



# Bella Crafts Quarterly™

Your Inspiration for a Creative Life!™

## Suze Weinberg Artist to Artist

### In this issue

Autumn Wall Hanging  
Bejeweled Tone Necklace  
Creating with Depth  
Memory Coasters  
Stenciled Throw Pillows  
...and so much more!

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Fall 2014

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## Fall 2014

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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.

## 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.

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](mailto:Ann@BellaCraftsQuarterly.com)

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# Bella Crafts Quarterly™

## Publishers



### Ann Butler:

*Editor/Director of Marketing*

Ann is a licensed artist, author, instructor and consultant for the creative industries. Her designs appear in multi-authored books, magazines, booklets, manufacturer tradeshow 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.

The image shows a screenshot of the Bella Crafts Quarterly website. At the top, it says "Visit the Bella Blog". Below that, there's a navigation bar with links like Home, About, Info, Contact Us, Advertise, and Free. The main content area features an article titled "10 Craft Blogs Worth Following" with a sub-header "10 Craft Blogs WORTH FOLLOWING". To the right of the article is a "FREE Resource Guide" download form with fields for Name, Email, and a "Get My Copy" button. Below the article, there's a "Garden Fence Chandelier" article with a photo of a chandelier and a "FREE Resource Guide" download form. At the bottom, there's a decorative graphic of overlapping circles.

# Butterfly Candle Holders

By [Lisa Rojas](#)



In every issue of Bella Crafts Quarterly, we have one project that is devoted to the movement that the Craft and Hobby Association started called [Cre8time](#). The idea behind Cre8time is to show everyone that even with our busy lives, we should always try to take some time to craft and be creative. It challenges us to create a project in 8 minutes or less.

The candle holders that I made are so quick, easy and inexpensive, you could make dozens of them for a luncheon or even a wedding. They make a perfect accent to any table.

## Materials:

- ◆ Glass Candle Holder
- ◆ Butterfly Washi Tape
- ◆ Battery operated votive

## Instructions:

1. Wrap Washi tape around the top and bottom of the candle holders.

Why is it that when we get really busy,  
the things we love to do most are  
the first to go?

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# Bella Columnists



[Denise Clason](#) started sewing when she was seven years old, designing and creating doll clothes by hand! She begged her mother to use her straight stitch sewing machine when she was nine years old and the rest is history! She loves creating anything out of fabric and or buttons.

Denise has authored 9 books and many magazine articles. She has designed and licensed several products, some of which are quilt buttons, called "Stitching Up the Pieces" with JHB Buttons. Denise's newest book "[Sewing Vintage Aprons](#)" is available now.



[Helen Bradley](#) is an artist and lifestyle journalist who divides her time between the real and digital worlds, picking the best from both. She writes about Illustrator, Photoshop, Lightroom and digital photography for magazines and online providers worldwide. She has written four books on photo crafts and currently produces video training for [Skillfeed.com](#) and for her blogs at [Projectwoman.com](#).

Helen owns more cameras than she is willing to admit to, including a point and shoot converted to capture infra-red, a pinhole camera, a refurbished Polaroid land camera and her Pentax d-SLR.



[Courtney Chambers](#) is your average 16 year old girl with a passion for crafting and DIY. She loves transforming boring things into fabulous creations. Ever since she was a little girl she's loved to get crafty! Nowadays she enjoy creating DIY projects, such

as decor for her room. She blogs alongside her best friend, Tanner Bell. Together they own [A Little Craft In Your Day](#), a website where they share DIY projects for teens and strive to inspire people of all ages to incorporate a little crafting into their day, every day!



[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



[Julie McGuffee](#) is a crafter, an award winning designer, consultant and product developer. She has been professionally involved in the Arts & Crafts industry for almost 20 years. Julie has over 50 "How To" craft books as well as feature columns in national and international magazines. For the past 14 years she has been a host on Scrapbook

Memories (now Scrapbook Soup), a TV show which airs on Public Television stations nationwide.



[Ken Oliver](#) studied art and design in college, ultimately he followed a career path in sales and marketing that literally took him around the world working with clients and factories in Asia, Europe, Canada and the United States. His experience in sales, marketing and product development actually led him back to the arts and crafts industry. Ken is an accomplished artist who specializes

in watercolor, paper crafting, altered art, mixed media, book binding, craft projects and teaches workshops and classes worldwide. Ken makes his home in Southern Indiana on the banks of the Ohio River.



[Lisa Fulmer](#) is an artist, crafter, teacher, writer, on-air talent, as well as a marketing consultant. She has worked in the craft industry for many years and is an active member of the Craft & Hobby Association. Lisa designs projects and video tutorials for manufacturers and works regularly with the high-traffic craft websites such as Cool2Craft, Fave-Crafts and CraftFoxes. She volunteers for her local

art organizations and writes a weekly news blog column about the creative scene where she lives in Concord, California. Her brand new book, *Craft Your Stash*, is available now!



[Sue Turchick](#) has 30+ years business experience at the corporate level. She didn't discover crafting until her late 30s, and for the past 15 years has been involved in the craft industry as a store owner, president of a buying group, VP of Membership for the Craft and Hobby Association, and consulting with store owners and manufacturers. She is the owner of Biz Solutionary, a consulting firm focused on

businesses and individuals in the arts and crafts industry.



[Tiffany Windsor](#) is a Craft TV Host, Designer, Author, Product Developer, Keynote Speaker. As the daughter of Aleene Jackson, America's beloved "Mother of Crafting" and inventor of Aleene's Tacky Glue, Tiffany's first love is expressing herself creatively. Tiffany is best known as the founder of the Cool2Craft Network

featuring the popular on-line Cool2Craft TV show and as producer/host of Aleene's Creative Living Television show. Tiffany has made regular appearances on QVC and HSN and has authored numerous books. Her extensive consulting experience covers all facets of the craft industry including design, product development, manufacturing, retail, publishing, packaging, consumer education, video production, TV production and more. Tiffany is also an active member of the Craft & Hobby Association.

# Notes



[Eileen Hull](#) is bringing crafts to the US in a unique way. She is traveling cross country in her vintage camper on the third #PapTrail trip, a two month journey from Virginia to California this time! Eileen will be teaching classes in independent craft stores, at events and in private homes using her branded craft products including signature Sizzix ScoreBoards dies, Clearsnap inks and Craffiti stamps.

Along the way, Eileen also intends to visit crafty celebrities. The Pop-Up Trailer Shop is a new addition this trip and will provide customers with a chance to purchase her dies and vintage embellishments.

She will share her experiences on social media so anyone can follow along the #Paptrail. Visit Eileen's [blog](#) to read about her last two trips and see where she is headed on the next!

Find Eileen on: [Facebook](#) \* [Twitter](#) \* [Pinterest](#) \* [Google +](#) \* [Instagram](#)

Read more about the #PapTrail tour in this [Press Release](#).

## #HASHTAG

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.



## #BellaCrafts



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- New book
- Webinars
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# Trending Thoughts™

with [Julie McGuffee](#)

If you're wondering what's new this season.....you may be in for a surprise...We all know that Halloween, October 31<sup>st</sup>, is the time of year for haunted houses, ghosts, skeletons and other scary stuff. But, I'm wondering if there might be a subtle shift on the horizon. Nothing that will replace what we're already familiar with, but something that may add to it.

I recently saw a movie trailer for **The Book of Life**, a story line woven around the celebration of the "Day of the Dead" or, as it is known in Mexico and other Latin American countries, "Dia los Muertos". This 3-day holiday spans October 31<sup>st</sup>, November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and brings with it its own unique traditions like the sugar skulls, which are popping up everywhere. It's an important holiday, particularly celebrated in Mexico, when friends and family get together to remember and pray for their dearly departed. The influence of Mexican traditions is already being seen in craft and retail stores around the US, especially in states like Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. You can find decorations for the home and even jewelry that have been influenced by these traditions and colors. Who would have thought that skeletons could be so glamorous? How popular this "look" will become in the US may depend largely on the popularity of this movie.

I visited the Dallas Summer Gift Market in June and found very little change in the major showroom



displays since my visit in spring. This time, however, I was able to visit the temporary exhibitors and saw the new jewelry lines being offered. Collars and bold and chunky jewelry pieces were commonplace, together with vintage styles reminiscent of the 50's and 60's, even jewelry combined with texture.



Apparently, retail customers are still in love with words and sayings. There's something for all seasons and in all styles for special occasions and every day. You can even write your own words, messages, announcements and more on chalkboard signs; they're not just for menu boards in your kitchen. This display, for example, used chalkboard signs for a wedding.





The majority of Christmas displays still feature silver, gold, snowy white and the traditional red and green in a variety of shades as their main colors for decorations. But, I noticed a large display in the main window of one of the new, more popular showrooms featuring red, white and robin's egg blue. It pops up every year, but never in a major way. Maybe we'll start to see more of it next year, so be on the lookout. Radiant Orchid, this year's pantone color, has also found its way into the holiday season with an array of elegant gift wrap and metallic ribbon.

Owls are still popular, so it looks like they'll be hanging around for a while. I'm sure I'm not the only one who's noticed that the little alien robot in the movie Earth to Echo looks a lot like an owl. I also saw a large number of hydrangeas being used in many of the showrooms to accent the displays.

Chevron and polka dots are still popular patterns for both year-round and holiday accents. Note the metal flowers at the center of each wooden cross.



Don't forget to review the trends articles in previous issues of Bella Crafts Quarterly. You'll discover a wealth of additional information there. And, for more photos from Dallas Gift Market, check out my blog, [Life in the Craft Lane](#).

# Missed an issue? Get caught up...

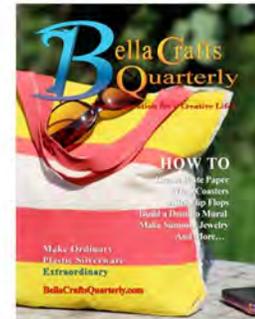
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2013



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2013



Fall Chic  
2013



Simple Pleasures  
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Spring Refresh  
2014



Summer 2014



Halloween 2012



Valentine's 2013



## Moving Beyond Facebook

If you have been using Facebook Fan Pages for any length of time, you've probably noticed a steady decrease in your engagement. You can expect your organic reach to continue to decline. It's unfortunate, but it's simply the truth.

Those who are frustrated by Facebook often approach me. Many are angry and feel that it's unfair for Facebook to make changes of any kind. While we might not like it, we have to remember these facts:

- Facebook is a business.
- Facebook is in business to make money.
- Facebook is a marketing platform, just like any other.

Facebook, in fact, is no different from any other medium when it comes to advertising your products or services. While we use it for free, we are still governed by their rules. This means that we must either post much more frequently or pay in order to have our content seen.

Marketing our craft businesses is a must. We need to do so consistently and actively, but many small business owners lack the funds to put towards a marketing budget. The good news is that we don't need huge budgets to market through Facebook. So, don't count Facebook out just yet. It's something important to consider.

However, if you are using Facebook alone to promote your business and are unable to invest in advertising, it's time for a new strategy. That strategy is to **diversify**. You can expand your

reach greatly just by growing a following on other networks. There are many to choose from, but the following are my personal favorites and lend themselves perfectly to craft and hobby businesses.

### *Pinterest*

- The general rule set forth by the experts is that 80% of Pins should be your own content. I subscribe to 50%.
- Pin content that makes you happy. Don't make it all about business. Show your brand's personality... tell your story through your boards.
- Fill out descriptions. Be sure to use keywords and add a call-to-action with a link to where you want them to go.
- If you find a pin has not gotten engagement, try repinning it at a different time.
- Space out your pins, if possible, using a scheduler like [ViralTag](#).
- Check out your statistics using an app like [tailwindapp.com](#)

### *Instagram*

- Share images from your other social networks, like Facebook. Grab those images from your mobile phone and save them for sharing on Instagram.
- Share Instagram to your other social networks as well.
- Like images to gain followers.
- Give a call-to-action or ask a question when you share images.
- Hashtags are critical on Instagram. Use them, but no more than 4 is the general rule. More than that

appears spammy.

- Use a platform like [iconosquare.com](#) to help manage your Instagram via desktop.
- If you use HootSuite to manage your social media already, add the Instagram app to your platform.

### *Twitter*

- Twitter users are looking for content to both share and consume.
- The life span of a tweet is about 20 seconds.
- Share your own content regularly and frequently.
- Retweet content that you feel your audience will find valuable.
- Actively follow users that are niche specific; you can actively build a big fan base here.
- Use hashtags, but no more than 2-3 per post.
- Include links and a call-to-action.
- Don't be afraid to ask for Retweets when promoting important events.

Along with Facebook, these social networks make up "The Big Four". I believe this is especially true for craft and hobby businesses. If you cannot manage 4 social networks at once, no worries. Check them out and choose one with which to start. Once you have mastered it, add another.

Facebook has not lost its value by any means, but businesses cannot afford to rely on it as their only source of marketing. If you cannot invest in advertising, moving beyond Facebook is critical. The more places you are, the greater the chances are for you to be seen.

*Lessons with Lisa*

*It's in the Details*



with [Lisa Rojas](#)

# Embossing 101

I was sitting in my studio, trying to figure out what I wanted to write about in my column for this issue. Every column that I write, I always try to think about topics that I feel will not only be beneficial and informative, but also fun and interesting for you to learn. So, for this topic, I'm going to share with you the different ways that you can use embossing techniques in your craft projects. Let's explore.

**Paper/Dry Embossing**-This is the process of creating raised or recessed images on papers and other materials. Embossed images become raised on the materials you are using and de-embossed images are depressed into the materials. Dry embossing can be created by a few different techniques. One way is by placing your paper on a light box and using a metal stencil and a stylus to trace the image onto the paper.

**Tools Needed: Light Box, Paper, Stencil & Stylus**

There are also a number of manufacturers that now carry a product called embossing folders. Embossing folders are very easy to use and will give you beautiful embossed images on your papers.

To create your images using an embossing folder, place your paper into the folder and run it through a die cut machine.

**Tools Needed: Embossing Folder, Die Cut Machine & Paper**

**Heat/Wet Embossing**- This technique provides a raised, dimensional effect on your paper and other materials. To achieve this effect, you need to stamp an image onto the paper with a pigment inkpad then sprinkle embossing powder over the stamped image. Shake off the excess powder and pour it back into the container. Hold the heat gun over the paper and melt the powder. This creates the raised effect.

**Tips:** Pigment and embossing inkpads are the only type of inkpads you can use with embossing powder. The inkpad needs to be very wet in order for the powder to stick to it. A hair dryer will not work for a heat source. It does not generate enough heat to melt the powder.

**Tools Needed: Embossing Powder, Pigment/Embossing Inkpad, Paper, Rubber Stamp & Heat Gun**

**Resist Embossing**- Once you

have embossed a stamped image, that glossy image will create a resist that can then be used to create beautiful backgrounds, etc. To achieve this effect, you will first need to stamp and emboss an image onto paper. Next, using watercolors, inks or spritzer inks, apply over your entire surface. When the area is dry, wipe the excess inks off of the embossed image with paper towels.

**Tools Needed: Same as Heat Embossing and also Watercolors/Inks, Paintbrush or Dabbers**



## Photograph Your Art - 5 Key Camera Settings



***Before you capture a photo of your art, here are some camera settings to check***

Taking great photos of your art is part staging and part technical know-how. Selecting the correct camera settings will ensure that your images are crisp and in focus and that you won't spend time fixing problems in your photo editing software. I'll show you five settings that will help ensure that you capture great photos of your artwork.

### Set your White Balance

Many commonly used light sources are colored and if you don't adjust for this using your camera's white balance setting, your photos may have a color cast. So, when shooting under

fluorescent light, adjust for its blue/green color by setting your camera's white balance to fluorescent. If you are shooting using regular tungsten (incandescent) globes, neutralize their orange/pink light by setting the white balance to tungsten. Avoid mixing these two light types, as the camera can't compensate for multiple colors of light and always return the camera to the original white balance setting when you're done.

### Get Close Up

To capture photos close to your subject, set your point and shoot camera to Macro mode which is indicated by a small flower icon. Using this setting, you can capture an in-focus image with your camera placed very close to the subject. When you are finished shooting, return your camera to its regular shooting mode.

As most DSLR cameras do not have a macro mode you will need a dedicated macro lens for this camera if you wish to shoot close to your subject. For this reason, a good point and shoot is often the best choice for shooting close up.

### Disable the Flash

If there isn't a lot of light, you'll be tempted to use the camera's flash to compensate. Unfortunately, flash light is harsh and unattractive so it's best to disable the camera flash and, instead, place your art in a well-lit location such as by a window or in a photo light box. If you must use your camera's flash, then hold a piece of semitransparent plastic in front of the flash to diffuse and soften the light.

### Point of Focus

To ensure your photo is in focus, press the camera's shutter halfway down and pause to allow the camera time to focus. The camera's display will show you the area that will be in focus and, if this is correct, continue to press the shutter and capture the image. If the camera isn't correctly focused, let go of the shutter and try again. Ensuring the camera is focused correctly is vital when shooting close to the subject because only a small part of the subject will be in focus when using macro mode.

### Set the JPG Size and Quality

Set your camera to record the largest file size and highest quality (or lowest compression) image that it is capable of capturing. This will ensure that your photo can be used for any purpose from sharing on Facebook to printing at a high resolution. Even if you share a small size version of your photo online, it is always a good idea to have a full size original in case you need it for another purpose in future.

### Image Caption

The color of the globes you use to light your subject will affect the photo's color. From top, clay steampunk birds by Michelle Zimmerman were captured using natural spectrum bulbs, fluorescent, and tungsten (incandescent) light.

# Artist to Artist

with [Ann Butler](#)



## Suze Weinberg

designer for Ranger Industries developing the Melt Art product line. She wrote a second book called "The Art of Rubber Stamping". She's associated closely with the Melting Pot & UTEE.

Suze has now successfully ventured into the jewelry industry, and between designing and selling her creations on ETSY, she and her husband of 50 years, Lenny, enjoy frequent trips around the world with their 3 children and 5 grandchildren.

*A: What was your first experience with crafting?*

*S: My daughter was about to become a Bat Mitzvah (age 13 back in 1984) and I decided to 'take up' Calligraphy so I could address her invitations! A friend of mine had hand-carved a rose on a rubber eraser and showed me*

Suze, who lives in central New Jersey, has quite a varied background in the field of art & music. A 1963 graduate of Fashion Institute of Technology (NYC), she was also a cantorial soloist in her synagogue for 16 years.

Suze then went on to become an icon in the craft industry for close to 40 years. She began as a

calligrapher where she owned & operated her own studio for many years and authored a book on calligraphy for grade school children.

Her lettering skills spilled over to the rubber stamping industry where she began as a demonstrator for several rubber stamp companies & then became the first signature

how to print it on the envelopes, next to the address, using a red ink pad.... A whole new world opened up to me at that moment.

I investigated 'rubber stamps' and began ordering catalogs most of which came from California. I began 'collecting' stamps by leaps and bounds. Next came my obsession with markers, ink pads and glitter glue. Then, I began getting innovative with them....adding glitter and dimension, decorating regular mail, making cards and sending them.

After about a year, I was contacted to demonstrate at the NY National Stationery show by two rubber stamp companies. Then, eventually, they asked me to go out on the road demonstrating their products. I was probably the very first rubber stamp demonstrator in the country.

One thing mushroomed into another and, after visiting a rubber stamp convention in California, I came up with the idea for a thick embossing powder. I contacted Ranger Industries because they are close to my home in NJ and the rest is history!

Ranger had faith in me and we collaborated on my ideas for UTEE, The Melting Pot, the non-stick craft sheet, the Kool Toolz, Mold n Pour and To Dye For Inks. The idea for Memory Glass and several other products came from my imagination and innovation.

*A: I actually bought UTEE because I saw you demo it on the Carol Duval Show. You did amazing things for this industry.*

*A: When did you first know you wanted to be an Artist or did you know?*

S: I was always interested in theater, fashion design, music and

art. My parents were artistic and musical and I guess it rubbed off on me. Even though I can't draw a straight line, I had a knack for putting this product with that product, and rubber stamping was my way of expressing that. Mail Art was my favorite way of being artistic and it always amazed me that those highly decorated envelopes could go through the mail! Hand-canceled of course!

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

S: Once Ranger and I collaborated, and I became their very first independent designer, things went from hobbyist to professional. I also wrote a column for Rubber Stamper Magazine (no longer in publication) and that kept me on a professional level as well.

*A: I remember that magazine, and your column, well.*

*A: Do you have a favorite craft technique?*

S: Well, of course it used to be UTEE (Ultra Thick Embossing Enamel), especially pouring it from the melting pot into molds I'd made with Mold n Pour, but, since retirement three years ago, I am now very interested in jewelry-making using real resin and I'm fascinated with 2 part epoxy clay.

*A: I agree that the 2 part epoxy clay is amazing, I first tried it at a retreat in Canada last year and love how easy it is to work with.*

*A: What inspires you?*

S: I love photography. I take a million pictures. I blog. I find a lot of inspiration in the photos I take. Textures, colors, magazines I read and especially going to jewelry shows! In general, LIFE totally inspires me. We travel a lot and I've seen most of the world. That is incredibly inspiring.

*A: Describe your studio or crafting area.*

S: I have a wonderful loft in my house. The area is approximately 15' x 20', full of light (sky lights as well) and it's filled with treasures: handmade art from friends, art that I've created, and tons of rubber stamps and beads!

I have a great work space (always cluttered!), a TV to keep me company with the noise, a full-sized bathroom and very good storage with cabinets from IKEA and wire baskets from The Container Store. I LOVE spending a few hours each evening up there; that's when my best ideas come!

*A: It sounds absolutely wonderful!*

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

S: Take chances. Never be afraid to share ideas because you think someone is going to 'steal them'. Never be afraid to try. You are unique because you are YOU. You can learn as much from others as they can learn from you.

My very favorite philosophy in life is this: **"LEAP, AND THE NET WILL APPEAR"**.

*A: Wise words indeed.*

To see some of Suze's work check out her [Blog](#) and [Facebook page](#).



# The Quilter's Stash™

with [Denise Clason](#)

## "Pressing Makes the Perfect Quilt Block"



In the past three articles, we've talked about our fabric stashes, quilting supplies, and how to pick fabrics for a project/quilt. So, today, I thought we could "sew" or "piece" together a quilt block and learn how to press the seams to create the perfect block.

### You will need:

4 coordinating fabrics, (light, medium, dark and cream background) no larger than 12" square  
 Rotary cutter, ruler and mat  
 Basic sewing supplies  
 Matching thread  
 Iron and ironing board!!! (smile)

Pattern: Ohio Star Block (finished size 12" square)

\*From dark print, cut (4) 3-1/2" squares (corners)

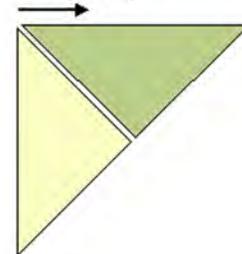
\*From medium print, cut (1) 3-1/2" square (center block)

\*From light print and cream background cut (2) 4-1/2" squares, cut twice on diagonals to make (8) quarter-square triangles from each fabric.

### Instructions

1. Sew a light triangle to a cream triangle. Press toward dark. Repeat 7 times.

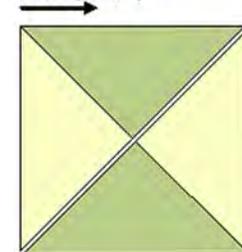
Press (Make 8)



NOTE: The trick is to press the seams to the darker print, so that the seam allowance doesn't show through the lighter fabric.

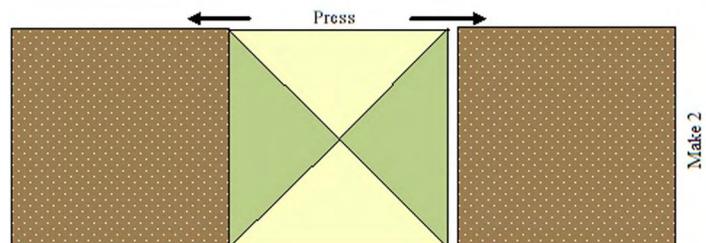
2. Sew two sets of Step 1 together. Press to one side. Repeat 3 times.

Press (Make 4)

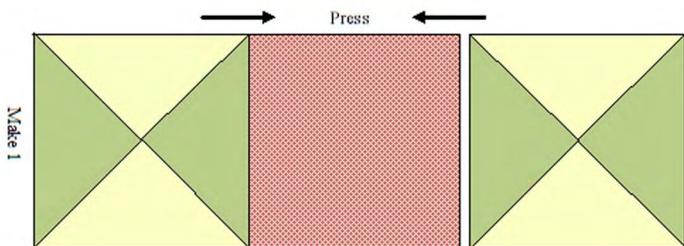


NOTE: You'll notice as you match the seam for this step, that the seam allowances are opposite from each other. This is what you want. This method of pressing makes the block more "flat," and easier to machine quilt, when all layers are together.

3. Sew a dark square on each end of Step 2 squares. Press toward dark. Repeat once.

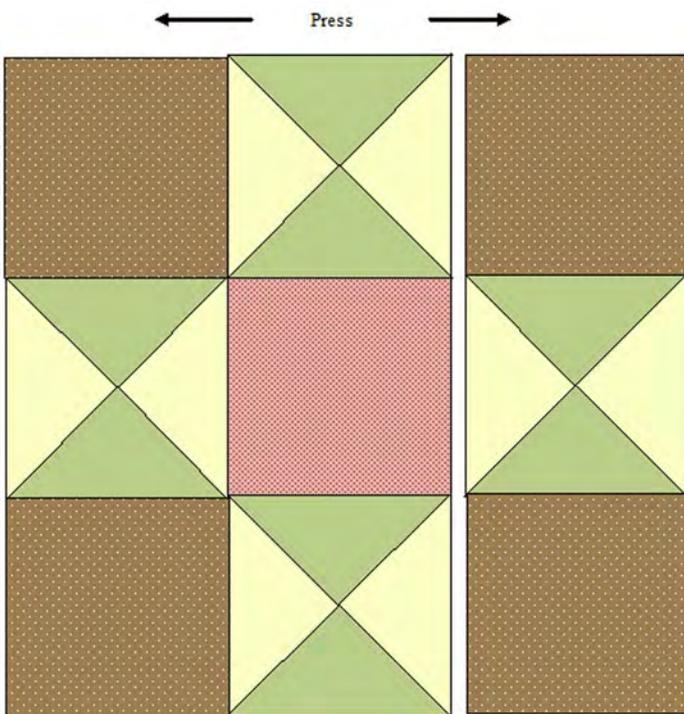


4. Sew medium square between the squares from Step 2. Press toward the center square.



NOTE: This will create opposite seam allowances when you are sewing the next step.

5. Sew the strips together, following the diagram. Press the seams toward the darker strips.



**Note:** I use a hot iron, without steam. Sometimes steam can shrink your fabrics. Some quilters like to lightly spray their blocks, as they work, with spray starch or sizing. This helps make a more flat and crisp block. I only do that when I have fabrics that are stubborn or have a block with a lot of pieces.

I challenge you to make more blocks. If you create four blocks, you'll have enough for a nice wall hanging or tablecloth. If you want to make two blocks, you can make a tote bag. I'd recommend making a 3" border around the block, so that you'll be able to see the nice block you created.

Happy Quilting! Please contact me if you have any questions! [Denise@DeniseClason.com](mailto:Denise@DeniseClason.com)

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# SOUL CREATIVE

HANDMADE FROM THE HEART with [Tiffany Windsor](#)

## Color—full!

I am in the process of setting up my new retail gift shop.



I hadn't planned it, but one of my wall displays has turned into the color wall: red, orange, yellow, green, blue and purple. I'm not surprised at all, because I am in love with color! Many years ago, I was a color therapist and gave color readings based on colored bottles that were selected in the reading.

As you know, color plays an important role in our creative world. But, are you aware how colors can stimulate and excite us? Or tranquilize and depress us? Create a feeling of warmth or coolness? Scientists have found that actual physiological changes take place in human beings when they are exposed to certain colors. Did you know that there are seven main energy centers of the body called chakras? These chakras are like spirals of energy and each chakra relates to a specific color.

Whether you are making a creative project for yourself or a pick-me-up for a friend, imagine the perfect color to match the mood. Of course, the color qualities are not just limited to our crafty

projects. You can talk the language of color in all parts of your life through your room colors, home accessory colors, the foods you eat and the colorful clothes and fashion accessories you wear.

**Red.** This color demands attention! Its qualities include strength, warmth, energy and courage. Did you know that red is also an appetite stimulant? Red relates to the 1<sup>st</sup> or root chakra.



**Orange.** Qualities include comfort, sensuality, passion, abundance, fun, warmth and physical comfort. Orange relates to the 2<sup>nd</sup> or sacral chakra.

**Yellow.** Qualities include joy, confidence, self-esteem, friendliness and creativity. Yellow relates to the 3<sup>rd</sup> or solar plexus chakra.



**Green.** Qualities include balance, harmony, rest, peace, universal love, and equilibrium. Green relates to the 4<sup>th</sup> or heart chakra.



**Blue.** Qualities include communication, trust, duty, coolness, calm, and intelligence. Blue relates to the 5<sup>th</sup> or throat chakra.



Ceramic art by Heidi Borchers – [www.soulcreative.com](http://www.soulcreative.com)

**Indigo.** Qualities include intuitiveness, fearlessness, practical, idealistic, wise, and a truth seeker. Indigo relates to the 6<sup>th</sup> or third eye chakra.



**Purple.** Qualities include spiritual awareness, authenticity, and truth. Violet relates to the 7<sup>th</sup> or crown chakra.



Cool2Cast art by Tiffany Windsor – [www.cool2cast.com](http://www.cool2cast.com)

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BellaCRAFTS!

Crafty goodness...

with the Bella Editors

Every Wednesday from 1 - 1:30 PM EST



with [Lisa Fulmer](#)

## What do you think of when you hear the words creative space?

Your studio, your craft closet, your desk, your dining room table, your blog, your Pinterest boards, your crafty magic mojo? All of those things certainly come to mind for me. I have learned over the years that my creative space is vital to my well-being. I need to tend to it regularly, even when I'm not feeling particularly motivated to create.

Whether I'm using a room full of craft supplies or just a sliver of my brain, I have found that continuous maintenance of my creative space always makes me feel good. Feelings of pride, release, accomplishment, inspiration and even empowerment usually accompany the blissful grin on my face after I've finished a project, cleared off a surface, or scrolled through some eye-candy. And, it's not just me. [Recent research confirmed](#) that creativity does indeed make us happy - even the craft fails are good for us!

*"You don't have to be a master poet or painter to reap the emotional rewards. Even if the results of one's creative activity are 'frivolous, amateurish or weird,' this research suggests the creative process that yielded them appears important to positive psychological development."*

And so I dedicate this column to the preservation of our creative space – every pin and piece of paper, every post and pot of paint.

### Clutter, be gone with you!

*"Out of clutter...find simplicity."*  
—Albert Einstein

I am not a fan of clutter, even when it's shelves full of sentimental tchotchkes and lovingly-framed family photos. Don't get me wrong, I'm not so much of a minimalist either, but I tend to feel restricted amongst too much clutter. I crave unfettered space, ergo, I'm ever so thankful for curtains and doors.

Clutter can be very challenging to control when you're a crafter. After all, it's pretty darn hard to find whatever you think you might have if it's not sitting in plain sight, right?

But clutter always seems to seep through my eyes and into my brain; it wipes out any chance of even having a creative thought, let alone acting on it.

Some of my favorite clutter controllers are shallow shelves, drawers and trays. They make craft supply hoarding feel much less criminal.

Tall CD towers against the wall are a great way to organize and neatly display all your paints, glitters, sprays, and glues so you can see exactly what you have. They make good use of vertical space without much of a footprint.



I have a spare bedroom that I converted into a studio and office. I removed the doors and hanger rod from the small closet and lined the walls of it with CD racks that I bought secondhand. Now all the millions of little jars, bottles and vials that I have amassed each have a home and I can easily find what I need. More importantly, it's super easy to put everything away.

I cannot live without drawers; I must have lots and lots of drawers: stackable drawers, mini desktop drawers, large shallow drawers, wall-mounted shelf drawers, deep open-wire drawers. I store everything from rubber stamps, papers and markers to fabrics, felt and threads in drawers.



If you're like me, I forget which sheets are which size for which bed, so I actually prefer storing sheets and pillowcases in those nice giant Ziplock bags underneath the bed they belong to. As for where to put the towels, I solved that problem by getting rid of all my old ratty towels and washcloths, and storing only a few nice towel sets in each bathroom.

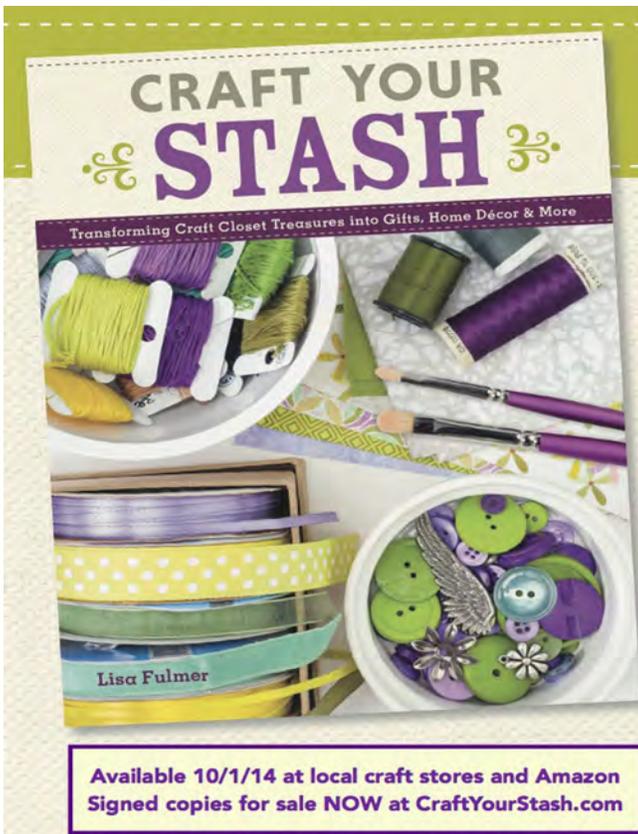
The key to remembering what lies behind closed drawers is keeping like items together. I may not remember every single tool or stamp I have, but I know exactly which drawer they're all sitting in.

Fabric bins and cool wood crates are great for storing yarn, dies, half-baked projects, as well as new stuff I just bought but haven't put away yet.

Nothing makes clutter look less clutterful than a nice tray. I have a couple trays, sitting pretty on a table, that hold supplies for whatever project I need to work on. I can easily take the tray into the living room if I feel like crafting in front of the TV.

If all else fails, and you still have too much clutter in your creative space, pull out all your sheets and towels from the linen closet and fill it up with craft supplies! I mean, really...what's more important, clean sheets or extra fabric?

As you're de-cluttering, remember to think twice about whether you still really need what you are about to organize and stow away – it might be time for a garage sale. Don't go without food because your craft supplies took over the pantry!



## The Creative Crafter's Guide to Getting More Out of Your Stash

"I opened this book and immediately wanted to start creating."  
 —Mark Montano, author of *The Big-Ass Book of Crafts*

"This book is like having Lisa as your crafting buddy at home. It's informative, inspirational, and funny— because Lisa is walking you through every project, whispering tips in your ear, and making you smile with her can-do attitude."  
 —Jonathan Fong, host of *Style with a Smile*

"...loaded with creative ideas for using up and breathing life into the little bits and baubles that seem to collect in every craft room."  
 —Cathie Filian and Steve Piacenza, cohosts of HGTV's *Creative Juice*

"...Lisa has definitely sparked a desire in me to dig in, organize, and craft with my stash!"  
 —Tiffany Windsor, founder of the Cool2Craft Network

"...overflowing with creative and amazing projects to try."  
 —Kathy Cano-Murillo, La Crafty Chica

Available 10/1/14 at local craft stores and Amazon  
 Signed copies for sale NOW at [CraftYourStash.com](http://CraftYourStash.com)

# Cash<sup>\$</sup>ing in...

## on your **CRAFT** Business

with [Sue Turchick](#)

### “Ready, Set...Go and Grow!

### Becoming Part of the Arts and Crafts Industry!”

For many who love crafting and making art, the thought of making a living by turning your hobby into a business sounds like a dream. Perhaps you've thought or said one of these crazy ideas.

- “If only I could be surrounded by beautiful colors and wonderful textures every moment!”
- “Ah, refreshing to be totally creative all day and get out from behind a desk!”
- “Oh, how inspiring to work with and around people with such amazing talent who inspire me to be better!”

I hear people say those things frequently. Then, immediately following, come the qualifiers, the reasons why that can't happen or the things that have to occur to allow it to happen.

- “Someday.”
- “When I hit the lottery.”
- “Maybe in retirement.”
- “I need a job that pays the bills.”
- “It seems like the crafting field can't support me.”
- “I am not that lucky.”
- “I'm not good enough.”
- “I wouldn't even know where to start!”

I not only hear people say these things, I said them for myself. I was there 18 years ago. I had recently discovered scrapbooking, and I couldn't get enough! I visited every store I could locate, took all the classes I could find, and spent time daydreaming about what it would be like to own a store or to find work in a “fun” industry. However, I was the main breadwinner in my family, I was using my college education, but I didn't have much money to invest. While I loved crafting, I was not of “designer” ability. There was no way I could make a decent wage in this industry, or so I thought. However, I set some goals, and thought

about my dream all the time. I talked about it a lot and recognized only I could make it happen. One day, two years later, in a move many may have seen as “impulsive”, I bought my own shop. To those on the outside, it seemed spontaneous and a little crazy, but internally, I had been pursuing my vision for several years, and I put myself in a position where I could make it happen.

#### How Big is the Opportunity in Crafting?

The Craft and Hobby Association's industry survey in 2013 showed the size of the “United States craft supply” market to be almost 30 billion dollars. Yes, 30 billion dollars! That number is big - and that survey only captured how much money is spent on supplies! Add to that the large numbers of people buying finished goods, looking for great education on crafting and everything related to it, searching for great inspiration - include the entire “maker” movement, recycling and up-cycling trends, along with the millions taking on DIY projects of all types - and it is easy to see that there is more than enough room for another person in this business - why not make it you?

#### Why Not You?

I, like many American women I know, don't always have the highest self-esteem. I'm not slim, I'm not beautiful, and I make a lot of mistakes. I have yelled at my child (probably as recently as last night) and I keep a messy house. Some weeks, and even months, we eat out more than we even open our refrigerator. I sometimes dream that I'm single and in a studio apartment with no room for the husband. Sometimes my mother gets on my nerves and I get angry that my siblings don't live closer so they can deal with her. I'm sitting in a coffee shop, writing this article six hours before it is due. Add in what I see on television, what I read in women's magazines, and the wonderful lives I see my high school classmates and

my current neighbors sharing on Facebook, it's easy to feel inadequate and incompetent.

It's time for all of us to let go of what culture and society tells us we should be, and time for us to decide what to be for ourselves. Let go of everyone else's standards and stuffiness. We are each unique and wonderful people, with the ability to create a life of our own choosing. If you want to do something different, YOU get to choose whether or not you are going to do it, or simply think about it. Sure, it may sound impossible and like a lot of hard work and difficult choices - but the fact is - if you want to be different than everyone else, you have to act differently than everyone else. Decide. Is your dream important enough to do the work? YOU have the power to choose.

### So What Do I Have to Do to Live the Dream?

At the risk of seeming obvious, the first thing you need to do is to design what your big dream or goal is. To help you determine this, take some time to work through these questions. Rather than thinking them in your head, write your thoughts down. Use a beautiful journal and some great pens. This is your life, it's worth using your good loot!

⇒ If I could do anything as a vocation or career, what would it be? What types of things would I do (or not do) each day? How would I feel doing them? Where would I do them? What would my "office" look like? Dream big! I remember Retail Expert Rick Segal asking me this question a few years ago. I told him I'd love to drive around the country in a big RV and help other retailers feel confident and become more successful. I have the 5<sup>th</sup> Wheel and I have recently started consulting - although I'm not quite ready to put them both together yet, it's still in my personal and business plans. (I need to stop relying on my husband to do all the dirty camping work and learn it for myself.) Really think hard about your dream - add, subtract, edit, embellish, enhance. Forget about what you believe to be restrictions and limitations. Remember - this is your fantasy. Draw or paint pictures. Create images. Do whatever it takes to make this crystal clear and to be sure that you've identified the parts that motivate you to want to reach towards this relentlessly!

\* *An interesting side note. Research shows that those who write their goals and dreams down are many times more likely to achieve them than those who don't. Most people don't write them down because they are afraid of failing! Look at it a different way. Would you ever set out on a road trip without a map or a GPS and an idea where*

*you want to go? Think of your career or your business exactly the same way. You know where you want to go. Set the goal and draw up the plan to make it happen. Make sure to include stops and routes that make you really excited and energized!*

- ⇒ Ask yourself "why" you want to do this. Identify which of your talents and passions it would engage. In my above example, I highlight a passion (travel), a gift (ability to assess business issues and quickly create solutions), and a purpose (helping others achieve their goals). The "why" may be just as important as the "what" - because it will help you see what motivates you and makes you happy.
- ⇒ After writing that dream, and looking at "why" you want that dream - read it again. And again. And again. Keep adding to it. Think about the details of it every day. If you do this, you will begin to internalize your vision and will automatically find yourself working towards it. Once that dream is firm in your mind, write down one thing you can do to begin working toward that goal in the next 24 hours. Open an Etsy shop. Contact your state or country about getting a business license. Search the web for ideas. Visit the Small Business Administration's website for steps to start a business. Think about ways you can adjust your budget to begin making a life change. Make a contact with someone who does what you want to do and ask for an appointment to "pick their brain." Find a holiday craft fair where you will actually sell all those projects you've made over the years.

The hardest thing to do in reaching for your dream is to get started. Tomorrow is always an option, and things you need to do can always be postponed. Procrastination is generally motivated by fear - and it's much easier to coast than to do something new or uncertain. The heights you can achieve by doing some serious pedaling are so much more rewarding!

I am thrilled to be a columnist for [Bella Crafts Quarterly](#), to be able to help some of you realize those dreams that you may have for yourself - and to show you that you CAN turn your love for crafting and arting into cash! The most important thing to remember is that each of us has the POWER within us to do it. Start setting those big goals and believing in your ability - and join us all in this amazing industry!

I would love to hear your questions, comments and thoughts. I can be contacted at [sue@bellacraftsquarterly.com](mailto:sue@bellacraftsquarterly.com), and I look forward to sharing this ride along with all of you.

# Ken's Corner™

Crafting in a man's world. with [Ken Oliver](#)

*Lately, I've been teaching lots of mixed media technique classes for art journaling. And with the holidays quickly approaching, I thought it would be great to bring some of those mixed media techniques to tags. Color Bloom Sprays and stencils add a decidedly "mixed media" feel to this project. You can layer colors by adding layers of stenciled pattern to each tag. It's really fun and no two tags will ever look the same.*



### Materials:

- ◆ 4 Manila shipping tags
- ◆ 1 12x12 piece patterned paper (Stationer's Desk "Side Note" from Prima Marketing)
- ◆ Color Bloom Spray Mists, Prima Marketing Inc., various colors
- ◆ Chalk Edgers (assorted colors)
- ◆ Floral embellishments (Stationer's Desk "Draft," Stationer's Desk "Pencil" and "Resin Feathers" from Prima Marketing Inc.)
- ◆ White seam binding
- ◆ Vintage photos (optional)

### Tools:

- ◆ Permanent dot roller adhesive
- ◆ Stencils
- ◆ Heat tool
- ◆ Hot glue gun and glue sticks
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Hole Punch

### Instructions:

1. Cover manila tags with patterned paper, using dot roller adhesive. Trim edges with scissors. Punch a hole in the top of the tag with a hole punch.
2. Chalk all edges with your favorite chalk edger.
3. Lightly mist front and back of tags with Color

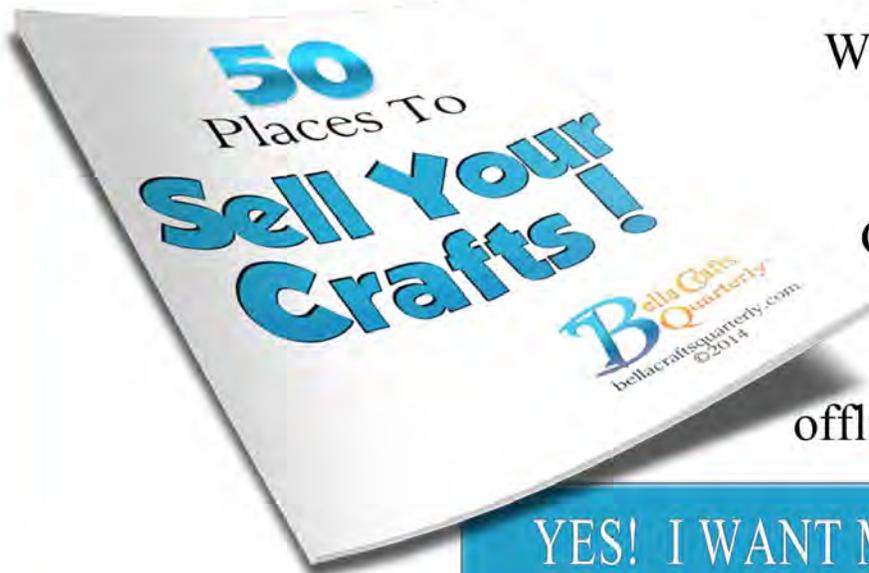
Bloom Sprays, using your favorite colors. This provides some color and visual interest. Keep it light. Use the heat tool to dry the mist.

4. Add additional visual interest by placing a stencil over the tag and misting through the stencil. Apply stenciled designs to all 4 tags. If you plan to layer stencils, make sure to heat set the color before adding another stencil.
5. Lightly mist flowers, seam binding and resin feather embellishments and dry with the heat tool. To get a really vintage effect, bunch the seam binding while it's wet. It looks cool.
6. Arrange floral embellishments and feathers on the tag. Secure with hot glue.
7. Tie colored seam binding through hole of each tag.
8. You may also add small vintage photos to complete each tag. (optional)

This is a great project that will you will want to create again and again...and if you start now, you'll have loads of tags made and ready for the holiday gift giving season.



## Looking for places to sell your crafts?



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**YES! I WANT MY FREE COPY.**

# Blog Stars™

with [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](mailto:Ann@BellaCraftsQuarterly.com). We will check them out. Who knows, it could be one of our next Blog Stars!

[Connie Hall](#) lives in Akwesasne Quebec with her husband Robert and their children. She has been scrapbooking for over 10 years, but has only been online for 3 years.

Her style changed shortly after she lost my Mother to lung cancer. Memories of her childhood are all she has to share with her children so capturing and preserving these moments for future generations is very important to her. Connie also sees the importance of making and preserving new memories. She crafts to relax and for pure enjoyment, creating everything from Project Life, traditional, 3D, mixed media pages, altered projects and mini albums. She has been on several Blog Challenge Design Teams. Ann Butler Designs was her first Manufacturer Design Team.

When Connie is not crafting, she works as a Child Care supervisor. Her children are actively involved in sports: soccer, volleyball and lacrosse. Her nephew Asher is also one of her sources of inspiration. She has several pages dedicated to him. She has her worktable in the center of her house and she always leaves her stuff out. She works on something everyday. She is still a pretty new blogger. She is currently the blog coordinator at Let's get Sketchy. She has several pages published in Let's get Inspired magazine. She hopes you come and visit. Leave some love and follow her [blog](#).



[Ava Gavloski](#) is a Canadian mixed media artist who lives in the Great Lakes area of Ontario. She is a former Office Administrator who is now on a creative journey in life to enrich peoples' lives through the Art of Crafting.

She is inspired by nature and the environment around her which gives her designs a full textured presentation. Currently, Ava designs for Core'dinations Cardstock and is a design member of CHA North America and CHA Canada.

Her work has graced the pages of many printed publications and she has designed for leading manufactures within the creative industry. You can find a few designs of Ava's in the current 2014 Core'dinations Cardstock Catalogue. Please visit her [blog "Cottage Life"](#).

[Nicole Picadura](#) is originally from South Korea and was introduced to paper crafting in 2007, when she permanently moved to the states. Working on her wedding invitations and wedding album sparked something within her and she has been an avid cardmaker ever since then. Creating projects in Clean & Simple style (CAS), Nicole has been sharing various projects with her followers. She likes to share quick tips with others so they can create amazing cards without spending too much time out of their busy life. Organization is one of her biggest passions. Nicole believes that a crafter can create better in an environment where materials are well organized.



Video tutorials are featured weekly on Nicole's [Youtube](#) channel: Start-to-Finish series and Fresh Take Friday series. Also, with more than 10,000 video views, Nicole's Holiday Card Video series is very popular among the viewers and they look forward to it every single year.

Nicole currently lives in Northern California with her husband, a 2 year old dog Kirby, and a 6 year old cat Honeydew. She also works part time as a translator and a content supervisor for an education company in Korea. Whenever she is not in her studio making projects, she loves to spend time with her family and her fur babies. She enjoys watching movies and reading books.

Make sure to visit her blog, [Scraps & Stamps](#), and check out video tutorials on her [Youtube channel](#). You can also follow her on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

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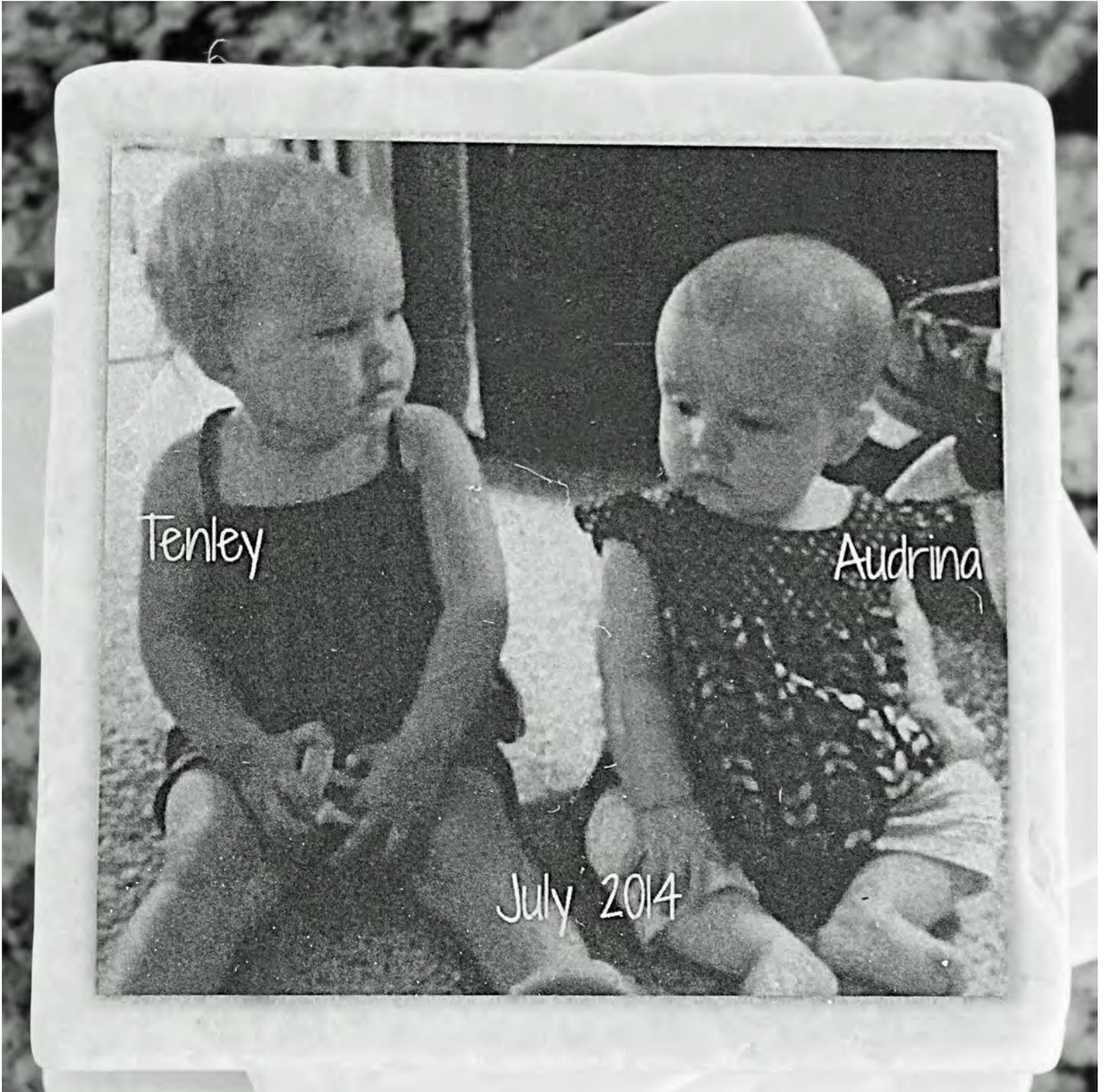
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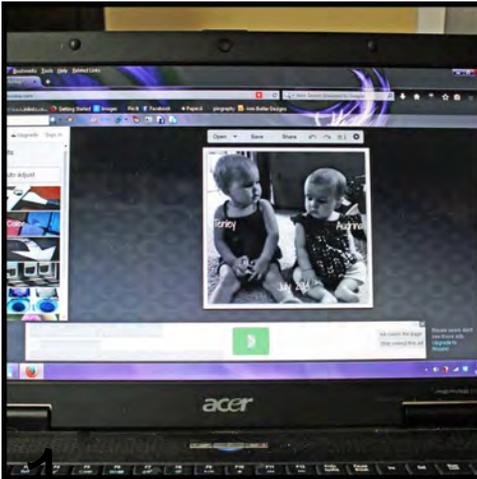
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# Memory Coasters

By [Ann Butler](#)





1



2



3

I have been making memory coasters for years with gel medium and photos. The technique takes a bit of work, as you have to rub off the excess paper which is not always a quick process.

So when I discovered [Décor Attitude](#), I knew right away that the process just became 90% simpler. You're going to love this technique. It is quick and easy but the results are just fabulous.

**Materials:**

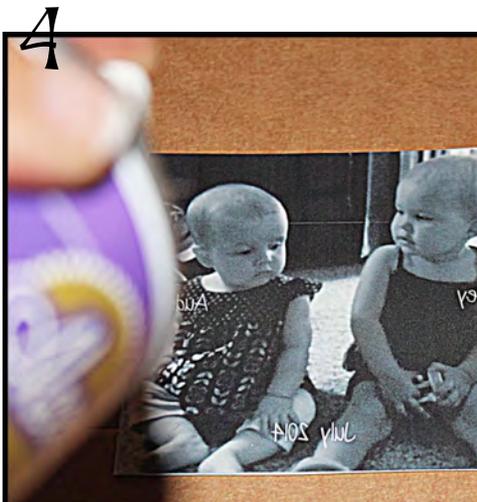
- ◆ [Craft Attitude®](#), [Décor Attitude™](#)
- ◆ Imagine of choice
- ◆ Aleene's® Fast Grab™ Tacky Spray®
- ◆ Tile, 4" x 4"

**Tools:**

- ◆ [Westcott Brand® Scissors](#)
- ◆ Computer
- ◆ Printer
- ◆ Bone folder (optional)
- ◆ Box

**Instructions:**

1. Find the photo you want to use and put it into a photo editing program to add names, the date or to adjust the photo the way you want it. Be sure to flip the photo so that the photo and words will be going in the right direction on the coaster.
2. Print the photo onto the shiny side of the Décor Attitude following manufacturer's instructions.
3. Cut out the photo.
4. Place photo into a box and apply spray adhesive onto the printed side following manufacturer's instructions.
5. Place the photo onto the tile and rub firmly with your fingers or a bone folder.
6. Gently peel away the backing. Simply amazing! Nothing could be easier!



4



5

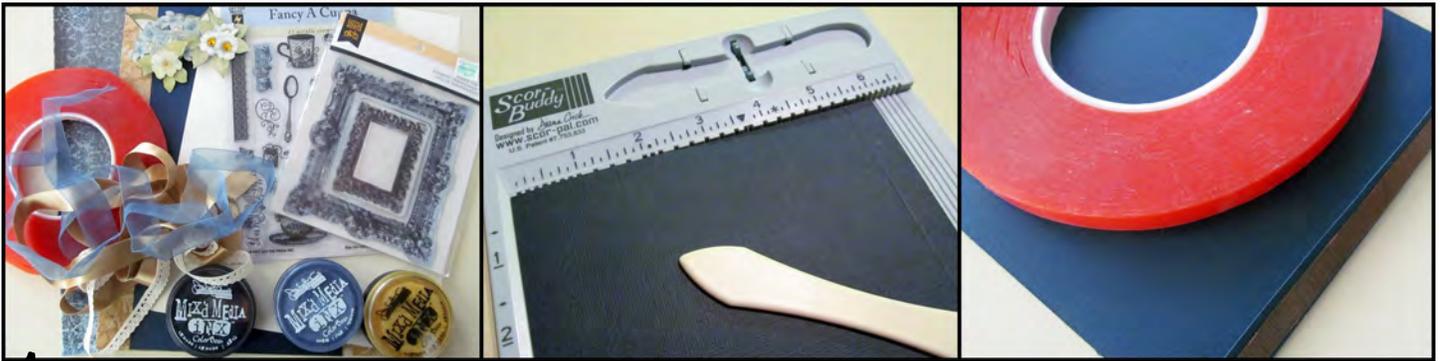


6

# Hello Friend Card

By [Lisa Rojas](#)





1

When I first learned about rubber stamping, the only items I ever created were handmade cards and I made a lot of cards. But even back then, my favorite type of cards were always the ones that did something, like a pop up card or one that slides, and that is still true to this day. The card that I created for this project looks like a regular card, but if you pull up on the bow, you'll get a very special surprise! I love watching the reaction that my family and friends make every time they receive a card like this from me. It's priceless.

**Materials:**

- ◆ Bazzill® cardstock 12" x 12": Vanilla, Moody Blue
- ◆ Various pattern papers
- ◆ ColorBox® Mix'd Media Inx: Vintage, Denim, Indigo
- ◆ K & Company® floral stickers

- ◆ Ribbons: blue, gold
- ◆ Scotch 3M® Double Sided Tape
- ◆ Scotch 3M® Double Sided Foam Tape
- ◆ Hot Off The Press® stamp sets: Fancy A Copa, Serendipity Flowers
- ◆ Little Yellow Bicycle® stamp set, Fancy Frames
- ◆ Small packet of coffee

**Tools:**

- ◆ [Westcott Brand® Personal Paper Trimmer](#)
- ◆ Westcott Brand® Scissors
- ◆ [Scor-Pal® Scor-Buddy™](#)
- ◆ Heat tool

**Instructions:**

1. Cut the blue cardstock 6 inches by 12 inches, fold in half. Score open ends of cardstock ½ inch from the edge with Scor Buddy and adhere ends together with tape. Finished card size is 5 ½ inches by 6 inches.

2. Use indigo inkpad to stamp the frame, denim inkpad to stamp coffee pot and cup, and the vintage inkpad to stamp the words, all on the vanilla cardstock. Cut images out.
3. Adhere the word stamp image on the blue cardstock and cut out. Adhere the blue pattern paper to the front of the card with tape.
4. Cut the gold pattern paper 3 ½ inches by 4 ½ inches. Adhere to the back of the frame. Adhere the frame to the front of the card.
5. Apply the floral stickers to card front. Adhere small pieces of foam tape to the back of the word image, coffee pot and cup. Apply to the card front.
6. Wrap the gold ribbon around the packet of coffee and adhere with tape. Tie a knot in the top and add the blue ribbon bow. Slide coffee pack into the card. Apply a small piece of tape to the inside bottom of the card to keep the packet from slipping out.

2



3



4



# Creating Textured Background

## ...with Water Soluble Oil Pastels

By [Theresa Cifali](#)

*Sometimes, finding the right piece of patterned paper for a project eludes us. It can be quite frustrating, but there are many ways to create your own. This technique demonstrates how to use water soluble oil pastels to create textured background paper. It's so simple that you'll find yourself creating endless patterns of your own.*

### Materials:

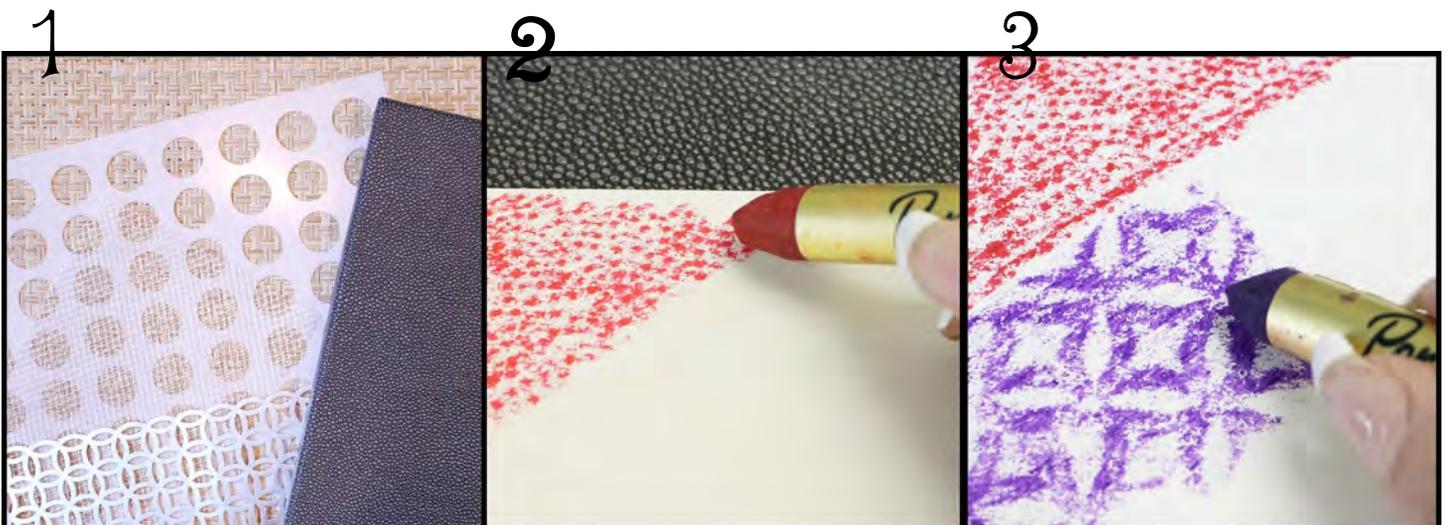
- ◆ Elmer's® Portfolio® Series, Water Soluble Oil Pastels
- ◆ Plain copy paper, 24lb
- ◆ Water

### Tools:

- ◆ Foam brush
- ◆ Plastic cup
- ◆ Textured items like chicken wire, stone, stencils etc.,

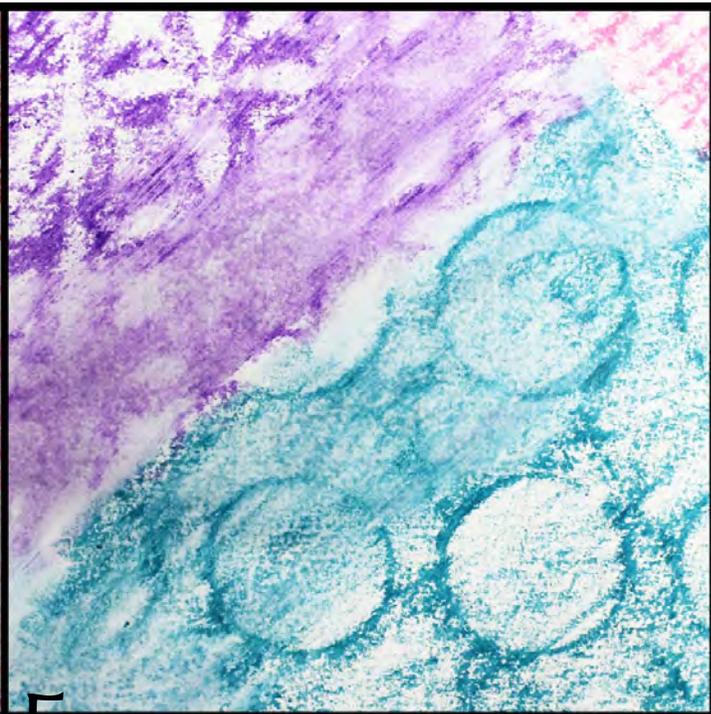
### Instructions:

1. Place a piece of copy paper on top of a surface that has texture, such as mesh or a stencil.
2. Holding the oil pastel crayon at an angle, begin rubbing it across the paper. You may have to experiment with the amount of pressure required to get the pattern to appear.
3. Select another color and texture. Repeat the process in step 2.
4. Continue in this manner until you have filled as much of the paper as you'd like.
5. If you like your design, you can leave it as it is or you can add water to a foam brush and lightly brush it over the paper to smear the oil pastels slightly. Use a small amount of water so you do not lose the appearance of the pattern.





4



5

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# Creating Depth and Shading with Color

By [Rita Barakat](#)

*As an artist, I get many questions about how to make art come to life and about those times it might look flat because there is no color depth, shading or variety. You can easily add drama and depth to your art with a few easy color tricks.*

## Materials:

- ◆ Faber-Castell Design Memory Craft® Gelatos® Double Scoops®,
- ◆ PITT® Artist Pens
- ◆ PITT0174 Gesso
- ◆ Roc-lon® Multi-Purpose Cloth™
- ◆ The Crafter's Workshop Stencils
- ◆ Pencil
- ◆ Ranger Stickles™

## Tools:

Paint brush and water

## Instructions:

Shades of the same color or complementary colors are important for depth.

Shading and depth do not have to be complicated if you think of it in shades of the same color. For flesh tones, start out with your lightest color, (in this case peach) and use a darker color (brown) for the shading.

Choose a side. Just like when you take a picture, if there is too much light in front of the subject, it appears flat. In your mind, decide where the light is coming from. In my picture, the light would be coming from her upper left so that she would be lighter on the left and the shadows would fall on the right, so that is where I put the darker color. Remember to also add shadow under the hair line and under the chin.

1



2



I am using Gelatos®Colors which is great because I can draw the color, then go back with a wet paint brush and blend. If you are using other paint, the same technique applies for placing your shades and coloring, but your drying time/blending opportunity will vary. I add a little pink to brighten the cheek-

3



You can always add more color if it is too light or you want a different complexion and add white and blend on areas like the nose for highlights. If you look at people (in real life – not touched up magazines) they have variations in skin tone color, so don't worry if the color is not perfectly even and don't be afraid to experiment

4



The same applies for hair color. On my project what looks like two to three colors is actually one color, drawn with a Gelatos®Colors, blended with a wet paint brush but leaving some areas darker than others.

5



When it dried I used a PITT® Artist Pen in the same color to define edges and add small details. This technique will surely add depth to your projects!

6



For more on this project, and to see the completed project, please visit [here](#).

[Rita Barakat](#) is a Mixed Media Artist, Illustrator and Designer & Educator. From wall murals to itty bitty minis, you can find her work in various hospitals, corporations, family homes, manufacturer websites and magazines. She designs for Faber-Castell Design Memory Craft®, DCWV, The Crafters Workshop and freelances for a variety of manufacturers.



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# Stenciled Throw Pillows



# Courtney Chambers *and* Tanner Bell

*Decorating and redecorating our rooms is one of our favorite activities. With simple DIY projects, it is possible to change your room with your ever-changing style. Stenciling is a great way to achieve a variety of looks for guys and girls! That's what makes these DIY Stenciled Throw Pillows so much fun!*

## **Materials:**

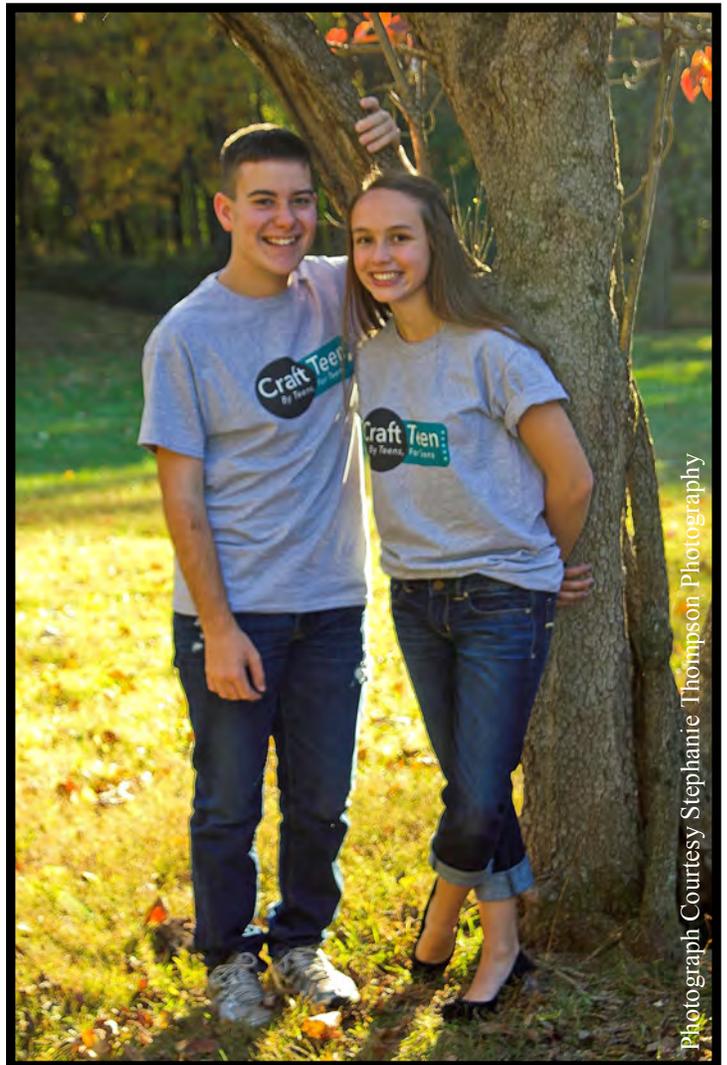
- ◆ Square white pillow case
- ◆ Stuffing
- ◆ Tulip® Fabric Paint
- ◆ Stencils of your choice

## **Tools:**

- ◆ Paint brushes

## **Instructions:**

1. Decide what design you're going to go for. Don't be afraid to layer stencils and have fun with color.
2. Place the first stencil down where you decided.
3. Paint in the stencil making sure not to let the paint bleed under the edges.
4. Allow the first pattern or design to dry before applying another stencil on top.
5. Stuff your pillow!



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# Bejeweled Tone Necklace

*This fall, we will be seeing lots of jewel tones in fashion. The pendant is easy to make and this necklace will definitely bring a warmth of color to the cooler days of fall.*

By [Suzann Sladcik Wilson](#)

## Instructions:

1. Condition 1/2 of your polymer clay in your clay conditioning machine. Roll out into a flat sheet using the widest setting of your clay conditioning machine.
2. Take 1/2 of your remaining clay and condition it. Place a ball of your clay into your clay extruder. Extrude your clay using the plate with the smallest circles.
3. Press your three gems into your sheet of polymer clay. Encircle the gems using the strips that you extruded.
4. Using your clay cutting tool, cut around the gems, leaving extra room at the top to make a hole to attach a jump ring.
5. Bake in your clay oven at 275 degrees for 15 minutes.
6. Once your pendant has cooled, place the jump ring through the hole using your chain nose and flat nose pliers.
7. Attach 1/2 of your clasp onto one end of the beading wire using your crimp tube and crimping pliers.
8. String on one gold spacer, one red rondelle, one green bicone, one purple round, one green bicone, one red rondelle, one gold spacer, and one gold round. Repeat 4 more times, leaving out the gold round on your last section.
9. Place your pendant onto your necklace.
10. Repeat step 8 for the second half of your necklace.
11. Attach the second half of your clasp using a crimp tube and crimping pliers to finish your necklace.

## Materials

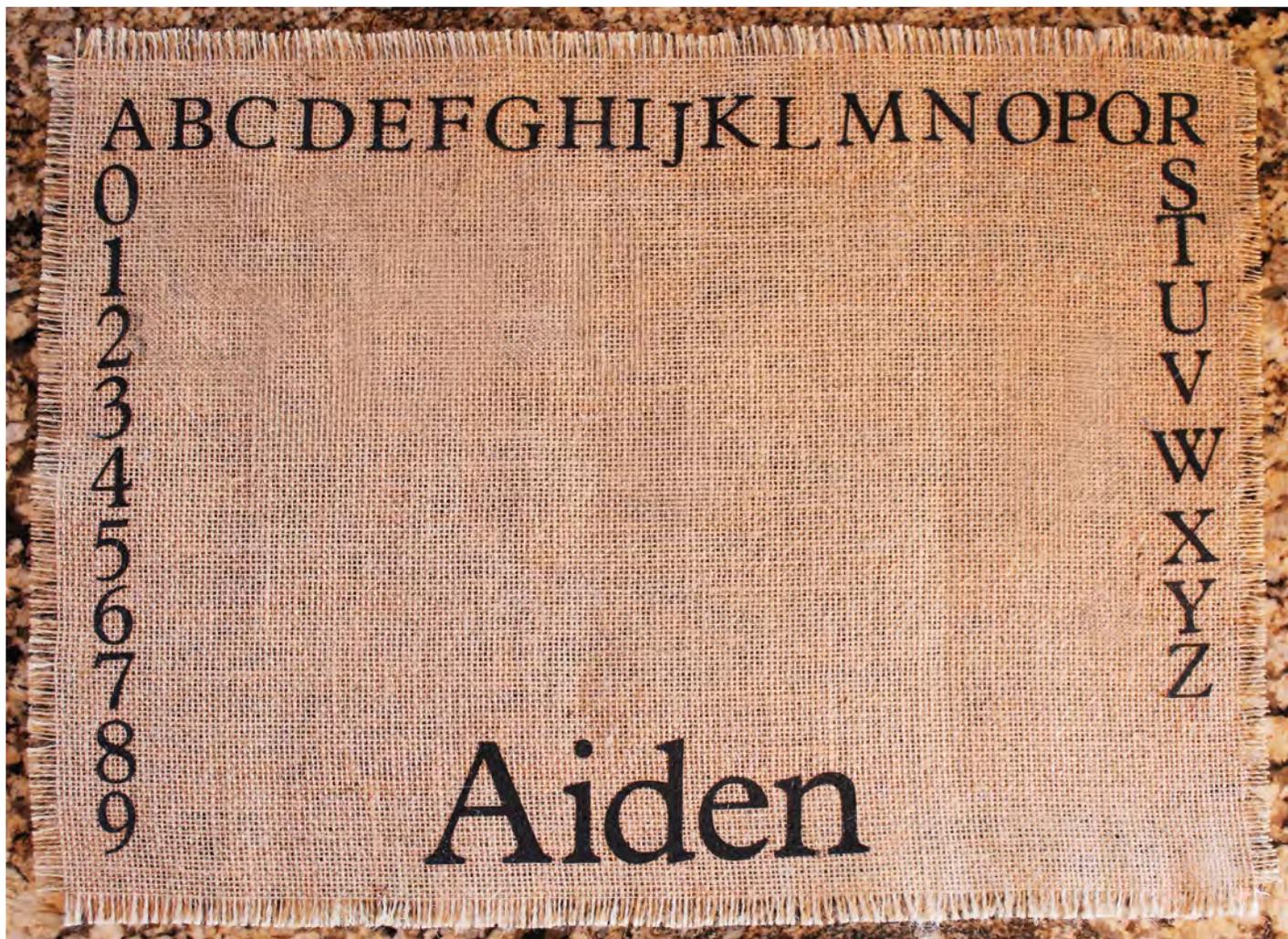
## Tools

- ◆ Sculpey® Premo!, 18K Gold
  - ◆ Glass gem: red, green, purple (1 each)
  - ◆ Crystal rounds, 10mm, purple (10)
  - ◆ Swarovski® Crystal bicones, 6mm, emerald (20)
  - ◆ Crystal rondelles, 4mm, red (20)
  - ◆ Gold spacers, 4mm (10)
  - ◆ Gold rounds, 8mm (8)
  - ◆ Gold toggle (1)
  - ◆ Beading wire, 20"
  - ◆ Crimp tubes, gold, 2mm (2)
  - ◆ Jump ring, 10mm, gold (1)
- 
- ◆ Wire cutters
  - ◆ Crimping pliers
  - ◆ Chain nose pliers
  - ◆ Flat nose pliers
  - ◆ Clay extruder
  - ◆ Clay cutting tool
  - ◆ Clay conditioning machine
  - ◆ Clay oven

[Suzann Sladcik Wilson](#) is a master in her field, with a discerning eye for color and composition. Using only the highest quality materials of Swarovski crystals, vintage components, artisan glass and more, she creates beauty and joy in the form of earrings, necklaces, bracelets and watches.

Suzann has authored the books *Simple Beginnings: Beading* and *Simple Beginnings: Soldering for Design Originals*. Her articles and jewelry designs have appeared all over the web and in print. Be sure to visit her [blog](#) for more creative inspiration.





# Personalized Placemat

By [Ann Butler](#)

I have a “Love/Hate” relationship with burlap. I love the texture, the price and the end result of finished projects when I use burlap; but I hate the mess that occurs when cutting burlap. Regardless, I knew that burlap would make awesome placemats quickly and easily. I choose to use Neenah EPC Film for this project as it bonds perfectly with the burlap.

## Materials:

- ◆ Neenah EPC Film, 12” x 12”, black
- ◆ Burlap, 18” x 13”
- ◆ [Beacon™ Adhesives Tacky Glue](#)
- ◆

## Tools:

Cricut® Expressions™, Plantation Schoolbook Cartridge, Cricut® cutting mat, iron, computer, Cricut® Craft Room (Free to install on your computer).

## Instructions:

1. Fringe the burlap about 1/4 inch all the way around.
2. In each corner place a small amount of tacky glue to stop any more fringing.
3. In the Cricut® Craft Room, choose a 12 inch by 12 inch mat and type the alphabet in capitals and the numbers in a one inch size as follows: A – L horizontal, M- R horizontal, S – Z vertical and 0 – 9 vertical. Then type the name of

your choice in a 2 ½ inch size. Flip the entire screen, so you will be cutting in reverse.

4. Place EPC Film onto cutting mat and insert into the Cricut Expressions™ and cut. Remove the excess EPC Film, leaving the letters and numbers in tack.
5. Follow manufacturer’s instructions and iron onto the prepared placemat, using photo as guide for placement.

## Tips:

- You can use any die cutting machine and alphabet/number set you happen to have for this project.
- When ironing, be careful not to go over the letters you already have down or they will life up.

# Easy Decorative Pillow

By Theresa Cifali for [VELCRO® Brand](#)

*Pillows are popular accessories used to add decorative touches to a room.*

*With Velcro® Sticky Back for Fabrics, you can alter them with fun accents that can be changed whenever you want. You won't believe how easy it is to do!*

## Materials:

- ◆ [VELCRO® Brand Sticky Back for Fabrics, sheet, beige](#)
- ◆ Pillow, rectangle
- ◆ Micro beads, red, teal
- ◆ Buttons, assorted

## Tools:

Scissors, Sizzix® Big Shot™, Sizzix® Bigz™ Flower Layers & Leaves, Sizzix® Cutting Mats (2), bead tray or other small container

## Instructions:

1. With the Sizzix© Big Shot™ and die, cut one large 6-petal flower, one small 6-petal flower and 2 8-petal flowers from the loop side sheet of the Velcro® sheet. Cut the sheet smaller in order to fit the flowers only.
2. Next, cut several circles with the same die from the hook side of the Velcro® sheet.
3. Add the three large flowers to the upper, right corner of the pillow. Then, adhere the smaller 6-petal flower on top of the larger one.



4. Dump some of the teal micro beads into a bead tray or small container. Then, remove the backing from one of the circles and press into the micro beads until the discs are covered.
5. Repeat step 4 with the red micro beads, but only use one circle.
6. Add the micro-beaded circles to the center of the flowers.
7. Create other centers from items like buttons or fibers and store them in a plastic sandwich bag. Change out the flower centers to achieve a different look for your pillows.



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# Inspired Floral Centerpiece

**This floral centerpiece is the perfect blend of fun and whimsy. The dark, rich colors are a wonderful representation of fall. With all of the details in this centerpiece, it will take you a little longer to create, but it would make a great gift for a party hostess or a friend who's moving into a new home.**

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

## Materials:

- ◆ The Paper Studio®, assorted pattern papers
- ◆ Bazzill® cardstock, White
- ◆ Fringe trim
- ◆ Sheer ribbon
- ◆ Recycled paper container
- ◆ Wood dowels, 1/8"
- ◆ Aleene's® Crystal Clear Tacky Spray®
- ◆ Aleene's® Quick Dry Tacky Glue®
- ◆ Tulip® See-Thru Stones™
- ◆ Buttons, assorted
- ◆ ColorBox® Archival Dye Inkpad, Atlantic Blue
- ◆ Heartfelt Creations®, Sun-Kissed Fleur Pre-Cut Set
- ◆ JustRite® Papercraft, Cling Stamp Set, You Inspire Me
- ◆ Paper confetti, dark blue
- ◆ Glass stones

## Tools:

- ◆ [Westcott Brand® Non-Stick Scissors](#)
- ◆ Spellbinders™ Artisan X-Plorer™ Die Cut Machine
- ◆ Spellbinders™ Shapeabilities®, Jewel Flowers & Flourishes dies
- ◆ Glue gun

## Instructions:

1. Use the spray adhesive to adhere various pattern papers to white cardstock. Run the papers through the die cut machine multiple times to create the flowers and swirls.
2. Stamp the large flower from the fleur stamp with the inkpad six times on various pattern papers, then cut out. Stamp the labels and word stamps on pattern paper, then cut out.
3. Layer three different size flowers and adhere all the flowers together with Zip Dry™. Adhere four single flowers and labels together. Adhere the See-Thru Stones™ and various buttons to the flower centers with glue gun.
4. Adhere the pattern paper to the container with spray adhesive. Adhere the trim and bow to the container with the glue gun.
5. Fill the container halfway with glass stones and confetti. Adhere the flowers to various lengths of the wood dowels with the glue gun. Die cut three swirls and adhere to the back of the flowers.
6. Place the finished flowers into the container.



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# Up-cycled Studio Wraps

By [Ann Butler](#)

To keep organized in my studio, I use lots of small containers: jars, cans, boxes, drawers, etc. So being crafty, I feel those items should be pretty as well as functional. That is where this project comes in: "Up-cycled Studio Wraps". I wanted to be able to clean the jars without ruining them, so I created wraps using VELCRO® Sticky Back for Fabrics so that I could take the wraps off of the jars when needed...how cool is that?

## Materials:

- ◆ Burlap, ¼ yard
- ◆ [VELCRO® Sticky Back for Fabrics, tape](#)
- ◆ Assorted scraps of paper and fabric
- ◆ Assorted embellishments: beads, flowers, charms, die

- ◆ cuts, ribbon, etc.
- ◆ [Beacon™ Adhesives Quick Grip™](#)
- ◆ Assorted jars

## Tools:

- ◆ Westcott Brand® Non-Stick Scissors
- ◆ Ruler

## Instructions:

1. Measure around each jar to determine the width and height you need for each wrap, adding one inch to the width for overlap.
2. Cut the burlap to the sizes needed and fringe the top and bottom edges about ¼ inch. Add a small amount of tacky glue to the corners of the fringe to help keep them from fraying, let dry.

3. Cut the VELCRO® Sticky Back for Fabrics to the height of the burlap. Attach to each end. Place the wrap onto the jar and adjust if needed then remove the wrap.
4. Glue the embellishments onto the wrap as desired. Place the wrap onto the jar after the glue has dried.

## Tips:

- You can use any type of fabric or decorative cardstock in place of the burlap.
- If you do not want to make the wrap removable simply glue the burlap onto the jar where it overlaps, then glue the embellishments on top of the overlap to hide it.
- This is a great project to use up all of those small left over items you have been saving.

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# Altered Corkboard

By [Theresa Cifali](#)



## Materials:

- ◆ Krylon® ColorMaster™ Primer, Gray
- ◆ Krylon® Craft Series™ Shimmer Metallic, Silver
- ◆ Ribbon, 5/8": deep purple, dark teal
- ◆ Decorative trim
- ◆ Corkboard, a size of your choosing
- ◆ Thumbtacks

## Tools:

[Westcott Brand® Scissors](#), newspaper, blue painters tape, glue gun with extra glue sticks

**As the mom of 2 teenage girls, I know how much they love their rooms. My youngest daughter is always creating something for her room. She creates original pieces of art to adorn her walls and likes to alter containers so that they match her room décor. We altered a corkboard, so that she would have a place to showcase her favorite photos and mementos, instead of taping everything to her walls!**

**This is a fun project to do together with your child...boy or girl. Spend time together choosing the right color combo and embellishments. Then, guide them through the steps to create it themselves. It will give them a sense of accomplishment and give them a place to display photos, school schedules and more.**

## Instructions:

1. Cover the cork area of the board with newspaper, leaving about ¼-inch of the cork exposed.
2. Tape the edges down with blue painter's tape. Make sure that the tape comes up against the edge of the wood frame. *Note: It is important to use a low-tack tape, otherwise the cork will peel up with the tape when you remove it.*
3. Spray the wood edge of the corkboard with Primer and let it dry for about an hour.
4. Once dry, spray over the Primer with the silver spray paint. Let it dry completely.
5. Cut and layout 4 lengths of teal ribbon diagonally across the short side of the corkboard. Space them out by eye or you can measure, if you prefer.
6. Next, cut and layout 4 lengths of the purple ribbon diagonally in the opposite direction of the teal ribbon. Space them out in the same manner as you did for step 6.
7. Use thumbtacks to secure the ribbon to the corkboard where the two color ribbons intersect.
8. Trim the ends of the ribbon, so that they are flush with the edges of the wood frame. Then, tack those edges down with thumbtacks.
9. Adhere the decorative trim to the wood frame with hot glue.
10. Hang your board.

# Monogrammed Gift Caddy

By Ann Butler for [Grafix® Arts](#)

Chipboard is the perfect surface for so many craft projects so, when you team it up with peel and stick Funky Film from [Grafix®](#) you have a winning combination! It is sturdy and die cuts like butter which makes it perfect for this little gift caddy.

## Materials:

- ◆ [Grafix® Chipboard](#), 8 1/2" x 11", Black
- ◆ [Grafix® Funky® Film](#), Royal Blue
- ◆ Ann Butler Designs EZ-De's 2" Flourish ABC's
- ◆ Colorbox® Surfacez Ink, Black
- ◆ Aleene's® Double-Sided Tacky Tape

## Tools:

Sizzix® Big Shot, Sizzix® Bag Caddy Die, Sizzix® Extended Plates, craft knife, ruler, pencil, acrylic block

## Instructions:

1. Measure and cut the Chipboard and Funky® Film 6 inches by 11 inches. Adhere the Funky® Film to one side of Chipboard
2. Die cut the Chipboard using the Big Shot™ and Bag Caddy Die.
3. Stamp initial onto front of the caddy.
4. Assemble the caddy using tacky tape.
5. Place a gift card or small gift inside for someone special. (optional).



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On September 3, Eileen is loading up her vintage trailer and heading out on a two month travel teaching tour from VA to CA... and back (hopefully!)

Eileen will be sharing her experiences on social media so it's almost like you are riding along! Follow her at: [eileenhull.com](http://eileenhull.com)



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Cleveland, Ohio 44137



# Easy and Quick to Knit Beret

By [Lindsay Obermeyer](#)

**This is an amazingly quick and easy to knit beret that uses just one skein of yarn!  
Make one for your oldest going off to college or get a head start on your holiday gifts.  
This beret was knit in Lion Brand Yarn- Amazing in the Glacier Bay colorway (there are  
over 23 colorways in this line.) The yarn is soft and has a slight fuzz similar to mohair .  
The acrylic content keeps it lightweight and machine washable.  
I knit it slightly tighter than the manufacturers recommendation  
to make a sturdy, warm beret.**

## Materials:

- ◆ Lion Brand®, Amazing® Yarn, 1 ball

## Tools:

- ◆ Circular needles, #8, 16"
- ◆ Double point needles, #8 (4)
- ◆ Tapestry needle
- ◆ Stitch markers (6)
- ◆ Scissors

Size : Medium adult with 21" circumference at brim.

## Gauge: Always check gauge!

20 sts x 28 rows= a 4x4" swatch in stockinette on #8 needles

## Instructions:

1. Cast on 88 sts. Place stitch marker and join round.
2. Work in a 1x1 rib (k2,P2 for 1 inch.) After 1" knit in the round. Begin increase round. K2, M1, K2, M1 until 132 sts total.

3. Knit every round (which in the round will create a stockinette fabric) for 5" from increase round.
4. On last round, place a stitch marker every 22 sts. Begin decreasing. K2tog before each stitch marker. Continue decreasing until you must switch to using double pointed needles. This will be around 36 sts total. Continue decreasing in the same fashion until you are down to just 8 sts. K2tog until only 6 sts remain on one needle.
5. Knit 2" of i-cord. Slide the remaining 6 sts to the end of the dp needle. Pull the yarn into place and knit the sts. They will eventually pull into a tube shape. Continue until you have 2". Cut the yarn and leave a 6" tail. Thread tapestry needle and work tail through remaining 6 sts. Pull tight, and weave in tail.
6. Weave in other tail from beginning. Block, if desired, on a dinner plate. Add a bow or buttons to further personalize the beret.

Please note: M1. – for M1 directions go [here!](#)

[Lindsay Obermeyer](#) has been sharing her passion for the textile arts since 1988. Her writing has appeared in "Reinventing Textiles," "Fiberarts," "Knit.1", "Craft 'n Things" and on ehow.com. Her art has been featured in museum and gallery exhibitions worldwide, including the museum of Fine Arts Boston and The Racine Art Musueum. She holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in textiles.





# Say it with "WORDS"

By [Ann Butler](#)

Make GIFT Giving extra special by making gift bags with your sentiments right on them!

This WINE Bag is quick and easy to make and can be easily adjusted in size for other gift items. I chose burlap for this because it is perfect for fall, but you can create these with any fabric you have.

## Instructions:

1. Fringe the burlap about 1/4 inch on 13 inch ends.
2. In each corner, place a small amount of tacky glue to stop any more fringing.
3. In the Cricut® Craft Room, choose a 12 inch by 12 inch mat and type "THANKS". Flip the entire screen, so you will be cutting in reverse.
4. Place the EPC Film onto the cutting mat, then insert into the Cricut® Expressions™ and cut. Remove the excess EPC Film, leaving the letters and numbers in tack.
5. Follow the manufacturer's instructions and iron the letters onto the fabric, using the photo as a guide for placement.
6. Fold the right sides together, then sew up each seam. Turn the bag right side out and place a bottle of wine inside.
7. Tie off with the twine.

## Materials

- ◆ Neenah EPC Film, 12" x 12", Black
- ◆ Burlap, 13" x 20"
- ◆ [Beacon™ Adhesives Tacky Glue™](#)
- ◆ Twine
- ◆ Thread, to match fabric

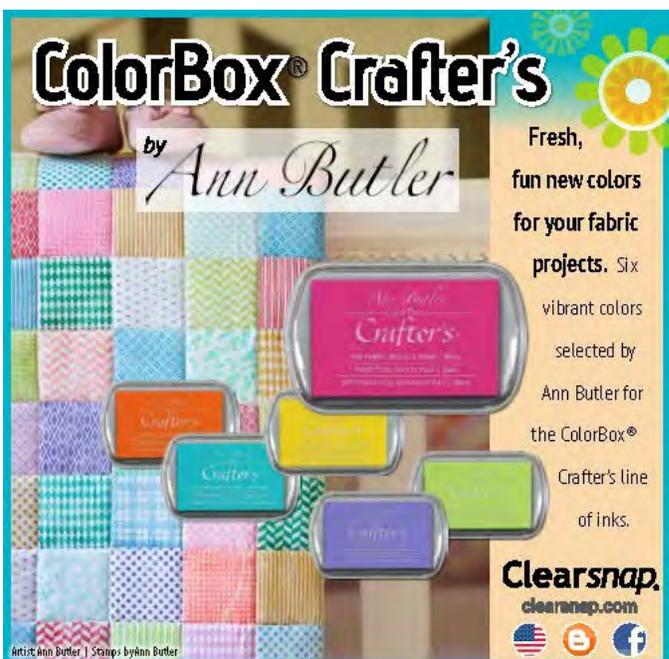
## Tools

- ◆ Westcott Brand® Scissors
- ◆ Cricut® Expressions™, Cuttin Up Cartridge
- ◆ Cricut® Cutting Mat,
- ◆ Sewing machine (optional)
- ◆ Iron
- ◆ Computer
- ◆ Cricut® Craft Room (Free to install on your computer).

## Blog for Bella

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**ColorBox® Crafter's**  
by *Ann Butler*

Fresh, fun new colors for your fabric projects. Six vibrant colors selected by Ann Butler for the ColorBox® Crafter's line of inks.

**Clearsnap.**  
clearsnap.com

Artist: Ann Butler | Stamps by Ann Butler

The advertisement features a vibrant, multi-colored patchwork background. In the foreground, several ink cartridges in various colors (pink, orange, yellow, green, purple) are displayed. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout, with the brand name and author's name at the top, followed by a descriptive paragraph and the Clearsnap logo and website at the bottom.



# Vintage Book Jewelry Box

By [Theresa Cifali](#)

**Old vintage books are easy to find and have many artistic uses. One of my favorite things to do with old books to make keepsake boxes.**

**This jewelry box is created from an old book that I purchased from a garage sale.**

**Make one for yourself or give one as a gift.**

## Instructions:

1. Add a generous layer of Tacky Glue® to the inside, back cover of the book. Then, close the cover and press firmly.
2. Squeeze out a generous amount of Tacky Glue® onto a plate and add a small amount of water. Mix it well.
3. Flip the book over and open the front cover. Use a foam brush to add liberal amounts of glue to the outside edges of the book pages. Be sure to squeeze the brush into the edges of the pages.
4. Place a piece of wax paper down on top of the front page and then, close the cover. Add book weights or a pile of heavy books on top of the vintage book and leave it overnight to dry.
5. Once the pages have dried, open the front cover and draw a rectangle on the front page, so that there is about a ½-inch border around the edges.
6. Using the steel ruler as a guide, begin to carve out the center of the book until you've made a deep well.
7. Glue the inside edges of the pages in the same manner as you did in steps 2-3.
8. Replace the wax paper and close the cover. Then, add the weights or books back on top until the glue is completely dry.
9. Paint the entire inside and outside of the book with gesso. Let it dry completely.
10. With an acrylic brush, paint the paper edges and the inside of the book Metallic Antique Gold. Let it dry.
11. With an acrylic brush, paint the bottom edge of the bottom cover, the spine and both the inside and outside cover of the book Deep Tomato Red. Let it dry completely. Then, apply a second coat of paint.
12. Add the skeleton leaves and the flowers to the top cover with Tacky Glue®. Let it dry completely.
13. Place jewelry or mementos inside the box for safe-keeping.

## Materials

- ◆ Aleene's® Tacky Glue®
- ◆ Prima® Floral Embellishments, #714147, #714208
- ◆ Plaid® folkArt® acrylic paint: Deep Tomato Re, Metallic Antique Gold
- ◆ Golden® Gesso
- ◆ Skeleton leaves, natural
- ◆ Water

## Tools

- ◆ Utility knife
- ◆ Steel ruler
- ◆ Pencil
- ◆ Foam brushes
- ◆ Acrylic paint brush
- ◆ Paper plates
- ◆ Wax paper
- ◆ Book weights or heavy books

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# Twigs & Burlap Candle Holder

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

*If you're looking for something to make that's quick and easy, then this project is for you. By wrapping the twigs around the glass candle holder, this project is perfect for any fall table. And if you want to get the kids involved, send them out to the yard to collect all the twigs! If you live in an area that doesn't produce a lot of twigs, you can purchase a wreath or twig swag and just cut them to the size you need.*

## Materials:

- ◆ Glass candle holder
- ◆ Twigs
- ◆ Hemp fiber trim
- ◆ Corrugated paper
- ◆ Aleene's® Glass & Bead Adhesive™

## Tools:

- ◆ [Westcott Brand® Extreme Edge Scissors](#)
- ◆ Glue gun

## Instructions:

1. Cut the corrugated paper 2 ½ inches by 12 inches and adhere around the candle holder with adhesive.
2. Using the glue gun, adhere the twigs to the corrugated paper.
3. Adhere the burlap trim and hemp trim around the candle holder with glue gun.



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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](http://clearsnap.com)



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By [Julie McGuffee](#)

# Summer Memories = Fall Décor

I love shells. Always have, always will...I started collecting them as a child and have boxes upon boxes of them, lovingly wrapped and stored. Over the years I've used them to create countless projects and gifts and some of them simply reside in apothecary jars on a dresser. They hold memories of trips to the beaches everywhere I've been.

Shells are great for decorating, especially bathrooms, so gather up the shells you collected during your beach vacation and preserve your memories with them by creating something fun and functional.

To make these projects, you'll need a half hollow sphere of [Smoothfoam®](#) and a Smoothfoam disc about 2-3" larger than the mirror you want to use. I used a

round mirror, but you can do the same thing with a square or rectangle. Smoothfoam is available in sheets and squares in different sizes. If you don't have your own shells, you can always find bags of them at the craft store and you won't have to clean them! You'll also need a glue gun, lo-temp glue sticks and burlap ribbon. The rest is easy.

To make your "boutique mirror" glue the mirror to the center of the disc then glue burlap ribbon (or sisal rope found at the hardware store) around the outside edge. Arrange the shells around the outside of the mirror then glue them in place, one by one.

**NOTE: Shells transfer heat very quickly so take care when gluing, they can become surprisingly hot!**

To make the bowl you will need to flatten the bottom. Using a craft knife, or sharp paring knife, carefully slice a piece about 4" in diameter from across the bottom of the bowl. Smoothfoam is very dense, so do this very slowly and carefully. Depending on how you cut this, you may now have a hole in the bottom of the bowl, so glue the piece you cut off to the bottom of the bowl on the inside. Or, you can glue a small, disposable foam plate in the bottom of the bowl to cover up the hole. Glue burlap ribbon onto the upper, flat edge of the bowl. You can paint the inside if you like, but I liked mine white. I used large shells to cover the outside, but you can use whatever shells you have available. There's no right way, or wrong way, only your way! Enjoy!

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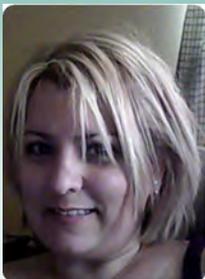
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[Larissa Pittman](#) is an artist in the Texas Hill Country. She is a mom to a beautiful 23 year old daughter and wife to a Texas Peace Officer. She has 2 fur babies: a German Shepherd and a 5 lb Morkie. She became addicted to paper crafting over 10 years ago. She has been card making for the last 5 years. Over the last 2 years, she has branched out into mixed media, altering items, drawing and painting. She loves doodling on everything. Larissa has the privilege of working with some of the best designers in the industry showcasing their products. She has been blogging her work for a little over 3 years at [Muffins and Lace](#).

# Chalk Board Lazy Susan

**I am obsessed with Chalk Boards. I have painted many frames, mirrors, pieces of wood with chalkboard paint and have them hanging all over my house. I recently found this old table top and decided to make it into a Lazy Susan for the middle of my table. I then thought, why not chalk it?**

## Materials:

- ◆ Round piece of wood, table top or Lazy Susan kit
- ◆ Krylon® Chalkboard Paint, Black
- ◆ StazOn®, Opaque White
- ◆ Ann Butler Designs Ez-De's 2" Flourish ABC's Stamp Set
- ◆ Chalk

## Tools:

- ◆ Acrylic block
- ◆ Paint brushes

## Instructions:

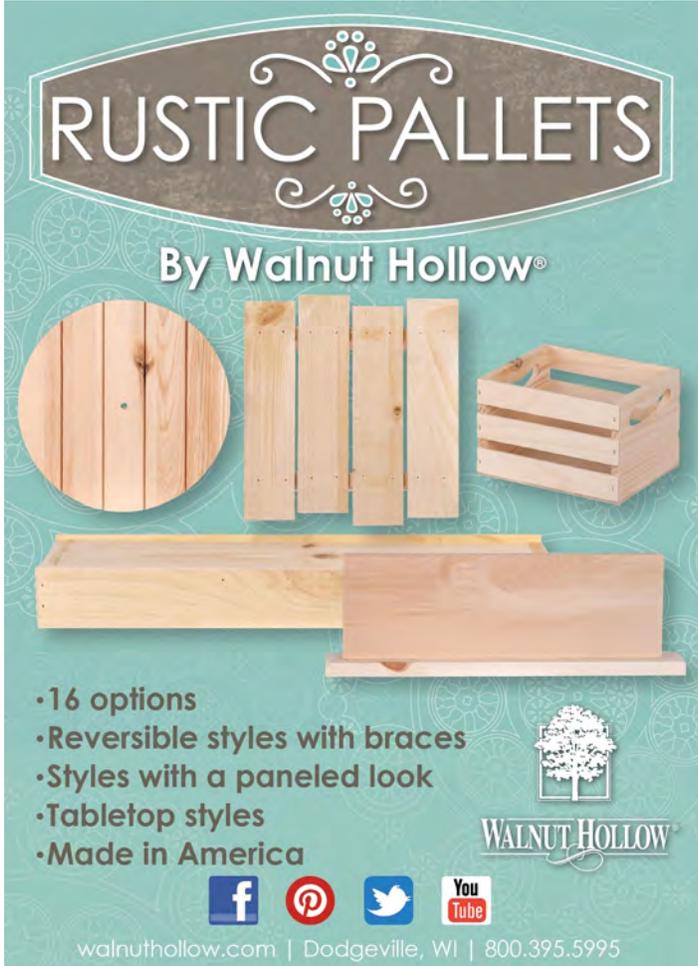
1. Start out with the round table top. (I had a Lazy Susan kit that I picked up from the local hardware store.)
2. Assemble the kit, then take a damp paper towel and dust off the top.
3. Wait for it to dry completely, then paint the top with the Chalkboard Paint. Apply 3 coats. (You could probably get away with 2, but I gave it an extra coat just to make sure. Make sure to get the edges, too.)
4. After the paint dries completely, grab your favorite alphabet stamp set and stamp out a phrase of your choosing. (I then found the perfect verse for my dining room and stamped it out.) Stamp the words going in different angles.
5. Once the ink has dried completely, draw a design around the edges with the chalk. (I added a couple of wine glasses and a cluster of grapes. You could always draw something different, depending on the season.)

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# Fall(ing) for the Bangle!

By [Madeline Faiella](#)



I was looking at paint skins, you know, the skin that forms around a paint can or in your jar? I came up with a *new technique* for making jewelry and mixed media. I call this technique ARTSKINZ©. Paint skins found and/or created are so much fun. You can glue, stitch, bend, and color them just how you like.

Inspired by the colors of fall when sunlight hits the falling and still green leaves, I used “EMERALD GREEN” which is super hot this upcoming season..

Easy and fun to make, YOU WILL LOVE PLAYING with this technique. And the better you get, the more sophisticated your jewelry will be. Your teenagers can make their own jewelry as well. Go have fun with this!

## Materials:

- ◆ [ReadyToDecorate®](#) Wood Bangle, 1 1/2" Dome Exterior
- ◆ Earth Safe Finishes Shimmer Opaque, Emerald
- ◆ [Beacon 527 Glue](#)
- ◆ 24" Black Cotton Trimming (I used something in my stash! You can use anything you like; try fringe too)

## Tools:

X-Acto™ Knife, flat 1" paint brush, parchment paper, ruler (optional)

## Instructions:

1. Paint the inside and outside of the bangle with Shimmer and set aside.
2. Place an 8 inch by 12 inch piece of parchment paper on a clean, flat surface.
3. With a paint brush, lay down two 6 1/2 inches straight strips of the Shimmer paint approximately 2 inches wide (apply heavily to about 1/8 inch thick for best results) and allow them to dry overnight.
4. Carefully peel the dry strips of paint *off* of the parchment paper. Use one hand to grab the edge of the strips and the other to peel away the parchment paper. NOTE: The skin will have interesting folds and textures.
5. Place the glue onto the outside of the bangle as per the manufacturer's directions.
6. Place the skin over the glue and gently *push to form* for a nice snug fit.
7. With the X-Acto™ knife *facing away from you*, carefully cut away any and all excess skin so that the edges of the bangle are neat and clean.
8. Cut two 12 inch strips of the trim and glue one strip to one outer edge of each side of the bangle. Cutoff excess.

[Madeline Faiella](#) is a mixed media artist, craftsman, writer, art licensor and consultant. She has been published in various magazines, written ongoing columns, edited and published newsletters, demonstrated at trade shows and for TV, interviewed on radio, TV and live streaming.

She is licensed with [SinCity Stamps](#) and [KekaCases](#) where her images are made into rubber stamps and stencils and grace product lines such as home décor and electronics. She also has a line of non-toxic acrylic paints called [Art Jacket](#) .



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# Simple Sachets

By [Theresa Cifali](#)

*Looking for quick and easy gift ideas or shower favors? These cute little sachets are super simple to make and all the supplies can be found right at [Michaels®](#). You can fill them with potpourri or even use those little scented soaps.*

## **Materials:**

- ◆ Celebrate It™ Favor Bags, jute, 3"x4"
- ◆ Recollections™ Floral Embellishments
- ◆ Celebrate It™ Tulle, cream, 6" width
- ◆ [Aleene's® Fast Grab Tacky Glue™/MC](#)
- ◆ Delta Ceramcoat® acrylic paint, Tahiti Blue
- ◆ Scented mini soaps or potpourri
- ◆ Ribbon, 1/8"
- ◆ Wax paper

## **Tools:**

- ◆ Westcott Brand® Scissors
- ◆ Round foam brush
- ◆ Paper plate or palette

**Instructions:**

1. Cut a piece of wax paper slightly smaller than the jute bag. Then, place it inside the bag.
2. Squeeze out some paint onto a paper plate or palette. Stamp random polka dots all over the front of the jute bag with the round foam brush. Let it dry completely.
3. Next, glue the paper flowers to the front of the jute bag. Let it dry completely.
4. Cut a piece of tulle 13-inches long. Place the
5. mini soap or some potpourri at the center mark. Place the tulle inside the jute bag so that a little bit of the tulle stick out of the top. Pull the drawstrings tight and make a bow. *Note-If you are giving as a gift, you may wish to knot the drawstrings. If you are making for yourself, a bow will allow you to reopen it later to replace the soap or potpourri.*
6. Tie a piece of ribbon around the top of the bag and tie in a bow.

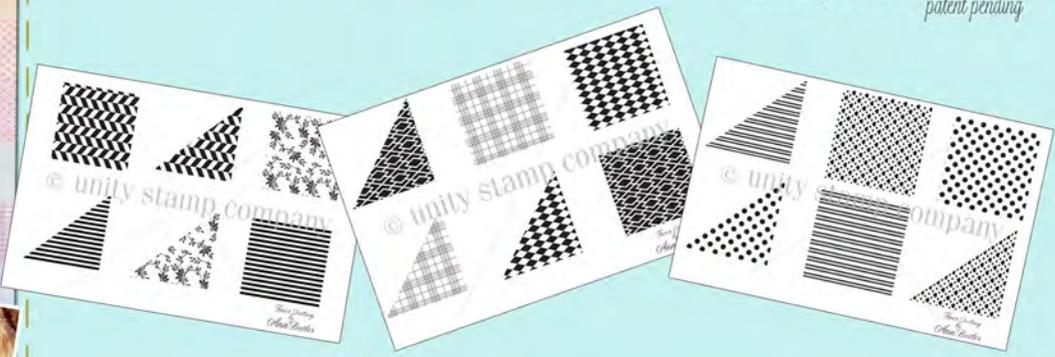
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Pillow Created by: Rebekah Meier

# Family Monogram

By [Ann Butler](#)



**Monograms are everywhere and what better place to use this hot ART item than in a framed piece for your home?**

**This is a quick and easy project that would also make a great gift. It took longer to find the font I wanted to use then to complete the project.**

## Materials:

- ◆ Matted frame, black, 14" x 17"
- ◆ Decorative cardstock, 8 ½" x 11"
- ◆ White copy paper
- ◆ Tape

## Tools:

- ◆ Computer
- ◆ Printer

## Instructions:

1. The font you choose will determine the font size, as each font is a bit different. I chose the "Engravers MT" font and used a size 96 for the "B" and a size 36 for the "BUTLER" and "EST. 1983".
2. I put each line into a photo editing program and manipulated it until I had the look I desired. Then, center the wording both horizontally and vertically.
3. Print out onto a piece of white

- copy paper to be sure that you like the size. Make adjustments in the font, if necessary.
4. Once you're happy with the font and size, print out onto the decorative cardstock.
5. Tape cardstock onto the back side of the mat and place into the frame.

# Autumn Wall Hanging

By [Lisa Rojas](#)



Fall and autumn always remind me of rich looking colors, those beautiful colors that you see when the leaves are turning and falling from the trees.

Of course, I live in the desert with nothing around but dirt and Joshua trees, so if I want to experience those colors that I love so much, it's either with a photo or some fabulous pattern paper!

## Materials:

- ◆ Ampersand Art® Stampbord™ (6)
- ◆ [Graphic 45® French Country Collection](#)
- ◆ Bazzill® cardstock, Vanilla
- ◆ ColorBox® Archival Dye Inkpad, Atlantic Blue
- ◆ Ribbon, brown
- ◆ [Beacon™ Adhesives Zip Dry Paper Glue™](#)
- ◆ Ann Butler's EZ-De's 2" Flourish Alphabet Stamp Set
- ◆ JustRite® Papercraft Clear Stamp Set, Vintage Labels Five

## Tools:

- ◆ [Westcott Brand® Personal Paper Trimmer](#)
- ◆ Westcott Brand® Scissors

## Instructions:

1. Cut the [pattern paper](#) 3 ½ inches by 3 ½ inches and adhere to the Stampbord™ pieces. Ink around the edges with the inkpad.
2. Stamp the label 4 times on yellow pattern paper. Cut out the images.
3. Stamp "FALL" on the vanilla cardstock, then cut out.
4. Adhere the letters to the stamped labels. Then, adhere the labels to Stampbord™.
5. Cut 6 pieces of ribbon 2 ½ inches long, then attach the ribbons to back of the Stampbord™ to connect the pieces.
6. Cut 1 piece of ribbon 6 inches long, then attach it to the back of the "F" to create a hanger.



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# Textured Quotable Canvas

By [Theresa Cifali](#)

The next time you see a quote that holds special meaning for you, don't just post it to your Facebook page! Instead, create a beautiful piece of art and add the quote to it. Then, display it on your mantle or hang it on a wall for everyone to enjoy.

## Materials:

- ◆ Liquitex® Modeling Paste
- ◆ Liquitex® Gel Medium, matte
- ◆ StazOn®, Jet Black
- ◆ Delta Ceramcoat® acrylic paint: White, Eggplant, Azure Blue, North Sea, Navy Blue, Ocean Reef Blue, Midnight Blue
- ◆ Canvas, 5" x 7"
- ◆ Water

## Tools:

- ◆ [Westcott Brand® Scissors](#)
- ◆ Palette knife
- ◆ The Crafter's Workshop mini chevron stencil
- ◆ Hero Arts® mini alphabet stamps
- ◆ Cling wrap
- ◆ Assorted acrylic paint brushes
- ◆ Paper plate or palette
- ◆ Small plastic container
- ◆ Paper towels

## Instructions:

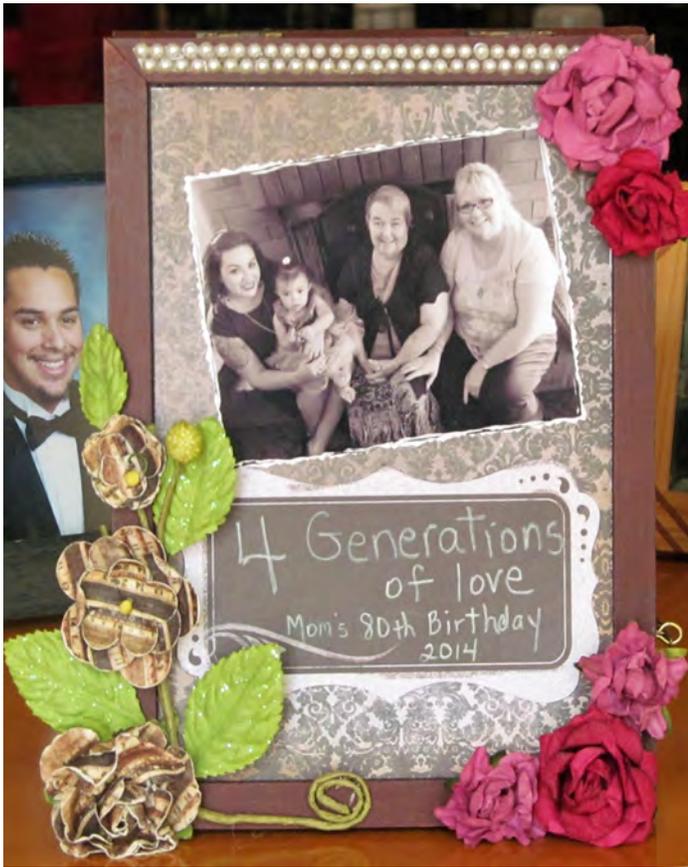
1. Place the stencil onto the top-left corner of the canvas with the chevrons going horizontal, so that there are only about two rows of the chevron pattern on the canvas.
2. Scoop out a small amount of modeling paste with the palette knife and spread it across the



3. Carefully remove the stencil by lifting straight up.
4. Repeat steps 2-3 at the bottom-right corner of the canvas.
5. Next, place a dollop of modeling paste in the bottom-left corner of the canvas. Smooth it out a little bit with the palette knife.
6. Tear off a small piece of cling wrap and bunch it up. Stipple the cling wrap over the modeling paste that you just spread out to create texture.
7. Allow the modeling paste to dry overnight.
8. Take your quote and decide how many rows of text you would like it to be arranged.
9. Stamp out the quote onto the twill ribbon. Make sure to leave a little extra space for cutting between lines.
10. Once the canvas is dry, squirt out the acrylic paints in a circle onto a paper plate or palette. Make sure to keep a small container of water nearby.
11. Next, start adding paint to the canvas with the brushes. Play with the color combination by mixing colors together. You can also dampen a piece of paper towel to remove paint in some areas before adding more color.
12. Once you have the base color down on the canvas, add lighter accent colors to different areas of the canvas, especially to the area where there is lots of texture. Let it dry completely.
13. Cut apart the quote with the scissors and play with the arrangement on the canvas until you have it the way you would like.
14. Removing one piece of ribbon at a time, carefully spread some gel medium to the back of it with the palette knife. Then, reattach the ribbon to the canvas.

# 4 Generations of Love

By [Lisa Rojas](#)



This project is very dear to my heart. For my mom's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, I wanted to do something very special for her. She had been asking me since my granddaughter was born to have a picture taken of the four generations. So, on the day of her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party, I made arrangements to have this photo taken. After the party, I created this project to give to my mom. When she opened the frame and cried, I knew I had accomplished my goal of doing something very special for her birthday. Happy 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Mom!

## Materials:

Easel Frame  
Glitz Design® Pattern Paper, Vintage Damask  
My Mind's Eye® Chalk Paper Frame  
Prima® Marketing Paper Flowers  
Pearl Trim  
[Beacon Adhesives® Zip Dry Paper Glue™](#)

**Tools:** Westcott Brand Scissors, glue gun

## Instructions:

1. Adhere the pattern paper to the easel frame with. Cut out the chalk paper frame. Adhere the paper frame and photo to the easel frame.
2. Attach the pearl trim to top of the easel frame. Using the glue gun, attach the flowers to the easel frame.

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