



Bella Crafts Quarterly™

Your Inspiration for a Creative Life!™

Nick
Bantock
Artist to Artist

How To

Create Paper Flowers
Gilded Paper
Design with Milk
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Spring Refresh

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This Issue:

Duetica

Bella Crafts Quarterly™ thanks **Duetica** for the use of their beautiful fonts in our publication. Be sure to [check their AD](#) on the back cover of this issue.



Cre8time is a movement to recapture your time and devote that recovered time to your craft passion and creativity.

The **Cre8time** website is filled with wonderful craft ideas and projects. Make sure to visit the website today!

Bella Crafts Quarterly™ will help to inspire you with quick crafts that you can create in minutes. See our Cre8time project in this issue.

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.

Many of the products used in Bella Crafts Quarterly™ are from companies with which we have a professional relationship. Some of the companies have paid ads in this magazine in the way of advertisements, sponsored projects and clickable links. If you are interested in advertising with us, contact Ann at: Ann@BellaCraftsQuarterly.com



Spring is known as a time of rebirth and freshness. Take time to freshen your life with our practical projects in this Spring Fantasy issue.

If you enjoy the projects in this issue, be sure to check out all of our back issues which are also **FREE** on the Bella Crafts Quarterly web site.

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Bella Crafts Quarterly™

Publishers



[Ann Butler:](#)

Editor/Director of Marketing

Ann is a mixed media artist, licensed designer, author, instructor and consultant for the creative industries. Her designs appear in multi-authored books, magazines, booklets, manufacturer trade-show booths and websites.

She has been teaching workshops locally and internationally for the past 20+ years and currently teaches online classes at Creative Workshops. She regularly is a guest artist on TV and Web TV Shows. Inspiring others through teaching is one of Ann's favorite things to do.



[Lisa Rojas:](#)

Editor/Director of Communications

Lisa 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 had hundreds of designs published to date. Lisa works with many manufacturers, using their products in her work, product development, teaching classes and workshops at tradeshow.



[Theresa Cifali:](#)

Editor/Director of Social Media

Theresa has nearly 20 years of experience working in the craft industry as a professional designer. Her work appears in books, magazines, trade show booths and websites.

Theresa is also well-versed in social media and emerging digital platforms. Her articles can be found on numerous websites and in trade magazines. She consults creative businesses on best practices in social media, provides management services and teaches social strategy.



[Carol Heppner:](#)

Editor

Carol has 20 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 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 and photography have been published in over 20 national craft magazines.

Regular Contributors



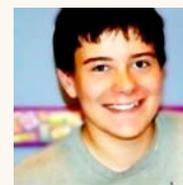
[Denise Clason](#)

I started sewing when I was seven years old, designing and creating doll clothes by hand! I begged my mother to use her straight stitch sewing machine when I was nine years old and the rest is history! I love to create anything out of fabric and or buttons! I have authored 9 books and many magazine articles. I've designed and licensed several product designs, some of which are quilt buttons, called "Stitchin' Up the Pieces" with JHB Buttons. My newest book: "[Sewing Vintage Aprons](#)" is available now.



[Courtney Chambers](#)

My name is Courtney Chambers and I love to craft. I love transforming boring things into fabulous creations. Ever since I was a little girl I loved to get crafty! Nowadays, I enjoy creating DIY projects, such as decor for my room and handmade jewelry. I am so grateful to blog alongside my best friend, Tanner Bell. Together we own [A Little Craft In Your Day](#), a website where we share DIY projects for teens and strive to inspire people of all ages to incorporate a little crafting into their day, every day! I am also a sophomore in high school. I love spending time with my family and friends, and one day I hope to be a great adoptive mother!

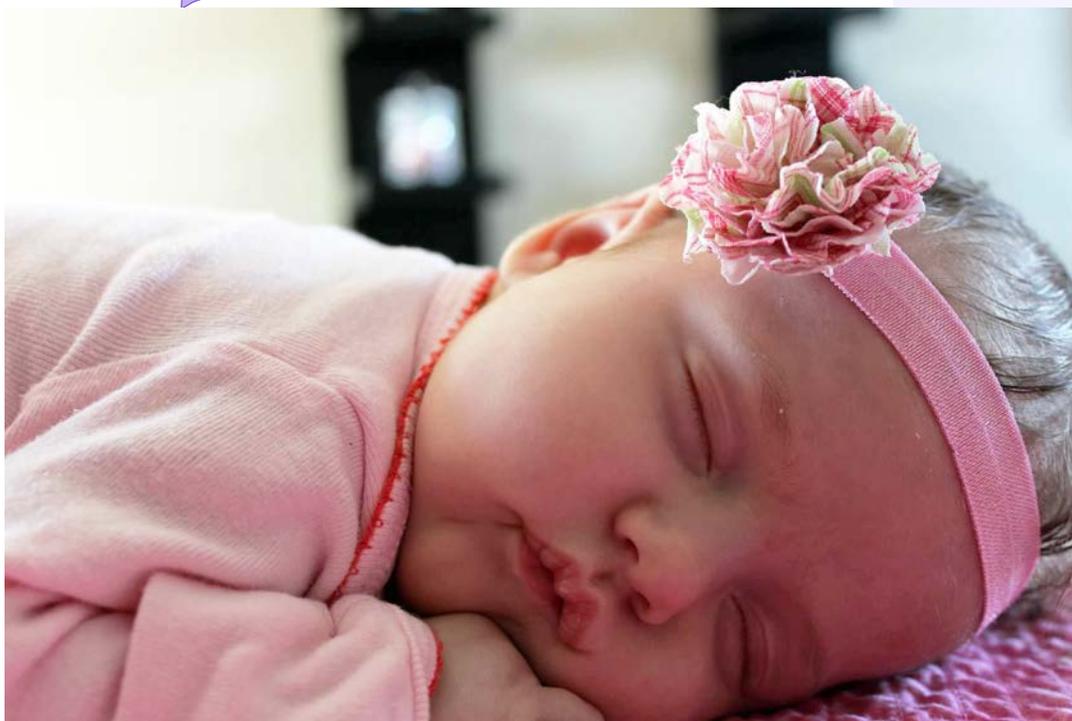


[Tanner Bell](#)

Tanner Bell is one of the teen faces behind A Little Craft In Your Day, a DIY Teen demographic blog, run by himself and his partner Courtney Chambers. He has been in the craft industry for 5 years doing a little of everything from video content, blogging, designing, consulting, the list goes on! Tanner is very unique with his young age, personality, and him being a male in a mostly women industry. When Tanner isn't crafting, he finds himself by the pool, spending time with family, or just hanging with friends. Tanner gets inspired from simple day to day life and other creations! He hopes to become a spokesperson for a company one day.

Simple Headband

By [Ann Butler](#)



Do you have a new baby girl in your life? Headbands are a perfect gift and are always in style. Learn to create them in minutes so she can have one for every outfit! The elastic ribbon comes in a variety of colors so be creative and have fun!

Here is a guide for the ribbon:
13" for newborn
15" for newborn to 6 months
16" for 4 to 12 months
Please Note: use this only as a guide. Please be sure to try it

Materials:

Elastic Ribbon – May Arts
[Fabri-Tac™ by Beacon Adhesives®](#)
Fabric: 1/8 yard
Brad

Tools:

Westcott Brand Non Stick® Scissors,
piercing tool

Instructions:

1. Cut the ribbon desired size. Overlap the ends by one half an inch and glue together.
2. Cut eight one and one half inch circles for the flower petals. Pierce a hole in the center of each petal and then place them onto the brad.
3. Fold and scrunch each petal starting at the center to create the flower. Glue onto the headband.

Notes

Announcing...

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Every Wednesday
1-1:30PM EST

beginning March 12th



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Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest... if there are hashtags, make sure to search for our personalized hashtag to keep up to date on Bella Crafts Quarterly news.



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Advertising is important to a company's growth. **Small businesses, like yours, need an affordable way to get their products seen beyond the company's regular social reach.** Consumers can not buy your products if they do not know you exist.

Because we understand the needs of the small business owner, we created a special place in our magazine just for small businesses. It is called, "Connections".

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Pillow Created by: Rebekah Meier

Trending Thoughts

by [Alyson Dias](#)

The **goal** of Bella Crafts Quarterly™ is to **inspire** you to create.

One of the hottest Trends in wearable's right now is Tie Dying, so we asked Alyson Dias for her perspective on the hot trend and here is what she had to say.....

**Let loose...be free...enjoy life...
TIE-DYE...a fashion art trend that
isn't going away! by: Alyson Dias**

Tie-dye is magical...tie-dye is mystical...tie-dye is happiness. Whether you've been tie-dyeing for decades or are trying it for the first time, the experience of tie-dyeing always produces smiles and giggles. There is just something about it that attracts all ages. Maybe it's that tie-dye just can't be messed up...or maybe it is because the outcome is always different. There is freedom and expression that comes from the creation of tie-dye that is unlike any other activity. Tie-dye is an experience best meant for summer with family and friends.

From Target to Neiman Marcus, tie-dye has reigned on the racks for several years as a major style staple. From spiral to crunch and shibori to ombre, tie-dye is one trend that spans that gamut of design. The best part of this fashion trend may just be that there is a design for every personality...and that might just be the foundation of this trend's longevity. Hippies, fashionistas and everyone in between can enjoy the common bond of tie-dye and the easy-breezy feeling it brings to any "taste" in clothing.

The fashionistas love the sophisticated, clean look of ombre while the more free-spirited types still love the classic, five-color spiral. Regardless of preference, to slip into a piece of tie-dye is to slip into happiness. Tie-dye instills a unique feeling in people. It's a design that allows people to put the seriousness aside and let loose...be

free...enjoy life.

I don't think the trend is as much about the beautifully dyed fabric as it is about the mystical feeling that tie-dye evokes. That feeling is certainly magnified when tie-dye is created versus just worn. Most creative projects are a visual work-in-progress, meaning you can see the progression as you work toward completion. Tie-dye is a mystery until the rubber bands are removed and the garment is washed. The suspense of folding, wrapping or binding, placing the rubber bands and then finally adding color is both intriguing and delightfully suspenseful. The reveal is always pure magic and never fails to solicit a smile.

I've tie-dyed with every age...literally! I've watched mothers help their babies tie-dye and grandchildren help their grandparents tie-dye. In all of my experience, never have I seen someone get frustrated or stressed while tie-dyeing...it just doesn't happen. That is something special as you can't say this about every creative pursuit... some are just stressful!

Life can be stressful in so many ways – that's just a fact. A macro trend that has emerged in the past decade is that of "making" to dissolve stress, at least for a moment. Making tie-dye certainly dissolves the stress of everyday life...and wearing tie-dye only furthers the dissolution. That feeling that tie-dye brings really makes you feel like the stress is melting away and freedom is setting in. It's spirals when the world tells us to be straight... it's dipped when the world tells us to be solid.

So, embrace the hippy or fashionista



that's in you. Grab your friends, white t-shirts and tie-dye and then squirt colorful tie-dye here, there and everywhere! It will make you feel good...I promise!

Bio: Alyson Dias, is a member of the Craft & Hobby Association's "Future Leaders" group, she brings 10 years of experience to ensuring the consumer's experience with a company's brands and products is exceptional. Her specialties include corporate brand awareness, advertising, public relations, online marketing campaigns, social media marketing, consumer insights and event planning. Alyson has a passion for connecting people and building teams. She is a strong supporter of the CHA Designer Community and she enjoys developing and managing strong partnerships within the creative community. Alyson is the Consumer Experience Director for iLoveToCreate, maker of America's favorite tie-dye, Tulip® One-Step Tie-Dye®. Feel free to email Alyson at: adias@ilovetocreate.com



SociallySensible™

by [Theresa Cifali](#)



5 Reasons Why You Should Build an Email List

When building a crafty business, one of the most important things you should do is build an email list. Actually, it is critical to build this asset. Are you building one? If you haven't started yet, there's no time like the present. There are many wonderful email-subscribing platforms out there that will fit your needs. AWeber, Mail Chimp and Constant Contact are just a few of the ones you can check out. Select the one that best meets your immediate needs, but make sure it can grow with you.

There are many reasons to build an email list of your own. Here are 5 key reasons you should consider:

1. Ownership

One of the main reasons for building an email list is ownership. Simply, this means you OWN that contact information. It's yours. This is important because no matter where you "go", you can take it with you.

This is very different from building a blog subscriber list using an RSS feed reader like Blog Lovin' or growing a social network. You do not own those. Additionally, you are at the mercy of those platforms. What if they shut down?

Let's say, for example, you have been using a free blogging service like Blogger. You've added a link for people to subscribe to your RSS feed and have spent a long time collecting those feed subscribers. Then, later down the

road, you choose to create a new blog and website. Those feed subscribers are now gone. That's time and energy you have invested, only to have to start all over from scratch. Yikes!

If you had invested that time into building an email list, you would still have access to all of those contacts.

2. Expert Positioning

Growing a substantial email list establishes you as an authority. It shows that people find your content to be of value. It also demonstrates that you have knowledge and information that people want. This type of expert positioning helps directly with traffic, sales and opportunities.

3. Traffic

You can use your email list to drive traffic to your website. What website owner doesn't want more traffic? People that have opted-in to receive your newsletters have done so because they are interested in the information you provide. They are a targeted, niche-specific group of individuals who you can invite to see new blog posts, sales pages or any other content you want them to see.

More importantly, this group is more likely to share with their own contacts. This will help increase your traffic. Plus, you could even gain more email subscribers.

4. Sales

Your email list is your first point of

introduction for products and services you provide. When you share valuable content with those readers, you are not only building authority, as stated earlier, but you are also building trust. People buy from those whom they trust. That is a fact.

So, if you are running a sale on your Etsy shop or have added a new service, for example, your email list will be the first people you ask to come by and take a look.

5. Opportunities

Building a targeted, niche-specific list has other benefits. Some marketers are willing to pay you to reach your audience. To be clear, I am not talking about selling your list. In my book, that is a big no-no. You could damage the relationships you've built and lose the trust of your subscribers. Do people sell their lists? Sure they do. However, I don't advise it.

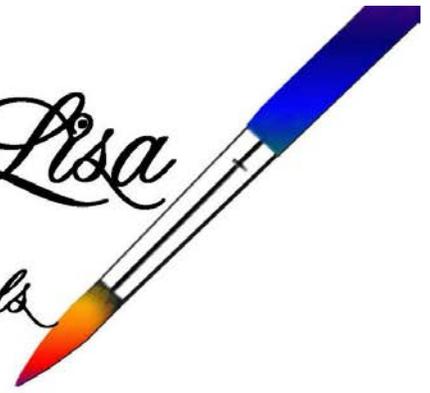
Instead, I am referring to marketers reaching your audience through you. It could be in the form of ads or clickable links. That is much more advisable. Your readers already trust your content and know you provide value. If you choose to go this route, just make sure that you are still always sharing useful information.

Building an email list that you own is so important. Get started today. If you have any questions, you can email info@bellacraftsquarterly.com.



Lessons with Lisa

It's in the Details



The History of ATC's

by [Lisa Rojas](#)

When I began researching the history of ATC's or Artist Trading Cards, I was surprised to learn that they originated in Zurich, Switzerland by a man named M. Vänçi Stirnemann in 1997. From that point, ATC's traveled to Canada through an artist named Don Mabie. In 2000, both artists held an exhibition in Canada with 80 artists from 10 different countries. That event was called "The First International Biennial of Artist Trading Cards." Although they were considered to have started in the 90's, ATC's were also popular in the Impressionistic era by artists who would create miniature portraits and use them as business cards.

According to Wikipedia, there is also a different form of ATC's called ACEO which stands for Art Cards, Editions and Originals. These cards came into being when some artists started creating them to sell and trade among themselves. ACEO's can be found on the Internet at auction sites like eBay. They normally consist of original artwork or editions of small prints. With further research, I came upon a name that I had never heard of in relation to

ATC's called Letterbox Trading Cards. These cards are like ATC's but they must include a rubber stamped image somewhere on the card.

In current times, Artist Trading Cards became very popular in the world of paper crafts. ATC's are small works of art measuring approximately 2 1/2" x 3 1/2". Rubber stamp enthusiasts would create these cards mostly on cardstock and embellish them with a multitude of mediums like rubber stamps, beads, fibers, metal charms, etc. They would take their miniature art pieces to rubber stamp and scrapbook conventions all around the country. They often included the contact information on the backs of their cards and trade them with other rubber stamp artists.

It became a fun way to connect with others who share the same passion for paper arts.

Much of this trading can still be found at rubber stamp and scrapbook conventions. But, if you don't have a convention that you can attend in your area, you can do a search on the Internet and find

information about trading ATC's. Don't forget to check with your local stamp and scrapbook stores, as these sometimes have ATC's swaps. You can also read my last column in the winter 2013 issue of Bella Crafts Quarterly, where I wrote about hosting a swap. That would be a very fun way to trade your fabulous works of art.

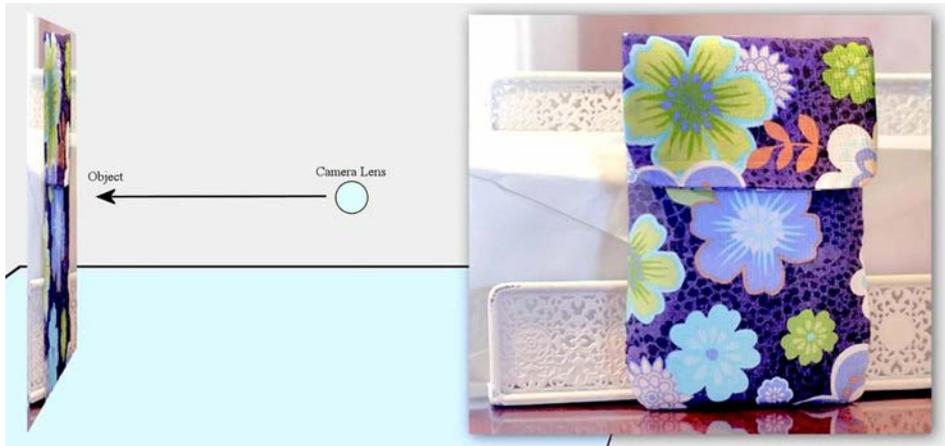
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Photo Talk™ by [Carol Heppner](#)

The Right Angle



Crafters take photographs for many reasons. Some crafters want to share their work with family, friends or blog followers. Others are selling their crafts online or creating craft projects for manufacturers or magazines. Whatever the reason for taking your photographs, you want them to be the best they can be.

The right photograph will make or break what you are trying to accomplish. While there are many facets to taking a great product photograph, the angle is one of the most important decisions that you will fundamentally make.

If you want your photograph to be noticed, you want to make sure you are shooting your images at the correct angle. If you are working for a manufacturer or a magazine, getting the right shot can mean having a better chance of your photographs being accepted. If you are selling your crafts, the right photograph can help you sell your product.

When taking your photograph, you want to center your camera's lens to shoot your product so that the product is level. If you are good at shooting photographs, you may choose to shoot with the camera in your hand. If you are shooting in less than ideal situations or if you are unsteady with the camera, be sure to use a tripod.

Whether you use a tripod or hold your camera in your hands, you want your camera to be horizontally level to the product. As you see in the main graphic, the camera was level and centered on the middle of the phone case. This was the best angle for the photograph because the phone case was upright. If the phone case was flat on the table, then you would want to shoot the

image from directly above the table setting.

Now, this does not mean that the composition of your photograph is shooting the product in the center of the photograph. It means that you are getting down at eye level with that product and shooting it on the same level.

Not every photograph will need to be shot directly level with the product. You can try moving slightly above the product. Try shooting from slightly to the left or right from the product. The key to shooting like this is that you are using your eyes and mind to take the photograph. You are thinking about your shot before clicking the shutter release button on your camera.

As you are taking your photographs, look at your images and see if you are getting the right angle of the product. If there is something you like, repeat it. If the photograph does not look just right, reshoot the photograph.

When using a tripod, you can tweak your camera's position and lighting to help you build the best photograph. This is not as easy if you hold your camera.

Many times, I am asked how long I take to photograph my work. My answer is always "until I get the right shot." Although I may look for two or three good images, the rest of the time I am taking a photo and correcting problems that I see when I review my image. I am looking to see if the angle I am using is showing the product in the best way and in the best light possible. Using a tripod helps in building my shots and it can help you build your best shot too.

Nick Bantock

Nick was schooled in England and has a BA in Fine Art (painting). He has authored 25 books, 11 of which have appeared on the best seller lists, including 3 books on the New York Times top ten at one time. 'Griffin and Sabine' stayed on that list for over two years. His works have been translated into 13 languages and over 5 million have been sold worldwide. Nick was once named by the classic SF magazine *Weird Tales* as one of the best 85 storytellers of the century. He has written articles and stories for numerous international newspapers and magazines. His *Wasnick* blogs are much followed on Facebook and Twitter. His paintings, drawings, sculptures, collages and prints have been exhibited in shows in UK, France and North America. In 2010 Nick's major retrospective exhibition opened at the MOA in Denver. His works are in private collections throughout the world.

Three of his books have been optioned for film and his stage play based on the 'Griffin and Sabine' double trilogy premiered in Vancouver 2006.

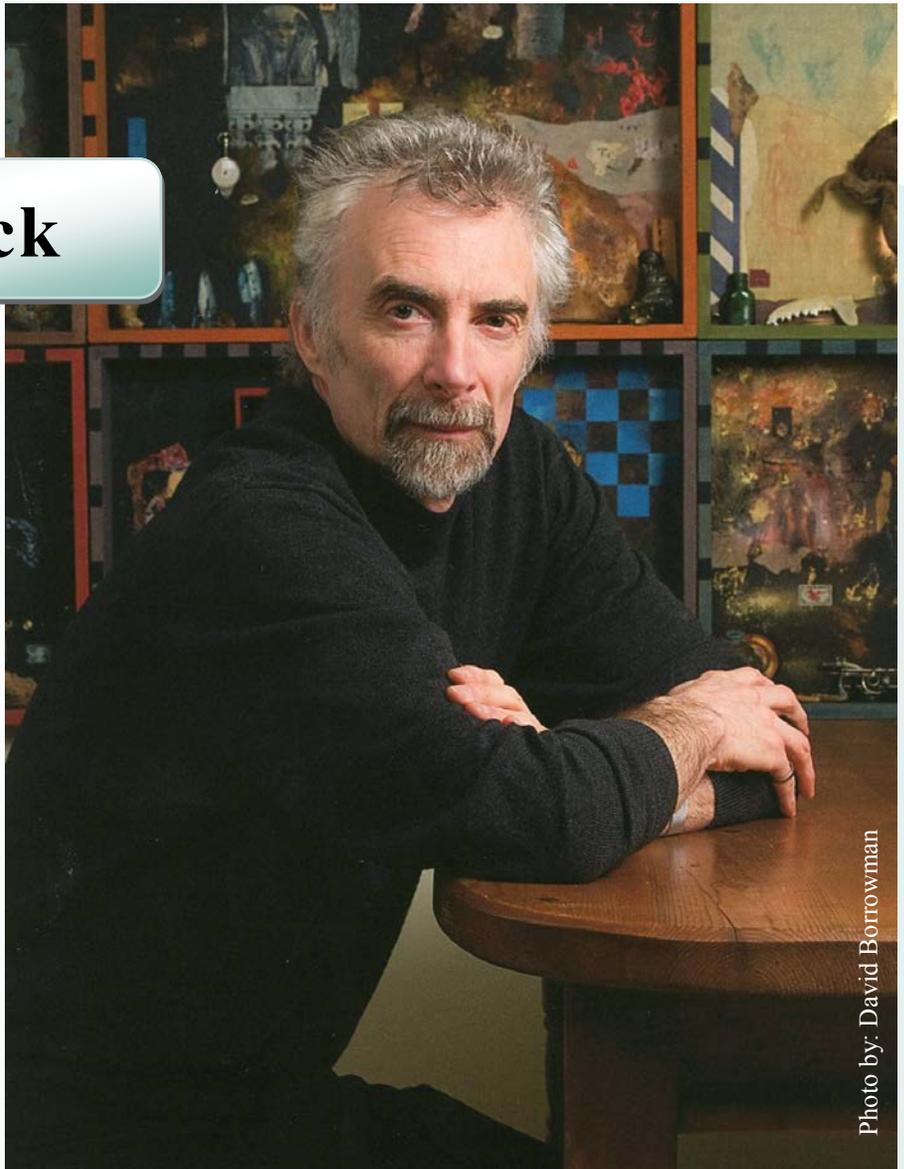


Photo by: David Borrowman

Among the things he can't do: Can't swim, never ridden a horse, his spelling is dreadful and his singing voice is flat as a pancake.

www.nickbantock.com
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What was your first experience with crafting?

I never really was a crafter, from the age of 15 when I first went to college I thought of art as my full time vocation. Certainly there is always much craft in what I've learned, and the development of ones craft is a huge part in becoming a good artist (whatever its form).

When did you first know you wanted to be an Artist or did

you know?

Probably not until I'd been at art college for about three months—up until that point I think I was trying to escape from the notion of hard work!

What was the turning point of going from a hobbyist to a professional?

Hobbyist is an interesting term. Many people put more work and energy into their hobby than they do their paid work. But I imagine the term here is used to describe someone who gives only a relatively small amount of time over to their craft.

For me the moment I realized my soul (for want of a better term) had landed, was in a drawing class. One day the pencil I was holding changed from being perched in my hand to feeling like it was an

articulated extension of my center. From that moment I had a means to express myself.

You new book The Trickster's Hat is a workshop book, will you be teaching based on the book?

I have been teaching for twelve years and during that time have used all of the 49 exercises I've included in The Trickster. Now, in writing the book, I'm trying to pass on what I've learned to as many people as possible. It's unlikely that I'll be teaching this year (apart from Spain) because I'm wrapped up in new writings and new artworks.

You teach workshops, create masterpieces and write books and you have sold movie rights to Griffin and Sabine, what's coming up next?

My new fiction "The Isle of Sarte"

is well under way, which is just as well because my publisher wants it finished by the end of October.

Where can people buy your art?

I've set up an etsy store so that anyone wanting to acquire smaller and inexpensive pieces of my original art has a place to go: [bantockart at etsy](http://bantockart.etsy.com)

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

Only that the Trickster's Hat is meant for anyone and everyone who has wanted to start down the creative path but has suffered from performance nerves, as well as those established artist who have hit the wall and don't know where to go next.



The Quilter's Stash

by [Denise Clason](#)



In this column of The Quilter's Stash, we will talk about quilting supplies, especially supplies that you cannot live without!

Years ago when women quilted, they used a "template" and drew their patterns out, onto fabric, with a pencil. Then, they cut the penciled shape out with a pair of scissors, much like the one pictured on the next page.

Now, could you do that over and over again? I don't think so! When I first started at the age of 16, I did cut this way, but, it didn't last very long. I usually only cut squares, but can you imagine tracing and cutting these elaborate shapes shown on the next page?

These templates came in a bag of vintage blocks I purchased. I was so thrilled to see the template shapes cut from whatever they could find. It looks like some sort of quilt-related "box." These templates are a little heavier than a cereal box. And, if you look closely, you'll see a pencil line on the white diamond fabric. I also learned that the "triangle" shapes are all sewn together with two strands of thread, to keep them from getting lost. I really liked that idea. (I use small boxes or plastic bags to keep my smaller pieces together.)

There was also a 3" square of sandpaper in the bag of vintage blocks. This was used to lay the fabric onto, to it kept it from shifting while you traced the

template. (Another great idea...I sure hope these old "tricks" are being preserved!)

Now, pictured at the bottom of the next page are my vintage blocks, in different stages. They are also sewn by hand!

Would you want to spend your time making the templates, tracing the templates, cutting the templates and then hand sewing the pieces together? Think about the pressing part...what type of iron did they use? Possibly an "iron," iron! One that you had to heat yourself in the fire! (Talk about heavy!)

We've come a long way, baby! When I was about 25, I bought my first set of rotary cutting tools! And, I have never gone back!

My grandmother used the pencil/template method, and she typically made log cabin quilts. So, she only cut strips. I showed her the rotary cutting method and she loved it! She also made many more quilts...some of which I still enjoy, 50 years later! (Telling my age, now!)

These are the rotary cutting tools you'll need to get started. They are the "bare minimum" of what you'll want to have:

1. Rotary Cutting Mat. 12" x 18" (Work up to a 24" x 36").
2. Rotary Cutter: I really like using a 28 mm size blade, but, get the size you feel comfortable with. Most use the 45 mm size. Try them out at the store.
3. Rotary Cutting Ruler: I cannot live without my 6-1/2" x 12" ruler! (Work up to a 6" square and I love my 12" square.)



And the list can go on and on! There are probably hundreds of rotary cutting rulers out there. I recommend taking a little "lesson" from the quilting store prior to buying a ruler, just to make sure you'll use it. I have many that I don't use.

There are many "brands" to choose from: Olfa, Fiskar, June Taylor, Fons and Porter to name a few. Some of these sell "sets" with all three tools.

Now, you are ready to make your first block! I have twelve "strip" Block-of-the-Month blocks on my website, for you to get started: <http://www.deniseclason.com/p/free-2012-bom.html>



Read up on your sewing machines instructions. Don't make the mistake I did....I didn't realize my machine had a thread cutting feature after using it for 8 months!

You may also need to purchase a 1/4" foot for your sewing machine. You'll want a perfect seam!

Happy Quilting and Enjoy!



Blog Stars by [Ann Butler](#)

There are so many awesome blogs out on the Internet that I want share with you. Make sure to check what these Blogs Stars have on their blogs today, just click on their name to go to their blog. If you have a great blog or know of one that I should share, email me at: Ann@BellaCraftsQuarterly.com. We will check them out. Who knows, it could be one of our next Blog Stars!



[Donna Salazar](#) is a wife, mom, grandma, artist, designer, teacher and kid at heart. Her love for both art and her husband began in the eighties while she was in high school. A lot has changed in her life in the last 25+ years but these are her two constants.

What some people may not know about her is that a large part of Donna's career was spent in the corporate world where she was very successful... but not happy. A serious car accident in 2005 put her on disability for almost a year (which made her re-evaluate her life) and she decided to pursue her childhood dream of being an artist. She now has licensed designs and products with various manufacturers in the Arts & Crafts industry and she teaches live and online classes using those products.

Donna's playful nature is prevalent in her classes because she believes that art should be fun. She is known for her inky-painty-glitzy-grungy style... what she calls her "Girlie Grunge" look. Her style is especially appealing to mixed media artists however; her love of flowers and all things sparkly seems to appeal to crafters of all types and styles.

[Cyn Gagen](#) has been crafting for as long as she can remember, learning her beginning skills by crafting alongside her mother. Her family spent every summer vacation at Fundy National Park where every week day morning they had a free school for the arts for all ages. Cyn revelled in learning new crafting projects every day and she often refers back to this knowledge now. Before becoming a full-time blogger and social media manager, she was a classroom teacher working with children from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 9. Cyn has designed and taught the art curriculum in elementary schools and summer camps as well as teaching arts and crafts to children and adults in Scout groups, church groups, home classes, and in retail settings.

Through teaching art, she learned how to craft on a budget, often utilizing found items and supplies from around the house or from out of the recycling bin. Because of this, the projects on her blog [Creative Cynchronicity](#) often focus on quick, easy, and inexpensive arts and crafts. Cyn's crafting interests are varied and eclectic, ranging from mixed media, silk ribbon embroidery, and paper quilling to scrapbooking, rubber stamping, and much more. Cyn loves to share crafting tutorials on video and you can find her latest ones on [Youtube](#).



[Pat Sloan](#) designer, author, lecturer, and with her weekly radio show... Pat truly is the "Voice of Quilting". She has a deep passion for making quilting fun for herself and everyone around her. Pat loves to hang out with quilters on the internet as well as visit you in person.. be inspired to get more done! Sewing since she was a child and quilting for over 20 years, Pat eventually looked to her craft as a business. After a few years quilting she started to teach quilt making to others and then turned her skills to pattern designing. She found that she really enjoys designing and seeing how other quilters made her patterns. In 2000 Pat's designs became so popular that she and her husband Gregg formed a design and publishing company called Pat Sloan & Co. In addition to designing and publishing her work, they now travel around the country teaching and showing her quilts to quilt guilds and quilt shops. Also, Pat has had her designs published in most national magazines, has written 30 books on quilting and has designed several lines of fabric for P&B Textiles and now Moda.



When Pat took her passion to the internet she built several quilt communities then 5 years ago started a weekly All Quilting radio/podcast. You can hear her interview quilt celebrities, historians, designers and authors from around the world, all on your computer! 5 years of podcasts are available for download. You can get to all her things from the link above. All you have to do is remember her name!

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Gilded Paper Technique

By [Carol Heppner](#)

Freshen your home with fun touches of gilded food-colored paper. The gilding adds just a touch of metallic sparkle that turns ordinary paper into something really special.

Food coloring is a quick and inexpensive way to color plain paper. The watercolor look is perfect for this season.

These papers can be used to wrap candles, add covers to books, or serve as background paper for greeting cards.

Instructions:

1. Mix a ratio of 2 tablespoons of water with 1 drop of food coloring in the plastic watercolor palette. The more water you use, the lighter the color of the food-color mixture. Mix enough of the yellow and green food coloring mixtures to cover your entire piece of paper.
2. Randomly paint the paper with the yellow food coloring mixture.
3. While the paper is still wet, randomly dab areas with the light green mixture. Let the paper dry.
4. To stamp the gilded images, apply the glue to the rubber-stamp with the kit's enclosed sponge. Follow the manufacturer's directions for filling the sponge with the glue ink.
5. Randomly stamp the design over the paper, making sure

to wash your rubber stamps and hands after stamping the end images. The ink will stay tacky for at least a few hours, so you have time to work with the copper foil.

6. Use a soft watercolor brush to apply the copper foil over the stamped images. Make sure to cover the images completely. Use your fingers to rub the foil into the stamped images and then use the soft brush to remove the excess foil. Rub the images with your fingers to really push the foil into the glued image. Use the scrunchy, which came with the gilding stamping kit to remove the excess foil from the stamped images.
7. Add additional coloring inside of your stamped images, if you desire.
8. Cut the paper to the size you need for your project.



Materials

Food Coloring
Sketch Pad, 9 x 12"
IndigoBlu: Wild Meadow
Rubber Stamps
IndigoBlu: Flitter Glitter,
Indigo Blu: Mega-Flake,
Yorkshire Dales
Indigo Blu: FlitterGlu,

Tools

Watercolor brushes (2)
Westcott Brand® Non-
Stick scissors
plastic tablecloth
plastic watercolor palette
tablespoon



Paper Flower Technique



By [Lisa Rojas](#)

Paper flowers are all the rage in paper crafting right now and you can find them in a multitude of colors and sizes in your local craft stores. Although I absolutely love adding paper flower embellishments to my projects, they can be a bit pricey. With this technique you can create paper flowers out of your choice of pattern papers that will be a perfect match for your projects every time and the cost is very minimal. It's a great alternative to store bought paper flowers.

Instructions:

1. Gather all of your supplies together.
2. Stamp your image onto the pattern paper.
3. Cut out four flowers, extra small, small, medium and large.
4. Place flowers on the molding mat. Using the 8mm stylus, press down on the center of the flowers and move in a circular motion all over the flowers to soften the paper. Do not use too much pressure or you will tear the paper.
5. Place tweezers in the center of each petal and pinch the petal between your thumb and index finger.
6. Use the tweezers to shape each petal as desired.
7. Add foam tape to the center of the small, medium and large petals.
8. Layer and adhere the flower petals together.

Materials

Pattern paper or cardstock of choice
Clearsnap® ColorBox® Archival
inkpad- wicked black
Heartfelt Creations® Sun Kissed
Fleur Swirls stamp set
Foam tape

Tools

McGill Incorporated® Mat & Tool set
Westcott Brand Non Stick® Scissors



Antique with Milk!

By [Theresa Cifali](#)



As crafters, one of the most exciting things we can do is learn a new technique. This technique, using milk of all things, creates a truly unique effect. Plus, it's so easy to do. You can use stencils, paint with a brush or even use foam stamps to create endless designs.

Instructions:

1. Pour a small amount of milk into a bowl. (Photo 1)
2. Position the stencil onto the cardstock.
3. With a foam brush, carefully paint some milk across the stencil. Be careful not to push down too hard in order to avoid having milk go underneath the stencil. (Photo 2)
4. Remove the stencil by lifting straight up. Rinse the stencil off right away with water and set it aside to dry.
5. Let the milk dry for approximately 30 minutes. If you still see the milk, let it dry until those areas dry up. You will know that the milk is dry when it appears only as a sheen on the paper.
6. Set your iron on a medium setting. Then, begin to iron the paper. As you iron, the milk will turn brown and the design will appear. (Photo 3)

Materials

Tools

Momenta® Border Stencils,
Bastille
Cardstock, white or ivory
Milk

Foam brush
bowl
iron



Multi-Colored Inking Technique for Lace

By [Ann Butler](#)





Is there ever a time when you are creating a project and you do not have the right color of lace or trim and you really do not want to take the time to dye it and wait for it to dry? Ink it up quickly and easily with craft ink! With this technique, you can ink it up with one color or, as shown here, multiple colors for a fun effect. This is quick and easy!

Materials:

[Ann Butler's Colorbox Crafter's™](#)
 Ink: lilac, berry, limelight, sunshine
 Lace or trim of choice

Tools:

Colorbox® Art Daubers, Colorbox® Color Blender, F&M Dynasty® Ink Brushes, heat gun, baby wipes

Please note: This technique can be done with art daubers, color blend-

ers or ink brushes; I am showing you photos of all three so that you can see you get great results with all of these tools. You may find it is easier to use one over the other, so I wanted you to have options.

Instructions:

1. The first thing you want to do is gather all of your supplies so the process goes quickly and you are not searching for different colors of inks or additional art daubers, color blenders or ink brushes. (Photo 1)
2. Cut the lace or trim to desired length.
3. Apply the lightest color first and apply it to several areas of the lace. (Photo 2)
4. Apply the second color to several areas of the lace. (Photo 3)
5. Continue by applying the third and fourth colors to the lace. (Photo 4)

6. Then, go back and fill in with more of the colors where needed. (Photo 4)
7. I am using a tiered lace so it is optional to lift the layers and add additional ink; in most cases the under layers will not be seen. (Photo 5)
8. Heat set with heat gun to set ink. (Photo 6)

Notes & Tips:

- You can use this same technique with one ink as shown in photos 7 and 8.
- You can also use this same technique with a variety of trims.
- Your lace and trims do not have to be white. I have had great success with colored trims as well. Just test a small piece with various colors of ink until you have the desired results.



Bella Crafts Quarterly™ offers...

Craft Tutorials

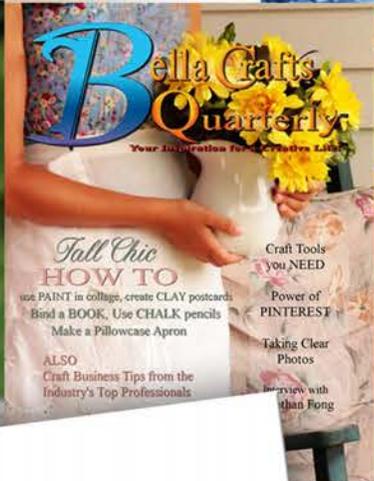
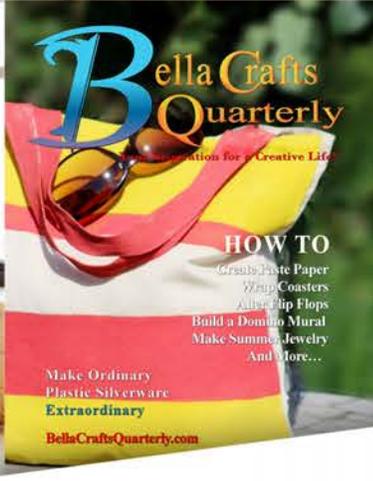


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Custom Luggage Tags



Courtney Chambers *and* Tanner Bell

With spring break approaching and sunny weather amongst us, chances are a lot of people will be traveling. Handmade luggage tags are a great way to ensure that you don't lose track of your luggage during your travels. With that said, here's how you can make your very own.

Materials:

Cardstock cut to 3" x 4"
Strips of pattern paper, Die Cuts With a View ®
Coordinating ribbon, 7"
Small laminating pocket

Tools:

Scissors, Inkadinkado® alphabet stamps from VersaMark™ pad, WOW! embossing powder, heat tool, Purple Cows® laminator, hole punch, adhesive, pen

Instructions:

1. Cut the top corners off of your 3 by 4 inch base to create a tag shape.
2. Adhere the pattern paper strips to the tag in a diagonal fashion or as desired.
3. Stamp your name onto the tag in Versamark, sprinkle with embossing powder, and melt with the heat tool.
4. Write contact info on the back of the tag.
5. Place the tag in the laminating pocket, and run it through the laminator.
6. Punch a hole at the top, and thread the ribbon through the hole.



Photograph Courtesy Stephanie Thompson Photography

Bloom

Metal Stamped
Necklace



By [Margot Potter](#)

Instructions:

1. Tape the washer down on the bench block. Stamp the letter 'o' in the bottom center of the blank. Hold stamp firmly and flush to blank. Tap center of blank with a good solid hit. (Don't hit more than once to prevent double impressions)
2. Stamp from the bottom up both sides, spacing the letters evenly to spell "bloom". (Don't worry if it isn't perfect; this is a hand stamped creation and those imperfections give it charm.)
3. Tape the square blank down on the bench block. Stamp two evenly spaced flowers in a vertical row on the far left side.
4. Stamp a second vertical row to the right of the first. Stagger the spacing of the flowers in the rows. Repeat this process for four total rows. Some of the flowers may be off of the edge of the blank; this is okay!
5. Use a cotton swab to swipe black paint across the surface of stamped blanks. Wipe surface off with a paper towel. The paint will remain in the stamped areas, which helps add color and contrast. (Try colorful paint if you prefer!)
6. Thread each of the beads on a head pin. Coil and loop to create three beaded dangles.
7. Assemble the necklace by threading all three beads on the jump ring followed by the round washer and finally the square washer. Secure your jump ring closed with tension.
8. Thread the ball chain through the jump ring.
9. Look as cute as a button in your fabulous DIY creation!

Materials

Tools

ImpressArt® SoftStrike™ pewter 15/16" washer
ImpressArt® SoftStrike™ pewter 15/16" square
ImpressArt® 10mm aluminum jump ring
ImpressArt® 18" aluminum ball chain with connector
3 4mm faceted glass rondelle beads (one each orange, yellow and blue)
3 Beadalon® silver plated ball tip head pins
Black acrylic paint
Paper towel
Cotton swab

ImpressArt® whimsy flower stamp
ImpressArt® newsprint upper case stamps to spell "BLOOM"
ImpressArt® ½ lb. brass hammer
ImpressArt® steel bench block
ImpressArt® StampStraight™ tape
2 pairs Beadalon® chain nose pliers
Beadalon® round nose pliers
Beadalon® flush cutters

About the Artist: Best known as a designer, author and TV host in the DIY craft industry, that's only part of her story. Margot Potter is also a classically trained actress, vocalist and a prolific writer. Margot's no-nonsense approach to crafting demystifies the creative process for the average Joe and Jane, inviting everyone to the creative table and convincing them that they too can create without filters. Visit Margot at [DIY Doyenne](#) for DIY, fashion and style.





By [Theresa Cifali](#)

Chalked Herb Garden Flower Pots

When you think of a chalkboard, you might envision the ugly blackboards found in old school buildings. I'm here to tell you... NO MORE! Chalkboard paint has become quite popular. While you can absolutely find it in black, it is now available in a plethora of fun colors.

Instead of using flowerpot markers to label your indoor herb garden this year, why not alter the pots with chalkboard paint? You can write directly on the pot. Then, when you want to change what is planted inside, simply erase and re-label. What could be easier?

Materials:

[Earth Safe Finishes™ Chalk It Up](#): Blood Orange Sorbet, Huckleberry Cobbler, Key Lime Pie, Pear Compote, Sugared Orchid
Terracotta flowerpots, with saucers (3)

Tools:

Plastic tarp, foam brushes

Instructions:

1. Paint the base of one flowerpot with Huckleberry Cobbler, the second one with Pear Compote and the third one with Sugared Orchid. Let the paint dry completely and then, apply a second coat. If needed, apply a third

coat.

2. Paint the rim of the blue flowerpot and one of the saucers with Blood Orange Sorbet.
3. Paint the rim of the yellow flowerpot and one of the saucers with Huckleberry Cobbler.
4. Paint the rim of the purple flowerpot and one of the saucers with Key Lime Pie.
5. Once the pots are completely dry, label each one with chalk.

Coffee wrap

By Ann Butler for [Velcro USA](#)
Sponsored by [VELCRO® USA](#)

To go coffee cups are always too hot to grab, so I like to make coffee wraps. With the new VELCRO® Brand Sticky Back for Fabrics, it is so easy to make them with no sewing required!

Materials:

[VELCRO® Brand Sticky Back for Fabrics: tape, white](#)
EZ-De's 2" Flourish ABC's by KellyCraft
Ann Butler's Colorbox Crafter's™ Ink: lilac by Clearsnap
Canvas: Rocklon, 1/8 yard
Tulip® Glam-It-Up!™ Iron-On Crystals™, color of choice
Tulip® Crystal Bond Adhesive
Cardstock 12" x 12"

Tools:

Westcott Brand® scissors, Tulip® Glam-It-Up!™ Fashion Art Tweezers™, heat gun, acrylic block, toothpick, pencil, ruler, cup

Instructions:

1. Measure the diameter of the cup three inches from the bottom and six and one half inches from bottom, add two inches to these measurements.
2. Create a pattern for your cup by drawing these measurements three and one half inches apart on the cardstock; the first measurement is the bottom of the pattern and the second measurement is the top. Connect the top to the bottom by drawing lines, these will be angled. Cut the pattern out slightly curving the top and bottom edges. Place the pattern onto the cup and make adjustments that are needed.
3. Place the pattern onto the canvas and cut one.
4. Ink up the letters and stamp out the word "COFFEE" onto the canvas.
5. Glue crystals onto the letters as desired.
6. Measure and cut the VELCRO® Brand Sticky Back for Fabrics to fit on the ends of the wrap. Secure onto the ends as shown in photo.




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Magical Mason Jar Candle Holder

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

What could be better than having your friends and family over for a dinner party on a warm springtime evening? The beautiful crystals on this Mason jar candle holder will add a magical ambience to your special night.

Materials:

Mason jar
Wire holder
Connie Crystal® Various Crystals
Plaid® Inspired Classic Triple Jump Ring Chain, brass
The Paper Studio® Various Fibers
[Beacon Adhesives® Zip Dry Paper Glue™](#)
Beacon Adhesives® Quick Grip™ Permanent Adhesive
[Ann Butler's EZ-De's Stamps KellyCraft: 2" Flourish alphabet set](#)
Clearsnap® ColorBox® Archival Dye inkpad, mudslide
Cardstock, tan
Corrugated cardboard
Burlap ribbon
Fishing line

Tools:

Westcott Brand® Non-Stick Scissors, wire cutters, round nose pliers, hole punch

Instructions:

1. Cut cardboard 3 inches by 3 inches, burlap ribbon 4 inches long, and tan cardstock 2 inches by 2 inches. Stamp monogram letter with mudslide inkpad. Adhere the three layers together with Zip Dry glue.
2. Adhere the fibers to the top of the jar with Quick Grip glue. Cut the chain into (3) 2 inch long pieces, (4) 1 ½ inch long pieces using wire cutters. Attach the oblong crystals to the 2 inch chains and the round crystals to the 1 ½ inch chain with fishing line.
3. Attach the chains to the wire holder using round nose pliers. Punch hole into the cardboard piece and attach a 1 ½ inch chain to the fibers. Attach fibers and cardboard to the top of the jar.

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Vintage Tablecloth Apron

By [Ann Butler](#)



I love vintage linens of all kinds....and over the years, I have gathered a wonderful collection of doilies, handkerchiefs, pillowcases, tablecloths, etc. I thought it was a shame to have all of these beautiful items hidden away in drawers, so I have started using them in my projects, giving them new life and showcasing them in a new way. I created this apron from a square tablecloth and the only edge to finish was the waistband which made it a quick and easy project to complete. I hope this gets you looking at the things you might have hidden away for safekeeping in a new light. Get them out of the drawers and showcase them for everyone to enjoy!

Materials:

Vintage 40 inch square embroidered tablecloth

Tools:

Sewing machine, thread, needle, scissors, iron, pins, ruler, bone folder

Instructions:

1. Cut the tablecloth forty inches by eighteen inches. This piece becomes the apron and you now already have three sides finished; the unfinished edge is where waistband will go.
2. Cut two pieces eleven inches by seven inches from the bottom edge of the remaining piece of the tablecloth. These will become the pockets.
3. Fold over three and one half inches to create a flap on the pocket, then fold under the raw edges of the pocket and iron in place. Repeat for the second pocket.
4. Pin one of the pockets onto the apron three and one half inches down from the waistband edge and two inches from outer edge. Repeat with the second pocket on the other side of the apron. Sew the pockets in place, leaving the top edge open.
5. On the left side of the waistband, fold right sides together at sixteen inches and pin in place. Then, fold back so that four inches overlap, pin in place. This will create a pleat. Repeat for the right side of the apron. Iron the pleats in place.
6. Cut a piece twenty five inches by three and one half inches from remaining tablecloth. Fold all edges over $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and iron in place. Then, fold in half to have a piece twenty four and one half inches by one and one half inches. Pin this onto the waistband of the apron and sew into place, leaving the short ends open for the ties.
7. Cut two ties thirty inches by five inches. Fold the tie, wrong sides together. Using a half inch seam allowance, stitch the short end at a forty five degree angle and continue with a half inch seam allowance down the long side. Repeat for the second tie. Turn both to the right side, using the bone folder to help create point on the tie end and iron.
8. Create a small pleat along the unfinished short edge of tie, pin to the open end of waistband and stitch in place with a quarter inch seam. Repeat for other tie.

Simple Monogram Napkins



By [Lisa Rojas](#)

These simply stamped napkins will add a little special touch to any table setting. And, by using the monogram alphabet stamp set from Ann Butler Designs you can create a personalized set for yourself and all of your friends.

Materials:

Ranger® Dylusions Around the Edge stamp set
[Ann Butler's EZ-De's 2"](#)
[Flourish ABC's](#) by KellyCraft
[Clearsnap® Ann Butler's Colorbox Crafter's™ inkpads, limelight, aquamarine](#)

Instructions:

1. Wash and dry napkins without fabric softener. Iron napkins and lay on a hard surface.
2. Stamp leaf border with

limelight inkpad two times on each corner of the napkins.

3. Stamp alphabet letter of your choice with aquamarine inkpad above the leaf borders.
4. Heat set the napkins by placing them in the dryer for 20 minutes.

Romantic Container

By [Carol Heppner](#)



Add some feminine charm to your house when you place fabric scrapbooking flowers or other fabric flowers on vintage purses.

These purses can be used on a desk to hold your mail, on a dinner table to hold napkins or in the guest bathroom to hold guest towels.

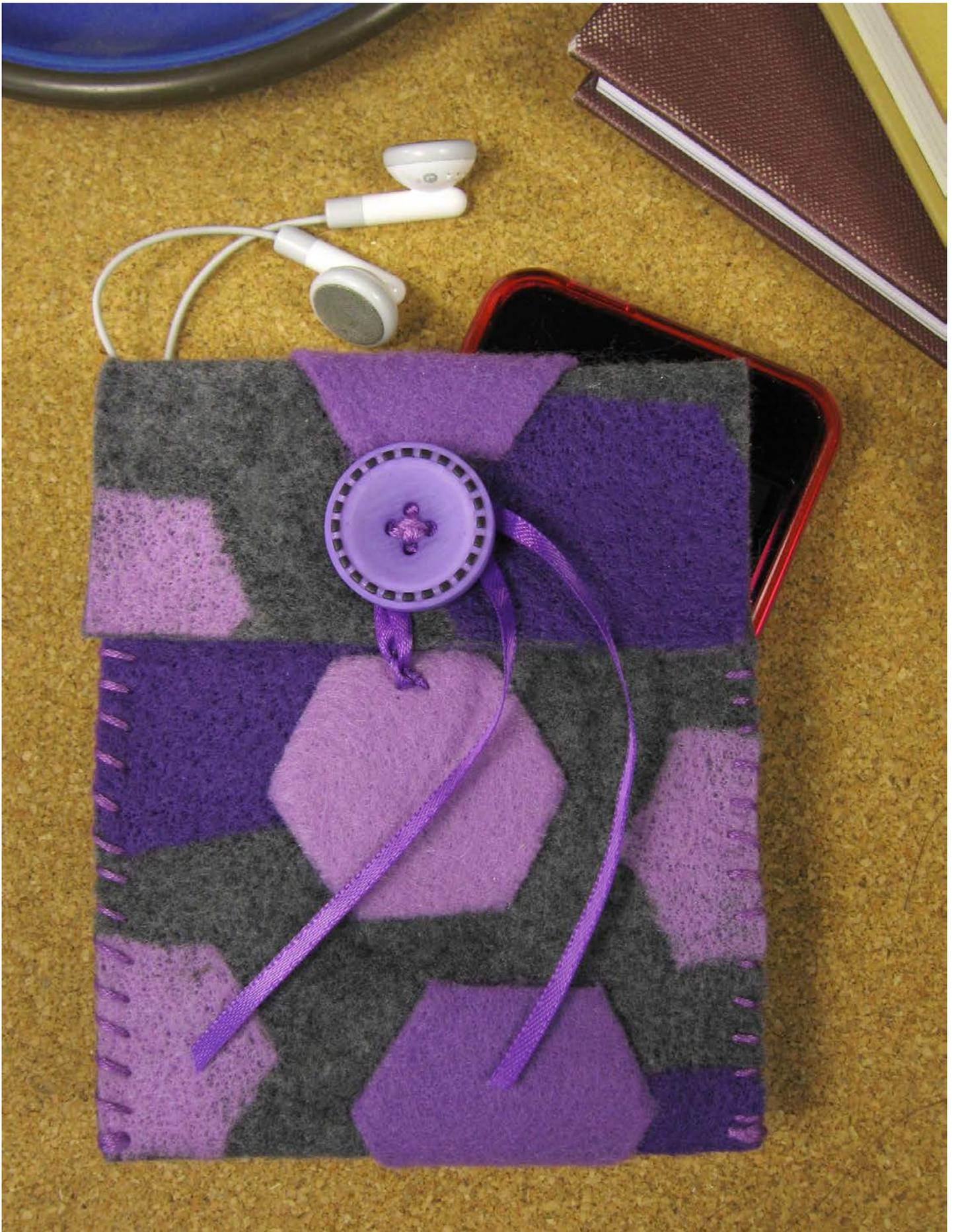
The vintage purse project is simply beautiful for all your container needs.

Materials:

Vintage purse
Fabric scrapbooking flowers or other fabric flowers
[iLoveToCreate® Liquid Fusion® Clear Urethane Glue](#)

Instructions:

1. Clean the vintage purse, inside and out.
2. Glue the flowers to the front of the purse. Let the glue dry.
3. Fill the purse with your mail, napkins or guest towels.



Felted iPod Case

By [Carmen Flores Tanis](#)

Felting is a fun technique using a barbed needle to basically tangle two pieces of felt together. Boy, is it easy! All you do is lightly poke the needle up and down through the layers of felt like a mini sewing machine. You can work with a single needle on small areas or with a felting tool which holds three to five needles for when you want to cover larger areas quickly.

Felting is so much fun that before you know it, you'll have a stack of colorful felted pieces ready to be transformed into something wonderful. So, how about making them into an iPod or smart phone case? The soft felted interior of the case will protect your electronic gadget, with a little extra room left for tucking in a pair of headphones. And by varying the size, colors and button closure, you can easily adapt this felted case to suit just about anyone you know!

Materials:

Kunin™ Rainbow Classicfelt™ - 12" x 9" sheets - Smoke, Orchid, Bright Lilac, Violet Sky
Buttons Galore Granny's Button Box

Stitched Button - 1" Plum
Embroidery floss - lavender
1/8" wide ribbon - purple - 12 inches
Cardstock

Tools:

Needle Felting Tool - Clover Mfg. Co., Felting Needle Mat - Clover Mfg. Co., large crewel embroidery needle, Westcott® self healing mat, Westcott® Titanium bonded scissors 5", rotary cutter, ruler, scissors, pins, pencil

Instructions:

1. Cut a 12" x 5" piece of Smoke felt using the rotary cutter, mat and ruler. This will be the felt base piece.
2. Trace the large hexagon and small hexagon patterns onto cardstock to make templates. Cut out with scissors. Use the templates to trace and cut out four large hexagons from the Orchid felt, four small hexagons from the Bright Lilac and four small hexagons from the Violet Sky felt.
3. Arrange the large felt hexagons on the felt base piece. Following the manufacturer's directions, use the felting tool until the hexagons are completely imbedded into the felt base piece. Repeat with four of the

small hexagons.

4. Unscrew the back of the felting tool and remove one needle. Arrange one small hexagon on the felt base piece. Holding the needle straight up and down, pierce along the outside of the hexagon as close to the edge as possible to tack it down. Once the hexagon is tacked to the felt base piece, hold the needle at a forty-five degree angle and again pierce along the entire perimeter of the hexagon several times. This will cause the hexagon to puff up in the center while remaining attached along the edges. Repeat for the remaining small hexagons.
5. Use the rotary cutter and cutting mat to trim the felted piece to 12" x 4".
6. Fold over one end of the felted piece 3 3/4" to form a pocket. Pin in place.
7. Stitch along each side of the pocket with embroidery floss.
8. Fold the open side of the pocket down to make a flap. Sew the button to the front of the flap with embroidery floss.
9. Make a tie by threading the ribbon through the needle and stitching it into the front of the pocket 1" from the top edge. Knot to secure.

About the Artist: Carmen Flores Tanis is a mixed media artist, crafter and designer who specializes in combining diverse materials in unusual and unexpected ways. She loves to make things! Carmen spent many years working in the film industry in post-production sound and is now pursuing her dream to make crafts her full time career.

She is a Designer Member of the Craft and Hobby Association and has two successful online craft supply stores. She has designed projects for Etchall, Jacquard, Smoothfoam, KoolTak and iLovetoCreate and has had projects published online and in print.

Carmen teaches craft classes regularly in Southern California and lives in Glendale, California with her beloved husband, Bruce.



Secret Jewellery Box



By [Carol Heppner](#)

Inspired by the book *The Secret Garden*, this glamorous bird house hides a secret compartment. The box, which sits under the birdhouse section, opens to reveal it is a secret jewelry box. Girls of all ages will love the sparkling crystals and glitter that make this jewelry box so special.

Because the bottom of the birdhouse is secured to the box with thin VELCRO® Brand removable hanging strips, you can detach the birdhouse and then replace it with another when there is a change of season.

Instructions:

1. Use the first paint brush to apply the paint to the birdhouse and box with the Wicker White paint, according to the manufacturer's instruction.
2. Apply the Tulip® Fashion Glitter® Bond to the top of the roof of the birdhouse with the second paint brush. Sprinkle the glue with the glitter and then let the glue dry.
3. Place a drop of the Liquid Fusion® Clear Urethane Glue onto the peak of the birdhouse in order to secure the tiny flower and bead to the roof.
4. Cut the plastic-coated crystals to fit the different areas of the birdhouse and then secure them to the birdhouse with the Liquid Fusion® Clear Urethane Glue. Let the glue dry.
5. Use the VELCRO® Brand removable hanging strips to attach the birdhouse to the top of the box and the bird to the birdhouse.

Materials

Plaid® FolkArt® Multi-Surface,
Wicker White
Plaid® FolkArt® Multi Surface,
Wicker White
iLoveToCreate® Tulip® Fashion
Glitter®
iLoveToCreate® Tulip® Fashion
Glitter® Bond
[iLoveToCreate® Liquid Fusion®
Clear Urethane Glue](#)
Connie Crystal Crystal Sheet, White
Prima Bead Gunmetal Rose Accent
Stampboard Box
[VELCRO® Brand removable hanging
strips](#)
Fabric flower (small)
White glass bead (medium)

Tools

Craft paint brushes (2)
Westcott® Brand Non-Stick scissors



Springtime Memory Mantelpiece

By [Theresa Cifali](#)

Photos are meant to be shared! Don't keep them hidden away in your scrapbooks, or worse... forgotten on your electronic devices. Instead, create this colorful mantelpiece to show them off. It's easy to make and would also make a great gift.

Instructions:

1. Cut the long side of the Smoothfoam™ sheet with a utility knife so that it measures 8 ½-inches in height.
2. Paint the front side of the Smoothfoam™ sheet with the Pansy paint. Let dry.
3. Paint the top of the Smoothfoam™ disk with the Sea Foam paint. Let dry.
4. Print and trim the photograph. Then, cut the piece of dark blue cardstock 5 1/8 x 7 1/8-inches.
5. Mount the photo to the cardstock with the adhesive tape. Set aside.
6. Paint the edges of the Smoothfoam™ sheet and disc with Opaque Blue paint. Let dry.
7. Cut 3 2-inch pieces of wooden skewer and then, insert them into the bottom edge of the Smoothfoam™ sheet.
8. Add some hot glue along the bottom edge of the Smoothfoam™ sheet and insert it into the disk.
9. Next, cut a piece of ribbon 15-inches and wrap this along the base of the Smoothfoam™ sheet, securing with hot glue.
10. Attach the photo to the front of the Smoothfoam™ sheet with adhesive tape.
11. Attach some silk flowers to the left side of the ribbon with hot glue.
12. Add a strip of the adhesive gems along the top-right and one along the bottom-left of the photograph.
13. Add 3 strips of the adhesive gems along the front of the Smoothfoam™ disk.
14. Finally, cut off 3 individual gems from one of the strips and attach to the right side of the ribbon.

Materials

Smoothfoam™ sheet, 1"x6"x12"
Smoothfoam™ disc, 6" x 1"
Delta Creative® Ceramcoat: opaque blue, pansy, sea foam
Tombow Xtreme High Performance Adhesive
Morex Corp. #965 Double Ruffle Ribbon, 1 ½"
Nicole™ Bling It Adhesive
Rhinestones, 8mm, purple
Cardstock, dark blue
Photo, 5"x7"
Silk flowers
Wood skewers

Tools

Plastic tarp
foam brush
paper trimmer
Scissors
utility knife

Flourish Initial Bookmark

By [Ann Butler](#)

Initials are HOT right now and you can easily add initials to almost anything with this brand new 2" set of Flourish Alphabets by KellyCraft. This bookmark is so quick and easy to make you will want to make several at a time so you have one for every book. Remember that "Bling" should always be an option so grab some crystals too!



Instructions:

1. Cut the ribbon to the desired length, trim edges by folding the ribbon in half lengthwise and cutting diagonally to form a V shape.
2. Place the letter of your choice onto the acrylic block then ink up the letter and stamp onto the bottom edge of the ribbon. Use the heat gun to set the ink.
3. Use the tweezers to pick up one crystal and then glue the crystal below the initial. Repeat with two more crystals

Materials

[EZ-De's 2" Flourish ABC's](#) by KellyCraft
[Clearsnap® Ann Butler's Colorbox Crafter's™](#)
[Ink: berry](#)

Tulip® Glam-It-Up!™ Iron-On Crystals™,
color of choice
Tulip® Crystal Bond Adhesive
Ribbon

Tools

Westcott Brand® scissors
Tulip® Glam-It-Up!™ Fashion Art Tweezers™,
heat gun,
acrylic block
toothpick



Theresa Cifali
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Mother and Daughter Bracelets

By [Carol Heppner](#)



Create wonderful memories when you make these pretty bracelets with your daughter. The fun starts when you choose the beads you both will use in your bracelets. This project is very quick to make and is an easy project for those just starting out in jewelry making. This is a great project to introduce your daughter to the world of crafting. Imagine her pride when she successfully completes the bracelet.

These pretty bracelets will bring you great joy every time you wear them.

Materials:

Darice® Twist End Bangle

Darice® Mix and Mingle Glass Metal Lined Beads, Aqua/Pink, Pink/Rose, Purple/Mauve and Silver

Instructions:

1. You may need to make the child's bracelet smaller to fit the child's wrist. To do so, gently press the ends of the bracelet toward the center. Keep trying the bracelet on the child until the bracelet fits the wrist.
2. Remove the endcap bead from the bracelet.
3. Thread the beads on the bracelet.

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Tie-Dye Tee

By [Theresa Cifali](#)

While it is fun to tie-dye any time of year, I love doing it in spring. It could be because I can do it outside or perhaps it's all the bright colors that just scream "SPRING" to me. Regardless, it is so simple to do, easy to make in bulk and fabulous to do with kids. As a matter of fact, I've tie-dyed with my Girl Scout troops many times. Showing off our designs is the best part... so today, I'll show you how to make multiple sunbursts on a simple white tee.

Materials:

Tulip® One-Step Tie-Dye Kit®,
Carousel
Plastic wrap
Paper towel

Tools:

Plastic tarp, water source

Instructions:

1. Wet only the front and both sleeves of the t-shirt. Wring out as much excess water as possible.
2. Lay the t-shirt flat onto a plastic tarp.
3. Estimate the center-front of the t-shirt (or you can measure if you'd like). Pinch the front panel of the t-shirt between your fingers and pull up, gath-



4. ering the fabric together so that it is about 3 ½-inches long.
4. Add a rubber band around the base of the fabric. Then, add three more rubber bands along the fabric, spacing them out, as you would like.
5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 twice; once above the center gathering and one below it.
6. Next, take one of the sleeves and arrange it so that the seam falls at the bottom-center of the sleeve. Pinch the top-center of the fabric and gather together. Secure rubber bands in the same manner as you did in step 4.
7. Repeat step 6 on the other sleeve.
8. Prepare and apply the dye according to the package directions.
9. It is very important to work with one section at a time. After applying all 3 colors, wrap in cling wrap immediately. Secure this with rubber bands.
10. After each section has been dyed and wrapped, lay out the shirt so that the sections are not touching each other, nor lying on any undyed fabric.
11. Leave the dye on the t-shirt according to package directions. *Note...some bleeding will occur. This is normal.*
12. Rinse the dye off the t-shirt one section at a time. Then, wash the t-shirt in cold water and dry immediately.



Reverse-Stenciled Vase

By [Carol Heppner](#)

Numbers are very trendy this year. You can use this trend in your home this season with this stylish metal vase, which is created with a reversed stencil technique.

Choose your house number, if the vase will be used outdoors, or choose your favorite number if you use the vase indoors. The key to this project is to find number stickers in the font and size that will fit your lifestyle and your home decor.

Instructions:

1. Wash and dry the outside of the metal vase.
2. Apply the stickers to the vase. Firmly press the edges of the stickers to the vase, so that the paint will not bleed through the edges of the stickers.
3. Paint the entire vase with a light coat of the multi-surface white paint. To apply the paint, place the first paint brush at the top of the vase and drag the brush down toward the base of the vase. Apply a total of three coats of paint in this manner, allowing the paint to dry in between coats.
4. Remove the stickers from the base.
5. Apply two coats of the sealer using the second brush. Allow the sealer to dry between coats.
6. Place the floral foam into the base and then arrange the fabric flowers inside the vase.

Materials

Plaid® FolkArt® Multi-Surface,
Wicker White
Metal Vase
American Crafts™ “Remarks”
Mumbo Jumbo Stickers
FloraCraft® Foam

Tools

Craft paint brushes (2)

Flower Tea Candle



By [Ann Butler](#)

Materials:

[Cool2Cast](#)

Silk Flower: medium to large with firm petals

Tea Candle

Tools:

F&M Paintbrush, hot glue gun, glue sticks, pliers, water, zip lock baggie, plastic wrap

Instructions:

1. Cut stem off of the flower and remove the center. If needed, glue the layers of the flower together with just a drop of the hot glue to hold the flower together.
2. Wrap the outside of the tea candle with plastic wrap and set aside.
3. Mix together a half cup of the Cool2Cast according to package instructions.
4. Dip the entire flower into the Cool2Cast and set it on plastic wrap for about fifteen minutes.
5. Pick up the flower, pull the petals apart and begin to shape them. Place the tea candle into the center of the flower and then, using the paintbrush, apply more of the Cool2Cast in areas that need it, again shaping the petals as desired. Set aside to dry.
6. Take the tea candle out, remove the plastic wrap and place it back into the flower.

I love candles and candle holders. I have been seeing a lot of unique candle holders in stores recently. This got me to experimenting with silk flowers and [Cool2Cast](#) which is a wonderful product by my creative girlfriend, Tiffany Windsor. The results were simply stunning and oh so easy!

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Trendy Card Holder

By [Carol Heppner](#)

Are you carrying payment cards, loyalty cards or business cards in your purse? Here is a fun project you can make to carry your cards in style.

The soft suede material is durable and provides protection for your all your cards. The purple color of the trim is a very trendy color. However, because the trim is attached to the suede with Velcro® Brand Sticky Back for Fabrics tape, you can change the trim to another color quickly and easily.

Instructions:

1. Cut the suede to measure 8-inches long by 4 ½-inches wide. You may need to cut the suede longer or wider depending on the cards you will use in your holder.
2. Measure 2 ½-inches from the bottom edge of the suede and then fold that edge of the suede toward the center.
3. Punch eight holes in the folded left edge of the suede. Use the needle and thread to sew the edges of the suede together. Repeat this step on the right side.
4. Trim the bracelet blank to fit the top flap of the suede. Use the Velcro® Brand Sticky Back for Fabrics tape to attach the bracelet blank to the top of the card holder's flap.
5. Use the Liquid Fusion® Clear Urethane Glue to attach the vintage embellishment to the left-side purple trim. Let the glue dry.
6. Use the Velcro® Brand Sticky Back for Fabrics tape oval as the inside closure.
7. Fill the business card holder with your cards.

Materials

Silver Creek Leather Real-Leather™ Suede, beige
[Silver Creek Leather Suede Friendship Bracelet, purple](#)
[Velcro® Brand Sticky Back for Fabrics, tape and oval, beige](#)
Crochet thread
[iLoveToCreate® Liquid Fusion® Clear Urethane Glue](#)

Tools

Westcott Brand® non-stick scissors
needle and thread
1/8" hole punch

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Time After Time Watch Pendant

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

The style of Steampunk is such a hot trend right now. This necklace was so much fun to design and create. It's a great way to recycle your old jewelry and watches. Or, if you don't have any laying around your house, you can purchase them in the stores. And with all of the other great trinkets and charms that you can buy, you can turn any of your old necklaces into a Steampunk masterpiece!

Instructions:

1. Remove watch face and watch hands. Seal the back of the watch and watch stem with Quick Grab™ glue. This will keep the EnviroTex® from leaking out of the watch.
2. Adhere the metal gears and watch pieces to the inside of the watch. Mix and pour the EnviroTex®, following the manufacturer's instructions, into the watch until the watch is full. Set aside to dry. *Note: You can begin working with the watch after the EnviroTex® has dried 12 hours. A full cure will take up to 48 hours.*
3. Cut and attach chains together for a length of 30 inches. Attach metal keys to the chain with jump rings using pliers. Cut wire 20 inches long and wrap around the watch handle. Repeat with other handle.
4. Attach metal keys and lock trinket to the bottom handle of the watch with jump rings. Attach small crystal to necklace with jump ring. Thread fishing line through the bottom hole of the crystal and then through the same metal gear. Tie to the top handle of the watch.

Materials

Old watch
Global Solutions watch parts
Plaid® Inspired Classic Triple Jump Ring Chain (2)
Graphic 45® assorted metal keys
Prima Marketing® lock trinket
Jump rings, brass (6)
Metal gears, assorted
Artistic Wire® 24 gauge, gun metal
Connie Crystal® small crystal (1)
EnviroTex® Jewelry Resin
[Beacon Adhesives® Quick Grab™](#)
Permanent Adhesive
Fishing line

Tools

Wire cutters
round nose pliers



Flapper Tea-Party Necklace

By [Carol Heppner](#)

Are you a fan of the hit television series *Downton Abbey*? The cast characters are always dressing up in beautiful dresses to celebrate the afternoon with tea. This necklace is inspired by the roaring 20s and the flapper style.

The key on the necklace represents the lady of the house, who was key to the beauty of the home and family. The tea cups and pots represent spending quality time with those you love.

This necklace is sure to be one of your favorites this season. You will also love how easy it is to make. The long length of this necklace means that you can avoid using a clasp to connect the ends of the chain. You just open one of the links of the necklace and use that link to connect the ends of the chain.

Materials:

Janlynn Corp Steampunk Jewelry Parts, Giant Key
Janlynn Corp Steampunk Copper Antiqued Chain
Janlynn Corp Steampunk Tea Time Charms

Tools

Flat-nose jewelry pliers

Instructions:

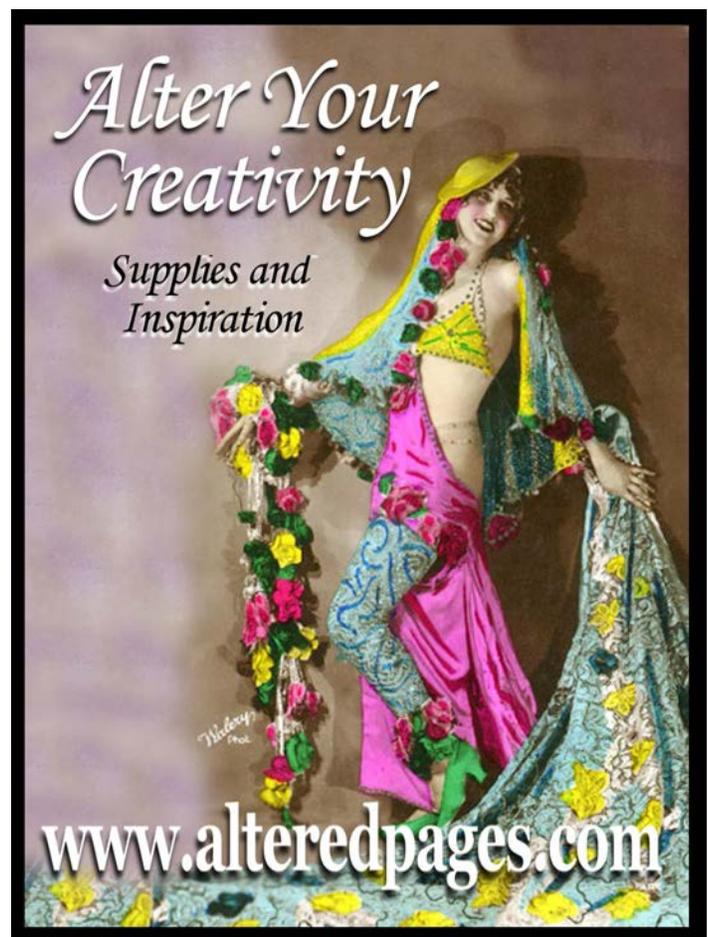
1. Open one of the links on the end of the chain and secure it to the opposite chain end.
2. Find the center of the chain and then use a jump ring to attach the key to the chain.
3. Attach the cup and saucer and teapot charm to one side of the chain and then the second cup and saucer charm and teapot to the other side of the chain.

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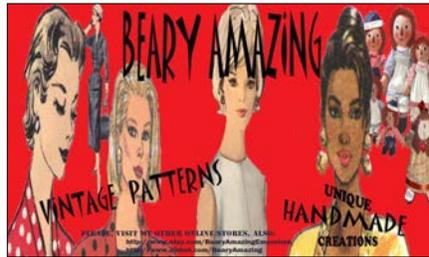
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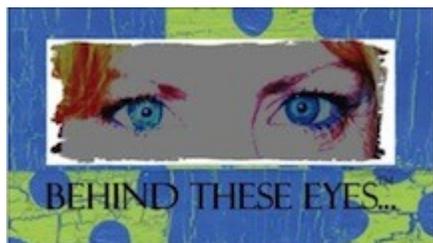
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Ann Butler is a well-known artist who recently has introduced two lines of stamps designed for quilting and other craft projects. Crafter's ink works perfectly (as shown here) for quilt projects. For project directions visit clearsnap.com



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