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WOODLAND APPLIQUÉ





LEONIE PUJOL talks crafts & die-cutting



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Welcome crafters...

What we love in this issue...



Create cross-stitch Dala ponies to turn into folky tree decs



Woodland friends in all forms are great gift ideas for autumn



Make a simple money spinner from felt to sell at craft fairs



Here at crafty HQ, the festive season is about to get into full swing; it's also time to cosy-up and think creatively about your home or crafts. So, we've made sure that the following pages are packed with projects, goodies and crafty tricks in preparation for celebrating one of the busiest times of the crafting calendar. The **embroidery hoop art** by Carolyn Letten is one project I want to try and the gorgeous **knitted hedgehog** is sure to find its way into my granddaughter's stocking this Christmas. For **inspirational card making** turn to page 32, where Tracey Daykin-Jones tackles slider cards with brilliant results, whilst Colette Smith's **stamping tutorial** is perfect for beginners.

Our papercraft hero, Katie Skilton uses her magic touch on the latest vintage-style papers, turning them into **stunning gift ideas** (p50), plus the Christmas angel (p96) will make a delightful addition to your tree. We also say 'hello' to Christina Strutt, founder of Cabbages & Roses, as well as catch up with ethical craft entrepreneur, Sharon Langsdale. Oh... and before I forget, there's a **gingerbread house** to make on page 98. Enjoy!

Happy Crafting,

Sarah

Sarah Crosland, Editor

Meet the team



ROSIE SAVAGE,
Deputy Editor, tries metal stamping, and decorates china with Jill Alblas' guide (p64)



JECELYN LATIMER,
Editorial Assistant, turns old woollies into felt and makes Halloween decs for her nieces (p45)

Your free gift next month...

Next issue you'll receive a wonderful FREE gift with eight felt squares, decoupage papers, blanks, threads and ricrac to get you crafting straight away! Plus, we have over £5,850 of prizes to be won in our BUMPER GIVEAWAYS!







2014 CRAFT SHOP Christmas

Don't forget to support your local craft shop in the run up to Christmas. Whether on the high street or online, make it your first stop for workshops, the latest products and techniques, plus you can grab a bargain too! Turn to page 114 for details of your nearest craft retailer.

Available on the App Store

Crafts Beautiful is now available to download from the App Store

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Write to us! Crafts Beautiful, 1 Phoenix Court, Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JY Get in touch sarah.crosland@aceville.co.uk

OCTOBER 2014

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Share it! with the rest of the CB community via



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crafts-beautiful.com





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80 FREEBIES AND OFFERS
There's over £1,170 worth of prizes this month: enter now!

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FOR DETAILS TURN TO PAGE 36



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Craft tip

Why not try hanging cards from a length of twine with your own homemade pegs?



@living4media

We've used acrylic paint on wooden cherry blanks for a fun fruity twist. First, paint the shape in red and leave to dry. Next, colour the leaves using a light green paint and the stalks in brown, adding a curve to each end as shown. Once dry, you can add the details. On a brush, blot brown paint and use to shade the sides of both cherries. Take a fine paintbrush and green paint to make the leaf veins.

It might be a good idea to practise on a piece of paper first. Once finished, stick to a wooden peg and repeat to make as many as you need.

SOURCE IT...

Clothes pegs, Dunelm Mill, **0345 165 6565, dunelm-mill.com**

Paint, Craft Shapes, **01270 763668, craftshapes.co.uk**

Wooden cherry shapes, Woodshapes, **01842 862634, woodshapes.co.uk**

How to use your FREE GIFT

CREATE TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS DECS WITH YOUR FESTIVE DECOUPAGE SET



WHAT YOU NEED

- Your FREE Christmas Decorations Kit
- Glue, PVA
- Paint, white
- Paintbrush, old
- Knife, craft



Design detail

For a different look, tear the papers into small sections to create a rustic finish

North Star

1 Using an old paintbrush, paint the front and back of the points of the wooden star blank in white and leave to dry. You may wish to paint one side at a time so the back doesn't stick to the surface when drying.

2 Once dry, apply PVA to the front of the star and carefully lay a larger square of ice blue patterned paper over the top. Cut lines between the spikes and, using your brush and more PVA, work to flatten and neaten the surface. Leave to dry, then turn over and work on smoothing over the back of the star points by folding the paper neatly. Apply glue to the wooden middle to seal and leave to dry again.

3 Now you can decide what to do with your star. For an easy tree decoration, cut a length of ribbon and stick it to the back using a glue gun, or fix a spring or pipe cleaner to the back and place on top of a small Christmas tree.



Subscribe Today! Receive a FREE sewing tin with stitch and felt goodies this month – turn to page 36!



Noel

1 Cover a work surface with old newspaper, then paint the front and sides of the 'Noel' blank in white using an old paintbrush and leave to dry. Cut a section of red festive paper large enough to fit over the blank, then glue the front using a clean paintbrush. Go over each letter smoothly, then with a craft knife, gently trim around the word and holes to fit to size.

2 Cut 5mm strips from red paper, then glue around the edges of the motif and carefully lay the lengths around it, going over with the paintbrush to smooth out any bumps. Be sure to glue one half first, leave to dry, then finish the rest. Apply a layer of glue to the back to finish.

3 Decide on what you'd like to do with the motif. Use as a simple prop to add to your Christmas scene, fix to a door using Blu Tack or decoupage the other side and hang from a tree. **CB**





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Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow... with felt and Christmas shapes next month!

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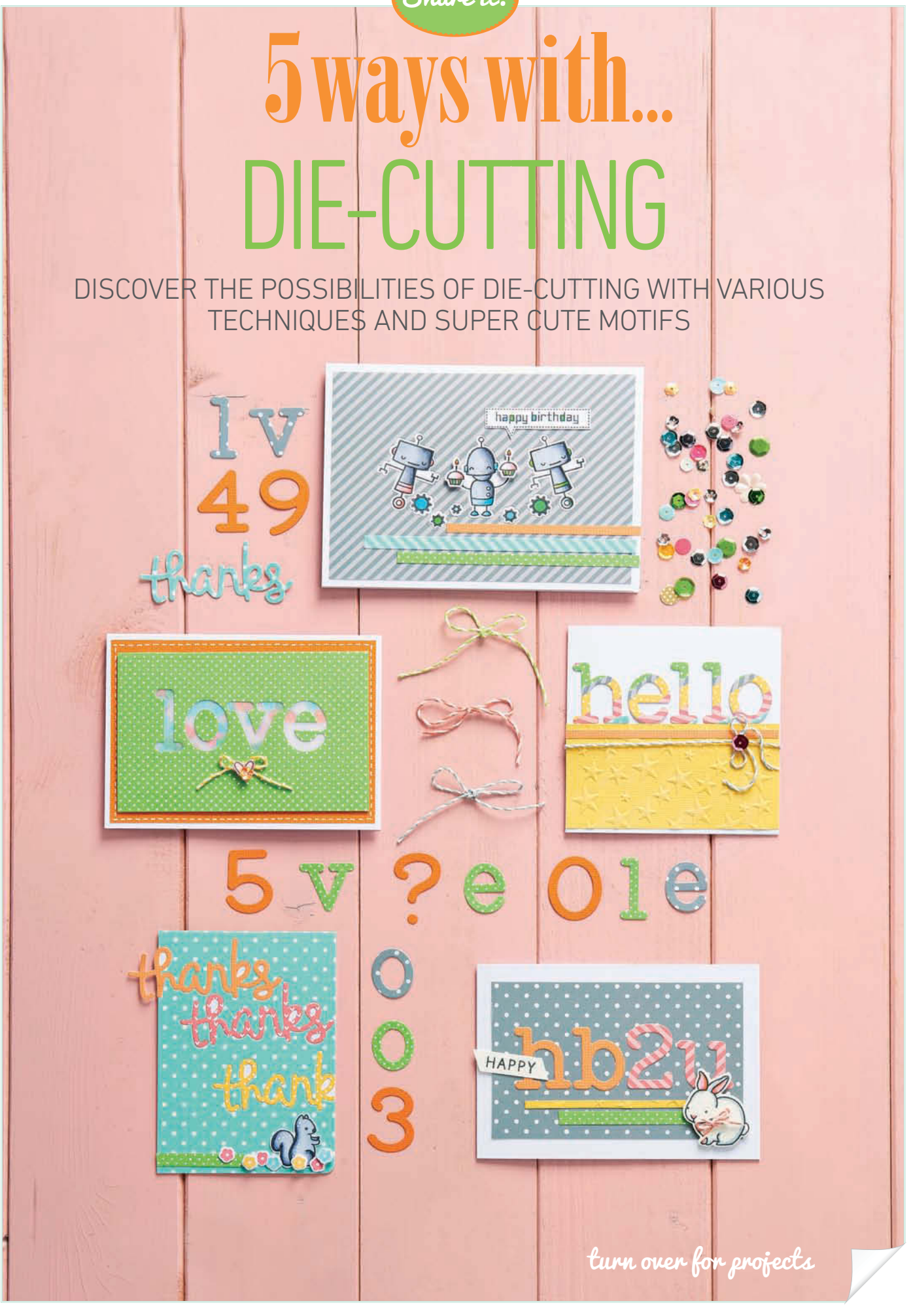
or call 01442 275311



Share it!

5 ways with... DIE-CUTTING

DISCOVER THE POSSIBILITIES OF DIE-CUTTING WITH VARIOUS TECHNIQUES AND SUPER CUTE MOTIFS



turn over for projects

WHAT YOU NEED

- Dies: Louie's ABCs; Louie's 123s; Thanks; Hello Baby; Beep Boop Birthday; Love You S'more
- Stamp sets: Hello Baby; Beep Boop Birthday; Love You S'more
- Papers: Hello Sunshine; Let's Polka
- Notecards, Fawndamentals: Mermaid; Hippo
- Twine: coral, cloudy, lemon
- Sequins, Let's Polka

Other products:

- Cardstock: white, coloured
- Vellum
- Alcohol markers
- Embossing folder, stars
- Pen, gel, white
- Inks
- Adhesives

Thanks

1 Using a mermaid notecard, die-cut 'thanks' three times, changing the position of each word. Die-cut 'thanks' three more times from patterned paper. Add white cardstock behind, then attach each word to the base. Trim the bottom word so it's flush with the card and leave the top one sticking out.

2 Trim green spotted paper and adhere to the base of the card. Stamp a squirrel in black, adding shade and colour with grey and black alcohol markers. Apply detail using a clear blender. Die-cut the shape out.

3 Stamp flowers using different colours, then use the matching dies to cut them out. Stick the flowers around the squirrel, using foam pads on a few.



Did you know?

Die-cutting developed as a result of the Industrial Revolution. Cobblers needed to economically produce shoe parts, so in the mid-1800s the mallet handle die was invented – just picture a die in one hand and a mallet in the other. Thankfully, further down the line in the late 19th century, a basic belt-driven press was produced: the first ever die-cutting machine.

Happy Birthday 2 U

1 Adhere a grey polka dot notecard to a white blank, 10cm x 14cm. Die-cut 'hb2u' using the alphabet and number dies out of orange and pink patterned papers. Add these to the centre of the card, changing the direction of the paper for one of the letters to add interest.

2 Cut out a strip of green dotted paper and yellow cardstock, already textured with a star embossing folder. Stick below. Stamp a rabbit and 'HAPPY' onto white cardstock with black ink. Using alcohol markers, add pink and grey to the rabbit. Cut out.

3 Add a small twine bow onto the rabbit and attach to the card using 3-D foam pads. Layer the 'HAPPY' sentiment over the letters to finish.



Hello

1 Emboss yellow cardstock, 5.5cm x 10.5cm, with stars. Add an orange strip of paper to the top of it and wrap grey twine around. Tie in a bow, then place a sequin on top.

2 Apply thin strips of patterned paper in a diagonal position onto white cardstock. Die-cut 'hello' so the pattern runs diagonally on each letter. Adhere the yellow cardstock onto a white card blank, 10.5cm square. Add the letters to the card so they rest on the yellow.



Share it!

Robotic Birthday

1 Create a white card blank, 11.5cm x 15.5cm. Using a smaller matt of grey striped paper, die-cut three robots across the middle. Repeat from white cardstock and position the matching stamps over them to print in black.

2 Use markers to add shading and colour to the robots in pink, blue and green. Stamp and die-cut several cogs from white cardstock and the striped patterned paper, then die-cut two cupcakes from cardstock. Add colour. Die-cut a speech bubble, press a birthday sentiment onto it and apply colour to some of the letters.

3 Adhere the robots and cogs to the card front in the relevant spaces. Stick the cupcakes to the hands of the central robot using foam pads. Add strips of patterned paper and card of different lengths to the bottom-right of the card, then place the sentiment to the top-right to finish.



"BY USING THE NEGATIVE SPACE AND POSITIVE SHAPES FROM DIE-CUTTING, YOU CAN CREATE SHADOWS, SHAKER CARDS, TEXTURE AND MORE"

Keren Baker, Designer



Craft tip

Secure the dies with washi tape that has been pressed onto clothing a few times to remove some of the stickiness



Love

1 Stick orange cardstock onto the base of a card blank, 10cm x 13.5cm, and add white gel pen dashes around the orange. Trim a smaller matt of green paper, position and secure the letters for 'love' onto the middle of it, then run them through your die-cutting machine.

2 Add a layer of vellum behind and adhere well. Apply strips of foam around the word on the back of the piece. Sprinkle sequins into this space and attach white cardstock onto the sticky part of the foam. Add to the card base.

3 Tie a bow with yellow twine. Stamp a heart onto pink cardstock with black ink and colour in with a white gel pen. Attach the heart to the bow, add a sequin on top and adhere to the card to finish. **CB**

SOURCE IT...

Lawn Fawn products, My Mum's Craft Shop, **01305 459131, mymumscraftshop.co.uk**

Papermania products, Mountain Ash Crafts, **01384 221554, macrafts.com**

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

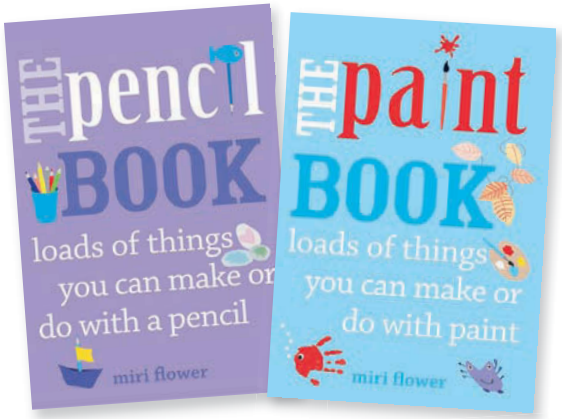
Inspiration for... OCTOBER

ENJOY OUR BEST CREATIVE PICKS AND HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH



Get Crafty

Popular craft blogger, Miri Flower's two new titles, The Paint Book and The Pencil Book published by Frances Lincoln (£9.99), are bursting with ideas that bring together drawing and painting in a fun and engaging way. Get the kids busy making spin art, leaf bunting, printing with bubbles and more! **franceslincoln.com**



Cutting Edge

The new Deluxe Crafty Edger is flying off the shelves. For the same price as the award-winning Crafty Edger, you can now get two cassettes, a straight border and the matching corner punch - we think that's just what crafters have been waiting for! Starter Kit, £20, twin pack, £10.50 and the single cassettes at £7. woodware.co.uk





SCANDI STYLING

Still love Nordic colourways? What better way to indulge, than to co-ordinate your pressies this year in Berry Red's super-stylish pink and jade gift wrap. Finish with twine and decorated labels that hark back to childhood Christmases. Large sheets (70cm x 200cm), £4. Order online at **berryred.co.uk**

DREAM TOPPINGS

A cake with a stitchy-themed topping is just up our street – a slice of this fruity treat with a cuppa wouldn't go a miss after all the washing up is done on Christmas Day. Find the hand-finished button cake in the baking aisle of your nearest Tesco store, stock-up while you can! Priced £8, weight 1kg. 0800 505 555, tesco.com





Don't miss out...

Last call for stampers and scrapbookers to hurry along to Ally Pally for The Big Stamp & Scrapbooking Show. 20th-21st September, bssbs.co.uk



PRETTY PONIES

We've all done it – got our treasured Christmas decs down from the attic only to find that a favourite bauble is past its best. We'd say that's the perfect time to bring another decorative ornament to the party! These hand painted rocking horses are sure to add a pop of vibrant colour to your festivities. Priced £7.50, **0845 450 3937**, **berryred.co.uk**

Craft Essentials

Dovecraft's Krafty Christmas is a papercraft collection featuring a colour palette of blue, white and red to give your festive projects a contemporary look. With classic themes of snowflakes, reindeers, doilies and gingham, this collection can be used for many years to come. Available at One Stop Craft Shop, online and in store. **onestopcraftshop.com**



For Your Diary

25th October, Stamperama Flitwick 2014. Stamp Addict is hosting the Stamperama show in support of the East Anglian Air Ambulance charity. This new event will be held at The Rufus Centre in Flitwick, Bedfordshire with all proceeds for door and stand sales going direct to the charity. It's a great opportunity to see some of the UK's leading craft exhibitors under one roof, including Craftwork Cards, Little Claire, Indigo Blue, Once Upon A Stamp, The Craft Bug and Stamp Addicts. For further information, visit **stamperama.com**



8th-12th October, The Knitting & Stitching Show, Great Hall, Alexandra Palace, London. A great day out for crafters of all ages. Spot trends and shop for great bargains. **0844 848 0155, twistedthread.com**

25th-26th October, Blyth Crafts Dabble Day, Barnby Memorial Hall. Two full days of crafting offering excellent value, plus refreshments and entertainment. Priced £45 per day, **01909 591808, www.b-crafts-e.co.uk/blythcraft**

Love Your Craft Shop

Pop into your local craft shop this autumn and find out what's on offer in the run-up to Christmas: ask about new product lines or maybe sign up for a workshop? Craft shops, whether local or online, are run by enthusiasts and provide a great service, advice and inspiration, so make it the first port of call this year when planning your cards and gift making. Turn to page 114 for a guide of participating stores.

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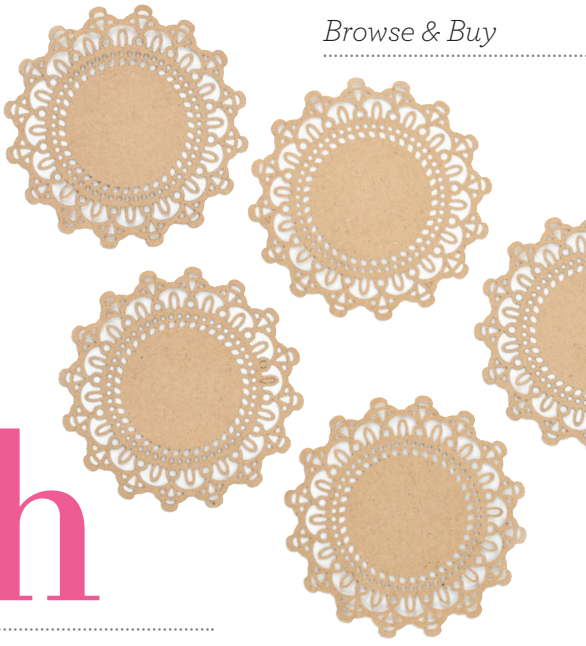
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SAVE £2 OFF EACH ADULT AND SENIOR TICKET ordered by 5pm Mon 3 November



We're smitten with the Burlap & Bouqets papercraft collection by Fancy Pants Designs – just think of the possibilities! Visit **fancypantsdesigns.com** for stockists.



Whether for a wedding, Christmas place settings or card making, brown paper doilies will add a natural touch. Visit **razzledazzlerose.co.uk**

Craft Crush

IF IT'S NOT RUSTIC, IT'S NOT RIGHT – SAY HELLO TO NATURALS THIS AUTUMN



Add a rustic touch to your makes with this centre-stitched ribbon. Priced £2.50 for four metres, **0844 800 9120, fantasticribbons.com**





How lovely is this embroidered raffia storage box? It's perfect for keeping your crafts safe. Priced £30, **berryred.co.uk**



These hand-cut wooden beads look like they behold all sorts of historical secrets. Priced 99p for 35, **01223 842443, thebeadstore.co.uk**



Bark candle holders are all the rage this season – light this heart lantern as you craft for a relaxing atmosphere. Priced £3.50, **tesco.com**



Team the beautiful Liberty Tana Lawn fabric in Wild Flowers C with burlap for a creative juxtaposition. Priced £5 per fat quarter, **alicecaroline.co.uk**



We positively adore seed paper – why not make a card with it for a truly unique gift idea? Visit **wildflower-favours.co.uk** for more.

It doesn't get much more natural than pressed flowers, so why not incorporate pretty daisies into your crafting? Priced 99p per pack, **01323 896807, daisyshop.co.uk**





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Make me QUICK

PAULA PASCUAL COMBINES PRETTY PASTEL SHADES TO CREATE SWEET SEASONAL GREETINGS









Make me QUICK







SNOWFLAKE JOY

1 Fix green dot paper to an A6 blank. Die-cut nine snowflakes using pink, green and blue dot paper, then one in silver. Use the medium circle die to make paper circles to layer underneath the snowflakes.

2 Attach to white card, 9.5cm x 13.8cm, raising some with foam pads. Die-cut a border and a message. Attach to the lower part of the card, then add pearls to the snowflake centres. Fix to the card blank.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

1 Cover the front of an A6 blank with pink dot paper. Die-cut three snowflake banners from green, blue and silver card, then an individual motif from red. Attach the banners to white card, 8.5cm x 13cm, and trim any excess.

2 Stamp 'CHRISTMAS' to the bottom corner in black ink and write 'happy' using a light green pen. Secure the red snowflake over a silver one, then add a tiny pink circle and an adhesive pearl to the centre.

CONTEMPORARY NOEL

1 Cut green dot paper to A6, then use a border die to the right of it. Attach to the front of a white card blank along the left side.

2 Mount a strip of pink dot paper to the right of the blank. Die-cut a message from red card, a snowflake border, individual snowflake and a circle, then attach them to the card using double-sided tape and foam pads.



Craft tip

Don't waste any leftover paper – experiment to create your own modern festive designs

"THESE PAPERS HAVE A FRESH, CONTEMPORARY FEEL THAT WORKS NICELY WITH TRADITIONAL GREETINGS"

Paula Pascual, Designer



PEACE

1 Cut five rectangles from dot papers in a variety of sizes. Fix to the front of a card blank, leaving a white edge between them.

2 Die-cut pink card, 7.5cm x 12cm, with a word die, leaving a wider edge at the bottom. Mount onto white and attach to the card front at an angle using foam pads. Die-cut 'peace', a snowflake and circles, then position and attach to the front. Finish with a pearl. **CB**

Download

IF YOU'D RATHER NOT CUT UP YOUR MAGAZINE...

You can download and print this project from CRAFTS-BEAUTIFUL.COM

SOURCE IT...

Sizzix Thinlits Christmas Phrase Cards and Winter Borders & Rosette, Sizzix, **0844 499 8181, sizzix.co.uk**

Large All Year Round Messages stamps, Personal Impressions, **01787 375241, personalimpressions.com**

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ask the EXPERTS

TRICKS, TIPS AND INSPIRATION FROM OUR TEAM OF TOP CRAFT DESIGNERS

Meet our Panel...



PAULA PASCUAL
Is a Sizzix designer who has been crafting since she was a teenager back in her native Spain



JEAN HARDY
Founder and co-owner of art stamp company, Crafty Individuals, craftyindividuals.co.uk



CORINNE BRADD
CB's very own in-house designer, author and multi-talented crafter



RICHARD PHILLIPS
Founder and co-owner of The Soap Kitchen in Devon, a one-stop-shop for materials and inspiration. soapkitchen.co.uk

Are there any particular colour themes and die collections you are planning to use on your cards this Christmas?



Katie Alice Yuletide Sleigh Ride Christmas Recipe Box, £14.99, creative-tops.com

PAULA SAYS... I think we are going to see bold messages, gold and modern designs set in clusters. Besides that, I think Christmas is a traditional affair, where snowflakes and poinsettias are always going to be featured and loved. After silver dominating for many years, gold is having resurgence in all fashion and crafts, and traditional Christmas colours will be back, but in softer tones. I am really looking forward to making my Christmas cards this year with my new collection of dies for Sizzix called Everyday Memories, which includes Christmas dies. I know that with die-cutting, I can create quite a few cards in a small amount of time that will have a professional look!



I fancy making some soap as Christmas presents this year – is there an easy way to get started?

RICHARD SAYS... If you are just getting started and want to make proper soap, you can't beat the natural kits we do, but if you want to make soap using a simple soap base, then choose a melt and pour kit. Any fragrance is pure preference and we sell a wide range of essential oils and fragrances to choose from. Natural soaps will take three to four weeks to cure after making them, so you will need to get making sooner rather than later in preparation for Christmas.

Is there a simple way to quilt without using a specialist sewing machine?

CORINNE SAYS... Yes, either by hand or with your normal machine. If you don't have access to a sewing machine, you can make a patchwork panel using small running or backstitch; press it and pin to the layers of wadding and backing fabric as usual. Then, simply quilt the pieces together with running stitch, keeping the layers on a flat surface, one hand under the quilt and the other above to pass the needle back and forth without having to keep moving the fabric. If you have a normal domestic machine you can still work on smaller quilts by sewing from the centre out, neatly rolling up the excess fabric on the right side so it will fit in the gap under your machine arm. Intricate scrolling patterns will be tricky with a domestic machine but not impossible if you lower the feed dogs and use a freehand embroidery foot.



I want to get my illustrations turned into stamps, what is the best way to go about this?

JEAN SAYS... Firstly, decide if you want to get your stamps made up to use yourself in projects, or sell them (through Etsy for example). In which case you would need to find a stamp manufacturer who would produce them either as one-offs, or as multiples. There are also companies that will make and sell the stamps for you. It would be advisable to consider whether a payment per design would suit, or perhaps royalties on the sales of your designs would be preferable. If you think that the designs have a big market ahead of them, consider investing in the equipment to both make and sell them yourself, through a retail outlet, online or both.



Any tips on which products to stock up on to help me get a really professional finish with my Christmas cards?

PAULA SAYS... I love to use my Sizzix Big Shot machine with dies and Texture Impressions embossing folders as a base to create professional-looking handmade Christmas cards. I like the fact that I can make them in batches and they will look perfectly finished. I always use blank white or off-white cards as a base; pre-scored ones make the whole design process easier. As I enjoy die-cutting so much, I usually choose a couple of dies as the main focal point for the design and subtly patterned paper (tone on tone is the best) to die-cut with. Finally, I choose a couple of sentiments, usually a die and a stamp, one for inside and one for the outside.

What glue would you recommend to get the best finish for decoupage?

CORINNE SAYS... There are several good brands on the market including Decopatch glaze, Modge Podge and Berol Marvin Medium. The finish depends not so much on the type of PVA glue used, rather the consistency and application. I've had good results from a run-of-the-mill PVA, watered down slightly and applied with a soft brush. You can opt for any of the above when you decorate the blanks that come with your free Christmas Decoupage kit.

COMING NEXT MONTH... Easy transfer tricks, triple-stamping and cross-stitch

KNOW SOMEONE WHO LOVES BAKING?
MAKE THEIR DAY WITH KEREN BAKER'S

Scrummy treats



WHAT YOU NEED

- Papers, Docrafts: Roald Dahl
- Cardstock, coloured
- Stamp set, Paper Artsy: Hot Picks 1301
- Dies, Sizzix: Majestic Label No.2
- Embossing folder, stars
- Vellum
- Plastic bags, small
- Embellishments: twine; glitter domes; ribbon, seam binding, pink, blue
- Foam pads, 3-D
- Cocktail sticks
- Cake decorating supplies



"THE IDEA OF BOXED GOODIES COULD BE CHANGED FOR SAVOURY FANS TOO – ADD IN SPICES, CHUTNEYS AND OLIVES"

Keren Baker, Designer

Make it!



BISCUIT CUTTER TAG

1 Tie biscuit cutters together with twine. Emboss white cardstock with stars, then trim into a tag shape, 4cm x 7cm. Cut a triangle off each top corner and punch a hole in the top-middle.

2 Create curved indents at the bottom corners. Add small strips of brightly coloured cardstock of varying lengths across the left-hand side, then stick a glittered dome at the bottom.

BOX

1 Measure white cardstock, 20cm square. Score lines 2cm down from each edge, so you've created another square with four little squares at each corner. Cut one of the lines towards the inner square at each corner. Draw a square, 10cm, in the middle so it's positioned centrally. Cut the square out. Fold in each line and glue the tabs together to create a lid.

2 Repeat Step 1 with white cardstock, 19.7cm square, omitting the cut-out section in the middle. Trim more white cardstock, 6cm x 15cm. Score at 1cm, 3cm and 5cm across the shorter width, then mountain fold at the centre and fold the outer two at 90° angles. Adhere the larger panels together so it becomes a partition for the inside. Create more partitions if desired.

3 To decorate the outside of the box, cut different widths of coloured cardstock and trim the ends at an angle. Stick these across the bottom right-hand side of the box, so they extend onto the side and are spaced apart randomly. Stamp 'CREATE' onto white cardstock and adhere on top of the coloured strips. Add a glittered dome and orange twine bow.

TREATS

1 Fill little plastic bags with cake decorations, fold over and seal. Die-cut labels to fit the size of the bags from patterned paper, then cut a larger shape from white cardstock. Adhere together so there's a white border around the paper.

2 Score a line in the middle, fold and attach to the bags. Write the names of the contents onto them. To make cupcake toppers, push out decoupage pieces from the Roald Dahl stationery set and adhere to cocktail sticks.



CUPCAKES RECIPE TAG

1 Make a tag shape from white cardstock, 6cm x 12cm, and cut off triangles at the top corners. Punch a hole at the top. Dampen seam binding ribbon, scrunch it up and leave to dry. Thread this through the hole and secure with orange twine.

2 Cut a rectangle of vellum slightly smaller than the tag. Add a strip of patterned paper to the left of the tag, followed by a little green cardstock triangle to the bottom right-hand corner of the vellum. Write a recipe on the vellum and secure onto the tag using a glitter dome.



SOURCE IT...

Roald Dahl papers, Docrafts, The Range, **0845 026 7598, therange.co.uk**

Dies, Sizzix, **0844 499 8181, sizzix.co.uk**



COLETTE SMITH'S Festive Bunny Card

ADD POPS OF COLOUR AND GLOSSY SHIMMER TO YOUR FESTIVE CARD MAKING

It's that time of year again when we need to start refreshing our craft stash! This project includes a bright, festive stamped image using marker pens to really make the design pop. Sprinkle embossing powder over the motif and work over it using a heat tool, 10cm above the card. When the powder melts, it becomes very glossy and creates a lovely crisp outline. Embossing is brilliant if you are not great at colouring within lines as the raised edge acts as a guide. I found some bright festive papers in my stash and decided to co-ordinate the colours for a professionally finished look. It's also a lovely way of using up some of your fave papers from Christmases past!

the basic technique hot embossing

- To heat emboss you need to use a pigment ink to get the best results. Dye-based inks dry too quickly and the powder won't stick very well and can leave you with a patchy image.
- Don't overheat the powder otherwise is 'disperses' into the card and you will get an uneven outline. Heating from the back of the card helps, giving you more control.
- Rub an anti-static bag over the surface of the card before stamping. This will help to stop the embossing powder from sticking where you don't want it.
- Clean, dry hands are essential when heat embossing. Fingerprints can attract the powder which will then ruin your image.
- If you are not using embossing powder and a small part of the image hasn't stamped, carefully fill in any missed parts with a fine liner pen.



"To keep your image neat, always take the ink-pad to the stamp and be sure to use gentle taps when applying"

"Stamp the bunny twice. Trim the head, ears and hat then,







WHAT YOU NEED

- Stamp: The Cat's Pajamas: Clearly Swanky Define Good
- Cardstock, Digital, Craftwork Cards: Brilliant White Ultra Smooth
- Card blank, 13.5cm, white square, top fold
- Ink-pad, Versafine: Onyx Black
- Embossing powder, Stampendous: Detail Clear
- Pens, ProMarkers
- Dies, circles
- Papers, patterned
- Adhesives



1 Place the bunny stamp onto an acrylic block and line up the 'Define Good' stamp under it. Tap the ink-pad onto the outline and press onto digital cardstock; carefully remove the stamp to reveal a lovely crisp image.

2 Whilst the ink is still wet, quickly cover the stamped image with embossing powder and set with a heat gun. Using a maker pen or medium of your choice, colour in the image keeping within the lines of the embossing.

3 Die-cut the largest circle from patterned paper and the bunny image in a circle the next size down. Matt the bunny circle onto the patterned one and trim a section from the bottom, just below the sentiment.

4 Cover the top three quarters with co-ordinating patterned paper, then matt onto the blank so that the bottom edge of the bunny circle is in line with the bottom of the paper.

5 Cut a simple scallop border and a banner shape from co-ordinating papers. Place the banner at the top left corner and the scallops under the image. Tie a button with twine and fix to the banner. Wrap and tie twine around the top of the scallop border and tie at the right. Finish with a few gems. **CB**

SOURCE IT...

Digital cardstock, Craftwork Cards,
0113 287 7794, craftworkcards.co.uk

Stamps, My Mum's Craft Shop,
01305 459131, mymumscraftshop.co.uk

Ink-pad and embossing powder, That's Crafty,
01708 732531, thatscrafty.co.uk

layer over the main image to make him stand out"







your SPACE

"Share your crafty makes and stories with fellow CB readers!" Jecelyn







STAR LETTER

I would just like to say how much I enjoy Crafts Beautiful! I started reading it whilst I was in hospital last October and I haven't missed an issue since. I've always been into crafts and recently discovered crystal jewellery. I've enjoyed making it so much I've started selling it; your make and sell jewellery feature from the May issue was a real inspiration, and the Russian dolls free with the July issue were so fun to decorate! Thank you, and I hope you like what I've made.
Heidi Freeman, via email

WE LOVE THEM ALL, HEIDI! THANKS SO MUCH FOR SENDING THEM IN.

Star Prize

Want a perfect way to soothe the senses? Light a candle and let the soft fragrance fill the air, perhaps whilst you craft! Our star letter winner this month takes home a bundle of Honeybell Soap candles to enjoy. Featuring bluebell, bamboo and olive blossom, English rose and geranium, and white jasmine, these tantalising scents will get you feeling relaxed. To find out more visit **honeybellsoap.co.uk**



It's World Post Day on 9th October, so it's the perfect time to exchange cards or send a make to a loved one!

Twitterverse

An ant just flew into my breast pocket. An antkerchief perhaps? @paddygrant

What do I like to drink when crafting? Tea, tea and more tea! @snappycrafts

I'm going to finish a Christmas cross-stitch scene as a surprise for my mam @womblejuice68

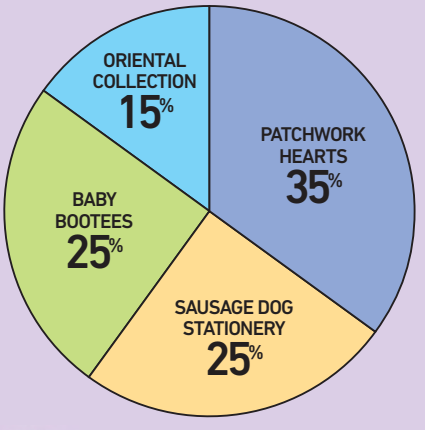
WEDDING KNITS

Hello CB! I make knitted sets of dolls using photos or descriptions of real wedding couples. It's great fun and so nice to make something unique for a couple's special day.
Laura Long, via email

THIS DUO IS SURE TO BE TREASURED, LAURA!



Your FAVOURITE PROJECT FROM LAST MONTH WAS...



Vote for your favourite this issue on homecraftforums.com!

Show us your CB KIT CREATIONS

We love to see what our readers have made using their free gifts. Have you done something special with yours? Why not send us a pic?

Meet a mate!



Swap hints, tricks and your stories with new friends

Nichola McDougall, 27
I love reading, making new friends and my pets. I'd like to hear from anyone around the same age who has similar interests.
10 Summit Close, Bury, Lancs, BL9 7TS

Margaret Williams, 68
I enjoy making cards, lampshades, encaustic painting and pyrography. It would be nice to hear from someone with similar interests.
Jalna, Llwynygog, Staylittle, Llanbrynmair, Powys, Wales, SY19 7DE

Jo Brook, 68
My hobbies include patchwork, card making, writing, art and my Christian faith. I'd like anyone who's interested in the same areas to get in touch.
Top flat, 1 Needles View, Keyhaven Road, Keyhaven, Lymington, Hampshire, SO41 0TJ

Hannah, 27
I enjoy sewing, making jewellery, reading, cats, rosé wine and project life! I'd like to hear from like-minded, chatty ladies.
118 Manor Road, Abersychan, Pontypool, Torfaen, South Wales, NP4 7DY

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

Email your details to social.cb@aceville.co.uk or fill out the form on page 116

CHARITY KNIT



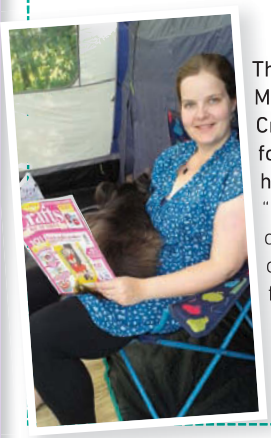
This is a selection of hats I knitted for the Innocent Big Knit in aid of Age UK, so they can be sold in shops who support the charity during November. They're great for using up any little scraps of yarn, too! If you'd like to make your own to donate, visit **ageuk.org.uk**
Martha Boylan, via Facebook

WHAT A LOVELY CAUSE, MARTHA! THEY LOOK FAB.

Thrifty Thursday

What have you been upcycling as part of Thrifty Thursday?

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





This month, Charlotte Marshall, aka The Fatty Crafter, reuses old bedding for the craft basket of her dreams!
"I recently upcycled some old bed linen to make a collapsible bread basket for my mum. And here's a picture of me camping! I took my crochet and copy of Crafts Beautiful, though unfortunately my pooch didn't want to be left out, so napped on my knee whilst I tried to read around him!"

Ring On It

I just wanted to say that I love your magazine and I never miss an issue! My mother-in-law was saving ring pulls from cans for a friend, who sent them to charity. She stopped collecting them but didn't want to throw them out, so I decided to put them to good use. I've made a few bags and a even a lampshade using these little tokens!
Deborah Thompson, via email

HOW CREATIVE! A SMART WAY TO UPCYCLE.



DON'T miss out!

We have a spectacular Be Merry paper bundle from American Crafts up for grabs in our Christmas Special issue, out 19th September 2014!



House stitch

Hello, I hope you like my take on Helen Philipps' 'Home Sweet Home' cross-stitch sampler from the July issue. I love red against white – the simplicity and brightness of it grabs my attention every time! As a base, I used the back of an empty spiral bound notebook. I'm so pleased I was able to recycle it!
Marie-Therese, via email

I'M GLAD YOU LIKED THE PROJECT, GREAT JOB!

Get in touch via...

Post – Your Space, Crafts Beautiful, 1 Phoenix Court, Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JY
Email – social.cb@aceville.co.uk



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Photo by: i see the moon photography | Crafted by: Debbie Murray

USE SPELLBINDERS DIES AND GET CRAFTY WITH THERESA MOMBER'S SUPER-EASY

Lily canvas



Craft tip

Use the back of a pair of scissors to curl the petals over; it's quick and easy!

WHAT YOU NEED

Spellbinders products:

- Die-cutting machine, Grand Calibur®
- Dies: Majestic Squares S4-422 (4,5,6); Foliage Flourish S4-430 (Accent 1, Accent 2); Create-a-Lily S2-065; Die D-Lite: Home Sweet Home S2-086
- Foil, Two Gold

Other products:

- Cardstock: ivory, tan, yellow, green, gold
- Ribbon, silk, ivory
- Craft paint, multi-surface
- Paper, patterned
- Ink-pads, assorted colours

SWEET HOME CANVAS

1 Paint the canvas, then decorate with layers of card and paper. Using low-tack tape, secure Majestic Squares #5 (with #1 being the smallest) in the centre of #4, then cut and emboss using ivory cardstock and the Grand Calibur machine. With the die-cut still in the die template, apply ink to the embossed surfaces.

2 From ivory cardstock, cut and emboss Majestic Squares #4. Leave the die-cut in the template and ink the embossed areas. Cut and emboss the Home Sweet Home sentiment from gold foil, then fix to the front of the canvas.

3 Cut and emboss Foliage Flourish Accent 1 and Accent 2 from green cardstock, to create three die-cuts. Assemble three Create-a-Lily flowers and foliage and fix to the canvas.

4 Shape the Create-a-Lily base and leaves from green cardstock and the stamen and petals from yellow, then cut and emboss. Repeat twice to create three flowers.

5 Make the base into a cone shape and fix with glue. Coil the stamen tightly and adhere. Fix the largest petals, evenly spaced inside the base, and curl them outwards, then repeat for the smaller petals. Fix the stamen to the centre of the flower and flair out slightly. **CB**

SOURCE IT...

Die cutting machine and dies, Spellbinders, **spellbinderscreativearts.com**

CREATE STUNNING 3-D CHRISTMAS CARDS WITH A SERIES OF

Festive FOLDS





"WANT TO SEND THIS CARD TO SOMEONE? PRESS THE MAIN PART FLAT IN THE CENTRE, POP IN AN ENVELOPE AND POST THE NORMAL WAY"

Tracey Daykin-Jones, Designer

Love it!

WHAT YOU NEED

- Paper kit, Bella BLVD, Christmas Countdown
- Card: red, white
- Ribbon, yellow
- Punch, star
- Dies, circle
- Gems, silver



TREE CARD

1 Cut white card and red patterned paper, 10.5cm x 15cm. Layer striped paper onto the red and mark a rectangle, 6cm x 10cm, in the centre. Trim along the two sides and the front edge. Score a horizontal line at the mid point and the back edge.

2 Place the layered section on top of the white card, mark the aperture, then add an image to the space. Stick double-sided tape around the left, right and bottom edges of the white front and adhere the section to the top.

3 Trim patterned paper, 7cm x 15cm, then score a 1cm horizontal line up from the bottom edge. Snip 5mm off either side below the scored area and slot through the gap at the top of the card. Stick the scored flap to the bottom edge of the open section using double-sided tape.

4 Cut seven triangles, 6cm x 9cm, from double-sided patterned paper and score down the centre. Join together by sticking the right side of the first one to the left side of the next, alternating the design. Complete until all are attached.

Craft tip

Line the shapes up accurately to avoid the reverse pattern showing on the outer edges of the 3-D motifs

How to assemble... A SLIDER CARD









5 Secure the tree to the centre of a red panel, 6.5cm x 10.5cm. Fix a yellow star to the top using a 3-D foam pad and embellish with silver gems. Attach to the front panel of the raised section. Cut two circles from red card, then sandwich together on the outer edge of the inserted strip. Punch a hole to the centre and tie white ribbon through to finish.

BAUBLE

1 Cover an A6 blank with green checked paper, then layer text paper on top. Die-cut seven large circles from double-sided patterned paper and score down the centres. Join the right side of the first semi-circle to the left side of the next one. Continue until they are all connected.

2 Punch two small holes, 3cm, down from the top of the card, then thread yellow ribbon through and tie a bow. Fix the 'bauble' below the bow using double-sided tape. Trim circles paper, 5cm x 18cm, then score at 3cm intervals and add Christmas messages to three front panels. Stick to the bottom of the card using foam pads and adhere with silver gems. **CB**

SOURCE IT...

BLVD Christmas Countdown paper kit, Papermaze, **01473 892195, papermaze.co.uk**

Ribbon, Fantasic Ribbons, **0844 800 9120, fantasticribbons.com**

HARK BACK TO TIMES GONE BY AND CREATE A CARD FROM JOANNA SHEEN'S

Fond MEMORIES



"OLD FASHIONED SWEETS OR TOYS FROM MY YOUTH BRING MEMORIES FLOODING BACK. I KEEP SAYING TO MY GIRLS – TREASURE EVERY DAY, THESE MEMORIES WILL BE SO PRECIOUS TO YOU LATER!"

Joanna Sheen, Designer

WHAT YOU NEED

- Joanna Sheen Zolan, Cardmaking Pad
- Card: cream/ivory pearlescent; pink, red
- Spellbinders Dies: Majestic Labels One; Majestic Circles
- Embossing folder of your choice
- Die-cutting machine

GREETING CARD

1 Cut a card blank using the Majestic Labels die with the hinge at the top. Create another single piece also in cream card. Fold the front of the card blank and create an easel base by attaching the single piece to the bottom of the folded front.

2 Finish the inside by cutting two slightly smaller pieces, one in the pink/red card and another in the cream card you have run through an embossing folder. Cut a couple more pieces to trim into the bar running across the embossed piece of card. Add a little strip of patterned paper as an embellishment. Finally, again using glue gel, add the circular embellishment from the card making pad sheet.

3 For the card front, layer a pink/red circle with a decorative cream circle and attach using glue gel. Layer the main image onto cream card, then pink/red card and attach. Layer the circular image of the little girl onto cream, then cut out the decoupage piece of the girl and puppy. Layer these up and add the sentiment. Finish with self-adhesive gems. **CB**

SOURCE IT...

All materials used for this project are available from Joanna Sheen Ltd, **joannasheen.co.uk**

ONLINE

Web watch

EXPLORE THE WONDERS OF THE CREATIVE WEB WITH OUR TOP PICKS THIS MONTH

Blog love

We chat to Kate Williams of craftsonsea.co.uk this month



Why did you set up the blog?
My husband was blogging and I realised that if I didn't do something, I'd be left with all the washing up! Plus, I'd just returned to work after having my son and I wanted to have my own project, so I started documenting my attempts at crafts.

What crafts do you like to focus on?
I love sewing but I'm a bit addicted to spray paint at the moment, or anything that involves a hammer.

What's your fave thing about blogging?
The opportunities it's given me. I've been to Downing Street, made some friends and it's given me the chance to make money doing something I love. Being my own boss is great!







DOWNLOADER

FREEBIES FOR YOU TO USE IN YOUR CRAFT PROJECTS

freedeariedollsdigistamps.blogspot.co.uk
A cute mouse digi stamp couple for you to use

sarahtitus.com
Free household binder printables to keep you organised

blog.worldlabel.com
Lots of pretty labels to add a delicate touch to your items

Must Visit!

CRAFTSHAPES.CO.UK

Want to pick from an abundance of craft blanks for your projects? Craft Shapes has a wide selection to choose from at great prices including squares, circles, triangles, rectangles, stars, hearts, frames, signs, boxes, trees, houses, letters, gingerbread men, snowmen, snowflakes, animal shapes, Christmas motifs and much more! And, once you've finished your design, you can even send a pic of your make to be featured on the website. What's not to love?



YOURS FOR FREE!

FOR THE INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO MAKE THESE GORGEOUS SWEETIE BAGS, LIKE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AT FACEBOOK.COM/CRAFTSBEAUTIFUL



Pinterest

We've gone potty for pumpkins on our Halloween Pinterest board this month!

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DIANE BODEN quills

Folksy Birdhouses

LEARN HOW TO QUILL IN MINIATURE WITH THESE PRETTY PAPER CREATIONS

This fun project uses standard quilled shapes for the focal design, including pegs, hearts and teardrops. Flat strips stuck down on the front of the card birdhouse give it a rustic wood-like effect and is easy to do with just a little PVA glue. Pegs are brilliant for adding dimension to a flat surface and are easily made by rolling up a strip on your quilling tool, then securing the end with a dab of glue while the coil is still tight. With autumn themes coming into play, I've chosen a subtle earthy colour palette using warm browns, russets and creamier tones for contrast. The project would be brilliant for a new home card and decoration, or you could even change the colourways to a more festive theme and add a robin and a little holly. Enjoy!

Happy quilling, Diane x



WHAT YOU NEED

- Quilling strips: 3mm in olive, fawn, mid brown, cream, berry, tan; 2mm in black; 5mm in olive, fawn, mid brown, cream
- Quilling tool
- Card blank, 15cm square
- Scraps of paper/card
- Glue, PVA

Birdhouse Card

1 For the first house, cut a 5cm square of paper. Glue 14, 3mm strips next to each other on the card front. Roll ten coils from 5.5cm strips, glue and pinch into semi-circles. Make a 5.5cm peg for the top. Roll a tight coil from a 45cm strip for the entrance hole. Create three eye shapes from 5.5cm strips.

2 Make another birdhouse shape from card, 6cm square, and stick down 12 strips as before. Make 14 teardrops from 5.5cm strips. Create an arch shape using a 45cm strip; the ledge is an 11cm thin shape.

3 The final house is 5cm square, 16 strips wide. Make six hearts and seven pegs from 5.5cm strips. The heart-shaped birdhouse entrance is made from a 45cm strip.

4 To make the birds: shape the head from an 11cm teardrop, then pinched hard to form a beak. The body is a 15cm semi-circle and the tail, two 7.5cm teardrops. Make the wings from two 5.5cm teardrops and the breast using a 7.5cm crescent.

5 To shape the posts, glue two 3mm strips together and stick to the card with the houses. For the first post, fold some 5.5cm strips in half and curl the ends. Create 7.5cm eye shapes and 5.5cm pegs for the leaves. For the second post, curl short strips and make leaves from 11cm heart shapes, pinched to one side. Decorate the third post with 7.5cm leaf shapes and 5.5cm pegs.

Birdhouse Tag

1 Cut card, 8cm square, and stick down 14, 3mm strips. Cut the roof line, 3.5cm down from top. Trim the base, 4cm wide. Glue 5mm strips along the roof line and across the base; leave strips to overhang and trim later. Make 12 hearts and 16 pegs from 5.5cm strips. Glue five pegs along the base and the rest in between the hearts.

2 Make the birds using the following measurements: head, 15cm; body, 22.5cm; tail, two x 7.5cm; wings, two x 5.5cm; breast, 11cm.

3 To shape the entrance hole, make a tight coil from two, 2mm strips 45cm long. Form two, 11cm hearts and four, 5.5cm eye shapes for leaves.

4 Make a small loop with your fingers and wrap it round several times. Glue the end and secure to the tag, then thread through a 3mm strip.

"FOR A CHRISTMAS THEME, TURN THE BIRDS INTO ROBINS WITH A RED BREAST AND USE A RED, WHITE AND GREEN SCHEME WITH HOLLY AND IVY FOLIAGE"

Diane Boden, Designer



Craft Tip

To ensure that your pegs have neat centres, twist a cocktail stick around the hole – it will make all the difference!



Birdhouse Bunting

1 Make a series of birdhouses in different colours, using the same method as for the tag. Shape the round entrance holes using two 45cm strips. For the arch and oval, create the shapes with 45cm strips; allow the coil to expand slightly before forming the shape. Make 14, hearts and 18, pegs using 5.5cm strips. Glue five pegs across the base and the rest in between hearts.

2 For the heart, make an 11cm strip teardrop. Glue a contrasting strip to the point and wrap round three times. Pinch into a heart and add some 5.5cm leaves. Shape bows made with loops from 5.5cm strips and a piece for hanging. Assemble on the birdhouse as shown. Thread through a thin quilling strip to hang. **CB**

SOURCE IT...

All materials available from JJ Quilling Design, **020 8295 1822, jjquilling.co.uk**

GET INTO THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS AND RECREATE SHARON CALLIS' EASY

Festive STYLE



Craft tip

A little gilding wax goes a long way - apply sparingly and build up layers until you get the intensity that you want

WHAT YOU NEED

- Embossalicious, Vintage Christmas: Vintage Music, A4 Folder; Softly Falling, A4 Embossing Folder; Christmas Merriment, 8"x 8" Embossing Folder
- Die'sire Dies: Classique Christmas, Christmas Tree; Cameo Frame; Holly
- Cardstock: kraft, Crafter's Companion; Core'dinations, green
- Papers, Christmas themed
- Xyron Creative Station, 9"
- Adhesive, Collall 3-D gel
- Gilding wax, Pebeo, gold

CHRISTMAS CARD

1 Fold A4 kraft card in half to make a blank. For the base layer cut the patterned paper, 14.5cm x 20.5cm. Emboss using the Softly Falling folder and rub the edges lightly with gold gilding wax. Run the paper through the Creative Station and place on the card blank.

2 For the next layer, cut a sheet of kraft card, 12.3cm x 18.5cm. Add a top layer of patterned paper, 12cm x 18.2cm. Emboss with the Vintage Music embossing folder, then add the gilding wax along the edges. Run the patterned paper through the Creative Station and adhere to the kraft card, then attach to the base using 3-D glue gel.

3 Die-cut a Christmas tree from kraft card, patterned paper and green Core'dinations cardstock. Emboss the green tree using the Christmas Merriment folder and rub lightly with gilding wax. Layer the trees together using 3-D gel and place on the card.

4 Stamp the sentiment on pearl card and die-cut using the Cameo Frame die. Ink, apply gilding wax to the edges and adhere to the card using 3-D gel. Die-cut two holly leaves and place either side of the sentiment. Finish with adhesive gems. **CB**

SOURCE IT...

All the products used in this project are available from Crafter's Companion, **01388 663251, crafterscompanion.co.uk**

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SARA NAUMANN'S Easy Metal Stamping

FOLLOW OUR GUIDE TO CREATE YOUR OWN LETTERPRESS STYLE FOR CARDS AND GIFTS

I tried metal stamping years ago with an oily set of industrial alphabet stamps and the hammer from the garage. My results were inconsistent at best, with wonky lettering and uneven impressions - it was not my finest crafting moment! Fast forward to a new era and a chance to try improved metal stamping supplies I found at a trade show in California earlier this year. One tap with the hammer and I was hooked, it was so easy!

Not only are these stamped metal pieces easy to make – even for a beginner - but they also look fabulous as card focals, or jewellery pieces. The shapes I'm using are all pre-cut and many are pre-drilled, so there's no metal working experience necessary. Plus you can accent them with metallic outline stickers for tone-on-tone shine. So, why not pick up your tools and give it a go, just avoid any greasy stamps!

"With autumn in the air, many of us are looking toward Christmas – this technique is a great way to create gifts with a truly personal touch"

the basic technique metal stamping

- Place the metal piece on the stamping block and secure with a little tape.
- Mark a line on the tape with a pencil or pen for each letter.
- Align the edge of the tip of the stamp with the edge of the tape, then strike with the hammer using medium pressure.
- Use a fine-tip permanent marker to colour the debossed letters. Rub off excess with a dry cloth.









Craft tip

Make sure the surface you're stamping on is even, level and very sturdy. A table with wobbly legs isn't the best option!

WHAT YOU NEED

- Metal stamps; stamping block; hammer; metal pieces
- Stamp Straight Tape
- Pen, permanent, black
- Outline stickers, Hot Off The Press Dazzles: Feathers
- Patterned papers, Hot Off The Press: Fancy Feathers
- Ink-pad, black
- Card, black
- Just a Pocket, Coin Envelope Sara's Surfaces, Hot Off The Press
- Ball chain
- Ribbons: pink, purple

Coming Next Time...



Sara introduces us to the wonders of double embossing – a technique that uses an embossing plate and ink and powder highlights, for a lovely textured effect. Follow our guide to create unique cards for Christmas... you saw it here first!

XOXO Love

Two metal charms are stamped, then threaded together on a simple ball chain; the end of the necklace is tucked inside the pocket and held with repositionable tape. The recipient can easily pull it off the card and wear it right away!

1 Make a folded black card, 12cm x 16.5cm. Trim feathers paper slightly smaller and glue to the card front. Add metallic swirl stickers.

2 Cover the panels of the coin envelope with green patterned papers; ink the edges black and glue the envelope together. Ink the edges of a 5cm-wide strip of pink paper and glue across the front. Add metallic silver stickers. Mount on black card, then glue to the card front. Add a knotted length of purple ribbon.

3 Stamp two metal pendants and string on a ball chain. Tuck the ends inside the coin envelope and secure with tape.



Sara says...

Pre-drilled charms make a pretty pendant - and you don't have to be a jewellery designer either! I layered two stamped charms on a ball chain so it can be worn as a necklace. The card then becomes a great gift presentation.



For You Pocket

This cute mini pocket is perfect for holding a gift card or a sweet note. Personalise it with a metal stamped charm accented with silvery stickers!

1 Cover the front top panel of the pocket with pink patterned paper. Ink the edges of a 1cm-wide strip of purple patterned paper and glue across the top. Cover the bottom panel as shown and add an inked strip of pink. Ink the edges of the pocket black.

2 Add silver metallic stickers at the top and bottom of the pocket, and two feather stickers in the centre of the top panel.

3 Stamp the metal heart pendant and add silver stickers, then attach to the top of the pocket with foam tape. Tie a knot in pink ribbon and glue as shown. **CB**

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01425 279992, cjbeaders.co.uk

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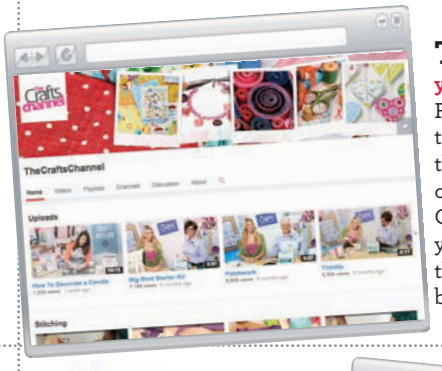




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HomeCraft Forum

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love it!

GET YOUR HALLOWEEN PARTY OFF TO A SCARY START WITH A SELECTION OF FUN

Spooky treats



WHAT YOU NEED

- Card: black, orange, purple, green
- Punches: circle, 1.6cm; circle, scallop, 2.5cm
- Cord, black
- Pens: marker, black; gel, white
- Beads: black, orange
- Glitter, black
- Skewers, bamboo
- Eyelets
- Adhesives: glue, PVA; foam pads, 3-D; tape

PARTY INVITATIONS

1 Cut a circle from white card, 7.8cm, and one from coloured, 9cm. Use a black pen to draw stripes around the edge of the coloured circle, then stick the white to it off-centre. Using the template from the pattern pages, trim a bat from black card. Create eyes from white, then a mouth and wing lines using a white gel pen. Add black glitter to the wings using PVA.

2 Trim a strip of paper, 4cm x 14.5cm, then score at 2.8cm intervals to create a concertina effect. This will be the invitation. Use a computer to print out the words beforehand; Darlin font in size 24pt was used for this project. Stick the top of the invitation to the white circle, fold up, then fix a coloured rectangle to the end, 2.8cm x 4cm. Add a name as shown.

3 Attach the bat to the top of the circle using 3-D foam pads, then add a hole to the top with an eyelet and secure black cord in a loop to create a hanger. Halfway down the invitation make a hole, then another two below it. Thread cord, 27cm, through the bottom right hole, out of the top hole, over the invitation and through the lower left.

4 Punch four black scallop circles. Tie a knot in the length of cord on the right, then place a scallop circle behind it. Secure 3-D foam pads either side of it, then stick another circle on top to create a 'slider' effect. Cut a coloured circle, 2cm, then add an 'open if' sentiment to a smaller white one and fix together. Adhere to the black scallop. Repeat to create an 'if you dare' one. Add a wooden bead to the left cord and knot the end.



"USE AN OLD PAINTBRUSH TO COAT PVA GLUE ONTO THE BAT WINGS BEFORE ADDING THE GLITTER"

Helen Fitzjohn, Designer



Ghoulish gifts

Want more Halloween products? We've picked a few of our favourites



Halloween apron, £6, **sainsburys.co.uk**



Hotel Chocolat white chocolate boo box, £10, **hotelchocolat.com**



Bat sign, £4, **tch.net**

love it!



"Give food spooky names with a set of picks"

- Make mini bats as before, this time with no glitter. Cut coloured circles, 4cm, and add stripes. Print off or write the food descriptions: witch warts (popcorn), frog eyes (grapes) and skin flakes (crisps).
- Cut them out using a 1.6cm punch, before sticking to the coloured circles. Add the bats to the circles, then secure bamboo skewers to the back with tape.

FLYING BAT

1. Using the template on the pattern pages, trim out bat shapes from black card. Cut slots in the body for the face and wings, then trim eyes and fangs from white card and use a white pen for the mouth. Stick the two wings together underneath the bat with clear tape.
2. Punch two small black holes on both wings. Thread black cord through and tie to make a hanging, then pop a small chocolate bar into the body. This adds enough weight to balance the bat so it can 'fly'. **CB**



Craft tip

The hanging bat is great for children. Let them decorate their own, then they can take it and a chocolate bar home as a party favour

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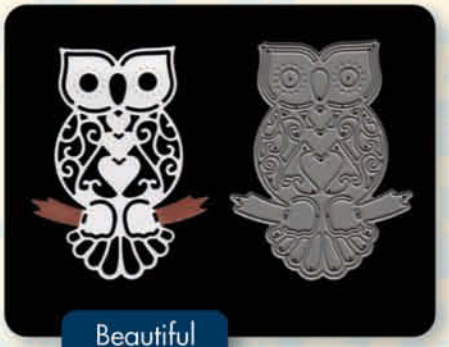
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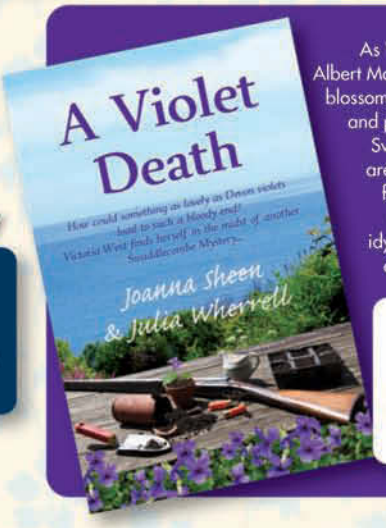


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Our Papercraft Hero

STAR CRAFTER, KATIE SKILTON ADDS HER MAGIC TOUCH TO PAPER AND CARD TO CREATE THIS FABULOUS FESTIVE SET





WHAT YOU NEED

- Stamps, Papermania Urban : 12 Days Of Christmas
- Nesting Dies: Circle /Scalloped Circle
- Paper, Jillibean Soup, 12" x 12": Winter Tortellini and Spinach
- Card, Kraft
- Cardstock, coloured
- Distress ink, brown
- Ribbon
- Twine
- Washi tape

Branching Out

Pick contrasting papers to make this card design stand out

1. Take a plain card blank and layer green patterned paper over the front. Ink the edges. Adhere a section of book print paper to the centre. Create a tree trunk from brown cardstock the same length as the middle section of the card.
2. For the branches, trim five strips of co-ordinating patterned papers, 2cm x 3cm, then 5cm, 7cm, 8cm and 9cm. Ink the edges. Adhere to the trunk in size order.
3. To finish, add a stamped sentiment and a chipboard circle to the top of the tree.

FOR A MORE CLASSIC LOOK, SWAP YOUR COLOURS FOR DEEP GREENS AND REDS

Play Tag

Rustic card offers a fabulous neutral base for patterned papers

1. Trim a tag shape, 6cm x 12cm. Add a layer of book print paper to the top. Ink the edges and punch a hole through the centre.
2. Stick two strips of washi tape to the bottom. Trim triangles from patterned paper, ink the edges and add a trunk. Adhere to the tag.
3. Punch two stars and fix to the top of the tree as shown. Stamp and adhere a sentiment. Thread ribbon through the hole. Attach the top of the ribbon with a twine bow.



"WHEN I SEE ALL THE GORGEOUS FESTIVE PAPERS IN MY LOCAL CRAFT SHOP IN SEPTEMBER, I KNOW THAT THE COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS HAS REALLY BEGUN"

Katie Skilton, Designer



Craft tip

Why not super-size the wreath design to display on your front door and add baubles for a bit of bling?



Box Clever

A simple packing idea for sweets and treats that are sure to please

INK THE EDGES OF EACH PATTERNED PAPER SECTION SO THEY STAND OUT

1. Take an 11.5cm square of cardstock. Score each edge in by 2.5cm and create a diagonal score line between all corners. Stick the diagonal lines together to create a tray shape for the gift box.
2. Trim patterned paper, 14cm x 28cm. Add tape to one long and one short side. Shape and fix it around the tray so it is positioned at the base. Press down on the tape to ensure it sticks.
3. Cut a strip of co-ordinating paper, 2.5cm x 28cm. Roll it along the bottom of the box again. Add a die-cut circle to the top of the bag. Punch a hole and thread through the twine. Decorate with scalloped circles and your chosen sentiment.

Show Time

Frame a winter window with a festive display of paper wreaths

USE SMALL LEFTOVER PAPER PIECES TO MAKE THE GIFTS ON THE WREATH FOR DECORATION

1. Trim or die-cut a ring of card, 14cm in diameter. Cut out several squares in two different shapes from co-ordinating patterned papers.
2. Ink the edges of each square and add twine and ribbon. Fix bows to some of the gift boxes with glue
3. Adhere the little boxes to the ring making sure that there are no gaps showing. Add punched hearts and stars to some of the gifts boxes for decoration.

SOURCE IT...

Papermania Urban Christmas stamps, BG Payne Crafts, **01282 691090, bgpaynecrafts.co.uk**

Jilly Bean Soup papers, **amazon.co.uk**



Crafts we love

We hope you love this month's most inspiring craft ideas as much as we do

Gyro-Cut®

The amazing GYRO-CUT® craft tool designed to cut thin sheet materials such as paper, thin card up to 250gsm and vinyl.





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www.craftyproducts.co.uk or email sales@craftyproducts.co.uk

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noolibird

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www.noolibird.com. Tel 01273 308898

Spellbound Bead Co

for all your beading needs

Spellbound Beads don't just stock a fabulous range of beads and kits they also have the best free project instructions around! Download the instructions for this lovely Regatta Necklace and the beautiful Twinkle Tea Light Holders plus hundreds of other designs free from their website.





www.spellboundbead.co.uk.
email info@spellboundbead.co.uk;
shop online or at 47 Tamworth Street, Lichfield, WS13 6JW; 01543 417650.

Craft Corner Ltd



Halloween Mini Quilt Book now to come and have a go at making one of these for Halloween, it costs £35 for the day workshop on Sunday 12th October.

01763 268686

craft.corner@hotmail.co.uk

Blooming Felt

funky felt supplies, handmade with love.

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Blooming Felt have the largest selection of 100% wool felt craft supplies in the UK. Along with their huge range of felt, they also provide buttons, ribbons, felting supplies and lots of other fab stuff that you don't necessarily need, but just have to have!



www.bloomingfelt.co.uk

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Our online shop carries a quirky range of designer cottons & pre cut fabrics for all your quilting projects. New for 2014, we now stock Simplicity dressmaking patterns & a range of lawns & poplins to create a new wardrobe. Find them in our Suffolk shop as well as at:



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www.jjquilling.co.uk
02082951822

Bertie's Bows

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Bertie's Bows are manufacturers of high quality, affordable ribbon. Their range is extensive and includes a multitude of fabrics from grosgrain and sheer to burlaps and hessian. There is a breathe of colour-ways as wells patterns and plains. Visit **www.bertiesbows.co.uk** to see the full selection.



Doveridge Crafts for everything Decopatch



Get ready for a Decopatchy Christmas, animals, shapes, baubles, garlands and paper all available along with Decopatch glue and brushes for the perfect finish. Kits start from £7.50, - non Christmas items also available.

Contact www.doveridgecraftsandgifts.co.uk
07870883295

To promote your products and events here call Danielle on 01206505429 or email danielle.harris@aceville.co.uk

MAKE A LITTLE GIRL'S DREAM COME TRUE AND STITCH HER THE WONDERFUL

Flo teddy bear



"AS THIS TEDDY STANDS AT 35CM TALL, IT'S A GREAT WAY TO USE UP LEFTOVER FABRIC WITH SMALL SCALE PRINTS"

Helen Newton, Designer

WHAT YOU NEED

- Fabric, Flo's Garden by Makower: 830/P6 Spot, 80cm square; 1313/P Stripe, 10cm x 28cm
- Buttons: blue, 1.5cm, two; green, 5mm
- Thread: embroidery, black; machine, matching
- Press stud
- White bow
- Teddy joints
- Toy stuffing, 200g
- Interfacing, fusible, medium weight

Meet Flo: a polka dot pink teddy bear with a cross-body bag and oodles of cuteness. Thanks to her flexible joints, she's interactive and ideal for inquisitive minds. Plus, she sits down neatly making her perfect company for a teddy bear's picnic! Stitch one for a little'un in your life, either for Christmas or just because – you're sure to put the biggest smile on their face.

TEDDY BEAR

1 This teddy is made in two halves and each side will have one ear, one arm, one leg, plus a front and back piece. Using the templates from our pattern pages, cut out all of the pieces twice from pink spotty fabric except for the ears where you will need four; two from pink spotty and two from striped fabric.

2 Make small ear darts in both front teddy pieces by folding right sides together along the line indicated on the template. Apply fusible interfacing to the wrong sides of all four ear pieces. Stitch two contrasting ones together around the curved outer edge, leave the straight edge open, trim the seam, turn through and press. Repeat to make another. Place the ears over the darts, match the raw edges, then tack in place.

3 Stitch the darts on the bottom of the back body pieces by bringing together the cut 'V' shape. Sew one back piece to one front section, starting at the top of the head; the dart in the back should now be in the seam you have just stitched. Repeat for the other side of the bear.

4 Make two arms and two legs as follows: place two matching pieces right sides together and stitch a narrow seam all the way around, leaving a small gap for turning where indicated. Trim the seams, snip the curves and turn out. Attach one arm and one leg to each body half close to the side seam using a teddy joint – you will need to make a very small incision to push it through.

5 Sew the two body pieces right sides together with the arms and legs inside. Stitch all the way around, leaving a gap in the centre back for turning and stuffing. You will be stitching up the back of head, down the centre of the face and body, then up the centre back seam. Trim



Love it!

the seams, snip the curves and turn out. Stuff the body, arms and legs, then sew the opening closed with small hand stitches.

6 Using two strands of black embroidery thread, sew long straight stitches for a nose and small ones for eyes. Add character to the face by pulling the eyes in slightly – pass a needle and thread through the head and stuffing from one eye to the other, pulling the thread lightly to create an indent. Secure with a few back stitches. Sew two blue buttons to the front of the body and a small white bow to the ear.

HANDBAG

1 To create a strap, fold both long sides of stripy fabric, 3cm x 28cm, to the middle, press, then fold in half again along its length. Stitch a seam all the way along to secure the raw edges inside.

2 Using the template provided, put two bag pieces right sides together and stitch a narrow seam all the way around, leaving the short straight end open. Turn out and press. Turn in the raw edges on the short straight edge and machine or hand stitch closed.

3 Make a fold 5cm from the short straight edge, then fold the curved edge on top to create the bag shape and press. Insert the ends of the strap in the sides of the bag, towards the top, and stitch two side seams through all thicknesses to secure in place. Sew on a press stud and button to finish. **CB**

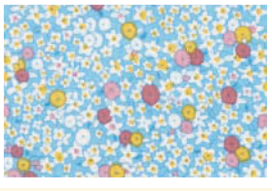


Craft tip

Alternatively you can use small plastic teddy eyes - remember to fit them before stuffing the bear!

Teddy Tricks

Customise your make with your favourite fabric, embellishments and bear accessories



Have fun with fabric – we think this Hanky Panky print would look fantastic. Priced £3 per fat quarter, **01903 442373, moresewing.co.uk**



Bring your bear to life with glass eyes, which are available in a variety of sizes and colours. Priced from 95p each, **01963 34500, bearbasics.co.uk**



Add flowery buttons to your make for an even more girly creation. Priced 40p each, **01245 471690, bloomingfelt.co.uk**

SOURCE IT...

Fabric, Makower, visit **makoweruk.com** for stockists.

Teddy joints, E-Crafts, **01384 230000, e-crafts.co.uk**

Toy stuffing, press studs, buttons and bow, Abakhan, **abakhan.co.uk**

Show us! If you make your own Flo teddy bear, share her with us at TWITTER.COM/CRAFTSBEAUTIFUL

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Add a romantic touch to your home with SEASONAL FLORALS

ROSIE SAVAGE SHARES PROJECTS AND IDEAS TO GIVE YOUR ABODE A FLOWERY FINISH


oven glove



decorative picture


tote bag


fabric letter

Roses are red, violets are blue, we love flowers at Crafts Beautiful HQ! We've got a thing about beautiful blooms no matter what the time of year, so here we share some seasonal floral projects for your home. Decorate a wall with a simple fabric letter, embellish a picture frame with die-cut flowers, stitch a quilted oven glove in your favourite flora print, or place freshly-picked flowers in our stencilled tote bag. Whichever project takes your fancy, we hope it injects an uplifting touch into your home for the cooler months ahead.



WHAT YOU NEED

- Tote bag, canvas or linen
- Acrylic paint: crimson, ultramarine blue, lemon yellow, black, white
- Acrylic textile medium
- Cardboard
- Paper, tracing
- Pencils: 3B; 5H
- Stencil or mask film, low-tack
- Paintbrushes, round-headed
- Sponge rollers
- Scalpel or craft knife
- Cutting mat
- Tweezers

stencil paint a tote bag

1 Wash a tote bag, allow to dry and iron. Place a sheet of cardboard or paper into the bag to prevent any paint seeping through when you print. Enlarge the template found at **crafts-beautiful.com** and trace each numbered colour separation, allowing a 5cm border around each edge.

2 Transfer the images onto the paper backing of low-tack mask or stencil film. Cut out each colour separation using a scalpel or craft knife. Keep the small cut-out flower centres for anemones. Mix the paint colours to make green, blue, purple, red, white, black and yellow, then add a similar volume of acrylic textile medium to each.

3 Cover your work surface with newspaper and lay the bag on it. Peel the film away from the backing paper of the green foliage stencil. Position 5cm up from the bottom of the bag, place another sheet of newspaper on top, then gently smooth it down onto the fabric. Remove the newspaper, load a sponge roller with green paint and roll it horizontally and vertically onto the stencil. Apply a little pressure to build up the paint. Remove the stencil and allow to dry.

4 Continue printing the design in this way, working on each colour separation in turn and using a clean sponge roller for each one. Allow to dry and set with a medium-heat iron.

READER DETAILS...

Discover more in Simple Printmaking by Elizabeth Harbour (Mitchell Beazley, £16.99).

WHAT YOU NEED

- Fabric, floral
- Wadding
- Paper: plain or graph; tracing
- Foamboard
- Craft knife
- Cutting mat
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Pen, felt-tip
- Pins
- Sewing needle and thread
- Tape, masking

Design detail

This is a fantastic way to personalise a child's bedroom

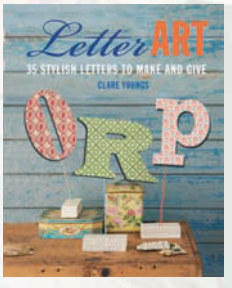
make a fabric letter

1 Transfer a letter onto foamboard and use a craft knife and ruler to cut it out. Place the shape on top of floral fabric, ride side up. Draw around the letter, 2.5cm away from the edge, and trim. Repeat for the fabric for the back, but this time place the letter right side down and leave a 1.5cm border.

2 Lay the letter shape on wadding, the same size as the foamboard, and draw around it with a felt-tip pen. Cut out. Place the fabric for the front of the letter right side down, add the wadding on top of it, followed by the foamboard letter on top of that.

3 Fold the fabric over the edges of the foamboard and secure to the back using masking tape – keep the border the same width all the way around and pull the fabric smooth as you go. Where your letter has a corner, snip into the fabric at a 45° angle and pull the fabric close.

4 With the letter face down, pin the backing fabric onto it. Turn under a hem as you move around the shape of the letter and push pins though the overlapping fabric from the front piece. Use small appliqué stitches to secure in place. Pull the fabric into the corners as much as possible and secure with more stitches to hide any raw edges.



READER OFFER...

Find more projects like this in Letter Art by Clare Youngs (CICO Books, £14.99). Call **01256 302699** and quote GLR 90Q to purchase a copy for £10.99 including postage.

WHAT YOU NEED

- Fabric: floral; contrast,
- Wadding: insulated, 50cm; polyester, 30cm
- Bias binding, 25mm wide, 2m
- Thread, coordinating
- Pencil, chalk
- Sewing machine with walking foot

stitch an oven glove

1 For the main glove, cut four rectangles, 25cm x 80cm, as follows: two from floral fabric, one from insulated wadding and another from polyester wadding. For the mitt, cut six 25cm squares: four from contrast fabric and two from polyester wadding.

2 Using the template on our website, transfer the oblong onto the right side of the rectangular pieces, then the mitt shapes onto the square fabric pieces. On one of the oblong shapes and two of the mitt shapes, mark stitch guides for quilting.

3 Place the unmarked oblong wrong side up and lay the insulated wadding on top, shiny side down; place the polyester wadding on top and lay the marked oblong fabric on that. Pin. Repeat for the back sections, omitting the wadding.

4 Attach a walking foot to a sewing machine and stitch through the layers. Using the transferred outlines, cut out the oblong and two mitts. Pin together around the edges at short intervals. Along the straight sides of the mitts, ladder stitch bias binding to the underside.

5 Cut 10cm of bias binding, then fold and press in half lengthways, wrong sides facing. Turn in the raw edges and topstitch. Fold in half and pin in the centre of an oblong. Hand-tack in place. Lay the section flat and place the mitt pieces on top, with the ladder stitched side of the binding underneath. Pin together.

6 Attach the binding around the outer edge of the glove, mitts on top, catching the loop and joining the ends. Fold binding over to the underside of the glove, hand-stitch, ensuring the binding edge covers the stitching. Fold over to the underside of the glove and stitch in place.

Designed by the Sewing Bee's Lauren Guthrie!

READER DETAILS...



Discover more of Lauren's projects in Learn To Sew With Lauren by Lauren Guthrie (Mitchell Beazley, £18.99).



Three reasons to love florals...

THEY'RE BEAUTIFULLY TRENDY

It goes without saying that flowers are blooming beautiful. And there are so many wonderful varieties, that it would be impossible to ever get bored of them. It's just as well – trends come and go, but you can rely on florals for classicality whether for your home, wardrobe or in your crafting. Be sure to enjoy them daily!

THEY CAN EVOKE MEMORIES

I remember picking tulips from my neighbour's garden with my brother when we were little and getting sternly told off – needless to say, Brian wasn't my favourite person after that and I'm sure I wasn't his. The scent of lavender fondly reminds me of my dad, and hydrangeas evoke memories of cooking in the kitchen with my mum.

THEY'RE INVITING

Though I enjoy various modern prints and colours, I go back to florals again and again because they're friendly. I'd much rather adorn my bed in a flora-themed duvet set, have fresh flowers on the windowsill, or snuggle up on the sofa with my nan's flowery quilt than anything else – florals are comforting, warm and homely.



WHAT YOU NEED

Sizzix® products:

- Big Shot Machine (657900)
- Thinlits Die Set 14PK, Flowers Intricate by Paula Pascual (659975)
- Framelits Die Set 12PK, Fancy Cards by Paula Pascual (659967)

Other products:

- Bo Bunny Autumn Song Collection, 6" x 6" pad
- Adhesive pearl gems, assorted
- Distress Inks and applicator
- Wooden frame, ivory

Craft tip

Why not decorate some of the flower centres with adhesive gems?

create an autumnal frame

1 Using the autumnal papers, die-cut a number of different flowers and flower centres from any of the 14 dies in the set. Ink the edges of the petals or, if you prefer, lightly sand the tips to expose the white core of the paper; both techniques will create contrast.

2 Gently curl the petals of each flower to add dimension and layer them together, before placing them onto a frame to find a pleasing composition. Once satisfied, attach each flower using a glue gun. Cut several long, thin strips of paper and curl the ends by wrapping them around needle point tweezers or the shaft of a thin paint brush. Attach beneath the flower petals.

3 Stamp or print your chosen phrase and die-cut using one of the Fancy Cards collection. Die-cut a larger shape, ink the edges and matt together before mounting into the centre of the frame and finishing with another layered flower.

SOURCE IT...

For Big Shot and dies, visit **sizzix.co.uk**

Our Fave Dies



Sizzix Thinlits Die Set 5PK, Estelle (659703), £14.99

Sizzix Bigz Die, Floressa (659708), £14.99

ROSIE'S PICK

Sizzix Thinlits Die Set 5PK, Couquette (659701), £14.99

All available from **sizzix.co.uk**

October's Wish List

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



N



C



K



D



H





L

B



E

A The Homemakery Christmas Shop is now open! With festive fabrics, advent calendar panels, wreaths, christmas stamp sets, felt, ribbons, cards and tags our one stop Christmas Shop will take care of all your Christmas crafting.
www.thehomemakery.co.uk

B Make your own natural skin, hair and beauty products at home. Aromantic has all the natural ingredients, equipment, courses, free recipes and easy to use starter kits you'll need!
www.aromantic.co.uk

C The UK's largest stockist of quality TierraCast products – with compatible Swarovski elements. Also explore their extensive range of findings all Made in the UK and huge variety of Czech Glass beads.
www.thebeadstore.co.uk

D Lavinia Stamps are an established British company offering a whole range of distinctive and inspirational products. They design beautiful clear Polymer stamps that are produced to a high quality delivering a sharp detailed beautiful image every time.
www.laviniastamps.co.uk
enquiries@laviniastamps.co.uk 01824 710691

E New FIMO Professional Polymer Clay is now available to order online from Craft Cellar.
The Professional range has new vibrant colours and comes in both 85g and 350g blocks. FIMO Professional Doll Art Clay is ideal for doll making.
Expect excellent value, fast delivery and personal customer service.
craftcellar.co.uk or call 01138150050

F Have fun all day long with Hunkydory's Little Spinners Premium Card Kit! Ideal for Christmas card making for beginners, kits make four cards, and there is a choice of penguins and reindeer to use as the kinetic spinner. Watch as the animals go round and round and get into a spin! £4.99 from **www.hunkydorycrafts.co.uk**

G As summer fades bring colour into your life all year round with beautiful inks ranges for many crafts from Yorkshire based stamp company Oak House Studio. Our readers get 10% discount with code CBautumn.
www.oakhousestudio.com 01482881809

H This embroidery/appliqué kit includes a 5" wooden pincushion with bun feet, printed design, black felt cat, full instructions, pearls & DMC threads.
To buy send a Cheque for £14.95 made out to:
Rob Stutter, 150 Elmcroft Road, Ipswich, IP1 6NE
Tel: 01473 415705. www.fireside-reflections.co.uk

I Sleigh Bells Ring by My Mind's Eye is a stunning Christmas collection available at One Stop Craft Shop. Featuring modern imagery, with a rustic feel, this is the go-to collection for this holiday season! With coordinating papers, tags, washi tape, die-cuts and brads, there is everything you need for all your Christmas crafting.
Visit www.onestopcraftshop.com or call 01908 227001

















J Visit Craftshapes for a huge selection of wooden Christmas shapes. Perfect for Xmas gift tags, hanging decorations and signs.
Buy a selection of different shapes and get upto 25% off with our multi-buy discounts.
www.craftshapes.co.uk

K e-crafts stock plastic soft toy components for making doll bodies and teddy bears, our joints range from 20mm to 65mm and eyes sizes from 5mm to 22mm are available in various colours, a bulk purchase option available on joint purchases
e-crafts.co.uk, sales@e-crafts.co.uk, 01384 230000

L A wonderful sewing kit for all ages. With clear, easy to read instructions this kit contains everything including the needle and thread. No need to rummage around for a sewing basket. Just one of the great kits available from Made and Making.
www.madeandmaking.co.uk or email sarah@madeandmaking.co.uk

M Past Times Quilling have this gorgeous zoo themed quilling set perfect for Christmas crafting! A wonderful Christmas present for anyone interested in crafts. For details of their complete range of quilling products, handmade paper and gift bags please visit their new website
www.pasttimesquilling.com

N Pre-cut foam letters and numbers are now available in Craftfoam extruded polystyrene, which means you can personalise your project, adding even more impact and style. Craftfoam has a smooth surface, which is ideal for painting and is suitable for use with most resins and pastes.
For more information visit www.craftfoam.co.uk

O Razzle Dazzle Rose have recently launched their new range of string tie envelopes. The envelopes come with your choice of coloured buttons and twine - and are available in 7 different envelope sizes. We think they are perfect for adding an extra special touch to your stationery.
www.razzledazzlerose.co.uk

P Our new "Crafty Cubes". Ready to make with a plain kit and instructions! Can be made to any theme! Give a cube, not a card!! Use your imagination - anything goes!
www.tuliptoppers.co.uk 01274 591522

OUR FAUNA-THEMED TABLEWARE ENABLES YOU TO ENJOY A SPOT OF

Ceramic painting



Craft tip

It's important to remove the templates and clean up any edges while the paint is still wet; once the paint is dry, it will seal the plastic firmly in place!

Colourful and artistic, this ceramic set features bird and butterfly motifs that radiate an Indian summer aesthetic. It's practical too – once baked in an ordinary oven, the painted china becomes dishwasher-proof. And because we think this pretty collection would make a lovely gift, we've added a little card to make your presentation complete.

Paint it!



WHAT YOU NEED

- Paint, ceramic: raspberry, light blue, black, white
- Tile, ceramic: 9.5cm square; 15cm square
- China: plate, 18cm diameter; mug
- Fabric, gingham, blue
- Felt
- Buttons
- Ribbon, assorted
- Card: light blue, white
- Sponges
- Acetate
- Pen, fine, black
- Sticky-backed plastic
- Glue, felt
- Craft knife

PLATE

1 Wash a plate in warm, soapy water, then dry it thoroughly. Tape a bird template onto your work surface. With the paper side up, place sticky-backed plastic on top and trace over the design with a fine pen. Repeat to trace seven birds.

2 Cut out and use the tip of a craft knife to remove the paper backing from one of the birds. Referring to the image, position on the plate. Continue to adhere all the birds in this way, then press them down firmly with kitchen paper.

3 Mix white and raspberry paint in a plastic tub with a touch of black. Take some paint with a sponge, then dab off the excess onto a scrap of paper. Use a gentle bouncing motion to apply the paint to the plate, covering the surface and rim.

4 Use the tip of a craft knife to carefully lift and remove the birds from the painted plate. If necessary, neaten any untidy edges with the knife tip. Leave to dry overnight. Sponge the back of the plate as described before. Allow to dry, then bake following the manufacturer's instructions.

MUG

1 Wash and dry a mug, then tape a butterfly template onto your work surface. Trace it onto sticky-backed plastic as before to create 13 motifs, then cut out.

2 Starting from the base of the handle, fix the butterflies in a spiral design, gradually winding up the mug so the final butterfly is positioned at the top of the handle.

3 Mix white paint with light blue and a spot of black, then colour the mug with a sponge. Remove the butterflies and fix any ragged edges. Use a clean sponge to wipe away any excess paint from the rim of the mug. Leave to dry, then bake.



"AIR BUBBLES TRAPPED IN THE PAINT CAN BE MINIMISED BY GOING OVER THE SURFACE QUICKLY WITH A CLEAN SPONGE"

Jill Alblas, Designer

GIFT TAG

1 Trim light blue card to make a blank, 7cm x 9cm, then cut two butterflies from sticky-backed plastic. Fix them to acetate and sponge with paint. Leave to dry, then trim to 5cm x 7cm.

2 Thread a white tag, smaller than the blank, with a couple of ribbons and tie in bows. Adhere a button to the middle of the cluster. Cut gingham fabric a little smaller than the front of the blank and fray the edges, then adhere to the tag. Secure the butterfly acetate at a slight angle on top to finish. **CB**

"Set your table in style"

- Create placemats and coasters to complete the look. Wash and dry a tile, then trim your desired motifs and fix them across it. Sponge the tile as described before, then remove the motifs and clean any untidy edges.
- Leave to dry, then bake. Trim felt slightly smaller than the tile, then adhere to the base with felt glue.

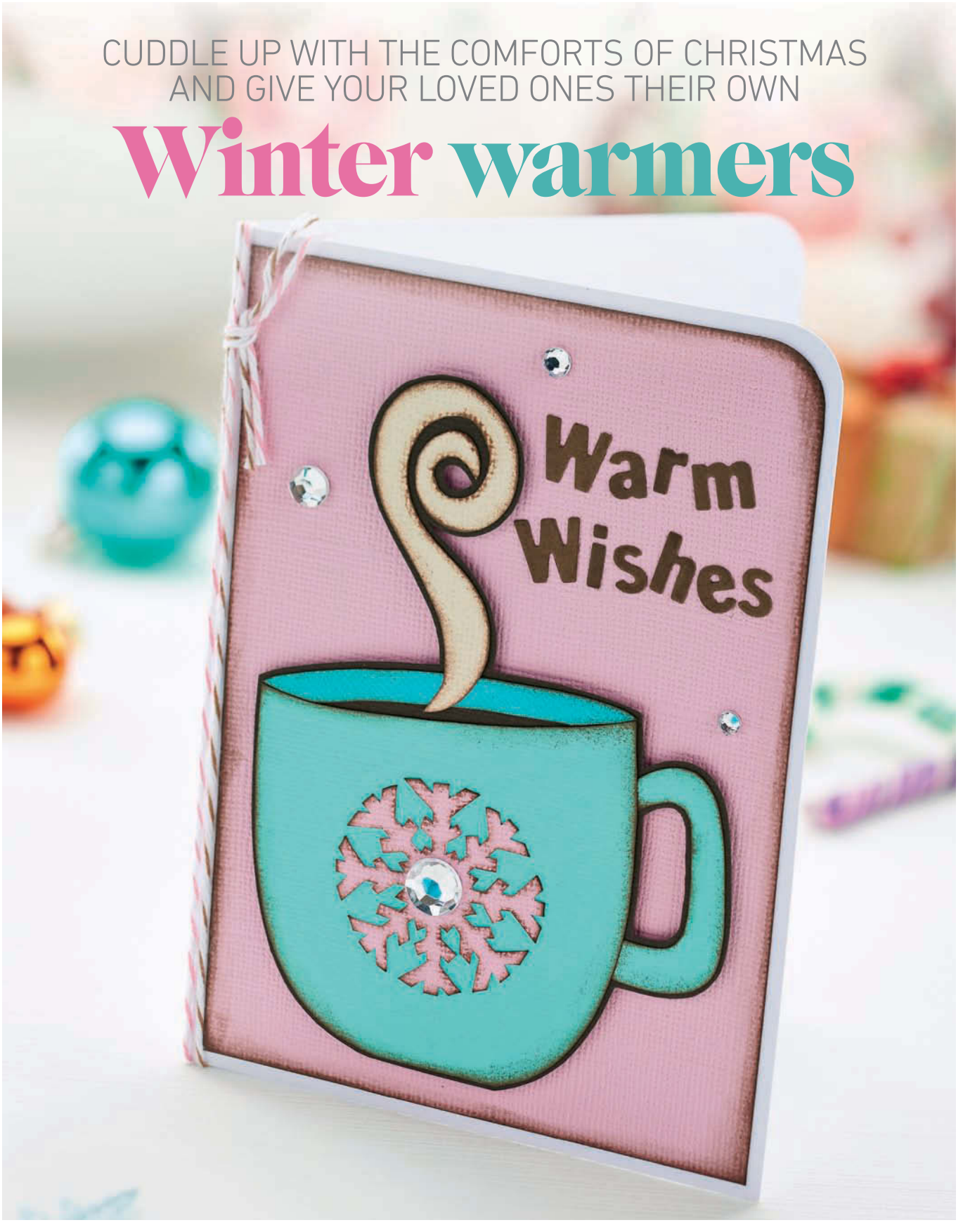


SOURCE IT...

Marabu ceramic paints, West Design Products Ltd, **01303 297888, westdesignproducts.co.uk**
Ceramic paints, Craft Cellar, **0113 815 0050, craftcellar.co.uk**
Felt glue, Creative Products Distribution, **07917 563267, creative-distribution.co.uk**

CUDDLE UP WITH THE COMFORTS OF CHRISTMAS AND GIVE YOUR LOVED ONES THEIR OWN

Winter warmers





"USE SMOOTH CARD AND PRINT THE IMAGES DIRECTLY ONTO THE SURFACE FOR QUICK AND EASY ASSEMBLAGE"

Colette Smith, Designer

Make it!



WHAT YOU NEED

- Card, textured: chocolate brown, pale pink, peppermint green, pale aqua, aqua, cream
- Ink-pad, Memento, Rich Cocoa
- Tool, ink blending, Inkssentials, Ranger
- Punch, corner rounder
- Gems, clear
- Lettering, Basic Grey, brown
- Bakers twine: pale green, pale pink, brown
- Adhesives: foam pads, 3-D; PVA

COSY CHRISTMAS

1 Copy templates from the pattern pages and create two pink mittens, two pale aqua blue cuffs and two peppermint trees. Colour the edges of each using Rich Cocoa ink. Once dry, assemble the mittens.

2 Round the corners of cream card, 10cm x 13cm, and pale aqua card, 3cm x 13cm, then ink the edges. Matt onto a 13.5cm square blank with the cream pane at the top and the pale aqua one underneath. Round the corners of the blank.

3 Stick the mittens onto chocolate brown card and trim, then fix a tree to each. Attach a short length of green and white twine between the two, securing on the reverse, then adhere to the cream section using 3-D foam pads. Create a sentiment from brown lettering and add to the bottom panel, then place a gem to the top of each tree.

How to assemble... A MITTEN CARD



Craft tip

If you haven't got an ink blending tool, use a rolled up piece of kitchen roll or a cotton wool pad

WARM WISHES

1 Cut out a pale aqua hot cocoa mug, a mug inner in mid aqua, a snowflake in pale pink, and steam in cream using the templates. Ink the edges of each in Rich Cocoa, then assemble them directly onto chocolate brown card and trim.

2 Round the top right corner of a white A6 blank. Cut a slightly smaller section of pale pink card, round the top right corner, ink the edges and attach to the card front.

3 Mount the mug onto the blank using foam pads, then create a sentiment using brown lettering at the top right of the card. Tie lengths of brown and pale pink twine around the spine, then add a few gems to finish. **CB**

SOURCE IT...

Blending tool and ink, That's Crafty, **01708 732531, thatscrafty.co.uk**

Basic Grey letters, visit **basicgrey.com** for stockists.



Corinne's craft space

"There's nothing worse than deciding to make presents for the family and realising you only have three days to do them!"

Corinne Bradd talks preparing for Christmas and gift ideas

So the high street shops are in Christmas mode it seems. Do you remember how awful it was when you were a child and within two days of breaking up for the long summer holidays, Woolworths (a blast from the past!) had all their 'back to school' displays hanging from the rafters? Your parents insisted that you couldn't eat too much in those six weeks because they'd already bought your school uniform before the rush. Woe betide you if you had a growth spurt in the sunshine! Now it seems that the start of the new term coincides with the festive season. When did this happen?

Fair enough, if you're crafting for Christmas you do need to be organised. There's nothing worse than deciding you'll make presents for the family and realising you only have three clear days in which to do them. Present making takes time and care, so if you can get the bulk of the work done while the evenings are still light, then you'll have time to add the finishing touches at your leisure. I habitually have a plastic crate of 'works in progress', stacks of precisely measured fabric pieces ready to be stitched into a quilt, bundles of die-cut shapes to be assembled into greetings cards, as well as sanded and under-coated wooden pieces ready for paint or a covering of paper. Preparation can get quite boring (I seem to spend whole years of my life cutting fabric!) so I try and get it all out of the way in the summer months, leaving me with all the exciting bits to do when the weather turns.

For a few years now, the local craft shops have pushed their Christmas stock into the limelight towards the end of August because they're meeting the demand of their creative customers. We know that by October all the best stuff will have been snapped up, so it makes perfect sense to buy early even if you're not going to make anything for a few weeks. But I flatly refuse to buy Christmas cards before Christmas. I wait until they've all gone down to a fraction of the price in the New Year. I then take them home, cut off all the pretty motifs and store them in my plastic box ready to make into handmade cards for the next year! You wouldn't have me any other way...

Corinne x

Patched up

You realise you're getting old when you don't get a stocking on Christmas morning any more. Thankfully my beautiful daughter is old enough to make a little one up for me so I don't miss out! This patchwork design would be perfect for holding a few toiletries or a huge selection of sweets. Stitch together rows of 6cm fabric squares, then join them with 4cm strips to make a panel of patchwork. Layer onto wadding and lining fabric, then topstitch across the rows. Cut stocking shapes from the quilted panel and sew right sides together, neatening the seams with pinking shears before turning out and binding the top edge.





PIN IT

You may have had your fill of glass jar projects, but there's no denying they make wonderful Christmas gifts. Preserving jars with separate discs and rings for lids make perfect mini sewing kits. The disc can be covered with a padded circle of fabric and neatened underneath with felt. The ring is then slipped over the padding and used to fasten the mini pincushion to the top of the jar.

PaperCrafter magazine always comes with really original papers. The designs in issue 73 reminded me of American 1950s fabric prints and co-ordinated beautifully. I made a simple organiser set of a pinboard, note holder and card index box that would brighten up a kitchen or look perfect in a home office. The boxes are made by gluing chipboard rectangles together, then covering with patchwork pieces of paper.



Because I'm a glutton for punishment, I decided that I'd not spent enough hours cutting fabric squares and rectangles for this quilt. Once it was assembled, I embellished the surface with extra lines of topstitching, sewing parallel lines, square spirals and diagonals to make a really tactile quilt, perfect for snuggling up on the sofa with – a relative is sure to love it!



Q&A

"I have lots of felt sheets in my craft stash – what should I make with them?" GILL GRAY, CROYDON

Where to start? Felt is so versatile that your only problem should be what to make first. Simple motifs embellished with embroidery and stitches make great Christmas decorations, brooches or gadget pouches. If you aren't so nifty with a needle and thread, stiffer felt is perfect for die-cutting. Spread thick adhesive lightly over the reverse of the shape, allow it to become tacky and press the pieces together to avoid the glue spreading through the felt and spoiling the look of the front. Really thick felt is good for making structural items such as boxes or 3-D decorations, embellished with ribbons, fabric scraps, punched paper borders or beads and sequins.

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

Stocking Fillers

Place these sweet gifts inside your handmade stocking



Fresh apple candle tin, £10, **quinceliving.co.uk**



Patchwork notebook, £3.50, **petraboase.com**



Gisela Graham ceramic country kitchen egg cup, £4.50, **tch.net**

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IT'S THE FABRIC COUNTDOWN!
TREAT A SEWING LOVER TO THIS UNIQUE

Advent calendar



WHAT YOU NEED

- Tape measure, inches
- Fabric: dotty, red, blue; floral
- Ribbon: blue, 5mm; gingham
- Yarn, pink
- Beads, pink
- Cotton reel
- Pin wheel
- Thimble
- Wire, craft
- Pinking shears
- Pliers
- Tape, double-sided



"THREAD BEADS ONTO A LONG LENGTH OF YARN AND CUT EVERY 10CM WITH ONE ON EACH SECTION FOR AN EASIER WAY TO MAKE THE LOOPS"

Amanda Walker, Designer

Love it!

FABRIC CALENDAR

1 Remove the metal stoppers from a tape measure and put them to one side, then cut at the marked 25.5" point. Stick double-sided tape along the length on the back. Snip 25, 10cm lengths of yarn and thread a pink bead onto each. With the bead in the middle, draw the yarn ends together and secure to the back of the strip at the 1" mark. Repeat with the remaining 24 pieces, placing them at 1" intervals.

2 Cut craft wire just shorter than the tape and stick to the back using double-sided tape, then cover with gingham ribbon. Next, make a hole at the top of a thimble and thread blue ribbon through, securing with a knot. Adhere the ribbon to the beginning of the tape measure, then add a length to the end to create a hanging loop. Replace the metal stoppers with a pair of pliers to cover the joins. Add a pin wheel and a reel of thread to the hanging loop. Curl the tape measure into a spiral shape.

3 Trim eight strips of both floral and blue dot fabrics and nine in red dot, 4cm x 12cm. On one strip, fold 1cm in at the base and 4cm at the top, then fold and press another 3cm from the base fold and secure with pins. Repeat with the remaining pieces.

4 Add buttonholes to the top-centre of the folded strips, 1cm in length, using a sewing machine or by hand. Cut out the centres. Next, sew down each side 5mm away from the edges to form a tiny pocket, then use pinking shears to decorate. Thread the beads through the holes to finish. **CB**





OUR ADVICE...

Instead of cutting the threads between making the pockets, use your sewing machine to stitch them on one continuous length before snipping each off

SOURCE IT...

Ribbon and pin wheel, Dunelm Mill, **0345 165 6565, dunelm-mill.com**

Advent alternatives

Love quirky ways to count down to Christmas? Here's a few of our favourites!

Gisela Graham red wooden reindeer, £30, **tch.net**





Nutcracker advent calendar, £16.99, **berryred.co.uk**



Woodland pop-out calendar, £8.99, **oakroomshop.co.uk**

Show us! Will you be making this project? Share it with us at TWITTER.COM/CRAFTSBEAUTIFUL

MAKE & SELL:

CHRISTMAS WREATH

Create our copyright-free wreath to sell this festive season and be a business whizz with social media promotion

WHAT YOU NEED

- Polystyrene ring, 15cm diameter
- Fabric, scraps
- Felt: red, cerise, pale pink, pale green, mid green
- Thread, embroidery
- Ribbon, gingham
- Gems, flat-backed, self-adhesive
- Buttons, small

1 Rip plain fabric into 3cm wide strips so the edges are frayed. Pin one end of a strip to the back of a polystyrene ring, then wrap the length around so that each pass overlaps half of the previous one. Join strips as necessary, pinning at the back to hide the ends and keeping the fabric fairly taut for a neat finish.

2 Cut small, medium and large flower shapes from red, cerise and pale pink felt. With embroidery thread, sew blanket stitch around the petals of the smallest flower and oversew the edges of the largest one. Stack the three flowers together and stitch a small button to the middle, passing the thread through all layers several times. Make two more flowers in this way.

3 Decide on the position of the flowers and use coloured embroidery thread to sew the lower petals of each one to the fabric wrapping of the ring, hiding the stitches underneath the petals of the next flower up. Cut six leaf shapes from pale green felt and stitch a vein design in the centre of each, adding an edging of blanket stitch around the shape.

4 Tuck the end of each leaf underneath the petals of the flowers and sew to the fabric as before. Cut thin, tapered strips of mid green felt, fold in half and sew beneath the flowers so the ends protrude.

5 Tie a length of gingham ribbon around the top of the ring, adding a neat bow for hanging. Add self-adhesive flat-backed gems in a bright colour, arranging them in a circle around the bare areas of fabric. **CB**

WREATH THE BENEFITS

Brush up on your knowledge to turn your crafting into £££s



Learn The Basics

Take part in a fab Christmas wreath workshop at Cobblers Cottage Crafts in Ceredigion, Wales. There are just three people per session and everything you need will be included – the course is £45 and available dates include 17th October, 8th November and 14th November. Visit **cobblerscottagecrafts.co.uk** or **facebook.com/cobblerscottagecrafts** for more info.



Choose Your Fabrics

Not only is deciding on your material important, but it's fun too! We love these festive prints from the Mini Novelty collection by Makower. **makoweruk.com**



Go That Extra Mile

Think about customisation options – you could ask your customer if they have a specific colourway in mind for their wreath or write a little note thanking them for their order.

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Offer a variety of wreath sizes and styles to your customers to tick all of the boxes



"TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS COLOURS WORK EVERY TIME, BUT I DECIDED TO LIVEN THINGS UP WITH PUNCHY PINK"

Corinne Bradd, Designer

SHARE IT, TWEET IT, PIN IT



Designer and business expert Torie Jayne shares her top tips on promoting your craft business via social media

Use every means of promotion available. Don't rely on your virtual shop or craft stall to attract new custom. Create your own blog and capitalise on the ubiquity of established sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and Pinterest to promote your brand. Spreading the word happens when people believe in and love your company, and advocate it to their own audiences through discussion, content and sharing. So start networking to inform people of any exciting things you have in the pipeline.

Automate posts on Facebook. Don't have time to publish a lot of content on your Facebook page? No problem. You can automate some publishing by feeding your blog posts and Twitter updates through.

Install social plugins. This will enable people to like your social media pages and their content directly from your website and/or blog. They can also share it on their own profiles with a single click.

Suss out your profile picture. It is quite often the first image a potential customer sees as it appears next to your tweets, Facebook posts and blog comments. It's your identification online so you should use the same image across all of your social networking platforms. It will quickly become familiar to your customers.

Perfect your email signature. A signature is a collection of words, images and links that you choose for your outgoing emails. Think of all the emails you send out on a daily basis – each one could be telling all of those recipients about your company and social media.



Discover more social media tips and tricks in Craft Show & Sell by Torie Jayne (Search Press, £12.99).

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a day in the life of a CRAFT ENTREPRENEUR...

"I love the freedom of doing something different every day"



Sharon Langsdale has always had a creative streak: card making, wedding stationery, in fact it's fair to say that paper is her passion! Spending her spare time doodling and thinking up designs spurred her on to turn her interest in crafts into a reality and in 2012 she launched her online business, Razzle Dazzle Rose, specialising in eco-friendly materials. Today, the company stocks over 250 product lines manufactured in the UK, which are constantly updated to reflect current trends in wedding stationery and card making. We caught up with Sharon to find out what makes her tick and why eco-friendly crafting is so close to her heart.

What's your morning routine?

I usually get up around 7am to pack my daughter's school lunch and see her off for the day. Whilst eating my breakfast, which includes two cups of black coffee, I check my emails to see what the working day ahead and incoming orders look like. We ship goods all over the world and emails come in day and night, so it's important that I deal with them as soon as possible.

How does your home business fit in with domestic life?

When I first started Razzle Dazzle Rose everything was produced, picked, packed and shipped from home. It caused quite a bit of turmoil in the house, especially when we had our new kitchen installed. For six weeks we lived on easy microwave meals and were surrounded by orders at different stages of production, plus a flat-pack kitchen still in boxes. Life is a lot easier now we have our warehouse and the house is a lot tidier too!



"Every day brings a new challenge – and I relish every one of them. There's nothing mundane about doing a job you love!"

What made you go down the eco-friendly route?

I love crafting with natural materials; it has always been at the forefront of my business to use ethically produced paper and card for our stationery range. Whilst I enjoy giving and receiving Christmas cards, it always shocks me how many people don't reuse or recycle their cards. I think this was quite possibly one of the reasons why I decided to go down the environmental route, and my customers see it as an important part of their crafting too. Although we don't print the recycled logo onto our stationery, the full breakdown can be viewed on the website. We're also part of the Woodland Trust carbon capture scheme and receive a certificate each quarter, stating the amount of native woodland we can replant. We've even been asked to join a sapling planting event later on this year.

What do you enjoy most about being your own boss?

I love the freedom of doing something different every day, whether it's designing a new stationery range or sending artwork to clients – each day brings a new challenge. I am naturally creative and will often wake up with a new design in mind and have to do something about it! Each time we launch new products I have them professionally photographed and it gives me a great sense of achievement seeing my ideas come to life.

Does anyone else work with you?

I now employ five part-time staff – I'd be at the warehouse 24/7 without them – and they're a great bunch and help me enormously. The team produce, pick, pack and ship all the orders for me, allowing me to concentrate on running the business. I spend most of my time on product development and marketing. We also recently launched our wholesale side of the business, so there's plenty more work to keep me busy!

Does your family get involved and who are they?

My husband Peter has been part of Razzle Dazzle Rose right from the beginning. He is also in business, so financial planning and sticking to budgets is his forte. He's not at all crafty but is great at putting the evening meal on when things get hectic! He's been very supportive ever since I launched the company and even carries a bunch of my business cards and promotional postcards around with him, just in case!

Finally, what do you do to relax?

My work life balance has been hectic ever since I started the business and although I did escape on holiday earlier this year, leaving the team to run everything, you never really switch off. Six weeks ago Peter and I purchased a holiday home to escape to and we've been busy refurbishing and decorating it at the weekends. It's lovely and peaceful and the best bit... it has no WIFI and laptops are left at home until Monday morning! **CB**

Business Bite...

If you are thinking of setting up your own business, the first thing to do is to write a business plan and have a friendly accountant at hand. It might be an extra cost from your monthly outgoings, but it is definitely a good investment. The other piece of advice is to know your audience; don't be afraid to send in press releases and new product launches to national craft magazines. Editors are always on the look out for innovative products, and it's an essential part of marketing your business.

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Debi Potter, Designer

WHAT YOU NEED

- Craft Asylum: Into The Woods Paper Pad, 12" x 12" (480098); Into The Woods Embellishment Set (480081)
- Cardstock: light brown, dark brown
- Card blank, 10cm x 16cm
- Cotton reel
- Wire
- Punch: circle, 5cm, 6.5cm, 7.5cm; scallop circle, 5.5cm
- Adhesives: PVA; tape, double-sided; foam pads, 3-D; glue gun; Blu-tack

OWL CARD

1 Cover the front of a card blank, 10cm x 16cm, with dark brown card using double-sided tape. Use a circle punch to make a hole in yellow patterned paper, 8.25cm x 16cm, approximately 4.5cm from the bottom and to the left-hand side.

2 Use the same punch to cut away the centre of a light brown punched scallop circle and stick into position over the cut-out using PVA. Adhere this panel to the centre of the card front with foam pads, then decorate with a length of ribbon tied in a knot.

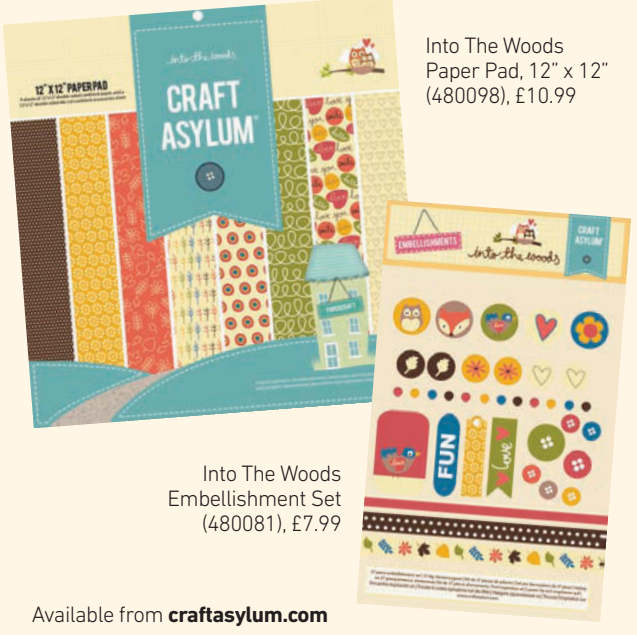
3 Pop out the larger owl shape from the die-cut sheet within the paper pad and add two brads to the eyes, before fixing a foam pad to the reverse. Tuck the owl into the hole, then attach a die-cut leaf from the pad and a leaf cut from one of the patterned papers. Attach a speech bubble using foam pads to finish.

MAKE A 3-D DECORATION



- Cut out a large dark brown and small light brown circle of card and stick together using PVA. Pop out the Owls and Love Tag die-cut elements from the paper pad; glue the tag to the top-left of the circles as shown, then attach the owls to the centre with foam pads.
- Take a length of medium weight wire and twist one end around a pencil three times to create a holder. Push Blu-tack into the centre of a cotton reel, then push the other end of the wire into the Blu-tack.
- Decorate the cotton reel by wrapping with ribbon and securing the end with a brad using a hot glue gun. Fix the decorated circle into position by pushing the edge between the twisted wire section.

Shop this look!



Into The Woods Paper Pad, 12" x 12" (480098), £10.99

Into The Woods Embellishment Set (480081), £7.99

Available from **craftasylum.com**







Freebies & Offers

THERE'S OVER £1,170 WORTH OF PRIZES THIS MONTH: ENTER NOW!





Have our freebies taken your fancy? Enter online for your chance to win at CRAFTS-BEAUTIFUL.COM

1 Three stamp bundles worth £50 each
Deck the halls with... stamps and glitter! We have three fabulous collections of Stampendous mice motifs and glitter pots up for grabs, courtesy of Woodware. The designs include a little mouse balancing baubles, two decorating a house and another adding ornaments to a Christmas tree. They're sure to add cuteness to your papercraft projects! **woodware.co.uk**
Tick Woodware

2 Ten pairs of craft show tickets worth £34 each
If you love craft fairs or want to give them a go, then the Birmingham shows at the NEC from the 6-9th November are just for you! There's ten pairs of two-day tickets available for the Hobbycrafts, Crafts for Christmas and Art Materials Live shows. To find out more about the events visit **ichfevents.co.uk**
Tick Hobbycrafts

3 Four £50 vouchers for Tikamoon
Tikamoon is a furniture brand that designs and sells solid wood furniture online. With materials such as teak, mahogany, rosewood and oak, beautiful quality items are produced thanks to its close partnerships with amazing craftsmen. Four £50 vouchers are up for grabs to spend online. Visit **tikamoon.co.uk**
Tick Tikamoon

4 Three pen bundles worth £50 each
Artists at the ready! Artifolk is offering sets to three creative winners, including a selection of Copic Nobby pencils and Ciao marker pens worth £50 each. The pencils feature a smart design with a 3mm lead, ideal for sketching and designing, whilst the markers are perfect for obtaining a high quality finish to your projects. Visit **artifolk.co.uk**
Tick Artifolk

WIN!



5



6

EXTRA!
DECORATIVE LIVING TICKETS

Caroline Zoob will be hosting The Decorative Living Fair at Chelsea Town Hall on 2nd October, where several dealers specialising in antique textiles and haberdashery will be exhibiting. There are free tickets up for grabs to the first 50 people who email **sales@carolinezoob.co.uk** with the subject 'Crafts Beautiful' and their postal address in the body of the email. For more information about the fair, visit **carolinezoob.co.uk**.





7



TURN TO PAGE 94 FOR THE ENTRY FORM

5 Four punch bundles worth £32 each
Create your dream card designs with four sets of Martha Stewart punches from Fred Aldous! These papercraft tools aim to get lovely results and include a doily lace punch that gives a vintage tone to your projects, plus a butterfly corner punch for a charming, whimsical feel. To find out more visit **fredaldous.co.uk**
Tick Fred Aldous

6 Caroline Zoob bumper prize worth £205
Caroline Zoob is an embroiderer and textile designer who uses antique and vintage materials to create pretty nostalgic pieces, and this prize is definitely a delight! The winner will receive a Decorative Living Day course of their choosing, a pretty vintage tin full of antique sewing goodies and Caroline's very own book, The Hand-Stitched Home. Visit our website for full terms and conditions and take a peek at **carolinezoob.co.uk**
Tick Caroline Zoob

7 Knitting and Stitching Shows discount
The Knitting and Stitching Shows cover a variety of crafts, from home furnishing to knitting, patchwork and quilting to dressmaking and more. Held in London's Alexandra Palace in October and the Harrogate International Centre in November, there's over 400 companies, displays, workshops and lectures to attend. Visit **theknittingandstitchingshow.com** and quote **ACE14** for £2 off per ticket.

8 15% off at Elephant in my Handbag
Elephant in my Handbag is a family-owned business based in Kent that specialises in fabrics. With a wide selection from known designers, it also offers pre-cut bundles and patchwork kits, plus a selection of trimmings. To use this offer, simply enter **Beautiful1** at the checkout. **elephantinmyhandbag.com**

SEW TOGETHER HANGING HEARTS AND DECORATE THEM WITH CROSS-STITCHED

Dala horses



Design detail

A Dalecarlian or Dala horse is a traditional painted wooden horse statue originating from Dalarna in Sweden



"MAKE A SET OF HANGING HEARTS TO DECORATE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE WITH THIS YEAR"

Helen Philipps, Designer

Love it!

WHAT YOU NEED

- Fabric: evenweave, 18 count, cream; linen, 28 count, pastel yellow; Aida, 14 count, white; cotton for backing
- Thread, stranded, DMC
- Toy stuffing, polyester
- Embellishments: buttons, assorted; ribbon, gingham, red; cord, blue, red, white; bakers twine, blue and white; bells, aqua, silver; bead, silver; brads, snowflake
- Card: white, turquoise
- Papers: decorative; letters
- Tape, double-sided
- Tapestry needle, size 26



BLUE HORSE

1 Cut cream evenweave fabric, 13cm square, and fold into four to find the centre. Begin stitching here from the centre of the chart for the blue horse, which you will find on our pattern pages. Sew over two threads of fabric, using three strands of cotton for the cross-stitch and two strands for the backstitch and outlining.

2 Use two strands of pink cotton and a French knot for the eye. Dot a few stars around the horse using Algerian eye stitch and one strand of cotton. Place backing fabric onto the cross-stitch, right sides together. Draw a large heart on the back of the cross-stitch, then sew round the shape.

3 Trim the seams and carefully cut a slit in the centre of the backing fabric for turning. Turn out and press. Fill firmly with toy stuffing and sew up the gap neatly. Stitch red and blue twisted cord around the edge of the heart. Add a red spotty button to the top-right, then sew gingham ribbon and a red heart button at the top for hanging.

RED HORSE

1 Cut two squares from pastel yellow linen, 8cm. Fold one in half to find the centre, then begin stitching here from the middle of the chart of the red horse. Sew over two threads of linen using two strands of cotton for the cross-stitch and one for the backstitch. Sew the eye using one strand and a French knot.

2 Place the cross-stitch right sides together with the other square, then draw a small heart so that the horse motif is in the centre. Sew round the whole heart and trim the seams. Make a small slit in the centre of the back, turn out and press.

3 Stuff the heart and sew the back closed. Stitch red and white twisted cord around the outside. Thread green and white bakers twine through the top of the heart and tie in a knot to secure, then add a small silver bell at the base. Sew an aqua bell to the bottom of the heart.

CHRISTMAS CARD

1 Cross-stitch an orange horse from the chart using one block of Aida, two strands of cotton for the cross-stitch and one strand for the backstitch. Cut out the motif two holes away from the stitching all the way around, and back with white card. Matt onto turquoise card.

2 Cover the front of a card blank, 10cm x 14.5cm, with two patterned papers. Add a plain strip of orange paper down the centre to cover the join. Punch two holes near the top of the card, one 4cm from the left side and the other 3cm from the right side.

3 Attach the words 'BE' and 'MERRY' to strips of paper, then glue to the front of the card. Attach the horse motif and add two snowflake brads. Tie a red gingham ribbon bow through the holes, then sew a silver bead to the centre. **CB**

"Twisted cord is a fab way to finish off your Dala heart"



- Cut six strands of cotton in two colours, three times longer than the length you need for the cord. Knot together at both ends and, holding threads taut, plait them.
- Bring the two knotted ends together to allow the cord to form and gently ease it so it's even. Knot the ends and trim.

SOURCE IT...

Fabrics and DMC threads, Sew and So, **0800 013 0150, sewandso.co.uk**

Sewing embellishments, Fred Aldous, **01612 364224, fredaldous.co.uk**

Papers and alphabet stickers, A Trip Down Memory Lane, **01787 210272, atripdownmemorylane.co.uk**

Show us! Will you be making this project? Share it with us at FACEBOOK.COM/CRAFTSBEAUTIFUL

KNIT BRIGHT TOADSTOOLS AND A CUTE HEDGEHOG TO CREATE YOUR OWN

Woodland wonders



WHAT YOU NEED

- Needles: 3.75mm; 4mm
- Yarn, DK: Stylecraft Special, Matador Red, White, 25g; Sirdar Snuggly, Snowflake, shade 0634, 15g; Robin, Oyster, 15g
- Toy stuffing
- Needle, darning
- Buttons: white, small, large; 35mm x 2; black, 6mm x 2; shank, black, 11mm
- Thread, black

Abbreviations

alt alternate **foll** following **k** knit **k2tog** knit two stitches together **kfb** knit twice into the stitch by knitting into the front and then the back to increase by one stitch **no** number **p** purl **rem** remaining **rep** repeat **RS** right side **ssk** slip the next stitch on the left needle knitwise, then slip the next stitch on the left needle purlwise, then take the left needle and knit through the front of the two slipped stitches on the right needle **st(s)** stitch(es) **WS** wrong side

TOADSTOOLS

Tension is 23 sts x 32 rows for a 10cm square in stockinette stitch on 3.75mm needles.

TOP

Make 1. Cast on 10 sts in White.

Row 1: p (10 sts, WS)
Row 2: kfb nine times, k1 (19 sts, RS)
Row 3: p (19 sts)
Row 4: (k1, kfb) nine times, k1 (28 sts)
Row 5: p (28 sts)
Row 6: (k2, kfb) nine times, k1 (37 sts)
Row 7: p (37 sts)
Row 8: (k3, kfb) nine times, k1 (46 sts)
Row 9: change to Matador Red, p (46 sts). Work all foll rows in red
Row 10 and 11: p (46 sts)
Row 12 to 15: starting with a k row, work in stockinette (46 sts)
Row 16: k1, (k2tog, k7) five times (41 sts)
Row 17 and all foll alt rows: p
Row 18: k1, (k2tog, k6) five times (36 sts)
Row 20: k1, (k2tog, k5) five times (31 sts)
Row 22: k1, (k2tog, k4) five times (26 sts)
Row 24: k1, (k2tog, k3) five times (21 sts)
Row 26: k1, (k2tog) ten times (11 sts)
Cut the yarn, leaving a 30cm tail. With a darning needle, sew through the remaining 11 sts on the knitting needle. Pull the sts off the knitting needle onto the yarn, gather together tightly and secure. Sew the side edges together from the top to the cast on edge. Add stuffing through the opening.

BASE

Make 1. Cast on 10 sts in White.

Row 1: kfb nine times, k1 (19 sts, RS)
Row 2: kfb nine times, k1 (19 sts, RS)
Row 3: k (19 sts)
Row 4: (k1, kfb) nine times, k1 (28 sts)

Love it!



"THIS HEDGEHOG AND TOADSTOOLS WOULD MAKE VERY HANDY (NOT TO MENTION CUTE) PINCUSHIONS"

Amanda Berry, Designer

Row 5 and 6: k (28 sts)
Row 7 to 9: starting and ending on a p row, work in stockinette (28 sts)
Row 10: (k1, k2tog) nine times, k1 (19 sts)
Row 11: p (19 sts)
Row 12: k2tog nine times, k1 (10 sts)
Cast off. Gather the cast on sts together, then join the side edges, leaving the cast off edge at the top open. Before finishing the seam, insert a large button into the bottom of the base. When finished, add stuffing to the base through the opening in the cast off edge. Sew the base to the toadstool. Finish with white buttons fixed to the top.

HEDGEHOG

Tension is 24 sts x 32 rows for a 10cm square in stockinette stitch on 3.75mm needles in Oyster (head, ears and feet) and 20 sts x 29 rows for a 10cm square in stockinette stitch on 4mm needles in Snowflake (body).

HEAD AND BODY

Start at the back of the body. Cast on 7 sts of Snowflake using 4mm needles.
Row 1: p (7 sts, RS)
Row 2: k1, [kfb] six times (13 sts, WS)
Row 3: p (13 sts)
Row 4: k1, [kfb, k1] six times (19 sts)
Row 5: p (19 sts)
Row 6: k1, [kfb, k2] six times (25 sts)
Row 7: p (25 sts)
Row 8: k1, [kfb, k3] six times (31 sts)
Row 9: p (31 sts)
Row 10: k1, [kfb, k4] six times (37 sts)
Row 11: p (37 sts)
Row 12: k1, [kfb, k5] six times (43 sts)
Row 13 to 21: starting and ending on a p row, work in stockinette (43 sts)
Row 22: k19, ssk, k1, k2tog, k19 (41 sts)
Row 23: p (41 sts)
Row 24: k8, k2tog, k8, ssk, k1, k2tog, k8, ssk, k8 (37 sts)
Row 25: p (37 sts)
Change to Oyster and use 3.75mm needles for all foll rows
Row 26: p (37 sts)
Row 27: k7, k2tog, k7, ssk, k1, k2tog, k7, ssk, k7 (33 sts)
Row 28 and all foll even-numbered rows: p
Row 29: k6, k2tog, k6, ssk, k1, k2tog, k6, ssk, k6 (29 sts)
Row 31: k5, k2tog, k5, ssk, k1, k2tog, k5, ssk, k5 (25 sts)
Row 33: k4, k2tog, k4, ssk, k1, k2tog, k4, ssk, k4 (21 sts)
Row 35: k3, k2tog, k3, ssk, k1, k2tog, k3, ssk, k3 (17 sts)
Row 37: k2, k2tog, k2, ssk, k1, k2tog, k2, ssk, k2 (13 sts)
Row 39: k1, k2tog, k1, ssk, k1, k2tog, k1, ssk, k1 (9 sts)
Leave a 30cm tail, thread into a darning needle and sew through the remaining 9 sts on the knitting needle, then pull off to gather together. Place the shank button inside these cast off sts and sew through, gather together tightly and secure to create a nose. Join the side edges, adding stuffing as you sew. This seam runs down the bottom of the hedgehog. Note that the nose is lightly stuffed, with more added to the body. Finish by gathering the cast on sts together at the back of the body. Sew on two black buttons for eyes.

EARS AND FEET

Make six pieces (two ears and four feet).
Cast on 8 sts
Row 1: k (8 sts)
Row 2: k2tog four times (4 sts)
Cut the yarn, then leave a 30cm tail and use to sew through the remaining 4 sts on the knitting needle. Pull them onto the yarn and secure. Next, form into a small semi-circle with the cast on edge being the outer of the ear/foot. Sew the side edge onto the hedgehog. Add two ears to the head and four feet onto the bottom of the body to finish. **CB**

Craft tip

For eyes, use buttons or beads or, alternatively, embroider them! If you use safety ones, insert them before sewing the head up



SOURCE IT...

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

Knitting needles, Deramores,
0800 488 0708, deramores.com

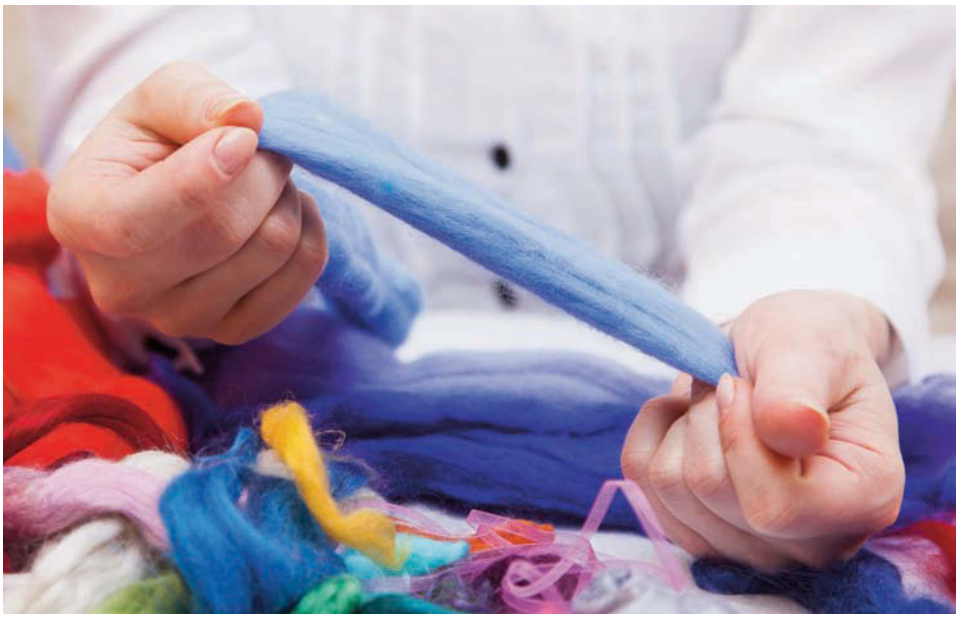
Back to basics: WET FELTING

THIS ISSUE, WE GET THE INSIDE INFO ON THE ARTISAN CRAFT OF WET FELTING

Have you ever taken a woolly jumper out of the wash to find it's shrunk? It's either been successfully felted or not so successfully washed! Felt is made from matted and compressed fibres that are 'knitted' together using moisture and heat in a process called wet felting. Nobody knows for certain when it was first invented, though a common theory is that thousands of years ago we saw how wool became matted on sheep due to the weather and decided to experiment. Today, felt is a popular craft material with many exploring its uses.



CARNIVAL OF FELTING BY GILLIAN HARRIS (COLLINS & BROWN, £14.99) PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTINA WILSON



Method matters

1 Place a tuft of wool roving vertically onto bubble wrap, then place another next to it. Continue until you have your desired length. Repeat, but this time lay them horizontally, or at 90° angles, over the first layer. Put tulle over the top, spray with hot water, then rub soap onto the surface. Massage in a circular motion using your fingers for a few minutes.

2 Peel back the netting, lift the panel from the bubble wrap and position it onto a rolling mat. Fold up tight, then roll backwards and forwards for a minute. Open, then turn 90° and repeat. Carry on until the piece is felted, which you can test by pinching it – if the layers come apart, it's not ready. Once ready, rinse under cold water and leave to dry.

Expert ADVICE



Lisa Marie Olson is a felting expert and business entrepreneur at tigerlilymakes.co.uk

- The best starter wool to wet felt with is Merino as it's nice and easy to use and readily available.
- Store wool in a sealed bag to prevent it from drying out.
- Wet felting doesn't have to be complicated, though if you do get stuck there are plenty of helpful videos on YouTube.
- When felting, your piece is going to shrink so make it slightly larger than you think you'll need.
- Avoid layering fibres too thickly as they can be more difficult to bond.
- To create a flat sheet, build up level layers so you're not left with an uneven thickness.

Spot the difference

Aside from wet felting, there are also other ways to work with roving

- **Needle felting** creates items using special 'barbed' needles that grab the top layer of fibres and tangle them with the inner layers.
- **Machine felting** is a technique that involves shrinking a knitted object with hot water and agitation in a washing machine.
- **Nuno felting** bonds roving into a sheer fabric such as silk gauze, creating a lightweight felt. It often merges several layers of loose fibres to build up elements.

Felt facts

- Felt is the oldest man-made textile – evidence of it being used can be found in Turkey, where wall motifs of felt appliqué date back to 6500 BC.
- Some of the oldest surviving pieces are from the 5th century BC and can be seen at **hermitagemuseum.org.**
- The way that animal fibres open when hot is similar to the scales on pine cones, which allows them to interlock together to create felt.
- There needs to be a minimum of 30% animal fibres in mixed roving for felting to work effectively.
- This material can be any colour, size or shape, is water repellent, doesn't ravel or fray and is a great insulator.
- Many musical instruments use felt, including pianos. Its density and elasticity plays a major part in creating various tones.

Take it further...

Want to find out more about the art of wet felting? Learn how to make your own felted items by attending a lovely workshop class at The Make It Room. Visit **themakeitroom.co.uk** to find out more. You can also join the International Feltmakers' Association at **feltmakers.com** for the latest industry news.



Search for workshops in your local area by visiting craftcourses.com

Kit list

Your essential shopping guide



ROVING is the key ingredient to making beautiful felted items. Whilst many animal fibres can be used, Merino wool tops the popularity list. **bloomingfelt.co.uk**

To allow water and soap to seep through without disturbing the layout of the roving underneath, TULLE is used. **myfabrics.co.uk**





SOAP is the alkaline element that helps fibres knit together. You can rub a bar over the netting, use flakes or make a liquid form. Most crafters swear by olive oil soap, and you can find it at **balmofgileadsoaps.co.uk**



When applying moisture to the felt, a SPRAY BOTTLE becomes your best friend. You can find them in most supermarkets and beauty stores.





To help fibres combine, a ROLLING MAT is essential, and a bamboo sushi one is perfect for the task. They can be sourced in most homeware stores.

After all that hot water, soap and rolling, your hands may need a bit of love, which is why HAND CREAM is on our list! We love L'Occitane for a luxurious pamper. **uk.loccitane.com**

TURN OUT-GROWN WOOLLY JUMPERS INTO ELLEN KHARADE'S EASIER-THAN-YOU-THINK

Festive cushion





"DON'T FORGET, YOU CAN STILL DYE PASTEL AND GREY WOOLLENS WITH DARKER COLOURS"

Ellen Kharade, Designer

Love it!

Design detail...

Now you've got the felting knack, make an inexpensive decoration for your home, and when Christmas is over turn it into a pincushion!



WHAT YOU NEED

- Wool sweater, cream
- Machine dye, Dylon, tulip red
- Fabric: lining, cream, 32cm x 64cm; felt, cream, 33cm square
- Polyester wadding
- Embroidery thread, red
- Fusible webbing, 33cm square
- Punch, hole
- Sewing machine with buttonhole attachment
- Muslin
- Polymer clay
- Rolling pin

FELT CUSHION

1 Cut the arms off a sweater so you are left with two sections; a back and front. Pop into the washing machine with red dye and wash following the dye manufacturer's instructions. Dyeing the jumper in the washing machine will also felt the wool at the same time. When the programme has finished, hand rinse out any excess dye, spin on a short cycle and leave to dry, then press both pieces.

2 Trim the felted jumper to 34cm square. Take white felt, 26cm square, and iron fusible webbing onto the back. Enlarge the templates for the reindeer and border motifs from the pattern pages to fit and copy onto tracing paper. Transfer the motifs for the reindeer and border onto the backing paper of the fusible webbing and cut them out with small scissors or a craft knife. Make a hole for the eye with a hole punch and a pattern of 'spots' on the rump.

3 Peel the backing paper off the fabric motifs and position them centrally on the felted square. Place muslin over the fabric, then press with a hot iron to fix the motifs into place. With matching thread, machine stitch around the cut out design, staying close to the edge. Sew star stitches around the border and across the reindeer's neck using red embroidery thread.

4 From the remaining felted jumper, cut out a lower cushion, 25cm x 34cm, and an upper back, 21.5cm x 34cm. Fold a 1.5cm hem at the long edges, then pin and machine stitch into place. Measure the position for the buttonholes, 3cm down from the hemmed edge. Mark the centre of the cushion cover, then mark 9cm either side for the position of the remaining two buttons. Stitch around the marks with the buttonhole attachment, then carefully open them up using a seam ripper.

5 To make the buttons, roll out two 2cm balls of polymer clay and and cut them in half; roughen up the surface using scissors. Make two holes in three buttons and bake to the clay manufacturer's instructions. Lay the two back pieces on top of the front, so that all three pieces match up, then mark off the position for the buttons. Sew on the buttons using matching thread. With right sides facing, pin the three pieces together and machine stitch around the cover, turn out, then insert the cushion pad. **CB**

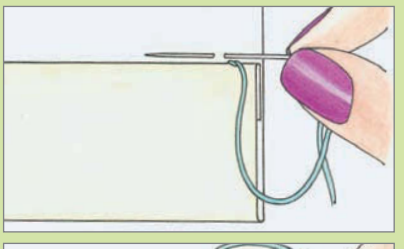


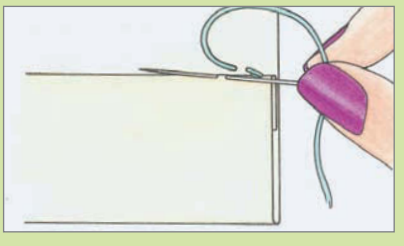
Craft tip

Keep a look out for larger sweaters to felt, that way you will have more fabric to work with

SLIP STITCH

Small stitches used for hemming or sewing up projects after stuffing





1 Working on the fold in the fabric, secure the thread with a double stitch. Pick up two threads of the fabric with the needle tip, then slip the needle through the fold of the hem.

2 Bring the needle out 5mm along, then pick up two more threads of fabric before returning through the fold of the hem.

3 Pull the thread lightly as you work to tighten the stitches, being careful not to distort the fabric which makes the stitches visible.

SOURCE IT...

Wool felt, Fabric Rehab, **01206 321611, fabricrehab.co.uk**

Dylon machine dye, **01737 742000, dylon.co.uk**

CARE FOR YOUR TREASURED KEEPSAKES IN JILL ALBLAS' DECOUPAGE

Memory box

WHAT YOU NEED

- Book-style box, MDF
- Paint, metallic, gold
- Paper: newspaper print; gold
- Card: white, gold, cream
- Embellishments: wooden blanks, birds; name plate, metal; ribbon, satin, cream; cabochon, multi-coloured; feathers, cream; lace
- Brush: decoupage; paint
- Adhesives: glue, decoupage; strong; tape, double-sided
- Varnish, matt and gloss
- Screwdriver, small
- Quilling tool
- Craft knife



"IF YOU'VE ONLY GOT WHITE LACE, DYE IT WITH TEABAGS FOR A VINTAGE TOUCH"

Jill Alblas, Designer

Love it!



Craft tip

Smooth decoupage papers from the centre towards the edges; this will help achieve a clean finish and disperse any trapped air bubbles

MEMORY BOX

1 Paint the edges of a book-style box in a few coats of gold. Use a small screwdriver to remove the lid and brush with a thin, even coat of decoupage glue. Place newspaper print paper on top and smooth down. Make sure the edges are firmly adhered, then trim round the sides with a sharp knife. Repeat with the back of the lid.

2 Paper the sides of the box in gold. Leave the glue to dry, then apply a couple of coats of matt varnish to all the papered surfaces. When dry, screw the lid back in place. Remove the screws from the spine. Use decoupage glue and adhere lace to it, then trim neatly at the top and bottom. Tape ribbon down the centre of the spine. Tie a bow and glue it in the middle, then embellish the ribbon with crystal cabochons. Screw the spine back in place.



3 Make eight flowers in various sizes as described in our guide. Leave the glue to set, then brush with gloss varnish. Fix a crystal cabochon to the centre of each flower. Glue a feather at the bottom of the box and across the top right-hand corner. Fix the flowers in place. Cut a few strips of card for the stems and glue below the flowers.

4 Adhere two bird embellishments either side of the stems. Cut and fold a few leaves and glue them along the stems. Print 'memories' onto cream card and fix in a metal name plate. Glue the name plate on the box, 5cm from the bottom.

CARD

1 Trim card, 12cm square, and cover one side with newspaper print paper. Tape lace, 6cm deep, across the centre and secure the edges on the back. Print your chosen greeting onto cream card and fix in a metal name plate. Glue to the lace at the right-hand edge. Adhere a feather across the card.

2 Make three card flowers and fix a crystal cabochon in the centre of each. Glue them along the feather. Adhere a few card strips in place for the flower stems. Tie a bow from cream ribbon and fix on the stems. Cover the front of a blank, 14cm square, with gold paper and fix the decorated card square to the front.

TAG

1 Trim a tag, 7cm x 10cm, and cover the front with newspaper print paper. Cut a slightly smaller tag and apply gold paper to the front. Tape lace, 6cm deep, across the gold tag and secure the ends on the back. Add to the larger tag.

"Create striking paper flowers to decorate"

- Cut a strip of card, thread it through a quilling tool, then wind in a tight coil and secure the end with a spot of craft glue. Leave the coil attached to the tool.
- Draw small petals onto card and trim neatly. Curl the petals by running them along the edge of a knife. Glue the petals around the coil, press firmly in place, then leave to dry and set.
- If required, one or more rows of larger petals can be attached below the first row in the same way. Larger flowers can be made by omitting the smaller petals and gluing a few layers of larger petals around the coil.

2 Glue a feather on the front. Make two flowers and fix a crystal cabochon in the centre of each. Adhere the flowers and a wooden bird embellishment on the tag, then tie a bow from cream ribbon and glue it at the top of the tag. **CB**

SOURCE IT...

Book-style box, MDF Man, **01623 810110, mdfblanks.co.uk**

Gold paint, Homecrafts Direct, **01162 697723, homecrafts.co.uk**

Cabochons and newspaper print paper, Creativ Company, **01793 616 068, cc-craft.co.uk**

THERE ARE LESS TRICKS AND MORE TREATS WITH SOPHIA PALMER'S SELECTION OF

Halloween gifts



"WHY NOT EMBROIDER NAMES ONTO THE TRICK OR TREAT BAGS FOR EVERY CHILD? THAT WAY THERE'S NO ARGUMENTS OVER WHOSE SWEETS THEY ARE!"

Sophia Palmer, Designer

Craft tip

If the cotton is a little thin, use iron-on interfacing whilst you add details for support

Love it!



WHAT YOU NEED

- Felt: orange, green, yellow, black
- Cotton: orange, green; lining, cream
- Tape, fabric, bunting
- Thread: black, white
- Card
- Pins, brooch x 2
- Glue, fabric
- Shears, pinking

TRICK OR TREAT

1 Cut two orange cotton rectangles and two lining sheets, 25cm x 35cm each. Draw a large pumpkin on card, then use as a template to create an orange felt motif. Trim a small green stalk. Snip black triangles for eyes and a zig zag mouth, then a banner from white. Glue them into place, then appliqué in black. Machine embroider details to the pumpkin and add a sentiment to the banner.

2 Put the front section right side down with the lining, then sew along the top edge. Repeat with the other two, then press. Lay the right sides of the orange sections together and stitch, leaving a gap in the lining.

3 Turn out and press. Close the gap, then push the lining inside to make the bag. Next, cut two handles from green cotton, 10cm x 30cm. Fold each one in half, right sides together, then sew into tubes. Turn out, press and sew to the top of the bag to finish.

HALLOWEEN BUNTING

1 Draw a triangle with two 23cm sides and an 18cm top onto card. Trim and use as a template to cut orange and green flags, six of each. Trim two black witch hats, two white ghosts and two orange pumpkins from felt, then glue into place on three of both colours. Stitch them down, embroidering the motifs as you go.

2 Put the decorated flags right sides together with plain sections and sew, leaving the tops open. Turn out and press. Pin them in alternate colours along bunting tape, 1.5m, folding and hiding the raw edges of the flags inside. To finish, sew along the tape to secure and press.

HALLOWEEN BROOCH

Cut two 8cm circles from felt. Glue a brooch back to one and trim a little motif to the other. Machine embroider the shape into place and write a sentiment. Stitch the two circles together, then use pinking shears around the edge to shape. **CB**

SOURCE IT...

Craft cotton, Patch Fabrics, **patchfabrics.co.uk**

Thread, glue and felt, Homecrafts, **01162 697733, homecrafts.co.uk**



Why choose pumpkins?

The jack-o'-lantern is a carved pumpkin that means 'man with a lantern'. It's also named after the phenomenon of strange lights flickering over marshes, otherwise called will-o'-the-wisps. These mysterious lights are associated with fairies and ghosts playing pranks on travellers in British folklore. It's where the phrase 'trick or treat' comes from and why we put pumpkins in our gardens during Halloween: they're an invitation!

Crafts BEAUTIFUL

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- ☐ FRED ALDOUS
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What is the title of your favourite project this issue? .....

What is your favourite craft technique?.....

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Surname* .....

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.....

Postcode*.....Tel* .....

Email *.....

Gender (please tick one)
☐ Female ☐ Male

Age (please tick one)
☐ 18-29 ☐ 30-39
☐ 40-55 ☐ over 55

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Put your completed form in an envelope and send it to: Find a Crafty Friend, Crafts Beautiful, 1 Phoenix Court, Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JY or submit details via email: social.cb@aceville.co.uk

MAKE YOUR CARDS STAND OUT THIS CHRISTMAS WITH ELLEN KHARADE'S HANDMADE

Scandi TOPPERS



WHAT YOU NEED

- Polymer clay: white, red
- Cardstock: red, white; metallic gold
- Paper, spot
- Palm punch, XCut: small daisy
- Ricrac
- Adhesives



"ALWAYS LEAVE THE POLYMER CLAY TO COOL BEFORE TAKING IT OUT THE OVEN"

Ellen Kharade, Designer

CHRISTMAS CARD

1 Make a card blank, 14cm x 17.5cm. Cut out three triangles from the decorative paper and stick to the centre of the card. Trim two sloping sections from the same paper and arrange across the triangles to make a 'hill'. Stick white card over the triangles for contrast.

2 Fix a piece of narrow, red ricrac across the colour change on the white card. Punch out some flower shapes for snowflakes in white, red and gold, then stick across the card in corresponding places.

3 Resize the reindeer motif on the pattern pages and transfer onto scrap card and cut out. Condition white polymer clay by working it between you fingers until soft, then roll into a thin sheet. Dot small balls of red clay onto the reindeer shape. Place a piece of paper over the clay and roll flat so that the dots are pressed into the white clay to make a polka dot pattern.

4 Position the reindeer template on the clay and cut around it with a scalpel. Carefully lift it off and place the clay piece on a tile or baking tray in the oven, then bake following the manufacturer's instructions. Stick to the front of the card using double-sided tape and finish with a small bow. **CB**

SOURCE IT...

Fimo Soft polymer clay, The Craft Mill, **0161 484 5888, thecraftmill.co.uk**

XCut palm punches, **craftydevilspapercraft.co.uk**

MODERNISE THE FESTIVITIES WITH CATHIE SHUTTLEWORTH'S VIBRANT

Christmas angels



WHAT YOU NEED

- Papers, decorative
- Card, patterned, blue
- Wooden ball, 40mm
- Relief paint, white
- Embellishments: buttons; beads; thread or fluffy wool; ribbon; ricrac
- Pens, fine: black, white
- Chalk, red
- Foam pads, 3-D
- Crimps

Craft tip

For quick and quirky facial features, just add googly eyes!

Make it!

ANGEL

1 Using the templates on our pattern pages, cut out a body, collar, arms and wings from patterned paper. Glue the sides of the body together to make a cone. Repeat with the collar and secure over the cone. Glue the wings to the back of the body, then adhere the ends of the arms and tuck them behind the body.

2 To create a head, wrap and glue pink fluffy wool or embroidery thread around a wooden ball, creating pigtails. Tie each pigtail with a bow. Add rosy cheeks with pink chalk. Draw a pair of eyes, a nose and mouth with fine black and white pens.

3 Attach a small paper tab inside the neck of the cone and secure the head to it. Cut a circle from decorative paper and place at the back of the head for a halo. Add buttons and dots of white relief paint for extra detail and finish with a pink paper heart, attached with glue, at the bottom.

TREE DECS

1 Cut a body and pair of wings from patterned paper. Glue the body edges together to form a cone, then snip the point off with scissors. Make a long loop from green thread and feed two beads on the ends for feet. Use a crimping bead to hold them in position.

2 Feed the loop through a small button, held with a knot in the neck of the cone; this remains hidden. Pull the loop through the point of the cone, adding a large cream bead for a head. Apply a dot of glue where the head meets the cone.

3 Attach the wings to the back of the body and glue a circle behind the head for a halo. Wrap ribbon around the body for arms and secure with glue. For the hair, curl fluffy thread or wool into a small coil and attach to the top of the head with glue. Embellish the design with white relief paint, ricrac and buttons. Draw eyes with a fine black pen.





"PLACE THE LARGER ANGEL ON THE TOP OF A CHRISTMAS TREE OR IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR DINING TABLE AS A CENTREPIECE"

Cathie Shuttleworth, Designer



CARD

1 Make a side-folding card, 10cm x 15cm, from blue patterned card, with a plain strip of paper glued down the middle. Cut wings and a halo from patterned paper and add to the face of the card.

2 Trim a paper triangle for the body and attach with foam pads. Add arms and hands to the sides. Curl pink fluffy thread or wool into a circle and secure on top of the halo.

3 Foam mount a circle for the head, adding two eyes with a fine black pen and rosy cheeks with chalk. Draw legs in black and add paper shoes to the ends. Finish with decorative buttons and white relief paint. **CB**

SOURCE IT...

Lime Dots paper, Craftstyle, **01924 411564, craftstyleproducts.co.uk**

GIVE YOUR LOVED ONES A SCRUMPTIOUS SEASONAL TREAT IN THE APPROACH TO CHRISTMAS WITH THEIR OWN

Gingerbread house GIFT

WHAT YOU NEED

- Flour, plain, 350g
- Bicarbonate of soda, 1 tsp
- Ground ginger, 2 tbsp
- Butter, diced, 150g
- Sugar, light muscovado, 175g
- Golden syrup, warmed, 2 tbsp
- Egg, medium, beaten
- Royal icing sugar, white, 1kg
- Sweets, assorted
- Cake board
- Knife, flat-bladed



Gingerbread house

1 Create templates for a roof, 6cm x 10cm, a side wall, 6cm x 8cm, and an end wall with a gable, 6cm square with a top triangle, 5cm sides. Next, put flour, bicarbonate of soda, ginger and butter into a food processor. Blend to form fine breadcrumbs, tip into a bowl, then stir sugar in.

2 Add syrup and an egg to the mixture, then mix with a flat-bladed knife until it forms clumps. Make a ball using your hands, then knead on a lightly floured work surface until smooth. Shape into a disc, wrap in cling film and put in a fridge to cool for 20 minutes.

3 Halve the dough, then roll out one portion on a lightly floured surface to 3mm thick. Using the templates as a guide, cut four of each shape, then place onto lightly greased baking sheets. Chill for 20 minutes.

4 Preheat the oven to 190°C. Bake the gingerbread for ten minutes or until golden. Whilst warm, neaten the edges using the templates as a guide. Leave to set on the baking sheet for a few minutes, then cool on wire racks; the gingerbread can be kept for up to three months.

Gift wrapping



Line a box of your choice with waxed paper. Wrap ribbon around the gingerbread shapes, interleaved with more waxed paper, then put into the box. Decant royal icing sugar, 250g, into a cellophane packet. Put the sweets into bags and tie with ribbon. Finish three more in this way.



"Design each house around a theme. Disney's Frozen is a big hit with my nieces, so I might try that!"

Jecelyn Latimer, Editorial Assistant



Did you know?

• Gingerbread was brought to Europe by an Armenian monk during the 10th century. In medieval times, they used wooden moulds to shape fancy designs.
• The first documented instance of figure-shaped gingerbread biscuits is from the court of Elizabeth I, where she had gingerbread figures made in the likeness of important guests.
• In the 17th century, only professional gingerbread bakers were permitted to produce gingerbread all year round. There were even guilds set up to control production.
• Decorated gingerbread houses date from the early 1800s in Germany. They're thought to be the result of the famous Grimms' fairy tale, Hansel and Gretel. After the book was published, bakers began making ornamented edible homes that became popular for Christmas.
• The locals of Bergen, Norway, have built a city of gingerbread houses each year since 1991. Named Pepperkakebyen, or 'the gingerbread city', it's the largest of its kind in the world.



House assemble

Prepare thick 'glue' from royal icing sugar and a few drops of water. Pipe a line of icing along the base of one of the side walls and fix upright onto a cake board, then again along the edge and base of a pointed end wall. Fix to the side wall. Continue with the other side and end walls to form a box. Hold in place for a few minutes to allow the icing to set, then glue the pieces together. Pipe icing along the top edges of the house and position the roof pieces. Decorate with the sweets and use icing to outline the windows and doors.

FAVE FINDS



Cutters are a great choice for an easy way to make your house, and we think these ones from Lakeland give a great finished result! **lakeland.co.uk**





In the kitchen with little ones? Why not give them a house to create without the hassle of baking their own! **planetbake.co.uk**

Complement your Christmas table with a Gisela Graham gingerbread man candle holder or two from The Contemporary Home**. tch.net**





READER OFFER

This recipe has been adapted from Handmade Gifts from the Kitchen by Alison Walker (Jacqui Small, £20). To order for £15 including P&P, call 01903 828503 and quote APG 193. Visit **jacquismallpub.com**

"Our designs are always eclectic, mostly because I find it impossible to stick to one style"

CHRISTINA STRUTT

Words by Emma Zucker











Her experience as a stylist for Vogue and years working in the fashion industry led to Christina Strutt's passion for vintage fabrics, and in 2000 she founded her homeware company, Cabbages & Roses, in order to focus on just that. We caught up with Christina to find out the story behind her recently published book, Living Life Beautifully, which pays homage to the people she has met, from whom she draws inspiration. It travels from place to place telling the stories of friends' homes and showing how they successfully merge together both work and home.

Following a 10-year stint at Vogue, Christina married and relocated to Bath. This was when the driving force to set up her shop really began. Her freelance styling for magazines gradually developed into interior decoration and she started to focus on fabrics. Finding it increasingly difficult to source materials that she loved, Christina became intent on producing her own range that she believed would fill a gap in the market. And so her shop came about...

"I started Cabbages & Roses with my wonderful friend and business partner, Brigette Buchanan, who also worked at Vogue as a stylist," reveals Christina. "We started with one fabric and went from there, creating materials we loved and clothes we wanted to wear but could not find."

Having been brought up by a mother who would often make her children clothes, it is perhaps inevitable that Christina would end up showing great passion for fabric and design. It seems like it was in her blood, especially given that her sister Pia Maclean has also become a successful interior designer.

"I have just finished designing a dress for autumn/winter 2014 – 'the rivoli dress' – which is based on one my mother made me as a child," Christina explains. "To me, everywhere and everything is an influence. My childhood has definitely played a huge part in the life and creation of Cabbages & Roses, as has growing up and becoming a mother and grandmother."

Although Christina worked for world famous, trend-led Vogue magazine, she



doesn't focus on what's current – it comes from the heart, and she makes a point of drawing inspiration organically. She does confess that if she does follow a specific trend, it is completely by accident! The home products in particular are ever-changing and there is a huge collection of beautiful fabrics, providing endless possibilities when it comes to the finished product.

"My designs are based on what I love and feel at the time", says Christina. "I am often inspired by films, architecture, paintings and found objects. If I think something is beautiful, I will try to find a place for it. I love texture, shape and colour and these elements inform my designs, whether consciously or not. It is always a happy coincidence when we are on trend, but I am not worried about conforming - if anything, I prefer the opposite!"

Many fashion or craft design companies decide on a target customer and focus largely on producing items that will appeal to that market, regardless of the designers' personal taste. This is not the case with Christina, who simply hopes that others will love it too.

"Our designs are always eclectic, mostly because I find it impossible to stick to one style," confesses Christina. "We have a brilliant head of home and fabrics, Sophie Marsh, who is in touch with what our customers want, so she helps to guide me in the right direction."

The book deal for Living Life Beautifully was a welcome surprise, and Christina tells us she was simply in the right place at the right time.





Cabbages & Roses received a lot of press when it first started as the English vintage floral theme was fairly unrivalled in the market. Putting it all down in a book is vital to Christina as she wants to share her passion.

"I love creating books, starting with an idea and moulding it into something interesting for others," she explains. "I want our readers to feel inspired the way I do when I read a new book. For Living Life Beautifully, my publishers wanted me to just write about my business, but I wanted to tell the stories of others that have inspired and interested me."

It may be a little early but we asked Christina to share some festive trends with us. She's a big fan of Christmas and the winter months, so designing for this time of year is something that fills her with excitement. "I am very traditional when it comes to Christmas and love the thought of cosy fires, mince pies and a huge tree," Christina reveals. "For Christmas 2014 there will be lots of tartan, reds and reindeers."

The future is looking prosperous for Christina, Cabbages & Roses, and her new book Living Life Beautifully, and it's easy to see why. Her stunning offering of clothes and homeware is enough to excite craft fans of all ages. But what exactly does the future hold for the company? "Our fabrics have just been put into John Lewis and we are also creating a beautiful bed linen range which is very exciting," says Christina. "We hope it will be available by Christmas." **CB**

ON THE SPOT...

Tea or coffee? Coffee

Chocolate or strawberries? Chocolate

Sun or snow? Snow

Christmas or New Year's Eve? Christmas Eve

Kittens or puppies? Puppies

Crayon or brush? Brush

Things I couldn't live without: A pencil, paper and a good film

What's the most recent book you've read? The Summer Book by Tove Jansson

The best piece of advice you've been given? Never ever give up

Who's your idol? The Queen

Five dream dinner guests: Meryl Streep, Victoria Beckham, Anita Pallenberg, The Queen and Frankie (my grandson who is almost four years old)

Pet peeve? When bartenders assume I want ice in my drink!

Most cherished memory? Meeting Frankie



READER OFFER

To order a copy of Living Life Beautifully by Christina Strutt (CICO Books, £25) for £18 including postage, call **01256 302699** and quote GLR CODE 901. **cicobooks.co.uk**



Coming next month



Projects

- Make an elegant 3-D bauble card for someone you know
- Enjoy a folksy theme with a sewn wreath and matching card
- Craft Christmas crackers in wintry hues for the festive season
- Stitch a sweet ragdoll for a little girl to enjoy
- Upcycle baubles for your tree with a gorgeous selection of beads
- Knit turquoise baby bootees for teeny tiny feet



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*T&Cs apply

ON SALE **19th September 2014**

Features

- Discover crafty projects and ideas in our Christmas countdown
- We interview paper flower expert, Denise Brown
- Enjoy festive gift wrapping trends and tricks
- Learn all about the basics of decorative painting

ENJOY BUMPER PRIZES AND A FANTASTIC FREE GIFT IN OUR CHRISTMAS SPECIAL!



Don't miss out!
Next month you'll receive a wonderful **FREE** gift with eight felt squares, decoupage papers, blanks, threads and ricrac to get you crafting straight away! Plus, we have over £5,800 of prizes to be won in our **BUMPER GIVEAWAYS!**



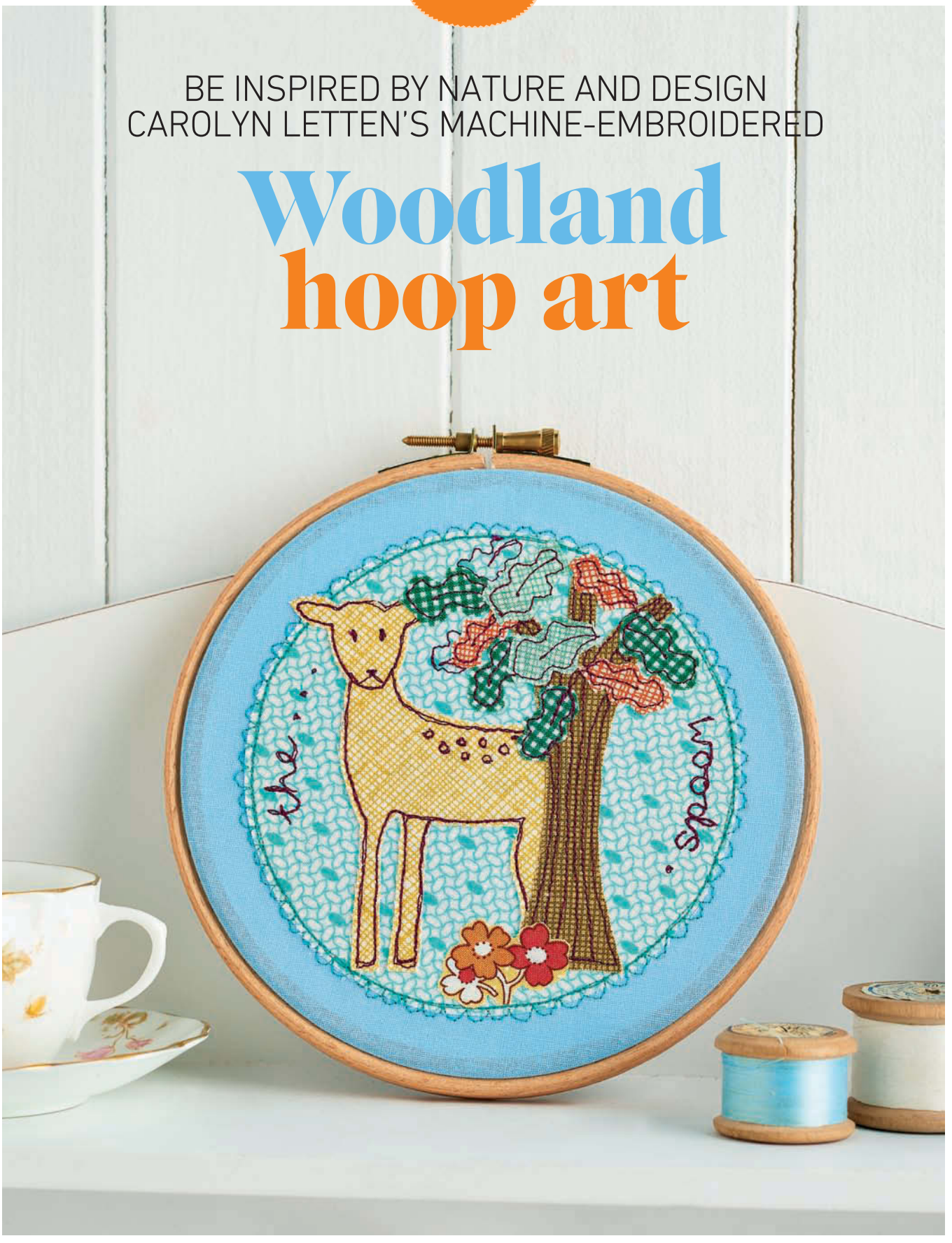


Projects subject to change

Make it!

BE INSPIRED BY NATURE AND DESIGN CAROLYN LETTEN'S MACHINE-EMBROIDERED

Woodland hoop art



Bring a little piece of autumn sunshine inside with a trio of embroidery hoop pictures. These fresh, bright appliqué stitched scenes make good use of fabric scraps and the limited colour palette means they are economical to produce too. The woodland theme is as popular as ever and is sure to be a winner when planning gifts for friends and family in the run up to Christmas. Display the hoops vertically against a plain white wall or arrange on a shelf horizontally for maximum effect.

Tweet it! Let the rest of the craft community know about your talents at twitter.com/craftsbeautiful



WHAT YOU NEED

- Wooden embroidery hoops; 4"; 5"; 6".
- Fabric: pale blue, dark brown, green; turquoise print; sketch print; orange, yellow
- Lace, scrap, white
- Threads, machine: purple, green
- Sewing machine
- Paper, plain white
- Iron-on interfacing
- Glue stick

ACORN HOOP

1 Cut a circle of blue fabric that is at least 10cm larger all the way round than the 4" hoop. Using the circle as a guide, trim a circle of turquoise print fabric, 8cm in diameter, and back it with interfacing. Lightly stick the circle onto the middle of the blue one. Place a piece of plain white paper underneath.

2 Machine stitch two lines in green thread just inside the edge of the turquoise circle, then machine stitch a scallop detail all the way round the outside edge.

3 Using the template provided on the pattern pages, cut out the two acorn pieces and back the paler piece with interfacing. Place as shown and machine stitch around the edges in purple thread twice, then stitch a zig zag across the acorn top.



Craft tip

If you feel daunted by the freehand scallop stitch then use your machine's zig-zag stitch instead

Make it!



"I CAN ALMOST HEAR THE SCRUNCH OF LEAVES UNDER FOOT, THROUGH THE AUTUMN SUNSHINE WITH THESE WOODLAND ILLUSTRATIONS!"

Carolyn Letten, Designer

Design detail

You could stitch a small group of buttons in place of the flowers for a more 3-D look

4 Hand or machine stitch 'walk' to the left and stick two flower pieces cut from fabric. Tear the paper away from around the circle. Iron on the reverse and mount into the hoop.

FOX HOOP

1 Cut a circle of blue fabric, 10cm larger all the way round than the 5" hoop. Trim a circle of turquoise fabric,10cm in diameter, using the template as a guide, and back it with iron-on interfacing.

2 Lightly stick the circle onto the middle of the blue one. As before, place a piece of white paper underneath and machine stitch two lines in green just inside the edge followed by a scallop detail just outside the edge.

3 Using the template as a guide, cut out the fox in orange and face in white, and back with interfacing. Place as shown, add lace to the tip of the tail and stitch the details using purple thread. Machine stitch 'in to' on the left and add a flower cut from fabric to the top right. Tear the paper away and iron on the reverse. Mount your picture into the hoop.

DEER HOOP

1 Cut a circle from blue fabric that is at least 10cm larger all the way round than the 6" hoop. Using the template as a guide, cut a 12cm circle from turquoise fabric and back it with iron-on interfacing.

2 Lightly stick this onto the middle of the blue circle. As before, place a piece of white paper underneath before stitching to stabilise the fabric. In green thread, stitch around the circle twice just in from the edge, then scallop stitch around the outer edge.

3 Using the template provided, cut out the deer in yellow and back it with interfacing. Cut out the tree trunk and several leaves in brown, green and orange fabrics. Place as shown and machine stitch around all the edges, adding the details in purple thread.

4 Stitch 'the' and 'woods' to the left and right and secure a flower cut from fabric at the bottom. Tear the paper away from around the paper and iron on the reverse and mount into the hoop. **CB**

the basic technique ... filling the hoops

✱ To mount the finished design into a hoop, place the inner hoop underneath the design and push the outer hoop down over it. Tighten the screw slightly, then pull the fabric all the way round until taut. Tighten up the screw and cut away excess fabric from around the edge.

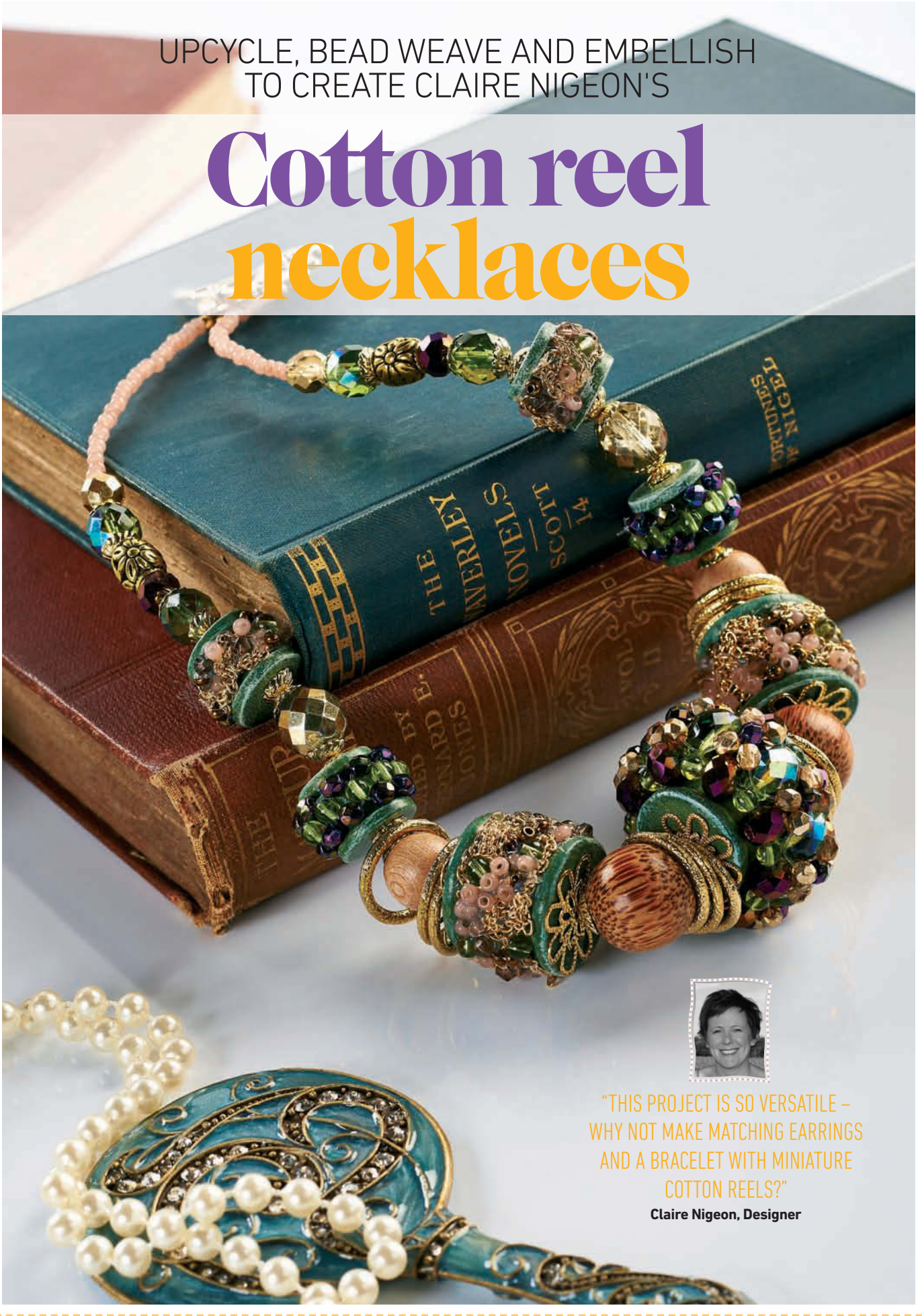
SOURCE IT...

Wooden embroidery hoops, Sew Essential, **sewessential.co.uk**

Mixed fabrics, Eclectic Maker, **eclecticmaker.co.uk**

UPCYCLE, BEAD WEAVE AND EMBELLISH TO CREATE CLAIRE NIGEON'S

Cotton reel necklaces



"THIS PROJECT IS SO VERSATILE – WHY NOT MAKE MATCHING EARRINGS AND A BRACELET WITH MINIATURE COTTON REELS?"

Claire Nigeon, Designer

Love it!

WHAT YOU NEED

- Beads: wooden; fire-polished; glass; puffy rondelles; barrel; seed, assorted colours and sizes
- Wooden cotton reels, assorted sizes
- Paint, acrylic: green, cream
- Chain
- Nylon monofilament
- Jump rings
- Clasps, toggle
- Bead caps
- Necklace ends
- Head pins, 25mm
- Cone
- Pliers, 4-in-1
- Paintbrush
- Varnish
- Adhesives: glue gun; super glue

NECKLACE

1 Apply two coats of green paint to seven cotton reels (one large, two medium and four small) and stipple a light layer of cream on top. Allow to dry, then varnish. To make the central beaded reel, cut 1.2m of monofilament and thread green beads and purple rondelles to the centre.

2 Cross the right-hand end of monofilament through the first bead on the left. Add a purple rondelle and green bead to the left strand and a purple bead to the right, then cross as before. Repeat until you have eight central beads in total. Finish with one purple rondelle either side of the monofilament.

3 Place the beaded work around the largest reel and join into a ring by crossing both strands through the first green bead and pulling firmly. Add a gold bead, purple bead and another gold to the left strand and cross this from right to left through the large green bead in the middle.

4 Thread a gold bead onto the right strand, pass through the mid purple one, add another gold bead and cross through the middle green from left to right. Repeat all the way around. Pass the right strand through the purple bead at the edge so that the thread is set to go the right way through the beads. Add a green bead in each gap between the purple ones. Repeat for the other side. Thread one end of monofilament through the beads to meet the other side and tie off.

5 Make up the two medium reels plus two small ones by adhering small lengths of thin gold chain into little piles on the surface with a hot glue gun. Intersperse with seed and green beads, covering the whole area. Wrap around the remaining two reels. Pass the right side through the first green bead and continue.



Craft tip

Search bric-a-brac shelves in charity shops for unwanted cotton reels

6 Cut monofilament long enough for the necklace. Thread on the central reel and work out from both sides, adding flattened bead caps between the reels, as well as a mix of beads in varying sizes, finishing with pale pink seed beads to the desired length. Double knot each monofilament end, then trim and attach necklace ends with a dab of super glue. Secure jump rings either end and add a toggle clasp.

PENDANT

Bead weave around a large cotton reel. Embellish further by adding a chain tassel at the bottom from a cone, then hang from a chain. **CB**

SOURCE IT...

Similar wooden cotton reels, Curtis Ward, **01932 232578, curtisward.com**

Fire-polished beads, Beads Direct, **01509 218028, beadsdirect.co.uk**

Wooden beads, Spellbound Bead Co, **01543 417650, spellboundbead.co.uk**

Puffy rondelles, Spoilt Rotten Beads, **01353 749853, spoiltrottenbeads.co.uk**

Discover more!

Find more fantastic projects like this in Make & Sell Jewellery magazine, which is bursting with beading inspiration and ideas!



Really Useful CRAFT TIPS

CB READERS SHARE THEIR CRAFTY ADVICE

Hot & Cold

Store your glue sticks in the freezer to keep the glue from being stringy. If you get any strings, use a hair dryer and they will vanish

Penny Friars, via email



Clean Surface

Add a drop of liquid soap to acrylic paint as it will prevent it from separating and beading on the surface

Jane Davis, via email

Pipe Perfect

Cut pipe cleaners with wire cutters as scissors can get damaged if used for cutting any type of wire

Caroline Baker, via email



Smooth Finish

Use lacquered chopsticks to smooth out air bubbles and wrinkles after decoupaging a surface

Tina Chapman, via Twitter





"USE ALUMINIUM FOIL FOR SHARPENING DECORATIVE PUNCHES AND WAX PAPER TO LUBRICATE THEM. THEY NEED A LITTLE CARE EVERY NOW AND THEN!"

Francesca Cowling, Editorial Assistant at Homemaker magazine

Clean Easy

Residue tackiness left on your scissors after cutting tape? Use a wet wipe to clean it all away

Hannah Smith, via Twitter

STAMP & SAVE

Cut up cosmetic foam wedges for an easy, simple way to make basic stamps

Mary Jones, via email





MARKER MAGIC

Store pens horizontally instead of standing them up as the ink will flow to the tip, making sure your markers have a much longer use. Plus, it'll save you some money!

Tanya Clemens, via email

Simple Snips

It's much easier to cut something from paper if you rotate the sheet and not the scissors themselves

Jenna Willis, via email

Real Readers like YOU!



Val Green is a crafter, poet and grandmother who loves to take photographs of lovely critters that inhabit her garden.

"If you print directly onto a card and it goes wrong, don't waste it: there are plenty of things you can do with it. Play around, matt and layer your designs with more stamping or other materials for a unique and interesting look"

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!

Your ESSENTIAL TEMPLATES Crafts Beautiful October 2014

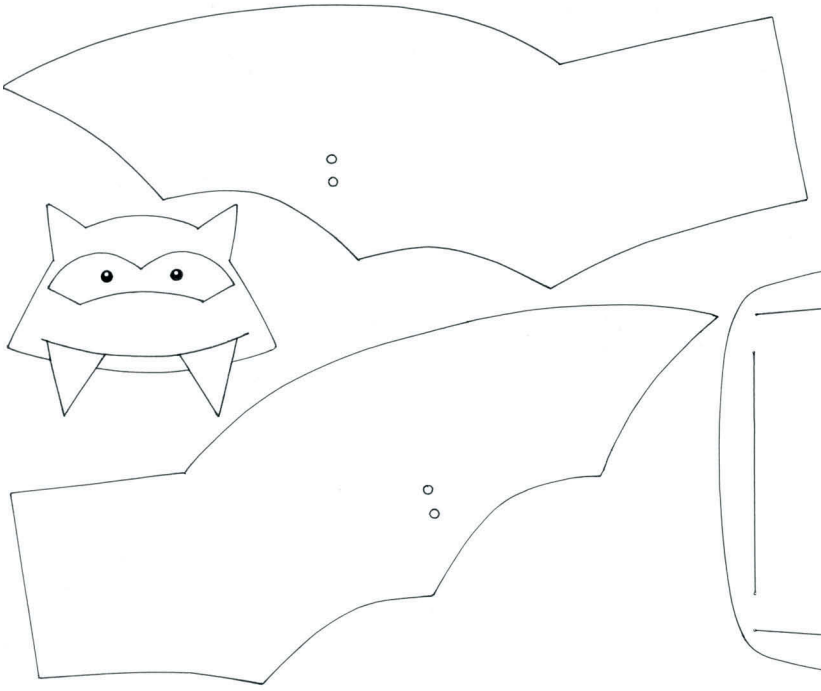
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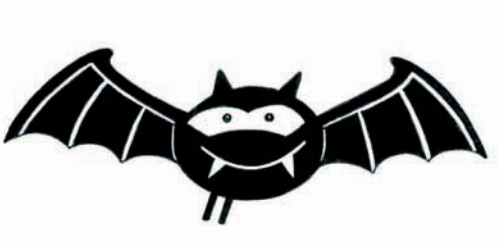
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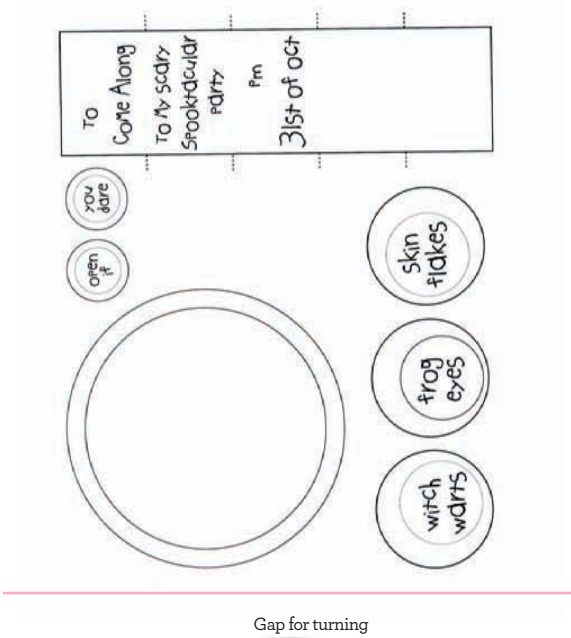


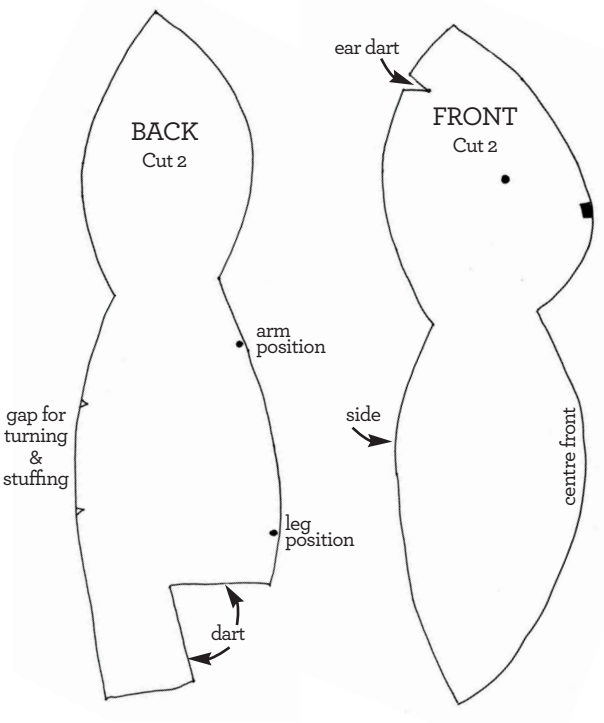


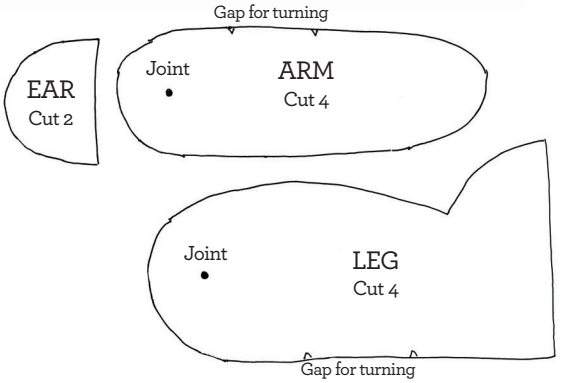
Spooky Treats

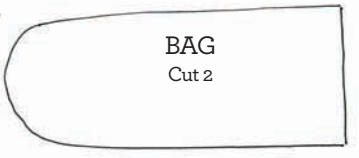
Helen Fitzjohn
Page 45
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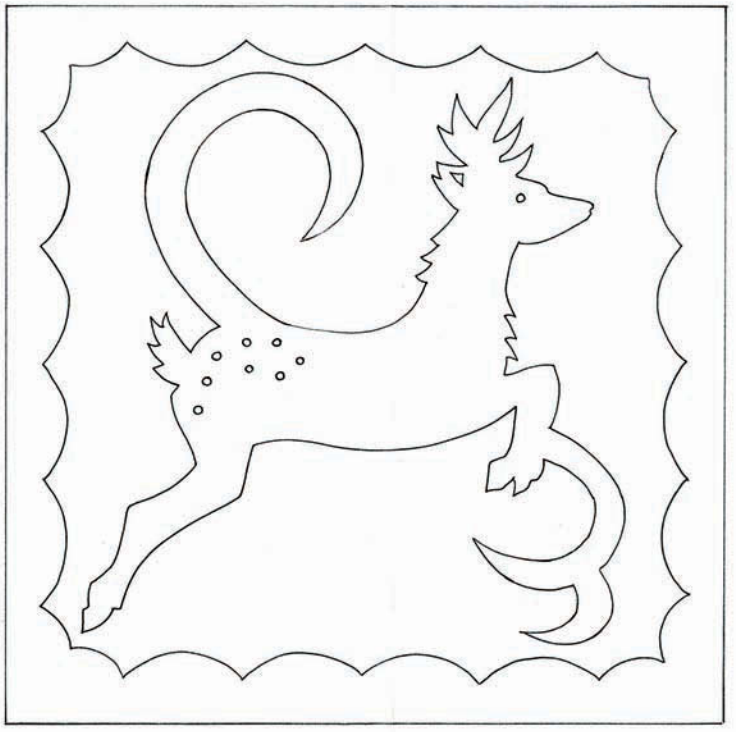


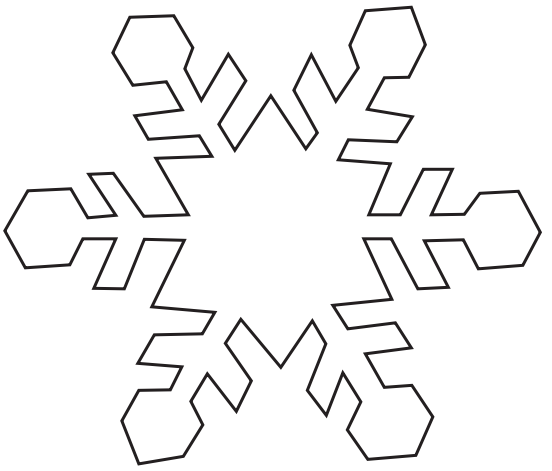
Flo Teddy

Helen Newton
Page 53
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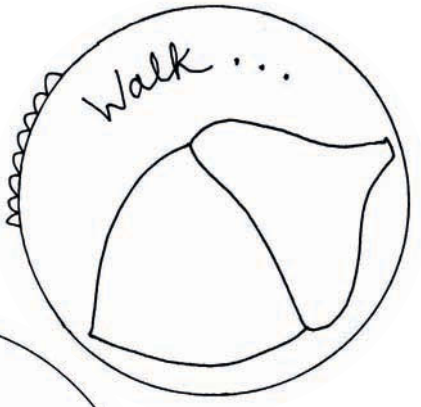
Festive Cushion & Reindeer Card

Ellen Kharade
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Shown at 75%





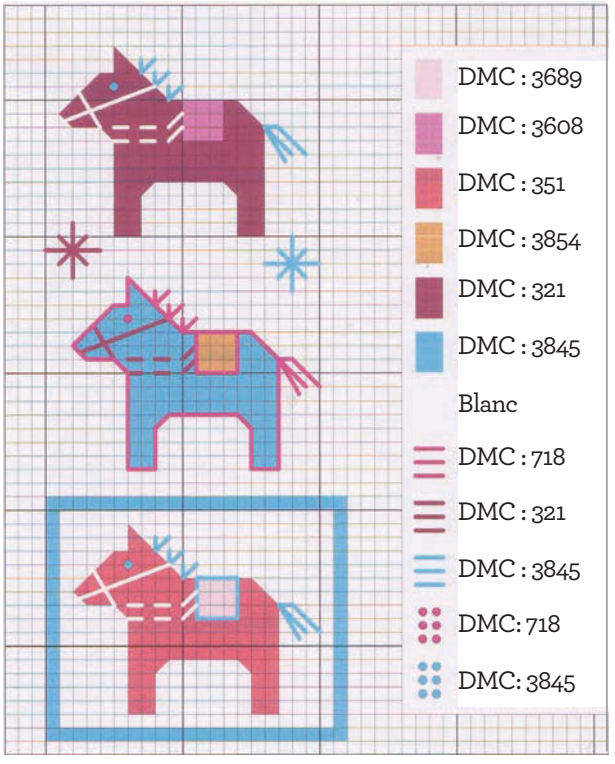
Dala Horses

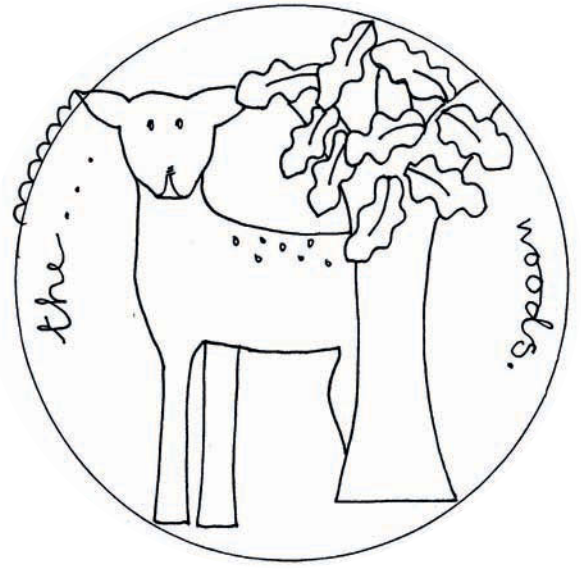
Helen Philipps
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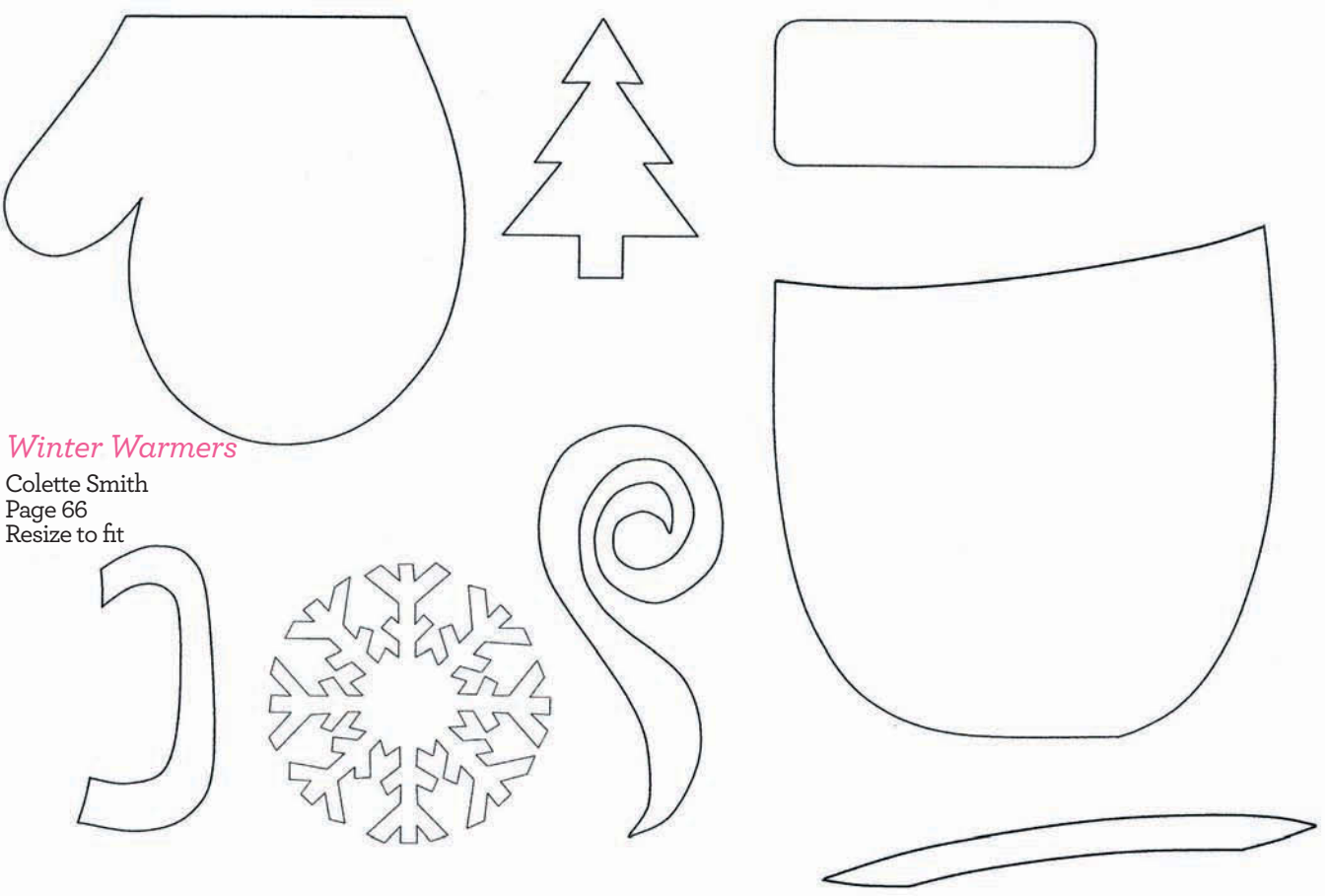


Woodland Art

Carolyn Letten
Page 103
Shown at 60%

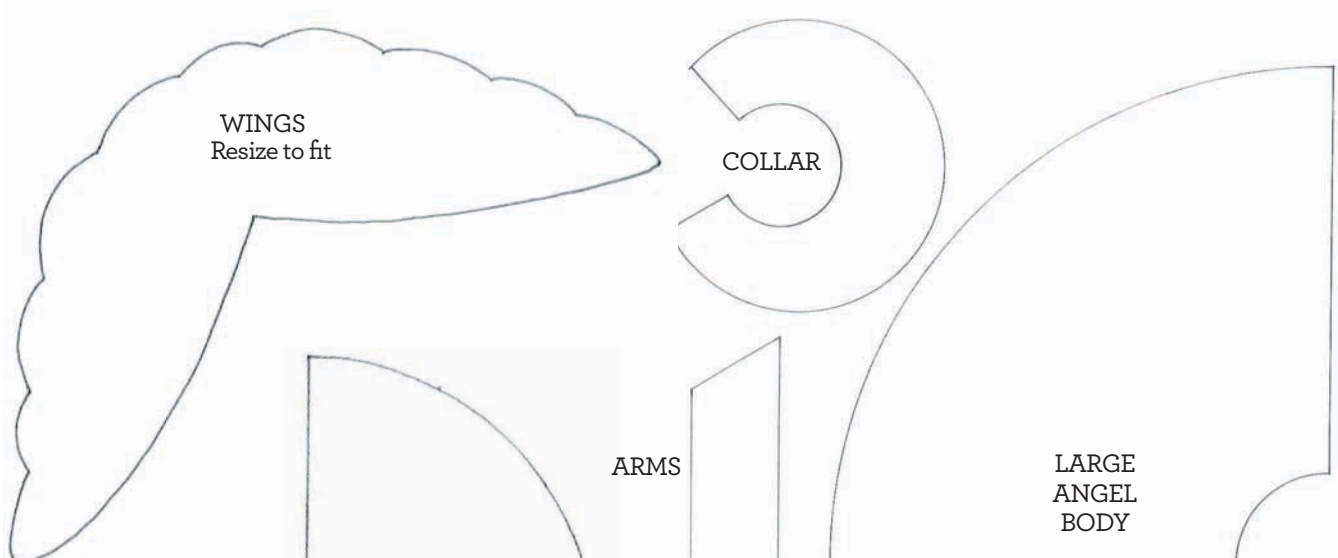






Winter Warmers

Colette Smith
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Resize to fit



Paper Angel

Cathie Shuttleworth
Page 96



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Christmas Countdown

It may be summer but every seasoned crafter knows that it pays to start whipping up their Christmas cards now to ensure a bumper stash of unique handmade yuletide greetings come November. So seeing as it's the season to start making we thought we'd give you a quick low-down of key trends for 2014 and what you need in your crafty armoury to ensure you craft yourself a perfect Christmas.

have a craft shop Christmas

Your craft shop, whether local or online, should be your first port of all over the making season. Not only will they stock all those Christmas craft basics but they're bound to have some treats you haven't come across before and be a haven of inspiration for your festive projects.

Before you start crafting, make sure you're stocked up with the basics that work with card, box making, gifting and decoration makes. Once armed with this lot, you'll be able to top-up your stash with patterned papers, special toppers and other fancies through out the coming weeks and months, safe in the knowledge that you have your foundations sorted.

2014 CRAFT SHOP Christmas

hot motifs

- TREES AND SNOWFLAKES
- STAGS AND DEERS
- MINI HOUSES
- FRIENDLY SANTAS
- RETRO BAUBLES

crafty basics

- A good pair of scissors
- Craft knife with blades and cutting matt
- White and coloured cardstock
- Washi tape
- Double-sided tape and other adhesives
- Twine, ribbon and string
- Glitter and gems
- Paper punches (circles, stars, snowflakes and gift tags shapes are particularly handy)





WE'VE PUT TOGETHER SOME TOP HIGH STREET TRENDS FOR THIS YEAR'S HOLIDAYS SO YOUR MAKES ARE ON THE MONEY.









TURN OVER THE PAGE FOR YOUR LIST OF STOCKISTS

key themes

- HERITAGE AND COUNTRY
- SHIMMER AND SPARKLE
- NOSTALGIA AND VINTAGE
- CLEAN AND COLOURFUL

"Start whipping up your Christmas cards now and you'll have bumper stash of unique handmade greetings come November"

2014
WWW.CRAFTS-BEAUTIFUL.COM

CRAFT SHOP Christmas

Craft shops offer great service, new products and inspiration –

Craft Shop Christmas will build over the next three months leading up to Christmas.

The craft shops listed here will be putting on their own special events, everything from tea and cake to workshops and demos from leading names in the industry - call the shop first for full details.

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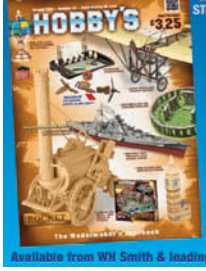
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