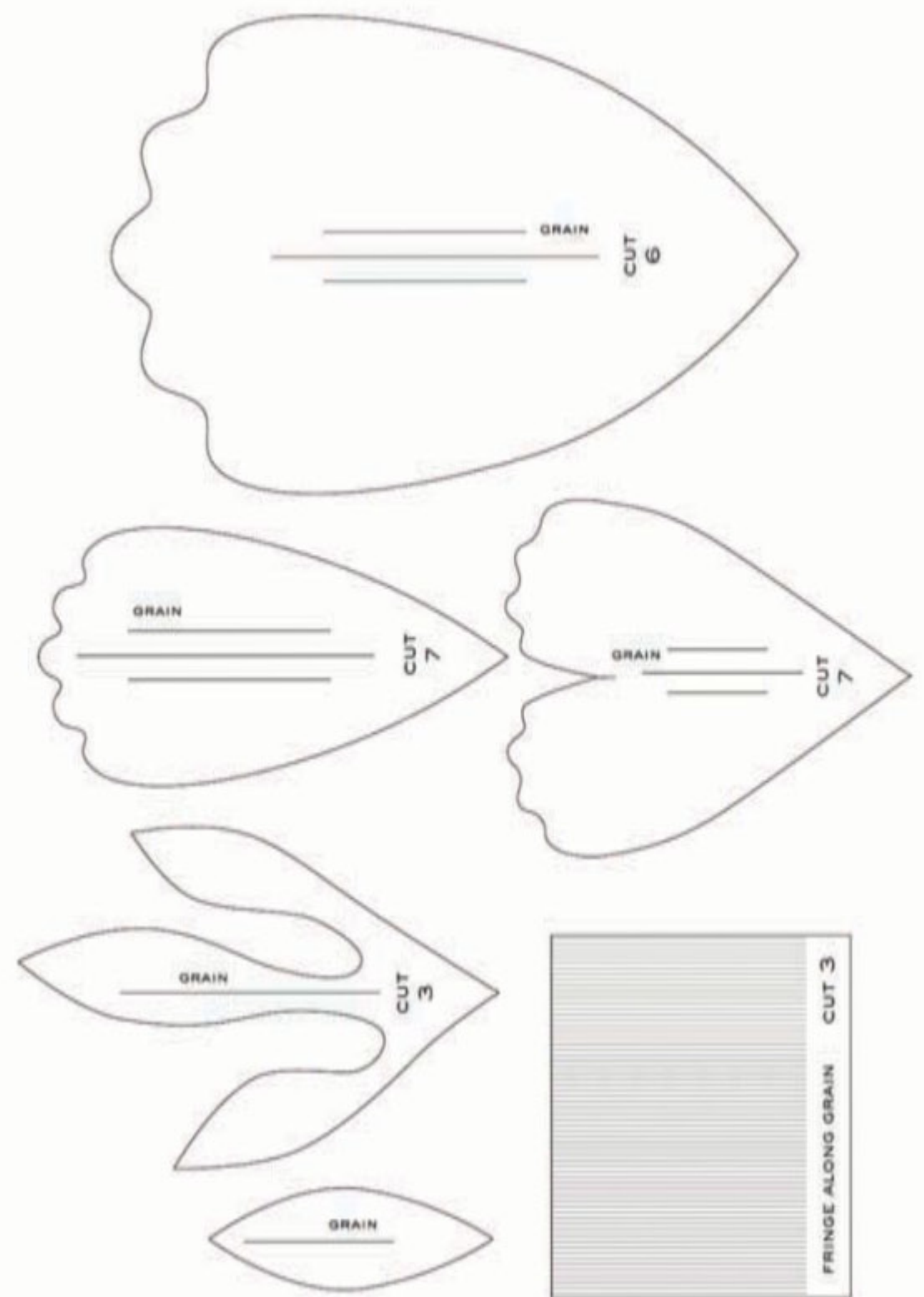
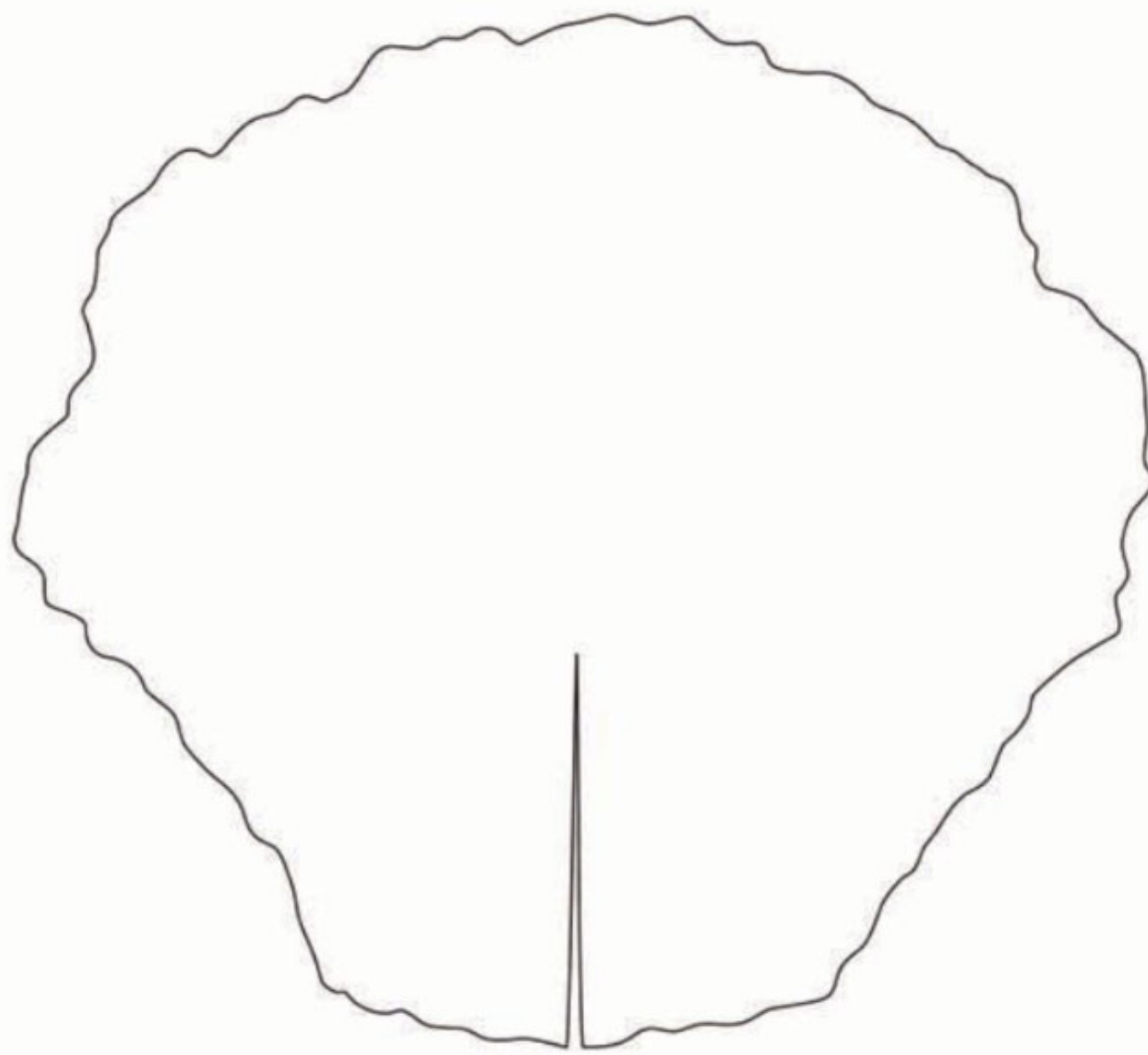
Wedding Style

Amanda Walker, p112
Shown at 50%



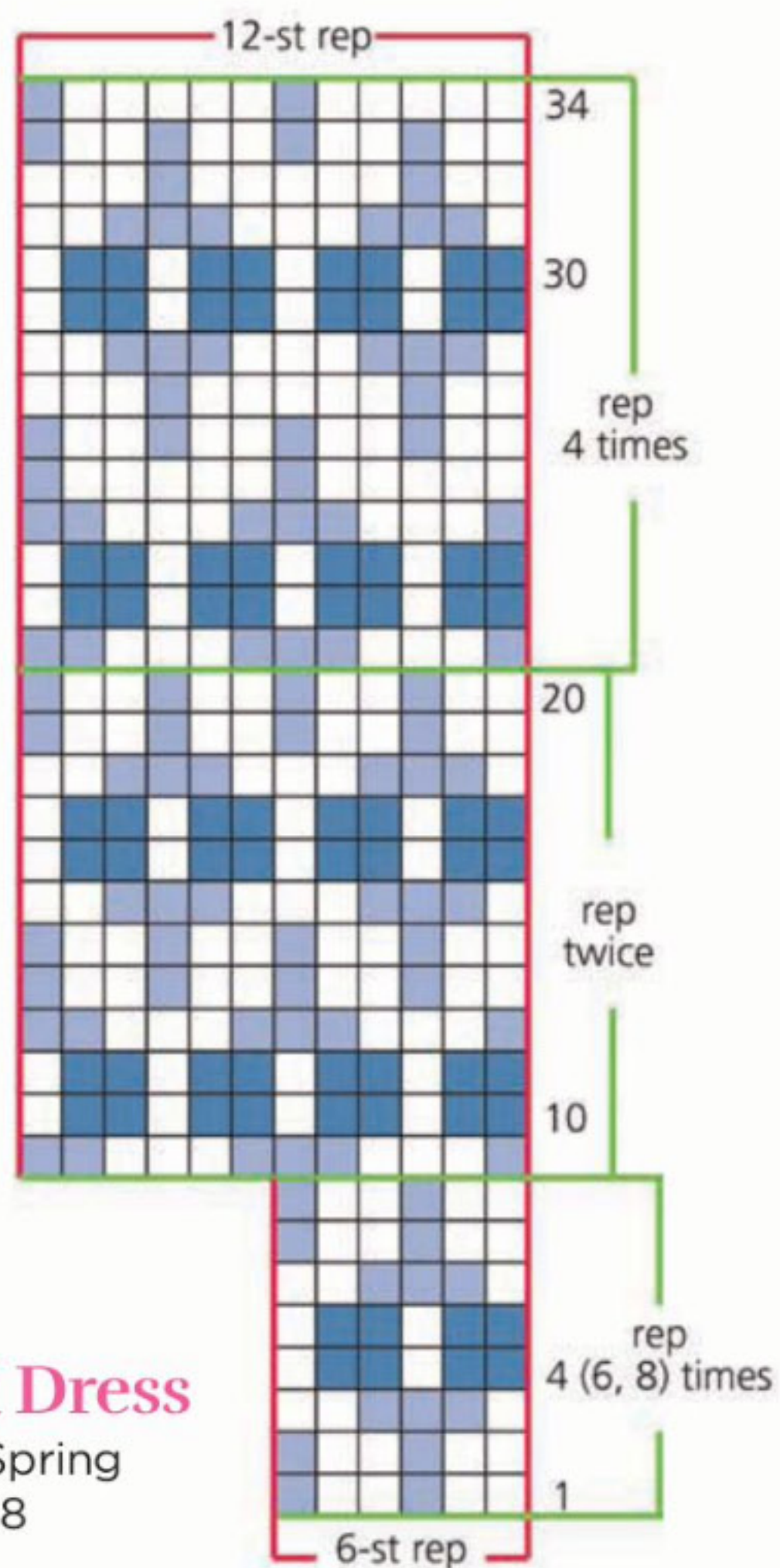
Handmade Home

Nancy Straughan, p61
Shown at 50%



Knitted Dress

© Sixth & Spring
Books, p108

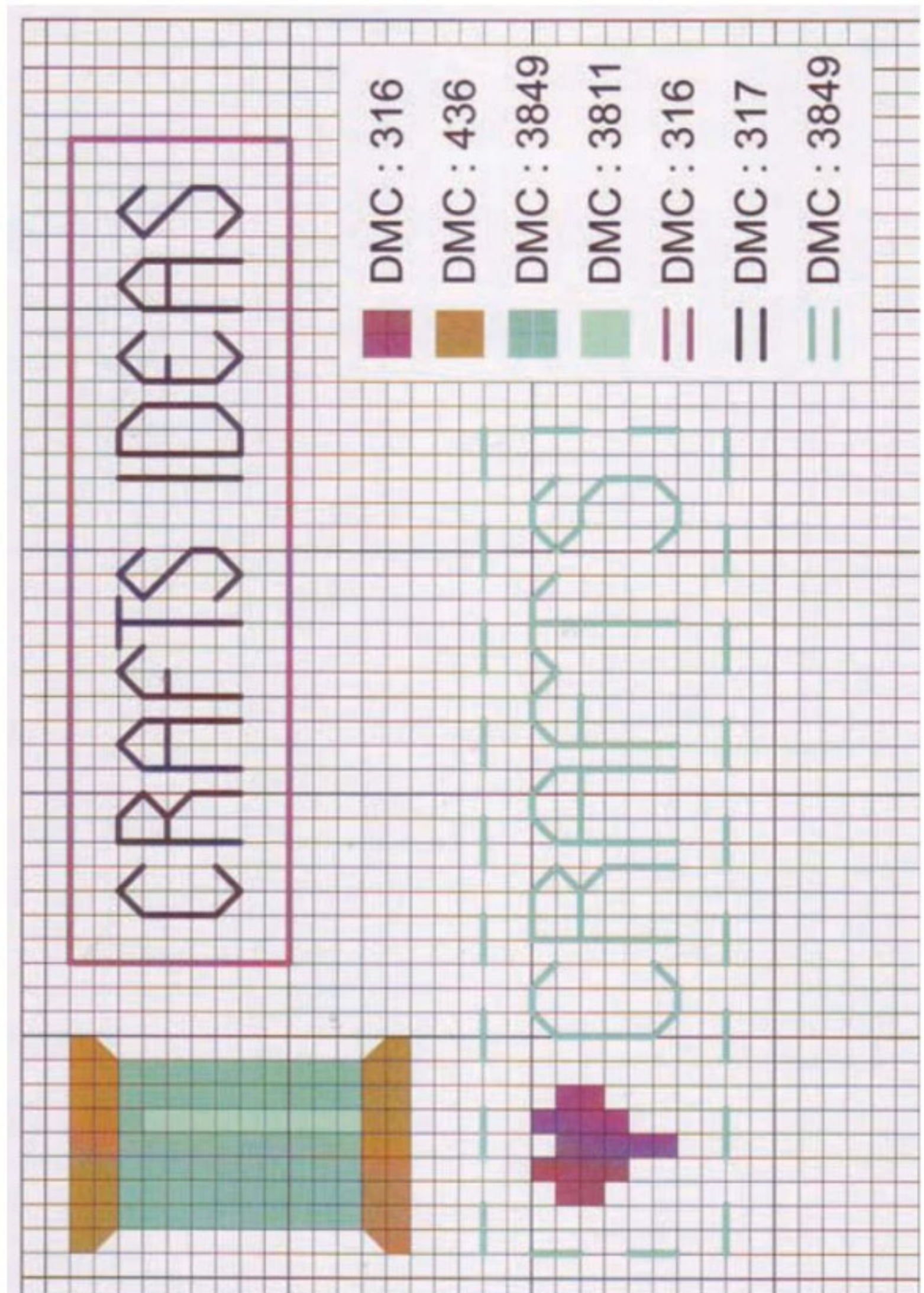


COLOUR KEY

- A
- B
- C

Crafter's Notebook

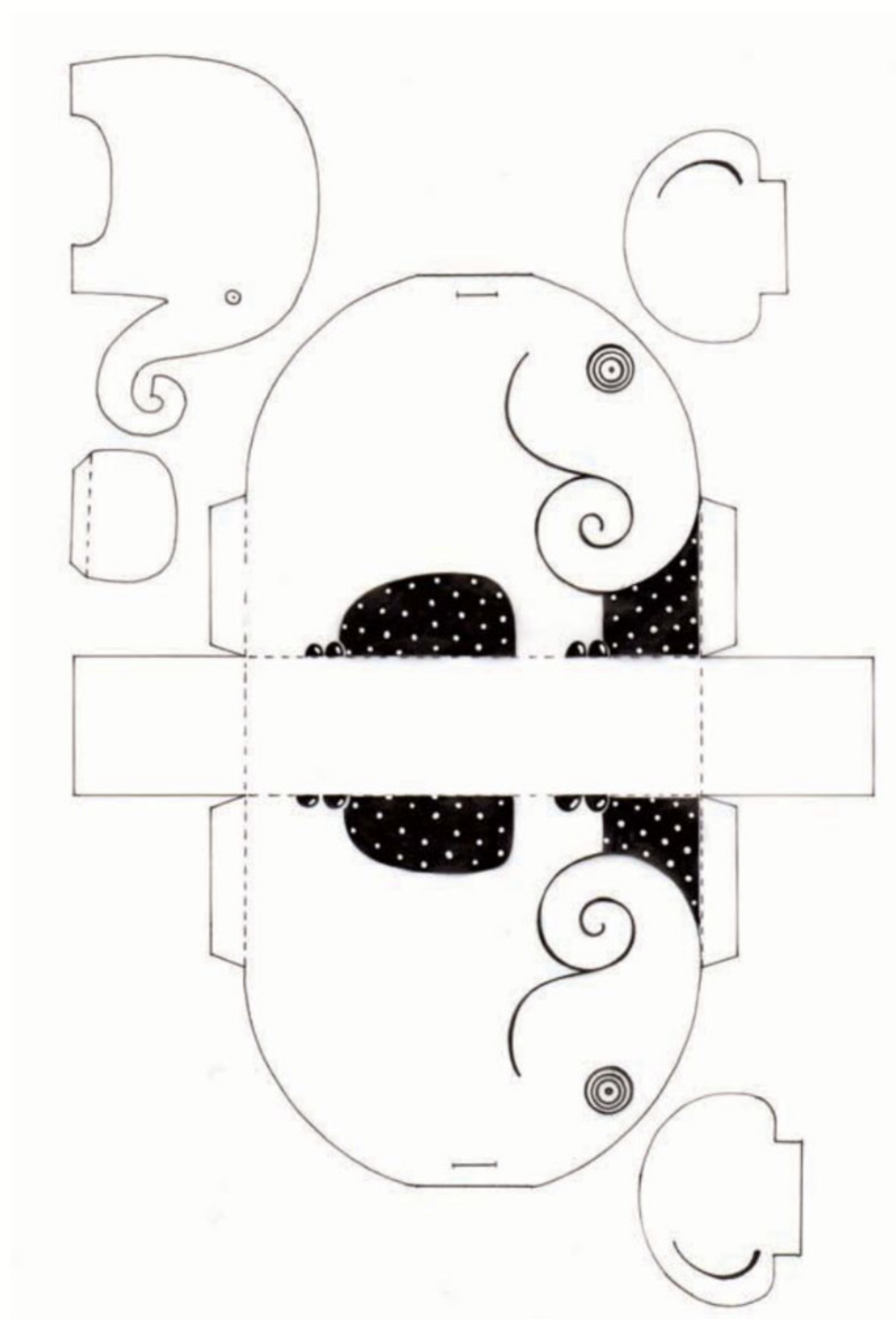
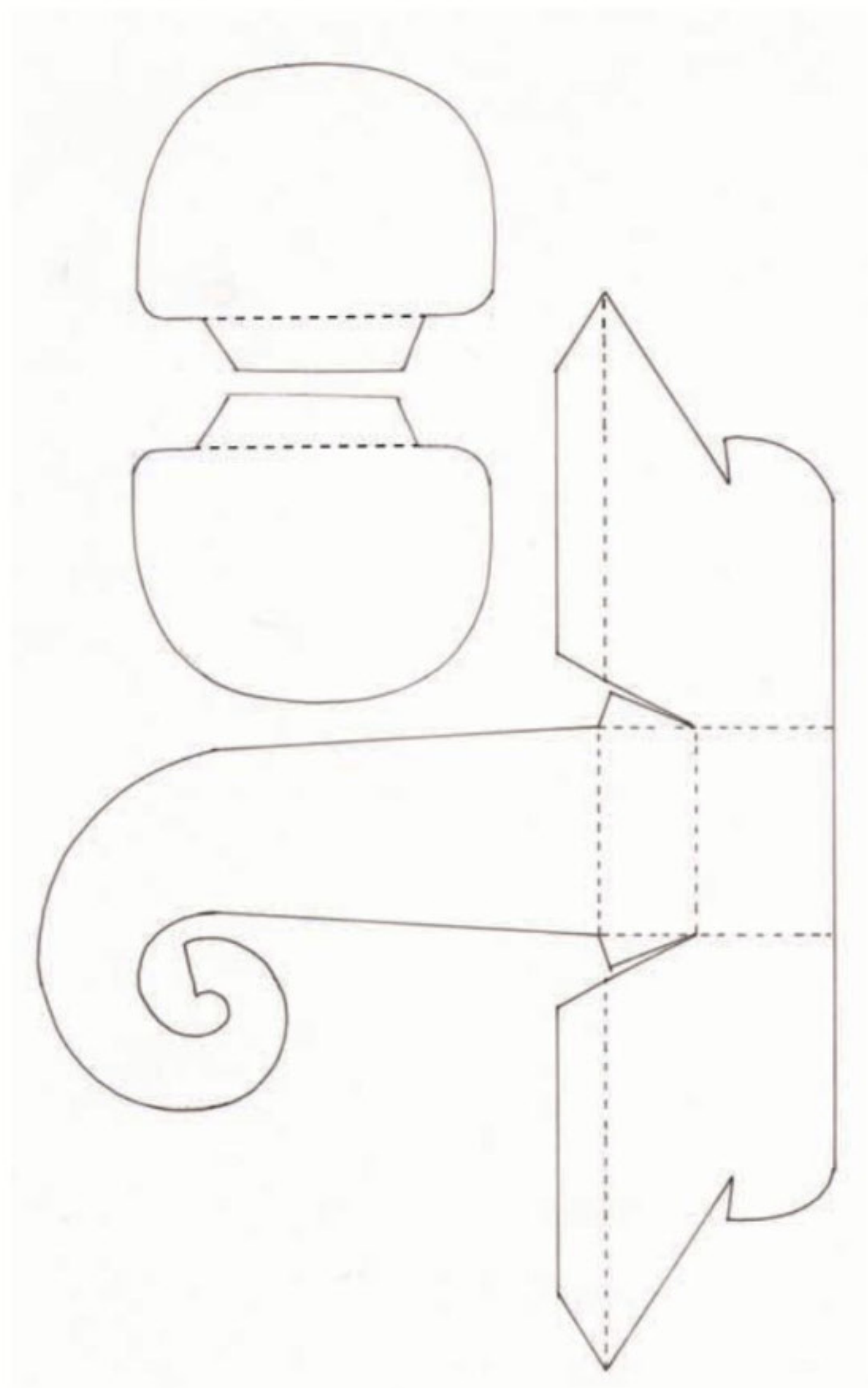
Helen Philipps, p63



Your Essential Templates

Nursery Elephants

Cathie Shuttleworth, p40
Shown at 50%



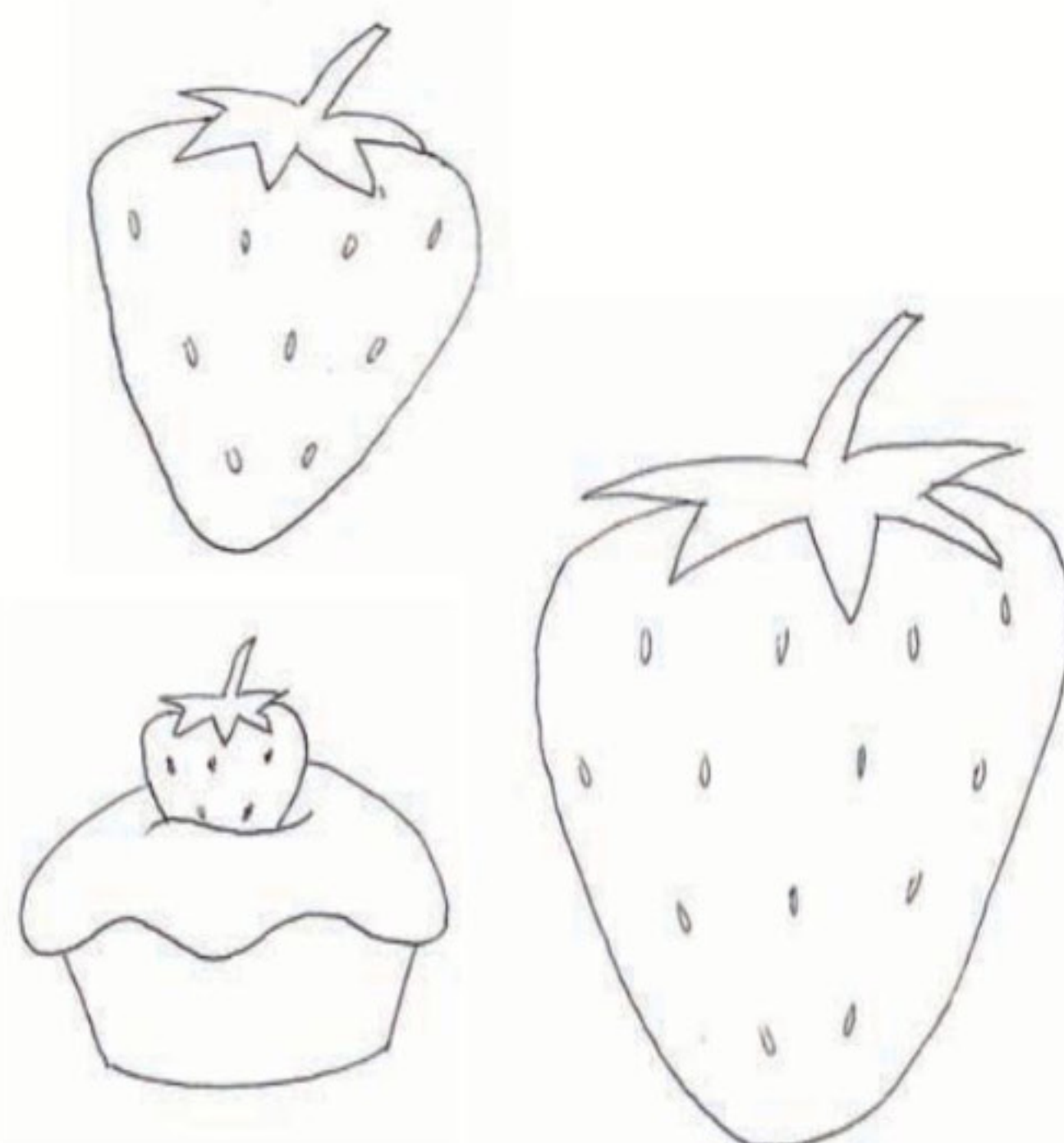
Watercolour Masterclass

Colette Smith, p32
Shown at 80%



Strawberry Tea

Sophia Palmer, p67
Shown at 50%



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YOUR JULY ISSUE!

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designs by
Jessica Hogarth

Crafts BEAUTIFUL

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Entries will NOT be valid unless ALL asterisked information is provided.

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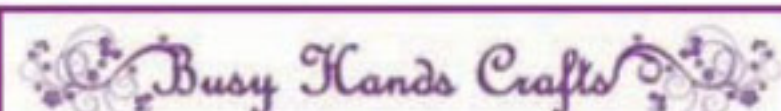
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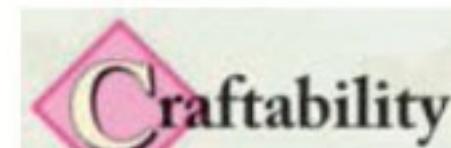
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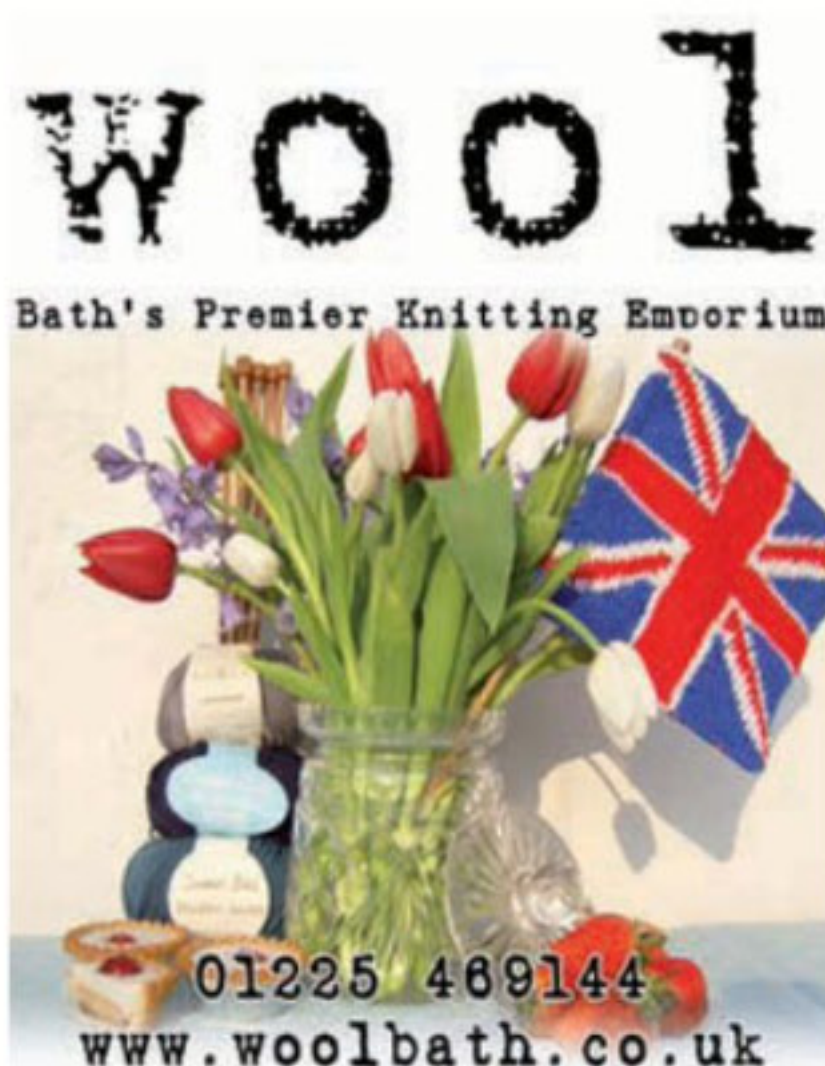


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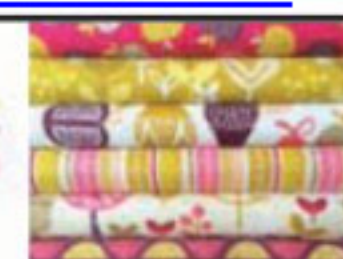
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Behind the CAMERA



Say hello to Jacqui Joseph, who's here to share her latest creative ideas

MY TREAT THIS MONTH...

...is the eBrush. It allows you to spray the ink from a marker pen onto papers, fabrics, wood and more



MY CRAFT TIPS

- ✓ If you want to create your own tree wall decoration, just use brown parcel paper. Cut the motif out and use watery PVA to stick it to the wall. Add leaves made from decorative papers.
- ✓ To add a quick burst of colour to your home, use paints on existing photo frames in all manner of bright colours.
- ✓ Gather up some fabric scraps and fix them onto a cut up pillow case. Lay sheer fabric on top and sew using decorative stitches. It's perfect for summery bunting or placemats.

CRAFT OF THE MONTH

With summer finally here and adorable Tilda fabrics to be had, I wondered... how many things can I make from the Spring Lake fat quarter bundle? It was a challenge but I was determined to take it, and was able to create loads. From a patchwork sewing tidy to an everyday clutch, pen tin, bunting, notebook cover, crazy patched lampshade and more. And I still have fabric left to cover two more lampshades, plus maybe a few pincushions – these fat quarters really go a long way!

Something I've learned...

I've been planning and researching something for a while now. Normally I like to recover chairs with prettier fabric, but I'm going to give painting a go on one that was destined for the tip. It's a summer project and I'm hoping it will have a leather look by the time I'm finished. I'll keep you posted.

FAVE THING!



I love sewing so my favourite thing has to be the new Singer Starlet. Not only is it easy to use, but it also has extra feet that you don't always get with machines. It has a roller foot – perfect for vinyl, oilcloth and leather fabrics – and comes with an invisible zip foot too.

Hot Product

It has to be the Cut'n'Boss machine. As well as having the ability to cut card, paper, chipboard, felt, leather and much more, it's great for trimming multiple layers of fabric so is perfect for appliqué, patchwork and quilting. I can't wait to get my hands on it so I can start creating. Visit createandcraft.tv for more information.



Look what I made!

I love this fantastic storage kit from Tonic – it's super easy to put together. It's also sturdy and practical, yet is a stylish way to keep your craft stash organised. I painted the unit in Tonic Nuvo Acrylic Olive Green and, once dried, applied a sweep of Silver Pebeo gilding wax to the edges. Finally, I decoupaged feather, rose and vintage oval papers on top. Functional and fabulous!

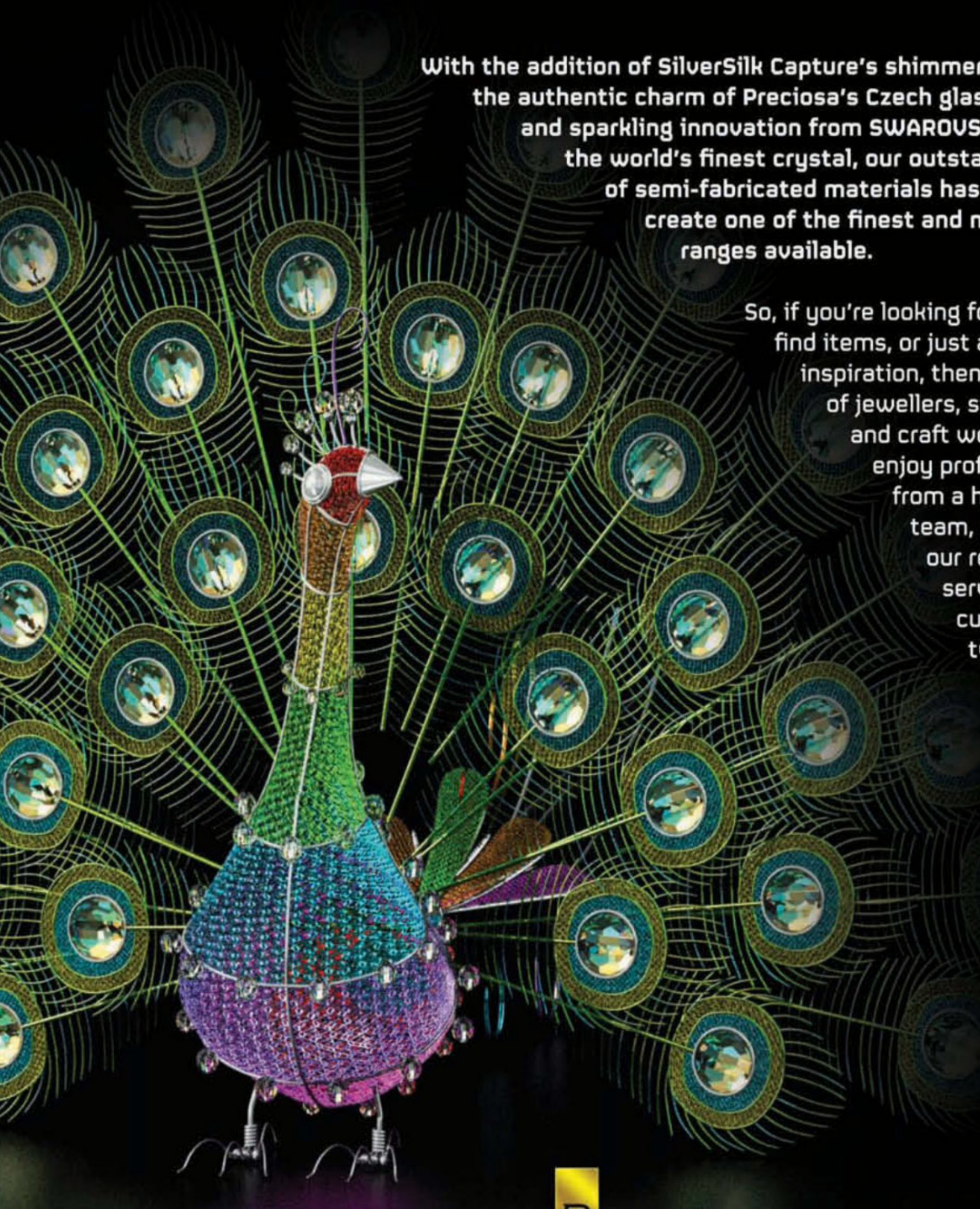


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