

Bella Crafts

QUARTERLY™

Your inspiration for a creative life™

Cricut® Mini
Giveaway

Holiday
Necklace



Gloves
to fit your style
bellacraftsquarterly.com



Welcome to the *Bella Crafts Quarterly*TM 2012 Winter Journey, your inspiration for a creative life. We are the number one, completely FREE digital craft publication created just for you. We are excited to announce that MagCloud.com listed our *Bella Crafts Quarterly*TM Halloween issue as number 8 in their Top 15 popular magazines.

This Winter Journey issue has many creative ideas to take you through the winter season. Make a wonderful necklace and bracelet that will add sparkle to your holiday parties. We help you light the night with candlelight and warm you with our altered gloves. Enjoy some hot chocolate and cookies while you read our informative columns.

Make sure to read our Artist to Artist and Blog Star columns for inspiration and enhance your business skills with our craft industry columns. In this issue, we have a great CricutTM Mini giveaway for one lucky reader of our magazine. Make sure to visit Page Six Notes to see how you can enter the giveaway.

Some of our favorite manufacturers have sponsored our craft projects and we link you directly to their products that we use in their projects. This will make it easy for you to find what you need to recreate the project.

Share your thoughts and comments with us on Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest. Let us know what you are creating. Share your craft projects on our Facebook page and with us on Pinterest. We love hearing from you.

Be sure to [sign up](#) for our newsletter, so you never miss an issue.

We at *Bella Crafts Quarterly*TM are excited to have you join us on this creative Winter Journey.

This Issue: Winter Journey

Close Up

GIVEAWAY ALERT

This month we have another exciting giveaway...

A CRICUT MINI!!!

To enter for a chance to WIN your very own Cricut™ Mini, visit the brand new Bella Blog and leave us a comment telling us what you like about *Bella Crafts Quarterly™*. Read all about it on Page 6!

That's all there is to it...
Good luck!

Duetica

Bella Crafts Quarterly™ thanks [Duetica](#) for the use of their beautiful fonts in our publication.



[Cre8time](#) is a movement to recapture your time and devote that recovered time to your craft passion and creativity.

Bella Crafts Quarterly™ will help to inspire you with quick crafts that you can create in minutes. View the Cre8time project on page 5.



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Note to readers: *Bella Crafts Quarterly™* makes every effort to present information in a clear, complete and accurate manner. Please craft in a responsible and safe manner. Failure to do so can result in injury.

Bella Crafts Quarterly™

Creative Team



Ann Butler

Ann Butler is a mixed media artist, designer, author and instructor for the creative industries. She works with a variety of mediums and loves testing new products. Her designs appear in multi-authored books, magazines, booklets, manufacturer tradeshow booths and websites.

Teaching others to craft is one of Ann's favorite things to do, which is why she has been teaching workshops locally and nationally for the past 20 years. She is currently teaching online classes at Creative Workshops and appears regularly on Cool2Craft Web TV. Ann has a featured column in Scrap and Stamp Arts Magazine called "Back to Basics" and writes a craft column for a local newspaper.

Ann designs for several manufacturers and is a craft industry consultant, who specializes in social media, marketing and blogging needs.

She is an active member of the Craft and Hobby Association and serves on the Designer Council. She is the current Chair of the Designer Council.



Carol Heppner

Carol Heppner has over 15 years experience as a professional craft designer and is an active member of the Craft & Hobby Association. She is an author, mixed-media artist, photographer and craft industry consultant.

Her work includes craft design, writing, graphic art, photography and class development.

Her work has appeared in national publications, on product packaging and websites. Carol's artwork and photographs have appeared in national art shows, galleries, magazines, books, products, tradeshow booths and advertisements. Her countless articles have been published in over 20 national craft magazines.

Carol is on the Editorial Advisory Board of Scrap and Stamp Arts, and has a featured column called, "Art Smarts!™".

Carol is an active member of the Craft and Hobby Association and serves on the Designer Council. She also is the lead of the Designer Standards Committee.



Lisa Rojas

Lisa Rojas has been a rubber stamp artist and instructor since 1995. Lisa began designing for publications in 2000, with her work appearing on the web, national advertisements, tradeshow booths and in various craft and home decorating magazines including, Scrap and Stamp Arts, Crafts n' Things, PaperWorks, CardMaker, The Rubber Stamper, Stamp It!, Craft Home & Style and Aleene's Craft.

Her designs are published in seven multi-designer books. She has over 150 of her designs published to date. Lisa works with many manufacturers, using their products in her work, product development, teaching classes and workshops at tradeshows. Lisa is an active member of the Craft and Hobby Association and serves on the Designer Council.



Theresa Cifali

Theresa Cifali hails from Westchester County, NY and is the sole proprietor of TheresaCifali™. She has nearly 20 years of experience working with consumers, manufacturers and retail businesses in the crafting industry. Theresa is a seasoned designer with her own private studio, where she maintains her business, instructs classes and continually experiments with new designs, techniques and class concepts.

Theresa is also well versed in social media and emerging digital platforms, actively using these platforms to build genuine, dynamic communities where she can interact with individuals and promote her business. Theresa consults for creative businesses on best practices in social media and provides management and social strategy services in addition to her already vast repertoire of business services.

Theresa is an active member of the Craft and Hobby Association and serves on the Designer Council. She also is the lead of the Design Section PR Committee.

cre8time

RECLAIM YOUR CREATIVITY AT CRE8TIME.ORG

Cre8time Quick and Easy Craft Project



Monogrammed Mugs

by [Theresa Cifali](#)

Monograms are very popular right now and easy to incorporate into your holidays. Make these DIY monogrammed mugs for your holiday table or as a gift.

Materials:

Glass pedestal mug
Martha Stewart Glass Paint, Pearl, Mother of Pearl (opaque)
Martha Stewart Glass Paint, Pearl, Aquarium (opaque)
Martha Stewart adhesive stencils, Italic Script
Rubbing alcohol

Tool: Flat acrylic paint brush

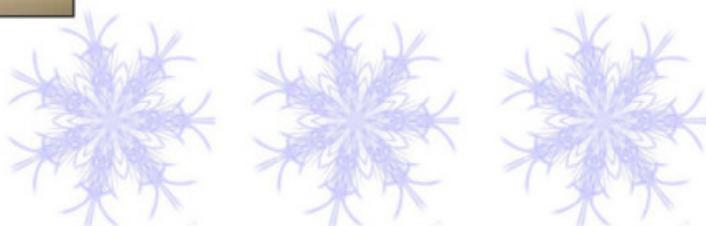
Wash the pedestal mug and make sure to dry the mug thoroughly. Wipe the area of the mug where you will place your monogram with rubbing alcohol.

The alphabet stencils come in two sizes. Use the larger of the two stencils for the center monogram. Adhere the stencil to the mug and use the flat brush to paint a thick layer of the Aquarium paint across the stencil. Remove the stencil carefully.

Use the smaller letters on each side of the larger letter. Paint the smaller letters with Mother of Pearl paint, and then remove the stencil.

Let the paint dry according to the directions on the paint bottle.

Fill the glass with your favorite hot beverage and enjoy your winter season in style.



Page Six Notes



Charity Wings

Charity Wings is a wonderful organization that raises money for numerous charities through arts and crafts related events. The heart and soul of Charity Wings is its co-founder, Elena Lai Etcheverry. Elena is a talented craft designer who also has a background in event planning and fundraising. Elena decided in 2005 that she wanted to put her combined talents to work. So, with three of her closest friends, she started Scrapbook Royalty and began raising money and awareness for various organizations.

Elena realized in 2008 that Scrapbook Royalty was growing beyond all of her dreams and decided to incorporate and apply for nonprofit status. Then, in 2009, an amazing woman, Sheila Goldsberry, joined Scrapbook Royalty and they made a decision to expand the organization and Charity Wings was created. Between the two women's talent and dedication, they are now able to reach a much larger audience.

Charity Wings has grown each year from two events the first year, to hosting or sponsoring 37 events, raffles, and silent auctions last year that benefited 27 different charities. As of March 2011, Charity Wings has raised over \$368,636.28 for over 52 different causes.

Visit [Charity Wings](http://CharityWings.org), www.charitywings.org, online to discover how you can make a difference.



Cricut® Mini Giveaway

Bella Crafts Quarterly™ is joining forces with Provo Craft for an exciting giveaway - a Cricut™ Mini.

The Cricut™ Mini, seen above, is a portable, lightweight cutting machine, which effortlessly cuts through different materials like paper, vinyl, craft foil and fabric. There are hundreds of shapes and designs available for download on Provo Craft's Project Center. It also works with cutting cartridges. We have a paper ornament project on page 28.

To enter, visit our [Blog](#), <http://bellacraftsquarterly.com/winter-issue-giveaway>, between December 1 through December 22, 2012, and leave a comment telling us what you like about *Bella Crafts Quarterly™*. We will use a number generator to determine the lucky person who will win the Cricut™ Mini.

Will you be the lucky winner? [Enter now!](#)

Upcoming Issues

January 14, 2013

Bella Crafts Quarterly™ Valentine's Special

Edition

Romantic Valentine's Day projects

Regular features include Artist to Artist, Blog Star, Cre8Time, Lessons with Lisa, Photo Talk, Socially Sensible, Trending Thoughts

March 15, 2013

Bella Crafts Quarterly™ Spring 2013

Springtime projects

Never miss an issue. To be alerted when a new issue is available, sign up for our newsletter at www.bellacraftsquarterly.com

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<http://pinterest.com/bellacraftsq/>



<http://twitter.com/BellaCraftsQ>

by [Ann Butler](#)



Julie Fei-Fan Balzer

Julie Fei-Fan Balzer is a mixed media artist and painter. She lives in New York City in a small apartment with a big art studio.

She has had artwork and articles published in multiple books & magazines (including her column in Cloth Paper Scissors Magazine), hosts the TV show Scrapbook Soup (PBS) and the Adventures in Arting podcast, designs products for art-making, and blogs six days-a-week at balzerdesigns.typepad.com. Her yet-to-be-titled book will be released by Interweave Press in 2013.

A: Did you love to color and draw as a child?

J: Yes, but I was not a good "draw-er", so I never thought of myself as an artist.

A: Did you study ART in college?

J: I did not. I majored in theatre and spent ten years in NYC pursuing a theatrical career (as a director).

A: What was the turning point for you from ART being a hobby to a career?

J: I had to make some extremely tough scheduling decisions between my theatre career and my art hobby and my heart wanted to go towards art. So, I decided to jump with both feet and I've never looked back. Never regretted it.

A: That is AWESOME that you followed your heart and were able to make a career out of your passion; I love when that happens!

A: Mixed Media is great because it encompasses everything but do you have a favorite medium to work with?

J: Paint! Paint is such a flexible medium. There are an endless supply of colors and techniques and styles to experiment and play with. Right now I'm all about the acrylic paint. A year ago I would have told you that watercolor was the only paint to pay attention to.

A: I totally agree a little bit of "Paint" can be magic in an artist's hands.

A: A great deal of Mixed Media ART is Technique based; do you have a favorite technique?

J: At any given moment I have a favorite technique. I suppose you could call me fickle, I prefer to think of myself as a Casanova of techniques. I get around. ;)

A: You create amazing video tutorials; for readers who would like to do video, what are some tips you can give them?

J: My top five tips:

1. Keep it short. Shorter than you think it should be.
2. Always talk and do. Never just talk or just do.
3. An overhead camera is best. Use duct tape, chopsticks, a tripod – whatever works and get that camera overhead!
4. Spend a little bit of time learning how to edit your video. Lynda.com is a great resource for learning iMovie or Final Cut Pro.

5. Be your natural self and let your awesome personality shine through!

A: Those are great tips; I have found that short is better too.

A: You live in New York City so I am sure there is inspiration everywhere; is there a particular place you like to go to go for inspiration?

J: I'm extremely lucky to live just a few blocks from the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA). I go there all the time and often spend some time drawing in the galleries. It's amazing to be able to stand in front of some of the most famous artwork in the world – in history – and sketch from it!

A: Yes that would be amazing, I was able to go to the Smithsonian a few years ago and was in awe to be able to see all of the wonderful art there; it really gets the creative juices going.

A: Your studio or workspace: neat and organized? Or creative chaos?

J: Organized chaos. I can lay my hands on anything I want within 10 seconds. But to anyone else I'm sure my studio looks like it was just tossed by a gang of burglars. I have a working studio. It works for me and it is organized within an inch of its life, but it is not cute or pretty in any way.

A: Is there anything else you would like to share with our readers?

J: I host the "Adventures in Arting" podcast every other week with my Mom. We talk about all things "arting." One of my goals with the podcast is to expand people's definition of art and bring in a lot of different kinds of inspiration. The next time you sit down to create, consider turning on the podcast and listening in!

A: "Adventures in Arting" what a great name for your podcast; I am going to have to check that out. Julie thank you so much for your time and sharing yourself with our readers.

Trending Thoughts

by [Carol Heppner](#)

We asked the craft industry's top professional craft designers,
"What are the popular winter 2012 craft trends readers should know about?"



Lisa Fulmer

<http://kimtag.com/LisaFulmer>

The color and design trends in the world of fashion and interiors are wonderful inspiration for crafters. Bold colors offset by neutrals are still prominent, but the in-vogue hues are going warmer with a touch of "complex retro" — which for me, as a child of the 60s, translates into "your mom's old kitchen is cool again!" We're seeing rustier reds and oranges, dustier golds and teals, gently muted pinks and purples, along with not quite 50 shades of gray and brown. Upcycling will continue to be very big, with a stronger focus on the creative use of high-quality discards that you can't quite bear to toss, and with more attention to the exquisite little details that bring out the nostalgia in your work...like adding that perfect vintage button.



Melony Miller Bradley

mel-designs@typepad.com

This winter, incorporate elements into your crafting projects by taking cues from the pros in the home decor industries. Colors and textures inspired by nature take center stage in the home. Burlap, muslin, and weathered wood add interesting rustic touches. Items gathered from nature such as pinecones, greenery, nuts and berries incorporate a simple look that can blend into your home's existing decor without completely standing out. Holiday decorating is blending in more with elements used year round in lieu of decorations that are purely holiday style themed. Crafting projects created with easy to find, simple elements such as embroidery hoop art or wood 2-inches by 4-inches are becoming more and more prevalent.



Cindi Bisson

<http://www.fatcatcreations.blogspot.com>

I tend to be a bit of a "Trend Rebel" - I pay attention to them, but my motto is "Dare to be Different." Focusing on what I see as "trends" for the winter crafting season was a bit of a challenge: shimmering gold & silver holiday decor is popping up often, and at the same time I've seen a prevalence of "hand-made/homespun" decorating items from wreaths to quilted trees. Vintage accents are still popular. Traditional patterns are mixed with great textures. Color forecasts for the coming year seem to vary greatly. Observe what you see around you, select the elements that appeal most to YOU, and go with them. Whether it be crafting, fashion, or home-decor, dare to be different.



Mylène Hillam

<http://millanestudio.blogspot.com/>

Nature will play a big part in jewelry trends for Winter 2013. Animal prints and reptile leathers will have a strong presence along with the more unusual fish leather. Pebbles, gifts from the ocean such as shells and driftwood, seeds and pods, in fact, anything that can be drilled with a hole will make its appearance in jewelry.

Colors will continue to be strong, but more muted than the bright, fun colours we saw during summer. Tangerine will give way to the softer sweet potato, and will be nicely rounded out by rusty reds and rich claret. The cool color palette will include jewel toned purples, peacock and burgundy along with other grape shades. In keeping with the trend of incorporating natural materials, the neutrals will include shades of gray, chocolate and ivory. Overall, the colors will still be strong, but with a shift towards toning down the vibrancy.



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Blog Star

by [Ann Butler](#)



Jenny Barnett Rohrs

Jenny Barnett Rohrs is the Craft Evangelist and Founder of [CraftTestDummies.com](#), the only active website dedicated to educating crafters about craft products. Her blog is a unique blend of honest, unbiased craft product reviews, craft project tutorials, news of the crafting world and inspiration a-plenty.

Jenny has always been immersed in the arts, both drawing and making music since she was in elementary school. While formally trained in voice at Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory, she left behind her profession of Music Therapy to pursue her own "craft therapy" and focus on her family of two school-aged children and a traveling husband in 2007. She has tried almost every craft available, as well as fine art in the areas of ceramics and drawing. Jenny particularly loves traveling with her family, art-quilting, journaling, yoga, and walking her dog (and studio mascot) Ginger.

A: How long have you been blogging?

J: CraftTestDummies has been around almost 4 years, and I have been blogging about 5.

A: What inspired you to start "Craft Test Dummies"?

J: I actually had started a blog at CraftTherapy.com about a year before CraftTestDummies. There, I shared the stories and meaning behind the crafts I made. However, I noticed that the posts that got the most views and comments were my "Favorite Things" posts- ones where I shared the craft products I used the most and why. (These were the forerunners of the craft product review posts I do today.) My husband and I were having a conversation about it one night and it struck both of

us that there was a real area of opportunity in that niche, so CraftTestDummies.com was born.

A: How often do you post? For instance, do you have a schedule you go by or a goal for each month?

J: CraftTestDummies.com posts among 5-7 posts per week, and usually at least one YouTube video. I personally create at least half of those, with my #TeamCTD of 5 amazing crafters/writers filling in the rest. Up until 2 years ago, I did it all myself. My goal is four reviews and one tutorial or craft-related article per week, along with the YouTube Video.

A: That is a full schedule to do alone I can see why you needed to have a team to help with the blogging efforts.

A: When I first discovered your blog I thought it was going to be all Craft Product Reviews; which is great but then found there was so much more as your site is filled with projects also. Was that the original plan for the blog or the natural progression of it?

J: First, I am glad you noticed that we are not ALL product reviews! I felt like I was having so much fun playing and creating that I wanted to share tutorials on my blog as well, right from the beginning. I think it is natural to not only review the products, but inspire folks to actually use them. In addition to the reviews and tutorials, I also cover the Craft and Hobby Association Tradeshows, fun crafty field trips and events, and spotlight other cool crafters on the web. It's a fun mix.

A: I agree it is a fun mix for which is what readers are looking.

A: What is the most exciting thing that happened because of your blog?

J: Well, last year I was invited to the Martha Stewart show not once but twice to attend special "craft shows" and meet Martha and her team. I got amazing behind-the-scenes tours, a peek into the world of live TV, and some great goodies. I also started working in social media marketing as a consultant- I've developed a unique set of skills, so to speak, that is now a source of revenue for me. I also have a new project that is still not finalized at this point...but if it all works out smoothly, I will be in front of a camera on-air in 2013.

A: WOW so many exciting things are happening for you and that is the beauty of the Creative Industries you never know what

exciting thing is going to happen next.

A: What advice could you give to our readers who want to start blogging?

J: Just start! Blogging is its own education. You learn about the craft of writing, develop better picture-taking skills, how to leverage social media , technical skills like basic coding and search engine optimization (SEO), and you find your voice. I think it is important to let your audience grow organically along with your skills. Also, be patient. I blogged for two years- without free product or pay- before it really started to yield results for me. You have to do it because you love it and not because you think it is an easy way to make money.

A: I agree that you really have to love it and everything takes time but if it truly is your passion, you will find a way to make a living from it.

A: What are some of the challenges of starting a new blog?

J: Usually new bloggers want to learn everything at once, get overwhelmed, and then quit. I encourage newbies just to start slowly and modestly. Better to commit to 1-2 posts a week and be able to maintain that and grow, rather than starting too ambitiously and having to pull back. You can learn everything as you grow.

A: What is the most important thing to building a following for a blog?

J: I think understanding what you do and then doing ONLY THAT. If you have a craft blog, blog about crafting. Do not blog about your kids (unless they are crafting) your vacations (unless crafting is involved) or your love of sports teams (unless you are crafting at their events!) Folks can smell a phony a mile away. Develop your authentic voice and interact with your community...and the readers will come. In addition, I get turned off by blogs that offer too many giveaways or please to "like" their pages, etc. Giveaways should exist to reward your faithful readers, not build numbers. On that note, numbers of followers on your blog are not nearly as important as how many page views you get or how long your readers are dwelling on those pages. Quality interactions with readers are so much more important than the sheer numbers.

A: That's true. Numbers mean nothing if they follow you but never go to your site it is about building relationships and providing content they want to read and come back for. Jenny thank you for sharing with our readers we look forward to hearing about your project details!

Socially Sensible™

by [Theresa Cifali](#)

Why You Should Leverage Social Media for Your Creative Business



10 Social Media Myths... BUSTED

Believe it or not, there are a lot of people out there who have not figured out how to leverage social media for their craft businesses. Even worse, they unknowingly misuse it. Whichever category they fall into, it is usually born out of misconceptions about Social Media. Here are the Top 10 Social Media Myths-Busted!

Myth #1: Social Media is free. Yes, it is free to make a social media account, but it certainly is not free. In business, time is money. You need to take into account the time you invest managing your social media.

Myth #2: You only need Facebook to market your business. NO WAY! This couldn't be further from the truth. While Facebook has many benefits, it also has a slew of obstacles. The inability to follow potential fans first, being unable to initiate contact with connected fans privately and the fact that only 16% of your fan base regularly see your posts to begin with makes Facebook a lot more difficult to work with than other sites. It is really important to diversify when it comes to social media platforms. Facebook is not the end-all be-all.

Myth #3: You have to join every social media site on the planet. YIKES! While it is very important to expand your social media presence beyond Facebook, being in too many places can quickly become a management nightmare. This is especially true if you are

new to social media. Start out with two or three relevant platforms for your niche, learn them well, formulate your strategy and THEN add another one.

Myth #4: Buying “Likes” and “Follows” will help you build a huge customer base. Um... NO! I can’t stress this enough: No one should ever purchase “Likes” and “Follows” for any social media platform! When you go to these follow farms, you’ll get what you pay for....people! What you won’t get are followers who will ultimately purchase from you. They are not targeted followers, they are just bodies that will add no value.

Myth #5: My customers aren’t on Social Media. Of course they are! Haven’t you heard of Etsy? As a crafter in the business of handmade, anyone can be your consumer. I would hedge a bet that people who don’t craft, but appreciates handmade items are more likely to be your customers than those who can make it themselves.

Myth #6: Social Media takes too much time. It can sure seem that way, huh? While it does take commitment to run effective social media campaigns, there are management tools that can help you save time and maximize your efforts. HootSuite and TweetDeck are two management platforms you can use to handle multiple social media accounts all in one place. Also, create a schedule for yourself. It should contain specific times of day, the length

of time you’ll spend and tasks that need to be accomplished for each of your social platforms. This will help reduce the phenomenon of going online to check your Twitter mentions and resurfacing two hours later from looking at shoes!

Myth #7: Social Media is all about YOU! If you have been treating your social streams like a print ad, and blast marketing all the deals you have going on in your Etsy shop, then I am here to tell you: STOP IT! Social Media really isn’t about you at all; it’s about community. Ten years ago, consumers came online to find the best prices. In today’s market, they are looking for connections. Consumers are more likely to purchase from brands with which they and/or their friends have built relationships. Talk to your connections. Ask questions. Share tips and quotes. Be real. Share information you personally have found valuable. Respect their time. Then share what you do and your product. It’s an 80-20 rule. Eight percent of your posts about and for them...twenty about you.

Myth #8: Social Media gives people an opportunity to bash your business. Whether you use social media or not, people are going to talk about your brand. Good or bad, being in a position to see what people are saying and handle comments transparently is vital to good customer service.

Myth #9: I only need to use Social Media during the week. At one time I would have agreed with that, but my stats have informed me otherwise. Weekend posts have been getting a huge amount of engagement for me. If you schedule your posts ahead of time with HootSuite or TweetDeck, you can spend your time just engaging with your community.

Myth #10: Anyone can manage my social media. Absolutely NOT true. If you are at the point where you simply cannot manage it yourself and you want to outsource that task, find someone who knows what they are doing. Social media is a lot more than just posting some comments to a feed. There are lots of little nuances that go along with social media management, so choose wisely.

Were you holding onto any of these ideas? Hope I have busted them for you. Social Media can be of benefit to any business...if you are using it properly!



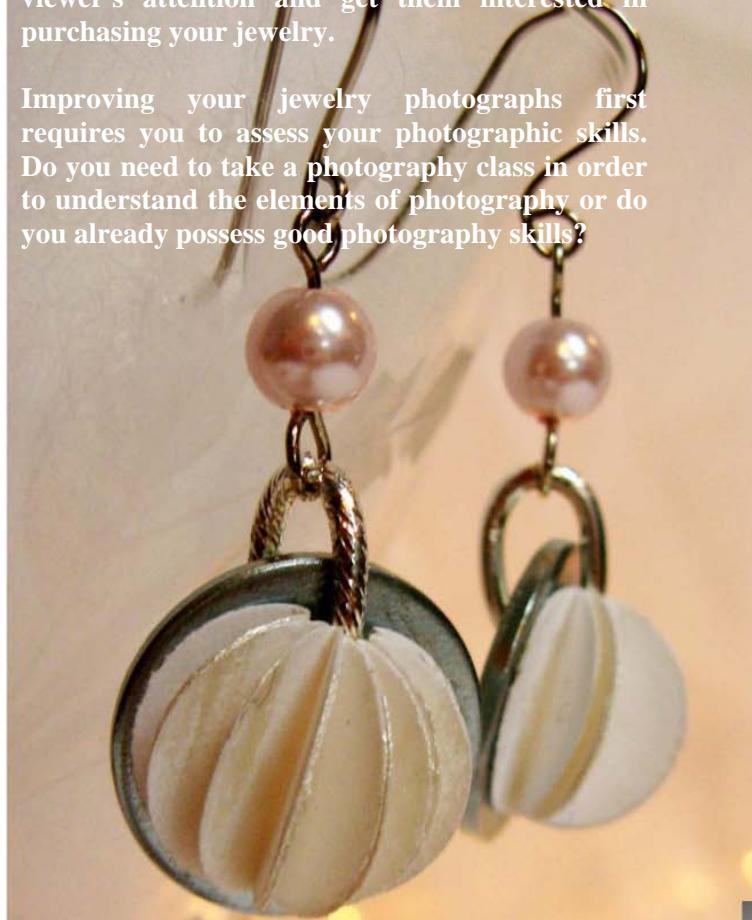
Photo Talk™

Taking your photos to the next level!

Photographing Jewelry

How do you photograph your handcrafted jewelry so it captures the sparkle that will catch a buyer's eyes? Your photographs need to look professional, but they also need to grab the viewer's attention and get them interested in purchasing your jewelry.

Improving your jewelry photographs first requires you to assess your photographic skills. Do you need to take a photography class in order to understand the elements of photography or do you already possess good photography skills?



If you sell your jewelry and plan to take your own photographs, then a photography class is a good investment for your company. Use the Internet, or go 'old school' and use the telephone book to look for photography classes in your area. In addition to learning about how to use your camera, you will learn about composition.

A good photographer will be able to capture the best photographs no matter what type of camera is used. So do not feel that you have to spend a thousand dollars on a camera when a simple 'point and shoot' camera can do the job. You need to know the camera's limitations so that you can get the most capability from your camera.

Once you have learned the basics of photography, you are ready to plan your jewelry photo shoot. Think about what you will photograph, where you will photograph it and how you will display your jewelry. Gather all your jewelry pieces and study them. What is the most

with [Carol Heppner](#)

important part of that jewelry piece? That will be the focal point of your photograph and whenever possible, photograph your jewelry in natural light. Set up your photograph near a window or glass door. Artificial lighting, such as a camera's flash, often comes across as harsh, which can produce dark shadows. Therefore, avoid artificial light whenever possible. If you have better light outdoors, then plan your photo shoot for outdoors in natural light.

Jewelry looks its best when worn, so see if you can find a friend who can serve as your model. Get in close to focus on the jewelry piece being worn. If possible, have your model apply foundation and powder makeup to the areas of the skin you will be photographing.

What happens if you do not have a model? This is where your imagination and creativity come into play. The simplest method is to display a jewelry piece on a jewelry display forms, which can be found in the jewelry section of craft stores. You can also download patterns to construct your own necklace display form.

I used my own arm to photograph the bracelet in the photograph below and then rested my arm on sheet music. It was not easy, but I was able to produce a great photograph.

You can also hang your jewelry pieces from shutters, vases, cups, rocks or trees. Look around your house and see what you have around that can be used to create a little vignette in which to photograph your jewelry. You can place your jewelry on open books, handmade paper, music sheets and other types of paper. Go outdoors and see where you can place your jewelry for interesting backgrounds in your photographs.

Remember, your photographs need to be clear and creative to display your jewelry, as it deserves. Join me on our *Bella Crafts Quarterly*™ [Facebook](#) page to tell us how you photograph your jewelry and continue this topic.



If you are just starting out with rubber stamping and you only have a few stamps, you may not think it's all that important to have a filing system. Trust me, it is! Because when your little hobby grows into a full-blown obsession, that shoebox you were using to store those 20 rubber stamps you started with are not going to hold the thousands of stamps you have managed to purchase through the years. You need a filing system! Here are a few ideas you can consider.

First, you are going to need some place to store your rubber stamps. If

backgrounds, etc. Next, label your trays and drawers with the category and numbers, #1, #2, etc. Once your stamps are put into your Iris carts, you are ready to begin to catalog them. Here are a few different options for doing just that.

Three-Ring Binder

You can purchase a three-ring binder from any office supply store, or discount store. Fill binder with white card stock and dividers. Each time you purchase a new stamp, decide what category it will go into. Stamp the image on the card stock. Next to the image, list the manufacturer, the price, etc. and the number of the Iris

in your computer and keep the pictures and information in that file. Be sure to back up all your information on a disk.

There are a number of ways to keep track of your stamps and supplies. I have just given you a few tried and true ways that stampers have been using for years. If you need more information on this topic, try searching the internet. There are thousands of articles written about this topic. I can never stress this topic too much. If you are just beginning to get into rubber stamping and scrapbooking, start keeping track of your supplies now! It may not seem like a big deal now with



Keeping Track of Your Stamps

by [Lisa Rojas](#)

you are lucky, you can ask your handy man husband to build you some shelves to hang on the walls. For me, this was not a good option. My studio room was added on to my house and three out of the four walls are windows. So, I went to the next best thing. I began purchasing the seven and eight drawer Iris carts. You can place two layers of stamps in the smaller drawers and up to four layers in the larger drawers. Believe me, you can get a lot of stamps in those carts. If you plan to have layers of stamps in the drawers, place them first in the Lucite picture frames that you can purchase from places like Target or Wal-Mart. It is so much easier to pull out a tray of stamps than to pick up each stamp individually to see what is under it. Place your stamps into categories such as holidays, people,

cart where it will be stored. You can now take your binder with you the next time you go shopping. This is a good way to alleviate buying duplicate stamps.

Index Cards & Recipe Box

This method is pretty much the same as the three-ring binder. Stamp your image on a 3-inch by 5-inch index card. List all the information about the stamp on the card. Separate the cards into categories. Keep them filed in a small recipe box. Place the recipe box onto your worktable for easy access to all your stamps.

Photograph Your Stamps

Place your stamps in Lucite frames. Place the frame on a table and take a picture of the tray. Print out the pictures and label which drawer the stamps will be stored in. Keep pictures in a file box or three-ring binder. Another option is to create a folder

your 20 or 30 stamps, but when you are into the thousands, you will thank me!

Tip ***Storing Paper***

Store your card stock by size and color. You'll save time by going right to the shade of color you need and narrowing it down from there.

Store your pattern papers by theme and color.

Norwegian Cookies: Krum Kaka



Reflections

by Ann Butler

Krum Kaka (or some say Krumkake) is a waffle cookie made on a decorative two sided iron griddle, which is similar to a waffle iron; while the cookies are hot they are rolled into a small cone shape using a wooden cone form that comes with the Krum Kaka iron.

Recipe:

2 cups sweet cream
2/3 cup sugar
4 tablespoons melted butter
Add enough flour to make it like pancake batter

1. Mix the ingredients together.
2. Place the iron on the stove over medium heat.
3. Spoon a half-dollar-size amount of batter on

to the center of the hot iron and then close the iron. Cook 30 to 60 seconds, flip over, and cook another 30 to 60 seconds. (This is something you have to test according to the heat of your stove).

4. Open the iron, roll the cookie onto cone, let set the cookie 15 to 30 seconds, remove and repeat.

One of my fondest memories of the holidays was baking with my mom. Of course there were the traditional sugar cookies which we made, but it was the nontraditional Norwegian cookies that all of kids loved and Krum Kaka was our favorite. Because you make one cookie at a time, they were often eaten as quickly as they could be made, which was also

the case when I made them with my kids.

My grandparents came to the United States from Norway and brought with them many of their family recipes. So, the recipe I have for Krum Kaka is from my grandmother's family and is the one I still use today. You will notice the recipe does not have a flour amount, which is common of many recipes from the early 1900's. I start with $\frac{3}{4}$ of a cup and increase if needed. The recipe I have is also in my grandmother's writing which is something I treasure. She had no instructions written with the recipe, so I included mine or you can simply follow the instructions that come with the Krum Kaka Iron.



Upcycled Hat Set

by Ann Butler

Update an old felt hat with a fleece/felt flower for a modern look.

Materials:

Felt hat
[Beacon Adhesives Fabri-Tac™](#)
White fleece, 1/4 yard
Red glitter felt sheet
White thread

Tools: Sizzix® Big Shot, Sizzix® Flower Petal Die, Westcott® Extreme Edge Scissor, ruler, needle, disappearing pen

1. Fold the hat in half, mark, measure and cut the brim of the hat 2-inches wide in the front, angling to 1 1/2-inches in the back.
2. Cut a piece of fleece 1/2-inch by 30-inches and wrap it around the hat above the brim. Overlap the ends leaving tails on one side of the hat. Glue the fleece in place.

3. Die cut the following flowers: five large white, one medium white, one medium red, one small white and one red small. Layer the flowers in the same order; sew together through the center, pulling tightly to help fluff. Glue onto side of the hat.

Coordinate your upcycled hat with stylish gloves by adding fleece/felt flowers onto the cuff.

Materials:

[Red knit glove](#)
[Beacon Adhesives Fabri-Tac™](#)
White fleece, 1/8 yard
Red glitter felt sheet
White thread

Tools: Sizzix® Big Shot, Sizzix® Flower Beauty Bloom Die, needle

1. Die cut the following flowers: two medium

white, one medium red, one small white and one small red.

2. Layer the flowers as white medium, red medium, white medium, red small and white small; sew them together through the center, pulling tightly to help fluff.

3. Glue the flowers onto the glove cuff.

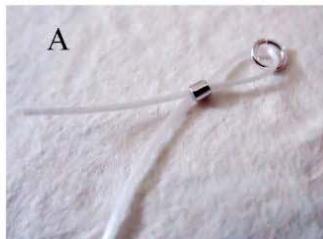


Festive Necklace



by Carol Heppner

This necklace's clean style will bring a sophisticated sparkle to all your winter gatherings. Wear it at a romantic winter dinner and all your holiday parties. The necklace will look fantastic with your dressiest dress, as well as a pair of jeans and a sweater. The best part is that this necklace is fast and super easy to make.



A

Materials:

[6mm Round Pearl Strand- Almond](#) (25 pearls)
[4mm Crystazzi Bicone- S Champagne](#) (26 crystals)
[1pc 32x45mm Open Bow Pendant- Silver](#)
[36" Curb Chain- 7.9mm Wide- Silver](#) (6" & 7" pieces)
[48' Gossamer Stretch Cord- Clear](#)
[1pc 18mm Platinum Plate Hook & Eye Clasp](#)
[25pc 4mm Platinum Plate Closed Jump Ring](#)
[50pc 2mm Platinum Plate Crimp Bead](#)



B

Tools: [Bead Crimping Pliers](#), [Flush Cutter](#), [Flat Nose Pliers](#)

You can purchase all the supplies you need to create this necklace at Prima Bead. Just click on the links in the Materials and Tools section above.



C

1. Slip a crimp bead onto a 9-inch length of the stretch cord. Slip a 4mm jump ring onto the same stretch cord and then back through the crimp bead (Photo A). Extend the end of the cord one inch beyond the crimp bead. Pull the stretch cord to meet the crimp bead.
2. Close the crimp bead with the crimping tool (Photo B). The crimping tool has two sections. One section has a little bump in it. Place the crimp bead in section with the little bump and then gently close the tool. Move the crimped bead to the round section and depress the tool's handles to finish closing the crimp

3. Thread the 17 almond round pearls and the 17 champagne Crystazzi bicone beads onto the 9-inch stretch cord. Alternate the pearls and crystals as you go. Finish the strand by securing a jump ring to the end of the cord with a crimp bead. Thread the remaining stretch cord to the last bead of the strand or remove the excess stretch cord with the flush cutter.
4. Thread a crimp bead onto the 5-inch stretch cord and close the bead with the crimping tool. Starting with the champagne crystals, alternate 8 almond round pearls and 9 champagne crystals on to the stretch cord. Secure a 4 mm jump ring at the end of the cord with another crimp bead. Remove the excess stretch cord from the end that is without the jump ring.
5. To assemble the necklace, attach one end of the two silver curb chains together with the 6 mm jump ring and then secure the 6 mm jump ring to the back of the open-bow pendant. Secure the remaining open ends of the two silver cub chains together with a 6 mm jump ring and then attach the hook part of the clasp to the 6 mm jump ring.
6. Use a 4 mm jump ring to attach one end of the beaded strand to the back of the open-bow pendant and another 4 mm jump ring to attach the other end of the beaded strand to the eye part of the clasp.
7. Use a 4 mm jump ring to attach the 5-inch strand to the back of the open-bow pendant. (Photo C)



Altered Red Mittens

by Theresa Cifali

Materials:

Red mittens
Martha Stewart Multi-Surface Paint, Satin, Wedding Cake
Martha Stewart Adhesive Silkscreen, Snowflakes
Hot-fix crystals
Small paper plate
Paper towel

Tools: Hot fix crystal tool, Acrylic paint brush

1. Squirt some of the Martha Stewart Multi-Surface Paint onto a paper plate. Place the snowflake silk screen onto the mitten and then press down firmly. Use an acrylic paintbrush to paint over the screen. Be sure to push the silkscreen down and be generous with your paint.
2. Carefully remove the silkscreen and rinse it immediately. Dry the screen thoroughly with a paper towel. Repeat the above steps until you have created the pattern you want on your mittens.
3. Allow the painted mittens to dry completely. Add hot fix crystals to each of the snowflakes, using the pattern in the snowflake as your guide.



Altered Gloves

by Lisa Rojas

Materials:

Black knit gloves
White-lace trim
Holiday ribbon
Holiday buttons
White thread

Tools: Needle, scissors

To sew lace on your gloves, you may need an extra hand.

1. Place the glove on the widest part of the hand. Pin the lace in place. Remove the glove and sew the lace onto the glove.
2. Tie the ribbon in a bow. Sew the bow and the buttons to the glove.
3. Repeat the above steps with second glove.



Vintage Cream

by Carol Heppner

A soft cream sweater, with a delicate white embroidered floral embellishment turns into fingerless gloves that will help keep your hands warm through your winter journeys.

This sweater had seen better days, yet it was too pretty to throw away. The sweater was the perfect candidate to make into fingerless gloves.

While you can use the buttons from the sweater as embellishments, there are so many great looking buttons on the market today. Bring the sweater with you when you shop so you can see if the buttons will work with the colors of your sweater and the look you are trying to achieve.

Materials:

Vintage cream sweater

Cream thread

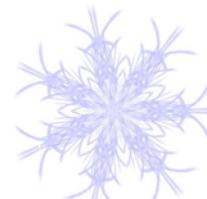
Aleene's® Flexible Stretchable Fabric Glue™

Tulip® Glam-It-Up!™ Iron-On Crystals™ (6)

Blumenthal Lansing Co, Antique Silver buttons La Mode®, Style 24521,

Tools: Tape measure, sewing needle, scissors

1. Cut a 14-inch length from each sleeve of the sweater.
2. Left glove: Measure 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -inches from the top of the sleeve and then open the right (inside) seam so that it measures 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inches. Fold the raw edges of the seam to the inside of the sweater sleeve and then stitch in place.
3. Turn the sweater sleeves "inside out" and fold the cut end of the sleeve 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inches towards the finished edge of the sleeve. Stitch the raw edge of the sleeve to the inside of the sleeve. Stitches should not be seen on the outside of the sleeve.
4. Turn the sleeve back over to the outside. Fold down the top of the sleeve 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inches and then stitch the folded edge at the sides of the glove. Measure 2-inches from the left side of the folded section and then vertically gather the folded area. Sew one button over the gathered area to hide the stitches. Sew another button below the first button.
5. Glue 3 crystals below the button. Let the glue dry.
6. Repeat steps 2 to 5 to create the right glove.





Fingerless Gloves

by Ann Butler

Create fingerless gloves quickly and easily with holiday sweaters.

Materials:

Sweater
Buttons
Thread

Tools: Westcott Extreme Edge Scissors, ruler, needle, sewing machine (optional)

1. Decide what part of the sweater you want to use for the mittens; I liked the decorative edges on this sweater so I cut two 5-inches by 12-inch pieces from the front of the sweater for the fronts and two 5-inches by 12-inch pieces from the back of the sweater for the backs.
2. Overlap and stitch the decorative edge of fronts to backs and then put the right sides together. Stitch a $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch seam, leave an $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch opening for the thumb and stitch the rest of the seam, taking in as needed to fit.
3. Fold the top edge of mittens to desired length; hand sew into place.
4. Sew buttons onto the decorative edge.

Winter-White Bracelet

by Carol Heppner

There are some great home décor trims in sewing stores today. Use the trims alone or stack them on top of each other for some fashion-forward looks. This bracelet is easy and fast to make. It is the perfect bracelet for your winter journey.

Materials:

Home decor trims, tan and cream
Cream thread
Fabric glue
Jump rings, 4 mm (3)
Toggle clasp
Crystals (6)
Ribbon end finding, 25 mm, Sweet Beads Fundamental Findings™

Tools: Sewing needle, scissors, tape measure, flat-nose jewelry pliers

1. Measure your wrist. Subtract $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch from the wrist measurement.
2. Cut the tan and the cream ribbons to the pre-determined measurement in

step 1. The measurement used in the photographed sample was $6\frac{1}{2}$ -inches.

3. Use fabric glue to seal the ends of the trims.
4. Slip one end of the glued trim into the ribbon-end finding. Use flat-nose jewelry pliers to close the finding. Repeat this step with the other glued trim end.
5. Use a jump ring to attach the round end of the toggle clasp to one end of the ribbon-end finding. Use two jump rings to attach the "T" end of the toggle clasp to the opposite ribbon-end finding.
6. Use the fabric glue to attach the crystals, equally spaced, on the cream ribbon.



Altered Black-Tights Gloves

by Carol Heppner

Materials:

Black tights
Washable flower fabric trim, white, 18"
Tulip® Soft® Fabric Paint, Matte Ebony
Aleene's® Flexible Stretchable Fabric Glue™
Tulip® Glam-It-Up!™ Iron-On Crystals™ (6)
Paper towels
Rubber gloves
Black thread
Water

Tools: Scissors, sewing needle, straight pins, pan (old)

1. Cut a 12-inch length from each leg of the tights. Make sure that both ends of the cut section are open.
2. Turn the tights "inside out" and lay the cut sections side-by-side.
3. Make the thumb area for the right glove by measuring 1-inch from the top and 1 1/16-inches from the left side of the cut section. Mark the top and the bottom of measured area with straight pins. Sew a straight line from the top of the cut edge to the bottom pin. Remove the pins and turn the gloves back to the correct side.
4. Repeat the above step for the left glove. Only, create the thumb area on the right side of the cut section. You have now created the glove base.
5. Although you can use black trim for the top of the gloves, altering the white trim gives it a softer, aged look. Place some water into the pan. The pan may stain from the fabric paint, so it is best to use an older pan. Put on the rubber gloves. Dip the fabric flower trim into the water and remove the excess water from the fabric trim. Place the fabric paint onto the fabric trim and work the paint into the trim with your fingers. Make sure to cover all the white areas with the black paint. Quickly dip the trim into the water and remove the excess water from the fabric trim. Let the trim dry on paper towels. Remove the rubber gloves.
6. Place one of the glove bases onto your hand or your helper's hand (Tip: Use a 20-oz water bottle in place of a hand). Use a straight pin to secure the end of the fabric flower trim on the top and then cut the edge of the glove base. Wrap the fabric flower trim around your hand so it meets the opposite edge of the fabric flower trim. Cut away any excess fabric flower trim. Secure the newly cut end with a straight pin. Use straight pins to secure the fabric flower trim to the top of the cut edge of the glove base. Sew the trim in place.
7. Repeat the above steps for the second glove.
8. Lay the gloves on a flat surface and use the Flexible Stretchable Fabric Glue™ to attach the crystals to each of the gloves. Let the glue dry.



Globe Candle Holder

by Carol Heppner

Put some romance in your winter journey with this Steampunk-esque lantern. The glass vase is spray painted and then glued to a candlestick holder in order to create an elegant looking lantern. It can also double as a vase to be filled with flowers or candy.

Materials:

Round vase
Candlestick holder, small
Frosted spray paint
Thick rubber bands
Pearl and Bead embellishment, Say it in Pearls, SIIP & SIIC Swirls, Clear, Prima Marketing, Inc. #535780
Jewelry pendant, Cousin Jewelry Basics Metal Accent Gunmetal Rose, Item #: 34708376
E6000 glue

Always use the spray paint in a well-ventilated area, preferably outdoors.

1. Randomly wrap the elastic bands around the vase. Spray on the frosted spray paint. Let dry. Remove the elastic bands from the vase.
2. Glue the candleholder to the bottom of the vase. Let the glue dry.
3. Apply the pearl and crystals embellishment to the vase. The embellishment comes in one piece and is easy to apply.
4. Lay the glued vase and candlestick flat onto a surface. Secure it so it remains stationary. Use E6000 glue to attach the jewelry pendant to the center of the vase. Let the glue dry.
5. Use a battery-powered tea light in the vase. The vase can also be used as a floral vase.

Make sure to follow the safety directions on the spray paint can.

Martini Candle Holder

by Ann Butler

This quick and easy candle holder is the perfect addition for holiday decorating. Create a set with wine glasses for another way to add a festive addition to your holiday party or as a gift.

Materials:

Martini Glass
Earth Safe Finishes Gel Medium
Ultra Fine Glitter – color of choice

Tools: Paintbrush

1. Apply a thin layer of gel medium to the stem and base of the glass. Sprinkle the base with the glitter, shaking excess off and then let dry. Repeat if needed.
2. Apply a thin layer of gel medium over the glitter. Let the gel medium dry.

Important note: All the candle projects in this magazine use battery operated candles only! Do not use regular candles.



Holiday Votives

by Theresa Cifali

Materials:

Glass flowerpot votive holders
Martha Stewart Multi-Surface Metallic Paint, Yellow Gold
Red velvet ribbon, 1/2 yard
Metallic lace trim, 1/2 yard
Gold buttons
Recollections Mulberry Paper Holly Leaves
Beacon, Gem-Tac adhesive

Tools: Hot glue gun, glue sticks, foam brush, shank cutters

1. Use a foam brush to paint the bottom of the glass votives with the metallic gold paint. Apply at least 2 coats.
2. Once dry, measure out the exact amount of ribbon and lace you will need to go around the rim of the votive.

3. Set up your hot glue gun and let it warm up.
4. Use shank cutters to cut the backs off of the buttons.
5. Apply the Gem-Tac around the rim of the votive and apply the velvet ribbon.
6. Attach the lace over the velvet ribbon with hot glue.
7. Use hot glue to attach the mulberry leaves. Place the leave about 1/4" apart on either side of the seem where the ribbon and lace meet.
8. Use hot glue to attach the button to the leaves.



Christmas Deconstructed Candle Holder

by Ann Butler

Make this Christmas-house candle holder by following the Deconstructed Candle Holder instructions in the Halloween issue. It can be found on our website: <http://bellacraftsquarterly.com>

Materials:

Wooden bird house, 8"
Beacon Adhesives® Fast Finish Decoupage™
Beacon Adhesives® Quick Grip™
Beacon Adhesives® Felt Glue™
Krylon Glitter Blast™ - Starry Night
Ultra Fine Glitter: red & iridescent white
Duck Brand Duck Tape®: white
Present Embellishment, 1"

Wreath Embellishment, 1 1/2"

Mini-pillar black battery-operated candle
Tree branches
Popsicle sticks (2)
Jumbo Popsicle Stick
Copy Paper

Tools: Hammer, pliers, saw, pencil, ruler, paintbrush,



Snowman Candle Holder

by Lisa Rojas

Materials:

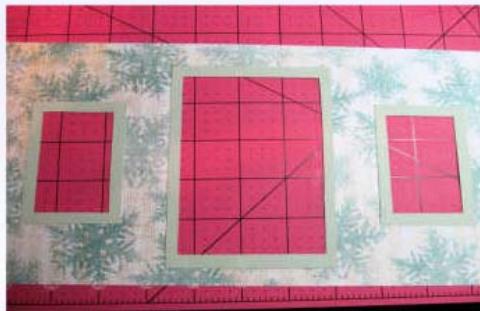
Glass candle holder
Snowflake-pattern paper
Bazzill Cardstock: Rain & Lily Pond
The Paper Studio Snowman Sticker Set
Lace trim
Beacon Adhesives Zip Dry Paper Glue
Beacon Adhesives Dazzle Tac Glue
Cleasnap Top Boss Watermark Inkpad
Inkadinkado Holiday stamp set

Tools: Westcott® Titanium 4" Scissors

1. Cut the cardstock and the pattern paper to fit the candle holder. Cut three rectangles out of the pattern paper. Frame the rectangles with the Lily Pond cardstock.
2. Place the pattern paper on top of the Rain cardstock. Trace the rectangles onto the cardstock. Stamp the swirl onto the cardstock with the Watermark inkpad.

Adhere the pattern paper and the cardstock together.

3. Adhere the stickers to the papers and then place them inside the candle holder. Using the Dazzle Tac glue, adhere the lace trim to the top and the bottom of the candle holder. Adhere mitten sticker to top of candle holder.



Candy Cane Vase

Sponsored by Velcro®
<http://www.velcro.com/>



by Carol Heppner

What is red, white and held together by VELCRO® Brand One-Wrap®? A fun Christmas vase! This festive vase makes use of an empty jelly jar, which hides behind the candy canes.

Materials:

VELCRO® Brand One-Wrap® Roll, white

Jelly Jar

Elastic band

Candy canes (36)

White craft glue

Button, Blumenthal Lansing, Glamour Gems, 5220, Turquoise

Tools: Pliers, scissors, tape measure

1. Put the elastic band around the jar. Place the candy canes between the jar and the elastic band. You can leave the plastic sleeve on the candy cane or remove the sleeve before placing the canes around the vase. The amount of candy canes you need to encircle the jar completely will depend on the jar size.
2. Use the tape measure to determine the length of the VELCRO® Brand One Wrap® that you need to wrap around the jar. Add 1-inch to the candy cane and jar circumference measurement.
3. Cut the One Wrap® to the pre-determined length from step 2. Place the pliers into the shank of the button and rock the pliers back and forth to remove the shank from the button. Lay the One Wrap® on a flat surface and then use the white glue to attach the button to one end of the One Wrap®. Let the glue dry.
4. Wrap the One Wrap® around the candy canes. Remove the elastic band.

Frame Ornament

by Carol Heppner

This super fast project will add sparkle to your holidays. Framed Christmas ornaments are very popular this holiday and you can make one for a fraction of the cost. The frame was purchased at the dollar store. The nail polish was purchased at a discount retailer for less than two dollars.

Materials:

Photograph frame, 4 x 3"

Crystals, 3mm (4), 4mm (2)

Pure Ice™ Nail polish, Beware

Ribbon, 1/8" x 1 1/2"

White craft glue

1. Apply the nail polish onto the frame and let dry. Apply a second coat of the nail polish onto the frame and then add one 4 mm crystal to the upper-left corner and one 4 mm crystal to the lower-right corner of the frame.
2. While the paint is still wet, add a 3 mm crystal to the left and to the right of each of the 4 mm crystals. Let the paint dry.
3. Remove the cardboard backing from the

back of the frame. Glue the ribbon to the inside top area of the cardboard backing. Let the glue dry.

4. Insert your photograph into the frame and then replace the cardboard backing onto the photograph frame. Make sure the ribbon is exposed. Place a Christmas tree hanger onto the ribbon and then hang the frame on your Christmas tree. After Christmas, you can tuck the ribbon inside the frame and then use the frame on a desk.



Velvet-Stamped Stocking



by Lisa Rojas

Materials:

White velvet, acetate rayon only
Stocking pattern (Page 26)
Blue-beaded trim
Silver-sequin trim
White & silver rope trim
Snowflake ribbon
Snowflake button
Snowflake rubber stamp
White thread

Tools: Water spray bottle, needle, glue gun, Westcott® Extreme Edge Titanium® 9" scissors, Iron (without the steam holes)

1. Enlarge the stocking pattern (Page 26) to the size you want to make your stocking. Lay the pattern on the back of the velvet and then trace the pattern. Turn the pattern over and trace the second stocking on the back of the velvet. Cut out the stockings. Set the iron on the highest setting without steam.
2. Lightly spray the back of the velvet with water. Lay the stamp on the table with the rubber side facing up. Place the velvet, right side down, on the stamp image. Place the iron on the velvet for 10 to 20 seconds. Lift the iron straight up to avoid slipping. Repeat the pattern all over the velvet.
3. Place the velvet right sides together and then stitch the stockings together with the needle and thread. Turn right the stocking back to the outside. Adhere the silver sequin trim around the stocking with the glue gun. Next, adhere the blue beaded trim to top of the stocking.
4. Tie the snowflake ribbon into a bow. Adhere the bow, white & silver rope trim and the snowflake button to top of the stocking.

Heirloom Christmas Stocking

By Ann Butler

Quilt a heirloom stocking in a few hours for someone special this Christmas.

Materials:

Crushed velvet, $\frac{1}{2}$ yard
Pellon Fusible Fleece, $\frac{1}{2}$ yard
Scraps of assorted cottons and sheer fabrics
Kreinik gold thread
Stocking pattern (Page 26)
White thread

Tools: Sewing machine, scissor, iron

1. Enlarge the stocking pattern to the desired size.
2. Cut out two crushed velvet and two fusible batting pieces using stocking pattern.
3. Iron the wrong side of the crushed velvet to the fusible side of the fleece following the manufacturer's instructions; one is for the front and one other is for the back of stocking.
4. Place two fabric scraps, right sides together, onto the top of the stocking front (crush velvet side); sew the fabric in place along the edges of the scraps. Turn the fabric so the sides are facing up. Finger crease the seam and then pin in place. Repeat this process until the stocking front is covered.
5. Sew a decorative stitch over every seam with Kreinik Gold Thread.
6. Place the stocking front and back so the right sides are together and then sew around the outer edge, leaving the top edge open.
7. Make a hanger for the stocking by sewing a 2-inch by 5-inch piece of crushed velvet right sides together along the 5-inch side with $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch seam and then turn it right side out.
8. Cut the cuff for the stocking from the crushed velvet so it is 5-inches by the width of the stocking top. Sew the 5-inch sides together to form the cuff. Fold the wrong sides together and attach them to the top of the inside of the stocking. Place the hanger on the side with the heel of stocking. Sew the cuff and the hanger in place with a $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch seam. Turn the cuff to the right side of the stocking.



Happy Hanukkah Card

by Theresa Cifali

Materials:

Bazzill Cardstock: white, Wildberry Pie, Breaker Bay
American Crafts Rockabye glitter letter stickers, silver
Westcott® Craft self healing cutting mat
Westcott® Trimair Titanium paper trimmer
Westcott® Titanium scissors
Westcott® Craft Titanium Hobby Knife
Chipboard
Old book pages
White glue
Glue stick
Double stick tape
Recollections Extra Fine Glitter
Wired edge ribbon, silver

Tools: Liner brush, craft knife, pencil

1. Cut the white cardstock to measure 6 1/2-inches by 10-inches. Score and fold lengthwise at 5-inches. Cut the Wildberry Pie cardstock to measure 4 1/2-inches by 6-inches. Cut the Breaker Bay cardstock to 4 1/4-inches by 5 3/4-inches.
2. Attach the lighter blue cardstock to the front of the card, slanting slightly. Attach the darker blue cardstock on top, so that it is straight.
3. Draw two different sized candles onto the chipboard and then cut out the chipboard with a craft knife.
4. Trace the candles onto old book pages and then cut the candles out with a craft knife. Cut one large candle and 8 small candles.
5. Starting at the right side of the card front, glue down 4 small candles, 1 large candle and then remaining 4 small candles with the glue stick.
6. Paint the flames above each candle with white glue and the liner brush. Sprinkle the glue with glitter. Press the glitter down into the glue lightly and then shake off the excess. Create two flames at a time so the glue does not dry too quickly.
7. Add the silver letters to spell out "Happy Hanukkah". Tie the silver wired edge ribbon into a small bow and then attach the ribbon to the card with white glue.

Metal-Stamped Ornament

by Theresa Cifali

Materials:

Art Minds Laser Cut Frame Ornaments (2)
ImpressArt Metal Letter Set, Newsprint, uppercase
ImpressArt Design Stamps, Snowflakes, small and large
ImpressArt metal-stamping hammer
ImpressArt steel stamping block
Aleene's® Original Tacky Glue
Copper metal sheet
Hot-fix crystals
Ribbon, 8"
Black acrylic paint

Tools: Q-tip, paper towel, scissors, Small flat paint brush, metal shears, Hot-fix crystal tool

1. Take the two laser cut frame ornaments and remove the tags. Add the hot fix crystals to one ornament. Use the metal shears to cut a piece of the copper sheeting to a size that will fit the inside the center opening of the ornament.
2. Place the copper panel on the steel stamping block. Stamp Happy Holidays, so that the word "Happy" arcs upward and the word "Holiday" arcs in the opposite direction. Stamp the large snowflake between the words, in the center of the copper panel.
3. With a Q-tip, spread some black acrylic paint into the grooves of the stamped letters. Wipe the excess paint off with a small piece of paper towel. Let the paint dry for a few minutes.
4. Take the second laser cut frame ornament and paint a thin layer of Original Tacky glue around the frame opening. Carefully attach the copper plate. Attach the top ornament to the bottom piece with Original Tacky Glue. Let dry. Loop the piece of ribbon through the top opening of the ornament and knot at the top.

Stocking Place Card



by Theresa Cifali

Stockings are just one of the many iconic symbols of the holiday season. Let them adorn your holiday table this year.

Materials:

Stocking pattern
Chipboard
Recollections Sugar Plums paper pack, 8x8
White cardstock
Tim Holtz® Distress Ink: Tea Dye, Vintage Photo and Walnut Stain
Tombow Brush Markers: brown , black
Foam tape
Aleene's® Original Tacky Glue
Aleene's® Tacky Tape Runner
Recollections Cling Stamps, holiday greetings
Polyfill stuffing

Tools: Sandpaper, Stipple brushes or makeup sponges Westcott® Craft Titanium Hobby Knife, Westcott® Craft self healing cutting mat, Westcott® Trimair Titanium paper trimmer, Westcott® Titanium scissors

1. Enlarge the stocking pattern on this page to 4 inches, spray temporary adhesive and then attach to a piece of chipboard.
2. Use the craft knife to cut out the stocking onto chipboard. This is your pattern.
3. Trace the pattern onto the back of the patterned paper and onto the white cardstock.
4. Trace and cut out with the hobby knife.
- Just use the top part of the pattern for the white stock.
5. Cut a piece of white cardstock 4-inches by 6-inches and then score lengthwise at 3-inches. This is the base of your place card.
6. Use the Tim Holtz Distress Ink to antique the white place card base starting with the lightest color and working towards the darkest with stipple brushes or makeup sponges.
7. Cut two different pieces of patterned paper 2-inches by 4-inches and 2 1/2-inches by 4-inches. Tear each across the top taking off about 1/2-inch from each.
8. Sand the stocking and the two torn strips of patterned paper to distress it.
9. Antique the stocking and paper strips the same way you did the white place card.
10. Attach the white stocking top to the patterned stocking with the tape runner. Draw stitch marks around the edge of the stocking with the brown Tombow marker.
11. With a flat paintbrush, brush some glue onto the white stocking top and stick some fluff onto it. Bunch up the fluff to make a thick layer, place something heavy on top of it. Let dry.
12. Attach the large strip to the bottom front of the place card base, lining up the bottom edges. Layer the smaller strip on top, leaving a sliver of the bottom layer visible at the bottom.
13. Trim the fluff on the stocking top with the scissors.
14. Attach the stocking with double stick foam tape to the left side of the place card.
15. Stamp the holiday stamp with Distress Ink in Walnut stain.
16. Write the names of your guests on the bottom left corner of the place cards.

Stocking Pattern





No-Sew Altered Pillow

by Theresa Cifali

This pillow is not only a ton of fun to make, but it is fun to look at, too! The alteration is temporary, which allows you change the panel out with new ones repeatedly!

Materials:

Pillow, color and shape of your choice
Aleene's® TACK-IT Over & Over
Aleene's® Fabric Fusion, Peel & Stick Tape
Aleene's® Fabric Fusion, Fabric Glue Pen
Aleene's® Repositionable Tacky Spray
Tulip® Soft Fabric Paint, Holiday Green, Neutral pack, Gold and Platinum
Tulip® Slick 3D Fashion Paint, Primary Colors Starter Set, Leaf Green and Deep Red
Decorative trim
Muslin fabric, 1/2 a yard

Tools: Tulip® ScreenIt Machine and supplies, flat and line acrylic paintbrushes, iron, self-healing cutting mat, quilting ruler, Fiskars rotary scissors, Fiskars scissors, cheap 20lb. copy paper

1. Create a design by hand or with a computer and print onto 20lb., cheap copy paper.
2. Burn your screen with the ScreenIt, following the enclosed instructions.
3. Cut the muslin to the correct size for your pillow, plus one extra inch to the length and width with rotary cutters.. For this pillow, the panel is 9 1/2-inches by 14 1/2-inches, so the muslin is cut 10 1/2-inches x 15 1/2-inches.
4. Measure 1-inch from each corner of the muslin and then mark the muslin with a pen or pencil.
5. Line up the ruler along each mark and cut the corners with the rotary cutter.
6. Fold up each side of the muslin 1/2-inch and press with an iron. Make sure the corners meet.
7. Measure and cut the Peel and Stick tape to the length you need for one side of the muslin.
8. Place the tape inside one of the folds and press down. Remove the liner, fold the top back over and press again. Repeat for all sides.
9. Place the muslin panel onto the base of the ScreenIt machine, face up.
10. Spray a light coat of Repositionable Tacky Spray on the back of the silkscreen and then place it face up on the muslin being careful to center the phrase.
11. Squirt out some gold paint above the top word and spread with the applicator tool

- that comes with the ScreenIt.
12. Squirt out some platinum paint below the bottom word and spread with the applicator.
 13. Since these are metallic paints, they may not completely go through the screen...fix any spots using the flat and liner paintbrushes. Let dry
 14. Once dry, repeat the screenprint process with the holly leaves. Let them dry completely.
 15. Add a vein to each holly leaf with Slick 3D Paint in leaf green.
 16. Draw in the berries with Slick 3D in deep red.
 17. Add the trim 1/2-inch in from the edge around the perimeter of the panel with the glue pen. Let dry.
 18. With a flat brush, paint a thin layer of Aleene's TACK-IT Over & Over on the back side of the decorative panel. Allow it to dry until it's clear, blot away any excess.
 19. Apply to pillow. It will stay there until you are ready to change it. Just peel the panel off to remove.



peaceful tidings ATC

Sponsored by [KellyCraft Laser Square](#)

by Lisa Rojas

Materials:

Cardboard ATC
The Paper Studio Holiday Pattern Paper
The Paper Studio holiday stickers
Beacon Adhesives Zip Dry Paper Glue
Clearsnap ColorBox Archival Dye Inkpad- Golf Course
Red and gold trim



Tools: [KellyCraft](#) Get-it-Straight Laser Square, glue gun

1. Adhere the pattern paper to the cardboard ATC. Add ink around the edges.
2. Using the Get-it-Straight Laser Square, line up each sticker perfectly! Start with word sticker, music sticker and place poinsettia stickers on last. Adhere trim around the ATC with the glue gun.



Paper Ornament

by Carol Heppner

This fun paper ornament is a breeze to make when you use the Cricut® Mini. Make sure to visit Page 6 to see how you can win the Cricut® Mini giveaway.

[Read my review](#) on the Cricut® Mini

Materials:

Scrapbook papers, 8 x 11", red, gold, green
Button Turquoise, Glamour Gems 5220, Blumenthal Lansing Ribbon, 1/8" x 3"

Tools: Cricut® Mini. Elegant Image

1. Cut five red images measuring 3-inches in length, five gold images measuring 2 1/2-inches in length and five green images measuring 2-inches in length. Score all the pieces in the center and then fold them to make them dimensional.
2. Glue the red pieces together in the center. Glue the gold pieces on top of the red pieces. Glue the green pieces on top of the gold pieces. Let the glue dry.
3. Glue the button to the center of the green pieces and then glue a ribbon to the back of the ornament.



Paper-Wrapped Candles

By Carol Heppner

Materials:

Scrapbooking paper, Decorative Silver Embossed, The Paper Company, 8.5 x 11"

Button Turquoise, Glamour Gems 5220,

Blumenthal Lansing

Battery-powered pillar candle

Blue ribbon

White craft glue

Double-stick tape

Tools:

Pliers, scissors

1. Wrap the scrapbooking paper around the battery-powered pillar candle and then secure the overlapping end of the paper with double-stick tape.
2. Wrap the blue ribbon around the candle in order to determine how much ribbon you will need. Cut the ribbon, wrap it around the candle and then use double-stick tape to secure the end.
3. Place the pliers into the shank of the button and rock the pliers back and forth to remove the shank from the button. Use the white craft glue to secure the button onto the ribbon. Let the glue dry.



Faux-Etched Flameless Candles

By Theresa Cifali

Materials:

Flameless Pillar Candles (3)

Anna Griffin Floral transparency paper #AG1597

Tombow Mono Vellum Adhesive

Wired edge ribbon, 1 1/2" x 10"

Tools: Westcott Trimair Titanium paper trimmer, Westcott Titanium scissors

1. Cut the transparency the appropriate height for each pillar candle and 10-inches long.
2. Place a strip of vellum adhesive along one of the edges of the transparency.
3. Wrap the cut transparency around the candle.
4. Gather all three candles and tie with the wired edge ribbon.

Paper Coasters

Sponsored by [Earth Safe Finishes](#)

by Carol Heppner

Materials:

Scrapbook paper, 8 1/2" x 11", white and decorative patterns

Christmas cards (optional)

[Eco Epoxy](#), Earth Safe Finishes

Craft glue

Tools:

Scissors

1. Cut and stack three white scrapbook paper circles and one decorative circle (or Christmas card) Glue the circles together. Let dry.
2. Apply two coats of the Eco Epoxy to the top circle following the manufacturer's directions. Let dry.



Holiday Tote and ATCs

By Lisa Rojas



Tote

Materials:

[Daily Window](#) Carry-All Bag

Lace trim, ivory

Small trim, dark red

Holiday buttons

Kreinik thread, red metallic

Beacon Adhesives Fabri-Tac Glue

1. Using Fabri-Tac glue, adhere lace trim to the top of the tote. Adhere holly buttons to the lace trim. Adhere red trim around the photo opening.
2. Tie metallic thread through the light bulb buttons. Adhere buttons to four corners of photo opening.

ATC & Book

Materials:

Blank tag book

Pattern papers, various holiday themes

Various ribbons & trims

Kreinik Threads- various metallic & iron on

The Paper Studio Holiday Themed Stickers

Various embellishments

[Beacon Adhesives](#) Zip Dry Paper Glue

Cardboard ATC cards

Tools: Hole punch, Westcott® Personal Paper Trimmer, scissors

1. Cover the blank tag book with pattern paper. Iron two pieces of 'iron on' threads

to the front of the book for ornament hangers. Adhere trim, stickers and letters to book front.

2. Punch a hole in the back of the book and place the threads through the hole. Tie the light bulb button and mini tag to the end of the threads. Adhere the ivory button to the book front. Tie threads around the button to hold it closed.
3. Punch holes in the bottom of the book. Place threads through the holes and tie a knot.
4. Adhere each cardboard ATC with pattern papers. Decorate each ATC with holiday stickers, trims and ribbons. See finished ATC's for embellishment placement.





Candy Cane Cookies Gluten Free

By Carol Heppner

Baking gluten free is a lot easier these days. Companies like King Arthur, Gluten-Free Pantry and Namaste Foods, LLC provide all-purpose flours that can replace wheat flours on a one-to-one measurement ratio. Now, you can replace the wheat flours found in your favorite recipes with gluten-free flour versions!

This version of those fun cookies uses almond butter for a mellow tasting cookie. The almond flavor works great with the candy-cane kisses. Add your favorite hot chocolate for a great winter treat.

Make sure all the ingredients that you use are gluten free and avoid cross contamination. If you do not need to eat gluten free, then you can use regular wheat flour.

When baking gluten-free cookies on dark pans, you will want to reduce the oven heat by 25 degrees (set to 325°F), in order to reduce the risk

of burning the cookies.

Ingredients:

1 ½-cup gluten-free all-purpose flour (Perfect Flour Blend, Namaste Foods, LLC)
½-cup sugar
¼-cup brown sugar
1 tsp. baking soda
¼ tsp. salt
½-cup butter or margarine
¾-cup almond butter
1 egg
2 tsp. vanilla
Hershey candy cane kisses (1 bag)
Extra sugar to roll the cookie dough before baking

Non-stick cooking pan, electric mixer

1. Mix the sugar and the butter in a large mixing bowl. Add the baking soda, salt, egg and vanilla to the sugar-butter mixture. Mix well. Add the almond butter to the bowl and then mix well.

Slowly add the flour in the bowl and then mix well.

2. Roll ½-teaspoon of the dough into a ball and roll the ball into sugar. Place the sugared balls onto a non-stick cooking pan.
3. Place the pans in a 350°F (or 325 °F for dark pans) oven and cook for 10 minutes. When done, remove the cookies from the pans and place the cookies onto cooking racks. Let the cookies set for five minutes and then place the kisses on the cookies. If you find that the kisses are melting too fast, you can wait a few minutes for the cookies to cool further or place the kisses into the freezer to cool.

350°F for 10 minutes
About 40 cookies

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