

# Bella Crafts Quarterly™

Your Inspiration for a Creative Life!™

Ken  
Oliver  
Artist to Artist

## In this issue

Faux Metal Charms  
Mixed Media Banner  
Floral Picnic Basket  
Fabric Marker Lamp  
Chic Paris Necklace  
...and so much more!

Learn. Create. Share.

[BellaCraftsQuarterly.com](http://BellaCraftsQuarterly.com)

Spring 2015

# We Need You!

Since 2012, we have brought you Bella Crafts Quarterly™, the digital magazine that is FREE to view online and download. It has been our greatest pleasure and is truly a labor of love.

We publish this ground-breaking magazine because we love to craft, learn and be inspired, just like you!

Now, keeping in tradition with our desire to bring crafting to the masses, we are excited to host a brand new consumer craft event at Mall of America

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# In this Issue...

Spring 2015

## Regular Features

- 5 **Cre8time Project**
- 7 **Notes from the Bella Desk**
- 8 **Trending Thoughts™**  
with Julie McGuffee
- 11 **Crafty Tech Talk™**  
with Helen Bradley
- 12 **Socially Sensible™**  
with Theresa Cifali
- 14 **Lessons with Lisa**  
with Lisa Rojas
- 16 **Artist to Artist**  
with Ann Butler
- 18 **Sew Everything™**  
with Susan Weckesser
- 22 **Creative Space™**  
with Lisa Fulmer
- 24 **Ken's Corner™**  
with Ken Oliver
- 26 **Blog Stars**  
with Ann Butler
- 34 **CrafTeenz™**  
with Courtney Chambers  
and Tanner Bell

## Projects to Create

- 28 **Welcome Spring Wreath**  
by Craft Marketing  
Connections
- 30 **Dresser Fabulous**  
by Roberta Birnbaum
- 32 **Mixed Media ART Banner**  
by Ann Butler
- 36 **Burlap Pillow**  
by Lisa Rojas
- 38 **Bandana Bracelets**  
by Lisa Rojas
- 39 **Wrap Around Bookmark**  
by Theresa Cifali
- 40 **Garden Sign**  
by Theresa Cifali

- 42 **Fabric Marker Lamp**  
by Craft Marketing  
Connections
- 44 **Piccolo Necklace**  
by Lisa Rojas
- 45 **Photo Cubes**  
by Theresa Cifali
- 46 **Chic Paris Necklace**  
by Marjolaine Walker
- 48 **Chalkboard Photo Banner**  
by Theresa Cifali
- 50 **Embossed Card**  
by Sara Naumann
- 52 **Faux Quilted Marbled Card**  
by Ann Butler
- 54 **Spring Wooden Blocks**  
by Larissa Pittman
- 55 **Up-Cycled Plate**  
by Ann Butler
- 56 **I-Pad 2 Sleeve**  
by Niki Meiners
- 58 **Spring Flowers Decor**  
by Carmen Whitehead
- 60 **Stenciled Chair**  
by Craft Marketing  
Connections
- 64 **Elegant Sister Frame**  
by Theresa Cifali
- 66 **Hurricane Butterfly Lamps**  
by Lisa Rojas
- 68 **Stenciled Clay Pot**  
by Ann Butler
- 70 **Faux Cloisonne**  
by Irit Shalom
- 72 **Faux Metal Charms**  
by Theresa Cifali
- 75 **Mixed Media Tags**  
by Ann Butler
- 76 **Floral Picnic Basket**  
by Lisa Rojas

### 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.

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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 manufacturers, using their products in her work, creating projects, 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, there is a banner that says "Visit the Bella Blog". Below this, the website header features the logo "Bella Crafts Quarterly™" and a navigation menu with links for Home, About, Info, Contact Us, Advertise, and Free. The main content area is divided into several sections. On the left, there is a section titled "10 Craft Blogs Worth Following" with a sub-header "Posted on April 17, 2014 by Bella Crafts Quarterly • 7 Comments". Below this is a circular graphic with the text "10 Craft Blogs WORTH FOLLOWING". To the right of this section is a "FREE Resource Guide" box with the text "Your #1 Resource for finding places to sell your crafts online and offline!" and a "Get My Copy" button. Below the "10 Craft Blogs" section is a section titled "Garden Fence Chandelier" with a sub-header "Posted on April 16, 2014 by Bella Crafts Quarterly • 7 Comments". This section features a large image of a chandelier with the text "SPRING 'Garden Fence' CHANDELIER" and a "Get My Copy" button. At the bottom of the page, there is a decorative graphic consisting of several overlapping circles made of small dots.

# Polka Dot Glittered Sun Glasses

Tired of boring Sunglasses? Add a little sparkle in minutes with Tacky Dots and Glitter. These are so simple that you can make a pair for every outfit.

## Materials:

- ◆ Aleene's® Tacky Dot Singles
- ◆ Tulip® Fashion Glitter®, Silver
- ◆ Sunglasses

## Tools:

- ◆ Copy paper (1)

## Instructions:

1. Apply the Tacky Dots to the bows of the sunglasses as desired.
2. Sprinkle the glitter onto the bows using the copy paper to catch the excess glitter.
3. Tap off the excess glitter from the bows and apply more glitter, if needed.
4. Pour the excess glitter back into the container.



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the things we love to do most are  
the first to go?

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# Bella Columnists



[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.



[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 world-wide. 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.



[Susan Weckesser](#) is the founder and owner of Susan K. Weckesser Inc. She has been teaching, selling crafts and painting for twenty-eight years. Susan has designed paper lines, fabric, stamps sets, and stencils. She is a freelance writer/designer, editor, photographer, and poet. Her work has been published in a variety of magazines. She is also a children's literature writer and illustrator. Susan attended the University of Alberta where she took the Bachelor of Arts program. She is a certified educator with Ice Resin, Ranger Ink, Premium Craft Brands/PanPastels, Helmar and a designer member of CHA. Susan has been married for twenty-four years and has four wonderful children, two feline friends & four gerbils. She lives in Alberta, Canada and has even been known to skydive just to say she did it!



[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 day.



[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, writer, designer, teacher, 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 tutorials for craft product manufacturers and she also writes and edits regularly for [FaveCrafts.com](#) and [CraftFoxes.com](#). She has authored two books, *Craft Your Stash*, and *Stylish Craft Foam Projects* – both are available online and in stores. Signed copies are available on her blog.

# Notes

**Introducing Craft Techniques™**  
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## 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)

## #HASHTAG

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

## #BellaCrafts



# Make a Connection!

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

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

**Connections** is an affordable way for you to advertise and get your company seen by hundreds of thousands of readers who have the potential to buy. **Connections** is an attractive flat-fee-per-issue advertisement for small businesses. There are no hidden costs.

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Bella Crafts Quarterly is free to read and download digitally. By offering a free download of our magazine, we remove the purchase-cost barrier between the reader and advertiser. Our readers do not have to pay a subscription fee to Bella Crafts Quarterly to see your ad in our magazine. The digital version of our issues is always available for download, which gives advertisements and marketing a longer shelf life.

Bella Crafts Quarterly averages over 300,000 downloads per issue. The **Connections** ad is a great way for your company or product to be seen by potential consumers.

### WHAT TO ADVERTISE:

Use a **Connections Ad** to broaden your reach and get consumers to notice your:

- Classes
- Workshops
- Online store
- Products
- Services
- New book
- Webinars
- Social media sites and blog to build your online presence

# Trending Thoughts™

with [Julie McGuffee](#)

In January each year, the Craft & Hobby Association (CHA), holds its annual mega trade show in Anaheim, California. This is where companies who manufacture products for craft stores and online retailers showcase their latest products. The show is not open to the public, but here is a glimpse of what you'll be seeing in your local stores over the coming months – brand new and updated products to get your creativity on.

Major paint companies featured multisurface paints, chalkboard paint and DecoArt has expanded their program dedicated to Mixed Media.



Plaid has put together a comprehensive program of tools and paints for chalk painting. Introduced to the US by Annie Sloan, chalk paint has gained rapid popularity due to its ability to be used on any surface: wood, metal, glass, ceramic, paper, canvas, plastic fabric, terra-cotta and plaster with minimal surface prep. It's the ideal product for turning an everyday home décor, or furniture item, into a one-of-a-kind conversation piece.

Paper companies are developing much more than sheets of paper and paper embellishments for today's crafter. Decorative laser cut chipboard and wood veneer pieces could be found in most of the booths, together with unique and intricate dies.



Traditional die companies are also offering more than just dies.



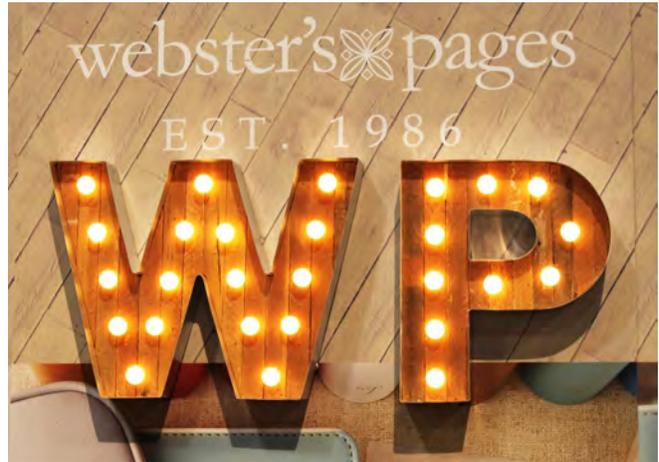
Bling is not going out of style any time soon. Rhinestone sticker sheets, glitter paste, metallic paint and glitter paint and more are all available to add sparkle and shine to every project in your home. Decorative foil is also making a comeback for added emphasis to paper and other surfaces.



Bling is also in the form of tiny, watch battery powered LED lights, which can be used to decorate all kinds of projects, including cards and even jewelry.



If you shopped at your local craft store over the past couple of months, you've probably noticed the lighted Marquee signs. They are a fun home dec item.



I've been in the craft industry for over 25 years, so I was excited to see a product I had not seen before: wood print blocks.



These intricately designed blocks from Finland are sure to become collector's items.



Plaid has already licensed the designs for resin print blocks, making them more readily available to the consumer, using the original wood block designs.

Both large and small wood pieces embellished with yarn were seen in a number of places.



There were projects for both children and adults. I loved string and yarn art as a child in the 50's. It's a fun art form for so many things and for all ages.

Paper flowers were in bloom everywhere this year. Little B won a "Hot New Product" award for their paper flower kits which make it easy for anyone to be an expert flower maker.



There is certainly no shortage of inspiration. A personal favorite is Lia Griffith's website, Handcraft Your Life at [www.liagriffith.com](http://www.liagriffith.com). She has some excellent videos and tutorials to share.

There is always so much to see, so I take lots of photos as I walk up and down the aisles on the show floor. You can see many of them on my blog, [Life in the Craft Lane](#). Keep Calm and Carry on Crafting!

Yours truly, Julie

## What every artist needs to know about photo file size and resolution

Can't tell megapixels from resolution or pixels from inches? I'll tell you what you need to know about photo file sizes for web and print.

Let's face it, sizing photos correctly ranks up there with having a root canal for many of us. It's confusing and it involves all sorts of weird acronyms and terms. However, it is critical that you get your photos the right size when submitting to magazines, blogs and competitions. So, here's what you need to know.

The photos your camera takes are generally larger than you need for print and way larger than you need for the web. In most cases, image size is measured in pixels – the little squares of color that make up a digital photo. For the web you only need to fill a computer screen so, because a large screen display measures only 1920 x 1080 pixels, that's as big as your photo needs to be. For most blogs, a width of 600 pixels is considered an ideal image width (height isn't so important.)

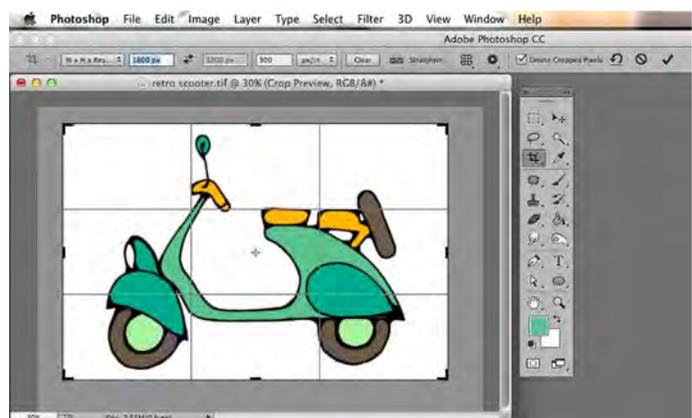
For high quality print, you need a minimum of 300 pixels per inch (ppi) so, for a 6 x 4 photo, you need an image that is 1800 x 1200 pixels in dimension. You get these values by simple math: 6 x 300 gives one dimension and 4 x 300 gives the other.

To prepare a photo for print or the web, you'll need a photo-editing program. Open the image in the program and then crop the photo to the desired size and resolution. You will need to crop, rather than resize, because it is unlikely that the original image dimensions (the ratio of its width to its height) will be the same ratio as you need to provide.

So, if you need a 6 x 4 inch image at 300 ppi, crop the photo to 1800 x 1200 pixels using the Crop tool. In Photoshop, click the Crop tool, enter the desired values into the tool options bar and crop the image to that size and resolution. In other programs, this might be a two-step process; first crop the photo to the desired number of pixels wide and high and then resample or resize to get the desired resolution (ppi).

Once you have cropped the photo, save it, giving it a new name by choosing File > Save As, so you don't overwrite the original file. For the web, you will need to save the photo as a JPEG format file, so choose this as the option. As the JPEG format is a compressed format, you must choose a quality/ compression value – the higher the quality, the less the file is compressed and vice versa. Choose a high value for quality because at low values your image won't look good, particularly if it contains any text.

When sending a photo via email be aware that your operating system and email program may conspire against you and they might resize or compress your photo in the process. To avoid this, package the photo into a zip file. On the PC, select the file(s) in Windows Explorer, right click and choose Send to > Compressed (zipped) Folder. On the Mac, select the image(s) in Finder and choose File > Compress. While this process may compress the files, it is a different and non-destructive compression to the compression applied when saving a file as a JPEG image. Attach the ZIP file to the email and it will be protected against alteration.



To get the right size image you should crop it to the required dimensions. Using the Crop tool in Photoshop, you can set the desired width, height and resolution all at once.



## Making the Most of Instagram

According to Webindex.com, Instagram is the fastest growing social media network worldwide. This means that if you are not capitalizing on this amazing platform, you are missing out. However, if you are using Instagram, implementing some best practices will help you use it to its fullest potential.

Here are 7 easy ways to make the most of Instagram:

**#1 Check out brands that are absolutely rocking it on Instagram.** If you think that means brands that have a lot of followers, you would be incorrect. Having a lot of followers doesn't mean very much if you don't have the right content for your brand. Instead, look at WHAT brands are posting and HOW they are connecting with their audiences. Look at brands in your niche as well as those outside of your niche.

Brands that do well on Instagram share excellent photos, share hyper-focused content and offer value in their post descriptions. These brands recognize that sharing quality is more important than quantity. They build targeted audiences and capitalize on events surrounding their services, products and stores. Plus...they have FUN doing it.

**#2 Make an awesome bio.** Optimize your bio by having a memorable avatar, a searchable username, a descriptive bio and a unique hashtag (see #4 for more information). You also want to make sure you are driving traffic back to your website/blog by including your URL.

**#3 Post with a purpose.** What is the

FEELING you want people to have when they discover your account. Is your brand fun? Is it serious? Do you help people?

Variety is the spice of life, so be sure to post a variety of content such as project pictures, quotes & sayings, humor, event announcements, "behind the scenes" pictures, happy customers/clients, product images and tips & tricks. Change it up and keep it fresh. Make sure that you are providing value and that your images are top notch. Having a visual strategy will help with this. Write down 3 to 4 descriptive words that describe your brand and then post images that are in line with that description.

Having the right apps will help with building those amazing, quality images. Four of my favorite are: [WordSwag](#), [A Beautiful Mess](#), [Rhonna Designs](#) and [InstaCollage](#). You can create these images right on your phone and then share them on Instagram and other social networks.

**#4 Create a Hashtag Strategy.** On Instagram, the "magic" is in the hashtags. Having the right hashtag strategy can greatly increase your reach on this network. This means that through hashtags, you can reach users who do not yet follow you.

When creating a hashtag strategy, you will want to use a combination of popular ones and very specific ones. When deciding on hashtags, it is first essential to think about what your ideal customer will already be searching.

If you are not sure what that might be, check out

what hashtags competitors are currently using. Select those that pertain to your brand.

Keep a list of up to 30 hashtags, but don't use them all at once. A good practice to adopt is adding your hashtags to the comments area of your posts instead of to the descriptions. To save time, create notes on your phone. In each note, type out your hashtags in groups of 6 or so. Include the hashtag symbols for each word or phrase like this: #crafts #crafttips #jewelrymaking #handmadejewelry #bracelet #diy. Post your image with a description and then copy and past one of those groups into the comments area of your post. Later, you can delete the comment and replace it with a different group of hashtags.

Another great strategy is to create your own unique hashtag. You will want to keep it short, relevant to your brand and memorable. Make sure that you research it thoroughly to protect the integrity of your brand as well as to not hijack someone else's tag. It's also a good idea to check out your idea for a unique hashtag on other platforms like Facebook and Twitter.

**#5 Create an engagement strategy.** It's simple. Engage! Engage! Engage! The more you engage with others, the more they will engage with you. Like and comment on other user's

images. Search the hashtags you are using to find like-minded Instagrammers. Oh...make sure you reply to comments on your posts.

**#6 Promote your account.** Do you use other social networks? If so, let them know that you are on Instagram and invite them to connect with you there. Sharing your Instagram posts to Facebook and Twitter will also allow new users to find you.

**#7 Lead people to where you want them to do business with you.** Visitors to your Instagram account won't automatically know what you want them to do unless you tell them. Be clear in your bio and post descriptions what you'd like them to do next. Whether you want them to check out the latest craft tutorial on your blog or visit your Etsy shop to take advantage of your weekend sale, you need to include that Call-to Action. Don't be afraid to give those directions.

Instagram is a fun platform to use to promote your creative brand, but it can be a bit challenging due to its visual nature. By implementing some simple strategies, you can take command of it and have a killer Instagram account of your own. Go get 'em!

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*Lessons with Lisa*

*It's in the Details*



with [Lisa Rojas](#)

# 1 Stamp & 3 Ways

As craft designers, we are always looking out for that next great tool, stamp, paper line, etc., to add to our already huge stash of all things crafty. In other words, we accumulate a whole lot of stuff! I can already hear you all giggling as you read this because you know that I'm right. I remember years ago when we were preparing an add-on to our house for my new studio. I was so grateful to have my own space, that even as my husband explained to me that my new room wouldn't be quite as big as I wanted it to be, that would be okay with me. He could have told me it was going to be the size of a shoebox and I still would have said, "great!" Now, here we are almost 15 years later and if I would have known then what I know now...I think you get the idea.

Honestly, I don't think it would have mattered if we added a whole other wing to our house. I still would have filled that up and added even more. Why do I do these things? I'm not really sure, other than the fact that I love new crafting tools! And that thought really got me to thinking about my column, because I know that I'm not the only one on the planet who thinks this way. I have met many craft designers through the years who have had these very same thoughts.

So, because stamping has always been my passion, I thought I would start there. Through the years I have collected thousands of rubber stamps. Some of them held a special meaning for me or made me think of someone else. Some I purchased for a certain project I was working on and some rubber stamps were just

too terrific to pass up! The thing about rubber stamps is no matter what reason I had at the time to purchase them and bring them home, they began to take up a lot of space in my studio and that was a problem. So, I started to look at them in a different way. Not only did they have to have one of the qualities that I mentioned, I also wanted them to be useful in more than one way. Can the stamp be the focal point in my project? Can I use it to create backgrounds? What if I don't want to use the whole stamp? Can I use just a portion of it? These are now some of the questions I ask myself when I purchase a new stamp. I know now that if my stamps can become multifunctional, not only will I be saving money by spending less, but my craft studio won't be as crowded. Does that mean that I have given up on buying those stamps that are "oh so cute?" No way! But I do buy them less now than before.

Let's take a look at how to get multiple uses out of your rubber stamps. For this example I am using the flower stamp from Stampendous. You can use just about any stamp, but I have found the best images for multiple uses are usually larger stamps that don't have a lot of intricate detail.

The first card sample is using the rubber stamp as the focal point of the card. This is the way the stamp is intended to be used. Simply apply the ink to your image and stamp the image onto the center of the card.



The second card sample is created by stamping your image multiple times onto the card, in a much lighter color of ink, creating a background. Next, stamp the image on another piece of cardstock, color the image with pencils, cut out and adhere it to the center of the card.



The third sample is a tag. For this, I used a stylus with a foam tip to apply the ink to only a portion of the stamp. Once the image is inked, stamp the image onto the cardstock. Color the image with pencils and stamp the frame image around the flower. Next, cut the frame out, layer the images with white and purple cardstock and adhere them together to create the tag.



That's all there is to it. After trying this technique out for yourself, you'll never look at a rubber stamp the same way again! And the great thing about this is while you're saving some money on rubber stamps, you can use those savings on another fabulous tool! No wait...that might be defeating the whole purpose, right? Either way, just have some fun!

Share this...



# Artist to Artist

with [Ann Butler](#)



**Ken Oliver is a very dear friend and one of our fabulous columnist, so hopefully you are familiar with him and his work. He has been one busy guy so I wanted him to share with you everything that is going on in his busy life....**

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

**K:** I can't remember a time when I wasn't a crafter or a maker. I come from a long line of country folks and you know what they say, "necessity is the mother of

invention." So, I was really taught from a very early age...if you want something, you need to be able to make it. There ain't nothing my dad can't make out of wood, metal, and duct tape, and I watched my mom sew curtains and clothes, knit sweaters, hats, mittens, scarves and bedspreads. We made candles and recycled everything from aluminum can pull tabs to data punch cards, to Popsicle sticks to make crafts. For me (and my family) crafting or making is as much about utility as it is aesthetics. It's an ethic or

a philosophy that is just who I am.

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

**K:** I think it's just who I am and just what I do. I learned to draw from my grandmother at about age 3...I remember when I started school, they thought I was some kind of art child prodigy because I used 2 point perspective, 1 point perspective and atmospheric perspective in my drawings. And, even as a kid, I had a thriving art business. I set up a stand in front of our house and sold pastel drawings and Spirograph drawings...if business was slow, I loaded my wares up in a red wagon and went door to door, no kidding! So, I think it's just what I do, although even to this day, I am not entirely comfortable calling myself an artist, it seems like some kind of ethereal title, that carries a lot of lofty expectations with it. I just "make and do" and it's an added bonus if it has some aesthetic value.

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

**K:** For me, it's been a gradual evolution, so I am not sure if there was a specific turning point. Years ago, I was able to show and sell artwork, so I've always recognized the importance of "monetizing" one's artwork professionally. Even later, when I worked in sales, many buyers at mass retailers rely on their manufacturers to guide them with the look and style of their products, so I've always had a hand in product development. too. A couple years ago, I realized that I was getting asked

with increasing frequency to create, design and to teach others how to create...it's been a natural, organic progression.

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

**K:** Yes, I love watercolor. There's something about it that is very calming and zen. It's in watching the pigment and the water work together on the surface of the paper. It's in layering technique over technique, "dry brush" over "wet on wet" and transparent color over transparent color to achieve an effect...to me it's magic when light and water and pigment all work together.

**A:** *What inspires you?*

**K:** More than anything, I am inspired by nature. A long time ago, an artist friend of mine told me, "if you're ever stuck with a color combination or a color palette, just look to nature, she makes no mistakes." And it's true, you'll find the most perfect, vivid, enchanting color combinations right in nature. Nature also supplies an unending supply of texture, pattern and light...sunlight bouncing off the water is one of my favorite "inspirations."

**A:** *Describe your studio or crafting area...*

**K:** My workroom could only be described as eclectic...I live and work in an historic building that has been a livery stable, a store, a theater and a saloon. My workspace is almost like an open loft area, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, overlooking the Ohio River so I have incredible water views. I've furnished my space with antiques and industrial style furniture. And it's very important to me for the space to be flexible...I like to move the tables around so I can have additional floor space when needed, or a better view of the water on some days. My workroom is filled with lots of very odd things like antique doll parts, insect and butterfly collections (under glass like specimens) antique clocks, fans, screen

doors, bed springs, an iron gate, a stuffed pheasant, antique trophies, vintage signs from local business...I kind of use my workspace as a big 3 dimensional collage. It's ever changing and it's adjacent to a very large attic storage area, if I get tired of something, I can stash it in the attic for a while...and it's only slightly haunted, I regularly hear footsteps on the stairs and slamming doors. (I've accepted it, they were here first.)

**A:** *You just started your own BRAND, was that very involved?*

**K:** Yes and no. Over the years, I've developed and maintained a great network of contacts in manufacturing, sales, marketing, and distribution, so it was more or less making the most of those connections and connecting the resources. Because of my background in sales and marketing, I actually like the work involved in bringing a product to market, I can be as at home in a spreadsheet as I am in creating a painting. So, for me, it's the same thing I've done for years, now the products I'm working on just happen to be products branded with my name.

**A:** *You have a lot of products already...tell us what they are and where people can purchase them?*

**K:** I'm really excited that the initial launch of products from Ken Oliver Crafts offers craft supplies within a few different areas of crafting. The craft paper collections are beautiful. I am especially proud of Hometown. It's an assortment of craft papers inspired by the quaint river town where I live. You'll find images of stately 19<sup>th</sup> century homes, brick lined streets, antiques and local landmarks. In addition to the craft papers, there are **stamp sets** that coordinate with the papers. There are some really cool ink pads called Click It (they're retractable ink pads designed for ease of use and ease of storage). I brought an adhesive to market that is

especially designed for intricate die cuts...it takes the muss and fuss out of gluing those really fussy die cuts to cards or scrapbook layouts. It's called Stick It, and it really does what it says! I've brought out a stamping system, that lets you create and stamp any word or phrase you want, because the stamps are interlocking, they're called Pegz, and, they are super cool to use. And the thing that I am most excited about is a new watercolor product called Color Burst. Color Burst is micro fine, crystalized pigment powder, that's packaged in a fine tip applicator bottle. Color Burst lets you create amazing water color backgrounds, washes and effects with a quick spritz and a sprinkle. It's so fun and easy to use, that artists of all ages are going to love it. All products from Ken Oliver Crafts are distributed by Product Performers and available at retail locations in the USA, Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom, Scotland and all over Europe...ask your local retailer or check online.

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

**K:** Yes, I am currently working on a series of online classes that will let me share Color Burst and my painting style with artists all over the world...I love teaching people how to create, online education will let me share my love of art and teaching with a much broader audience. And don't think for a minute that my creative endeavors are limited to the arts and crafts world...don't be surprised when you see Ken Oliver branded products coming out in home furnishings and décor...it's just another way, I can share my love of beautiful things with a broader audience and I am very grateful that the stars have aligned in a way that will let me pursue that dream.

# SEW Everything™ with [Susan Weckesser](#)

## Fabric Coloring 101: Learn How to Make a Tie PLUS a Little Mixed Media Magic

“Clouds come floating into my life, no longer to carry rain or usher storm, but to add color to my sunset sky.” - Rabindranath Tagore, *Stray Birds*



COLOR. It is a wonderful thing. It can make you smile. Brighten a room. Make grey skies smile. Heal a broken heart.

I love color and I often use it in different ways every day in my art work. Inks can be awesome tools to dye or ‘color’ fabric so you can create your own fabric. I love to create my own patterned fabric using inks, wax, such as beeswax and stamps. In this article learn how to create your own fabric and then that fabric to create a stylish tie and even a little piece of mixed media art.

### Instructions to Color your Fabric

Needed:

Cotton, canvas, assorted permanent inks (Tim Holtz Adirondack Bright Alcohol Ink), Beeswax or Wax crayon, optional: heat gun



Lay your cotton on top of your canvas and with your crayon or your beeswax wax create a design. The sky is the limit. With a crayon you can draw lines and patterns and it won't be as pronounced. If you use the beeswax you can drop little drops of melted wax on, or use tools, things that you find around, to carefully dip into the melted wax and then stamp onto the fabric. When you are finished dyeing your fabric you will use a heat gun to melt the wax off and it will create a neat ‘Baltic’ looking fabric.



On a protected surface, such as a Ranger Non-Stick Craft Sheet, put some drops of Alcohol Ink.



Lightly spritz the ink with a water bottle and then press your cotton, wax side down, into the ink.



Keep repeating until you are happy with the results and then take your heat gun and heat set. If you have used beeswax have a rag with you and as you see the wax melt just dab it up. With the fabric is complete with can rinse it in hot water and dry again.

### **Making Your Own Designer Tie**

Have some fun with fabric that you just created and make a tie for yourself or for someone in your life.

\*NOTE: to make this tie you can use the fabric you have already made OR you can make the tie FIRST and then die the fabric. BOTH ways work fine. It is up to your personal preference.



Start by cutting out your pattern piece. Take a tie that is already made, lay it on your layer fabric: cotton on top of canvas. Next cut out around the tie leaving a 1/2" border as you cut.



Using a sewing machine sew around the tie leaving a 1/4" seam allowance. Leave a 2-3" opening you can turn the tie right side out.



Using an iron press your tie. Your tie should be looking tie-like now. Awesome.



If you haven't dyed your fabric yet, you can at this point. Put the drops of ink down, spritz with water and then dab your tie, cotton side down, into the ink.



When you are happy with the color, heat set it.



Have fun and get out some stamps and archival ink and create even more of a pattern. I used my Susan K. Weckesser Inc. Unity Stamp Company stamp set; [Autumn Grunge](#) to create a leaf pattern.

### A Little Mixed Media Fun

If you have scraps of your fabrics left over, don't throw it out! You can do SO much with it! With mine I had some fun creating a mini mixed media hanging with some of my Susan K. Weckesser Inc. stamps; [The Garden {What-Not} Collection](#) & [In Circle Me](#) available at [Unity Stamps](#).



Just have some fun.  
A little color can go a long way.  
Plus, it can really put a smile on your face!

# Missed an issue?

## Get caught up...

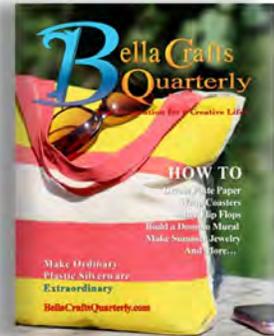
Find all of these issues and more in our Archives!



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2012



Spring Treasures  
2013



Bella Summer  
2013



Fall Chic  
2013



Simple Pleasures  
2013



Spring Refresh  
2014



Summer 2014



Fall 2014



Winter 2014

CLICKABLE



with [Lisa Fulmer](#)

## Establishing Craft Command Central

As I take on more craft design projects each month, it has forced me to rethink some of my organization tactics in my creative space.

Normally, I'm all about the zones – keeping similar craft supplies stored together so you only have to look in one spot for whatever you need. Zones are so important for me to remember what I have, be able to easily dig into my stash and prevent buying duplicate supplies. So, my studio storage is completely zoned up – every shelf, closet and cabinet – a place for everything and everything in its place (when I'm actually practicing what I preach, that is...as my friends can attest, I do have my Messy Bessie days).

I enjoy the luxury of a huge corner desk and a super cool ergonomic chair. But, I've come to realize that I'm dealing with two somewhat mutually exclusive issues when working in my studio:

A. All my supply zones are a fair distance away from said large, comfy workspace.



B. I am a lazy butt crafter.

We all know that crafting is a sedentary sport and I just happen to excel at it. So, I decided to embrace my lazy butt and reorganize my desk area so I can have more supplies at arm's length.

Here are my top five tips for setting up a Craft Command Central:

1. Start with a blank space – clear away the surface of your desk and space near it so you can more easily map out which supplies and organizers to put where.
2. Make a list of the critical supplies you use most often – my list included things like a bone folder, paper trimmer, black markers, paint brushes, tacky glue, tape runner, solid cardstock, paper scraps, decoupage medium, pouncers, clear glitter, small embellishments, etc.
3. Spend a little time

assessing all your current totes, shelves, bins and baskets to see what will hold these critical supplies the best. You want to keep lots of things close at hand without forsaking your work surface. Consider storage ideas from the pantry, garage and office.

4. Use a chair that spins, with wheels, so you can easily roll around and extend your arm's reach without getting up off of the aforementioned lazy butt.
5. Think about your arm's reach at 360 degrees, if possible. Position your chair so you are surrounded by the walls and/or furniture that will hold your supplies. Work with only as much vertical space as your arms can reach. Having to stand up defeats the whole purpose!

Here are some of my most favorite everyday storage solutions for keeping things organized and super easy to pull out and put back:



Tall rolling drawers



Vertical files



Freestanding spice rack



Hardware drawers



Clear stackable canisters



Spin caddy



Large glass jars



Pantry risers

As soon as my Craft Command Central is ready for prime time, I will share pictures on the [Bella blog](#). I'm so excited – tag your great storage ideas online with **#craftcommandcentral** so I can find you and cheer you on!

Get Every Issue FREE



[BellaCraftsQuarterly.com](http://BellaCraftsQuarterly.com)

# Ken's Corner™

## Color Burst... WOW!

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

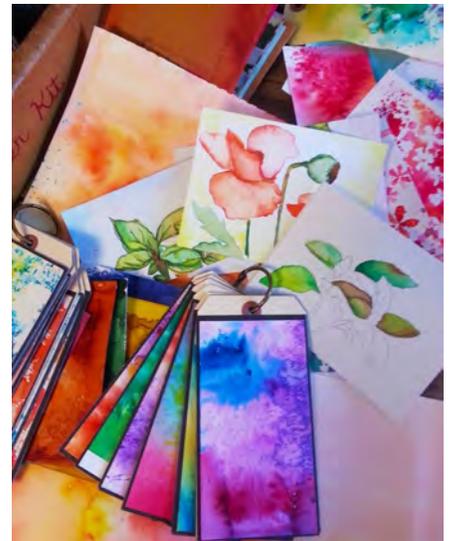
This is just about my favorite time of year. Spring is on the way and no doubt you'll feel that rush of creativity as the days get warmer and longer. And, there's always an abundance of new products and mediums to try as many new products are showing up online and at retail stores all over the country. It's always such a thrill to try new mediums and products...there's a kind of joy you get when you try something new or learn a new technique.

Recently, I am rediscovering watercolor techniques. Although I loved to watercolor years ago and actually did quite a bit of watercolor work that I showed and sold, over time I think I became a little bored with the techniques and the delivery system for watercolor. I'd always have a bunch of little, half squeezed out tubes in disarray all over my work table. Then, I discovered Color Burst! It's a new product that's developed especially for watercoloring and for creating incredible watercolor looks.

Color Burst's unique delivery system makes all the difference. It's pure,

crystalized, powdered pigment, packaged in a tiny bottle with a fine tip applicator. The basic application used for watercolor backgrounds is as easy as spritz and sprinkle. Spritz watercolor paper with plain water, then sprinkle a tiny bit of Color Burst onto the paper and watch the magic happen. You will literally see color explode over the paper. I've never had more fun with a new product because the possibilities seem endless.

As you begin to use Color Burst, you'll discover lots of new ways to create...you can use Color Burst to create wax resist works, you can use masking liquid, stamps, salt, bleach, you can tint fabrics, ribbons and flowers, and you can even paint with it. For me, it's reenergized my love of watercolor!



Since the winter Craft and Hobby Association Trade Show, I've started teaching watercolor techniques classes with Color Burst and my students LOVE it!



**Introducing Craft Techniques™**  
A Brand New Craft Magazine Coming March 15th

**What's inside...**  
All techniques. All the time. - Clearly written tutorials.  
Amazing step-out photographs. - Helpful tips & tricks.  
Master a new skill. - Grow as an artist.  
Completely digital...take it with you on your mobile devices.

**SPECIAL PRE-ORDER RATE ... \$1.47**  
Pre-Order before March 15th to receive half off the regular price of \$2.97.

**CLICK HERE TO PRE-ORDER NOW!**

Currently, Color Burst comes in 6 colors, Lemon Yellow, Orange, Alizarin Crimson, Violet, Pthalo Green and Ultramarine Blue...you'll be able to create every color in the spectrum with these 6 colors, but I know for a fact there are some new colors in the works and I can already tell you are going to love them, too!



Share this...



If you haven't tried Color Burst yet, ask your local scrapbook shop or arts supply shop. If you're a retailer, Color Burst is available through Product Performers. If you have ever wanted to try your hand at watercolor, or if you've not watercolored in years, Color Burst is going to be a great surprise for you...you'll create in bold new ways you didn't even know were possible!

# Blog Stars™

with [Ann Butler](#)

There are so many awesome blogs out there on the Internet. While we usually share several blogs for you to checkout...in this issue, we thought we would change things up a bit with an interview with Super Blogger [Kim Layton](#) of [Everything Etsy!](#)



**K:** My first blog post was written in 2008. I shriek at the quality of photos I started out with whenever I run across an old post. It has been a learning process since day one. There's always something to improve!

**A:** *When did you know this was what you needed to do?*

**K:** I saw leading handmade sellers growing their business through blogging and by sharing on other blogs through giveaways. I wasn't about to sit back and hope sales would find me, so I asked my husband to set a blog for me. Now we are full-time bloggers and makers. We had no idea that we were heading down this path when we started!

I believe the blog helped me with our first shop so much. I made felt hair clips...lots of them. Then I ended up having a book published, *From Felt to Fabulous*, including my patterns. It was something I never expected, but you have to put your work out there as much as you can to get those awesome opportunities to come your way.

**A:** *What inspired you to focus on Etsy and how did that come to be?*

**K:** It was my husband's idea. Tim has always been a business leader, and we noticed that there was a lack of information out there that would help Etsy sellers build their business faster. We've always been entrepreneurs, so it seemed easy for us to share our experiences. Handmade and business fit together perfectly for us. I believe you should only blog about something you're passionate about so you can keep writing about it without feeling stuck to a

**A:** *What made you interested in blogging?*

**K:** When I started my first Etsy shop I realized I needed a blog to bring more traffic to my shop...that's how it all began.

**A:** *What year did you start?*

subject that's boring. What you think about it will come through in your writing.

*A: I totally agree with you Kim, I believe if you find something your passionate about you will never work a day in your life!*

*A: Do you craft?*

K: I craft just about anything. I have the hardest time focusing on one type of project, so I can crochet a scarf in the morning, make handmade cards in the afternoon and stitch up a cute little felt hair clip in the evening. I've even learned to improve my sewing skills! Oh, and I took up pottery last year...I love it! I'm always amazed at the wealth of tutorials available on blogs to help me figure out my latest craft crush!

*A: Do you sell on Etsy?*

K: Since I started selling on Etsy in 2008 I've always had an Etsy shop. We design and sell custom tote bags at [HandmadeandCraft.Etsy.com](http://HandmadeandCraft.Etsy.com). Our blogging side of business has grown so much over the years that we have to put our shop on vacation when it gets to be too much to handle, but I'm never going to give it up! I love how Etsy makes it easy to pause your shop for a while and pick right up where you left off.

*A: The Everything Etsy website has really evolved into DIY also, do you have a favorite area when it comes to DIY?*

K: I write more and more about DIY projects on Everything Etsy because I realized my readers liked the same things as me. So, I focus on handmade gifts. I've always made handmade gifts and I enjoy sharing some of my favorites through tutorials and pretty photos.

*A: When did you know it would be a good thing to monetize?*

K: We always planned to sell ads on Everything Etsy, so we started out small and built from there. At first it's more about getting someone to pay just about anything! Then it all grows with your traffic. We actually have ad companies that we work with for our large ads. Then, we sell individual ads and Everything Etsy Directory listings for a much lower price. Keeping it affordable for a small business has always been important to us.

*A: How often do you post to your blog?*

K: I actually write on three blogs of mine, so I try to spread out my blog posts among them. On average I would say we post 5 times a week.

*A: We have been seeing them around and want to ask what is an IKEA Hack? And why do you think they are becoming so popular.*

K: Ikea Hacks are an inexpensive way to start with a simple piece of Ikea furniture and kick it up to look amazing...on a budget, of course. Everyone likes to save money, and it's an easy way to create a DIY project without building the basic part of the furniture from scratch. That works for me!

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

K: Meeting so many people from around the world! I've met with many of them for coffee and such. We even parked a motorhome in one blogger friend's driveway for a few days for a nice little vacation!

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

K: Don't stop! There are so many bloggers that start off great and then they quit. You have to keep going and you will grow a business that will work for you. It will promote your shop, your book, your products...whatever you want. But, you have to build it!

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

K: The lack of traffic can bring you down. Ignore it and keep writing. Join blog parties and comment on other blogs to get to know others that are blogging about the same type of things. You will grow a group of supportive friends.

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

K: Write helpful content. It's that simple. Well, I guess you need to write a bunch of it...ha!

You can find me blogging here...

[EverythingEtsy.com](http://EverythingEtsy.com)  
[HandmadeandCraft.com](http://HandmadeandCraft.com)  
[KimberlyLayton.com](http://KimberlyLayton.com)

# Welcoming Spring Wreath



After a long, cold winter, we're all eager to welcome spring!  
What better way than to display a burst of color by creating a door wreath from brightly painted FloraCraft® Foam Balls, Glittered Organza tufts and crazy Wire spirals?

Customize this look by using your favorite Design Master® ColorTool® spray colors and coordinating Organza and Wire. Happy Spring!

By [Craft Marketing Connections](#)

### Materials:

- ◆ [FloraCraft® products:](#)
- ◆ Make It: Fun® Foam Balls: 3" diameter (6); 2" diameter (6); 1 1/2" diameter (12)
- ◆ Foam sheet scrap, approximately 10" x 14" (to hold sprayed balls while drying)
- ◆ Design It:® SimpleStyle® Glittered Organza, 42": Purple, Turquoise Dot
- ◆ Aluminum Wire SimpleStyle®: 5 yards Purple, 3 yards Royal Blue
- ◆ Design Master® ColorTool® Spray Color: Blue Bright, Turquoise, Purple, Lavender
- ◆ Design Master® Glitter Silver

### Tools:

- ◆ FloraCraft® Design It:® Wire Cutter
- ◆ FloraCraft® Design It:® Floral Shears
- ◆ Needle-nose pliers
- ◆ Ice pick (or sharpened 3/16" dowel)
- ◆ Marker with large barrel (or 3/4" diameter dowel)
- ◆ Toothpicks
- ◆ Aleene's Original Tacky Glue® by iLoveToCreate®
- ◆ Old newspapers
- ◆ Large cardboard box (for spraying)
- ◆ Towel

### Instructions:

1. In a well-ventilated, newspaper-covered area (inside box), spray two light coats on balls: Three 3-inch and three 1 1/2-inch diameter in each color: Blue Bright and Purple. Three 2-inch and three 1 1/2-inch diameter in each color: Turquoise and Lavender. (Tip: Insert toothpick into ball to hold while spraying and then insert into Foam Sheet scrap to dry.) Then spray all Balls with two light coats Glitter Silver. Let dry.
2. Make hole going all the way through center of each 3-inch and 2-inch Foam Ball using ice pick. (Tip: Set Foam Ball on several layers of a towel and carefully press ice pick into ball, using controlled pressure to be able to stop, as soon as ice pick goes through.)
3. Use Wire Cutter to cut 2 yd. length Purple Wire. Feed one 3-inch Purple Ball onto Wire, 4-inch

from end. To hold Ball, use pliers to bend end of Wire up 1/2-inch, across 1-inch, back down 1/2-inch and across again with the short end of the Wire to make a jog that prevents Ball from coming off. Repeat the process on the other side of the Ball, as closely as possible, to hold Ball in place. Thread a 2-inch Turquoise Ball onto Wire and press it up against jog. Make another jog to hold that Ball in place. Continue by threading a Blue Bright 3-inch Ball and a 2-inch Lavender Ball with jogs in-between, to complete that pattern. Continue on, making a total of 3 patterns (using a total of 12 Balls.) When reaching the end, insert Wire into first Foam Ball to complete the circle. (Trim end as needed.) Remove end, apply Tacky Glue, and re-insert to hold.)

4. Use Floral Shears to cut Organza into three 14-inch lengths of each color: Purple and Turquoise Dot. Refer to photo to tie and knot alternating colors of Organza on Wire between every two Balls. Trim each end by making a v-notch in the layered Organza.
5. To make Wire spirals with 1 1/2-inch Balls on them, cut six 10-inch lengths of each color: Purple and Blue Wire. Use Pliers to tightly curl one end of one length. Then, coil that end a few times around marker barrel. Feed one 1 1/2-inch Ball onto Wire and repeat coiling until about 1-inch is left on wire (to insert into a Ball on the wreath, later.) Repeat process with all twelve Wires and 1 1/2-inch Balls to make spirals.
6. Randomly insert spirals into Balls on Wreath, so that some Balls extend out beyond and some go inside opening of wreath. Adjust until satisfied. Then remove one Wire at a time, apply Tacky Glue and re-insert Wire.
7. With remaining Wire, cut into 8-inch lengths, coil and insert spirals as desired.

[Craft Marketing Connections](#) is a team of innovative product developers, creative designers, connected public relations specialists and savvy marketing experts. CMC helps a broad range of companies, from clients with short-term, turnkey projects to new-to-the-industry companies in need of product development, marketing and public relations... all designed to delight crafters and drive sales.



# Dresser Disaster to Dresser Fabulous

By [Roberta Birnbaum](#)

We bought beautiful, well-made furniture for my daughter when she was young. Through the years, it really took a beating like pen marks and damage from a tiffany lamp stand that left awful burn-type marks on the top of the dresser. It is birch and has a beautiful lacquered top, but I really didn't want to have to refinish it and considered donating the set; and then I discovered DecoArt®'s Americana® Chalky finish paint which promises 'great coverage with only one coat', no sanding, or any special preparation.

## Materials:

- ◆ DecoArt® Americana® DECOR™ Chalky Finish matte paint: Escape, Refreshing
- ◆ DecoArt® Americana® DECOR™ Crème Wax, Clear

## Tools:

- ◆ Americana® Decor™ flat brushes: 2" and 4"
- ◆ DecoArt® Americana® DECOR™ 2" round waxing brush
- ◆ Tin plate
- ◆ Screwdriver
- ◆ Lint-free cloth
- ◆ Drop cloth
- ◆ Damp rag for clean-ups

## Instructions:

1. Place your furniture on a drop cloth to protect the surrounding area from paint drips and splatters.
2. Make sure the surface being painted is clean and dry.
3. Remove the drawers and all the hardware .
4. Using the 4 inch flat brush, paint all the

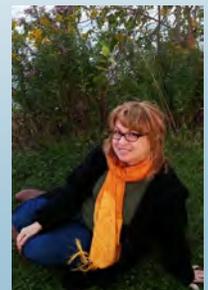
surfaces in Escape. Let dry. Apply a second coat if desired.

5. Randomly paint areas with Refreshing. Wait a minute and then remove some of the Refreshing with your damp rag. An alternative to this would be to let everything dry and then distress areas and edges to your liking with sandpaper.
6. To protect and seal your painted furniture finish with a wax coating. Using the round waxing brush, apply an even coat of clear wax. Wipe away any areas that have an accumulation of wax. When it has dried, you can just leave it or buff it up using the lint-free cotton rag.

## Notes:

- ◆ If your furniture has stains like mine, DecoArt also makes a stain blocker, which you may choose to apply before you paint. I didn't need to use any.
- ◆ You can also paint over your hardware with the chalky finish paint!

[Roberta Birnbaum](#) is a mixed media and Powertex artist and designer from Niagara Falls, Ontario. She conducts craft and Powertex fabric-sculpting workshops throughout southern Ontario and also provides a service called 'Classes2Go' where she brings an all-inclusive art class to your home, business or group. Her passion and favorite challenge is upcycling and recycling items and scouring thrift stores for hidden treasures. Most of her mixed media canvases exhibit her sense of humor and crazy love of color. Roberta is especially intrigued by texture and dimension. She loves working with paint and resin, but also enjoys sketching, watercolors, teaching and making people laugh.



# Mixed Media "ART" Banner

By [Ann Butler](#)

When I saw these Canvas Pennants I knew they would be a good base for Mixed Media projects. The size was perfect to use up leftover pieces of trim and lace to create an "ART" Banner.

## Materials:

- ◆ Ann Butler Designs™ Iridescents by Earth Safe Finishes: Lilac, Sheer Glitter
- ◆ Ann Butler's Crafter's® Ink by Clearsnap: Blueberry, Ocean Breeze, Berry, Desert Sand
- ◆ Ann Butler Designs™ 2" Flourish Alphabet
- ◆ [Ann Butler Designs™ Faux Quilting Stamps by Unity Stamp Company, Assorted 2" Squares, Triangles](#)
- ◆ Ann Butler's Art Screen by Colorbox®, Lattice
- ◆ Pennants by Canvas Corp (1 package)
- ◆ Clothespins by Canvas Corp (1 package)
- ◆ Cord by Canvas Corp, Sisal Rope
- ◆ Trims, assorted
- ◆ Lace, assorted
- ◆ [Beacon Adhesives Fabri-Tac™](#)
- ◆ Buttons, assorted (18)
- ◆ Waxed linen, cream
- ◆ [VELCRO® Removable Picture Hangers](#)

## Tools:

- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Heat gun

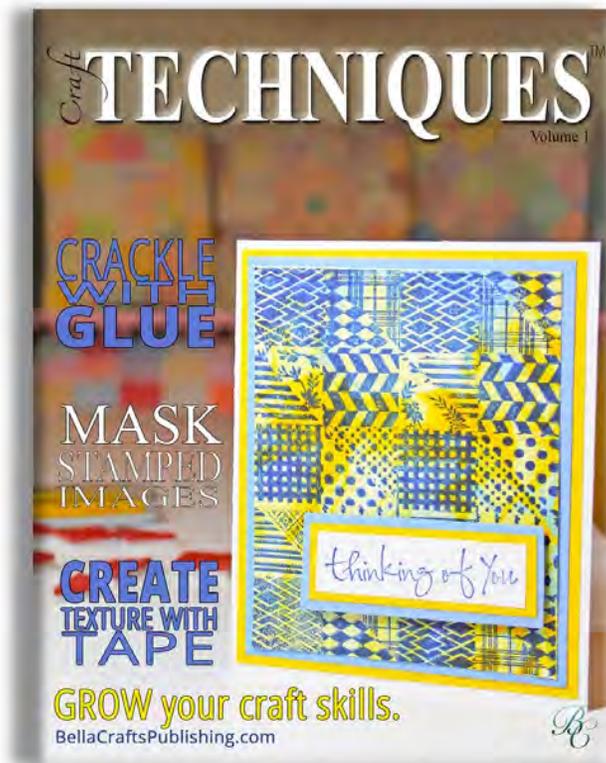


## Instructions:

1. Paint each banner with Lilac. Let Dry. Repeat if needed.
2. Stamp the letter of choice to each banner in the center with Blueberry. Heat set.
3. Stamp each banner in several places with the assorted faux quilting squares and triangles in Berry, Blueberry and Ocean Breeze. Heat set.
4. Add some Desert Sand ink by placing the Lattice Art Screen on the banners.
5. Heat set.
6. Paint the Iridescent Glitter onto a couple places of each banner. Let dry.
7. Glue the lace on the sides of each banner and trim across the top.
8. Thread the waxed linen on the buttons and glue a cluster of three onto each banner.
9. Hang the pennants onto the cord with the clothespins.
10. Attach to the wall with VELCRO® Removable Picture Hangers.

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# CraftTeenZ™

## Shadow Box Piggy Bank



# Courtney Chambers *and* Tanner Bell

Everyone has something that they are saving for. Sometimes saving up for that special something that you really want is hard and many people give up or forget. With this DIY Shadow Box Piggy Bank, you have a constant reminder of what you are saving for!

## Materials:

- ◆ Shadow Box
- ◆ Paint
- ◆ Letter Stickers
- ◆ Glue

## Tools:

- ◆ Jigsaw
- ◆ Paintbrush
- ◆ Printer
- ◆ Scissors

## Instructions:

1. With the jigsaw, cut a slit large enough to put money through in the top of the shadow box.
2. Using the paintbrush, paint the frame of the shadow box.
3. Print an image of the item that you are going to save for and cut it out with the scissors.
4. Open the shadow box from the back and glue the image to the back. Add the words "I am saving for..." with the letter stickers. Then put the shadow box back together.
5. Save all your change in your new shadow box piggy bank!



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# Burlap Decorative Pillow

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

A lot of women want to change up the décor of their house every once in a while. This pillow project is a wonderful way to do just that. With the burlap cover being so easy to remove, you can change it out with a completely different cover. Another great idea is to use some VELCRO® Brand adhesives to attach the decorative elements instead of glue. Then you can leave the burlap cover on the pillow and add different accent pieces to complement your every mood.

## Materials:

- ◆ Pillow form
- ◆ Burlap pillow cover
- ◆ Doily, ivory (2)
- ◆ Tulle, ivory
- ◆ Burlap flowers (2)
- ◆ Graphic 45® chipboard pieces (2)
- ◆ Crystal button (1)
- ◆ Aleene's® Fast Grab Tacky Glue™
- ◆ Embroidery thread, aqua

## Tools:

- ◆ [Westcott® Non Stick Scissors](#)
- ◆ Needle

## Instructions:

1. Place the pillow form inside the burlap pillow cover. Cut the tulle 80-inches long. Starting with one end of the tulle, thread it through the hole in the chipboard piece and tie a knot in the back.
2. Hold the chipboard in the center of the pillow with one hand and wrap the tulle around the sides of the pillow and then, the top and bottom of the pillow. Thread the second end of the tulle through the other hole in the chipboard piece and tie a knot in the back. Apply a small amount of the glue to secure the chipboard piece to the pillow.
3. Thread the needle with embroidery thread and use it to attach the chipboard piece to the center of the burlap flower. Repeat the process to attach the crystal button to the second burlap flower.
4. Adhere each of the burlap flowers to the doilies using the glue. Next, apply the glue to each of the doilies and secure them both to the pillow. See picture for placement if needed.



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# Bandana Bracelets

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

If you're looking for a great project to work on with your tweens, this is the project for you. It's easy to create and your tweens will love the fun and funky look of these bandana bracelets. With all of the different colors and patterns that bandanas have nowadays, you can make one for each of their outfits.

## Materials:

- ◆ Fabric bandanas, assorted colors
- ◆ Plastic tubing
- ◆ Wooden dowel, 1/8"
- ◆ Assorted charms
- ◆ Embroidery thread, assorted colors

## Tools:

[Westcott® Non Stick Scissors](#), glue gun, needle, tape measure

## Instructions:

1. Use a tape measure to measure around your wrist and cut the plastic tubing to size. Lay the bandana onto your work table and cut it into 1-inch strips. You will need approximately two strips per bracelet, depending on the size.
2. Cut the dowel 1-inch long with scissors. Apply a small amount of hot glue to the inside of one end of the plastic tubing and insert the dowel half way. Apply another small amount of hot glue to the outside of the plastic tubing to secure the

bandana and begin wrapping the bandana around the plastic tubing until it is completely covered. Once it is covered, apply a small amount of hot glue to secure the end of the bandana to the tubing.

3. Thread a needle with coordinating embroidery thread to attach the charm to the bracelet. To close the bracelet, simply insert the end of the tubing with the attached dowel into the other end of the tubing. Do not use hot glue on this end of the tubing to allow the bracelet to be put on and removed with ease.

# Wrap-Around Bookmark

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

Reading a new novel? Forget about losing your place due to your bookmark falling out. Make a wrap-around bookmark using [Velcro® Brand One-Wrap®](#), some ink and embellishments. These are easy and fun to make and you'll love how pretty it will make your book look, too.

## Materials:

- ◆ Velcro® Brand One-Wrap®, white
- ◆ Velcro® Brand Sticky Back for Fabric, oval, white
- ◆ Ann Butler Crafter's™ Ink by Clearsnap® : Lilac, Aquamarine
- ◆ Paper flower ([learn how in Craft Techniques Volume 1](#))

## Tools:

Westcott® Brand Titanium Scissors, stipple brushes or sponges, heat tool

## Instructions:

1. Cut a 24-inch piece of One-Wrap™. Stipple the Lilac ink onto the loop side of the Velcro® leaving some white spaces. Then, fill in the white areas with Aquamarine. Heat set.
2. Create your paper flower using the instructions in [Craft Techniques](#).
3. Attach the hook side of one Velcro oval to the back of the paper flower. Then, stick that to the loop side of one end of the One-Wrap™.
4. Wrap the completed bookmark around a book you are reading.



## Introducing the Bella Crafts Creative Team



# Festive Where Does Your Garden Grow?



By [Theresa Cifali](#)

My favorite thing about gardens is color!  
I love how all of the colors start to explode in springtime.

Let's celebrate the colors of spring  
with this delightful garden sign.  
It makes a special addition to any garden or patio.

### Materials:

- ◆ Plaid® folkArt® Acrylic Paint: Pansy, Cayman Blue, Classic Green, Citrus Green, School Bus Yellow, Wicker White
- ◆ Plaid® folkArt® Extreme Glitter: Turquoise, Purple
- ◆ Plaid® Clear Acrylic Sealer, matte
- ◆ Blumenthal Lansing Button Lovers, Favorite Findings™, Just Daisies
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives® Gem-Tac
- ◆ [Beacon Adhesives® 527](#)
- ◆ Nicole™ Wood Sign
- ◆ Nicole™ Wood Letters, 3 ½": G, R, O, W
- ◆ Nicole™ Wood Daisies (3)
- ◆ Glass gems, yellow

### Tools:

Paper towel, pencil with new eraser, paper plate, assorted acrylic paintbrushes

### Instructions:

1. Prepare the wood banner

2. Paint the banner white. Let dry.
3. Paint the wood letters white. Paint the daisy head white and then paint one of the stems with Classic Green and the other two stems Citrus Green. Set aside and let dry.
4. Paint the inside of the rectangle with the Pansy paint and the inside of the 3 squares Cayman Blue. Let dry.
5. Next, paint a light coat of Turquoise Extreme Glitter on each letter. Once that is dry, add another coat of white paint on top of the glitter and wipe it off with a paper towel immediately. Let dry.
6. Returning to the banner, add a coat of Purple Extreme Glitter over the Pansy paint and a coat of Turquoise Extreme Glitter over the

Cayman Blue paint.

7. Once all of the pieces are dry, start assembling by arranging the wood letters over the purple rectangle and one daisy over each blue square. Once you have them where you want them, adhere them to the banner with 527.
8. Squeeze some of the School Bus Yellow paint onto a paper plate. With the eraser side of the pencil, add some polka dots to each letter. If the paint bubbles, you can smooth it out with a small acrylic brush. Let dry.
9. Spray the entire piece with clear acrylic sealer. Let dry.
10. Use Gem-Tac to glue one yellow glass gem to the center of each daisy head. Let dry.
11. Arrange the daisy buttons on the banner until you have the desired placement, then attach them to the banner with 527.

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# Fabric Marker Lamp

By [Craft Marketing Connections](#)

What tween wouldn't be "Hashtag – OH YEAH!" over using "Dat" Fabric Markers on a lampshade to create an "Epic" bedroom lamp? Well, we may struggle with understanding the slang, but the look on your tween's face will say it all... showing her pride, if she makes this project... and her appreciation, if you do! iLoveToCreate® has easy-to-use dual-tip Fabric Markers and trendy Stencils that guide the creative process just enough for everyone to be successful, while allowing plenty of color options for personalization. The results are "SOOOOO Chill!" Give it a try! "kk?"

## Materials:

- ◆ Wood lamp base (any color)
- ◆ White fabric lampshade
- ◆ Tulip® Dual-Tip Permanent Fabric Marker by iLoveToCreate®
- ◆ Design Master® Spray Primer
- ◆ Design Master® ColorTool® Spray Color, Turquoise
- ◆ Design Master® Clear Finish Matte

## Tools:

- ◆ Tulip® Textile Stencil, Owl #32336, 8" x 8"
- ◆ Masking tape
- ◆ Blue painter's tape
- ◆ Soft cloth
- ◆ Pencil
- ◆ Copy paper
- ◆ Fine sandpaper
- ◆ Old newspapers
- ◆ Large cardboard box (for spraying)

## Instructions:

1. If the lamp is wood, lightly sand and wipe off well, with soft cloth. Use blue painter's tape to mask off cord at bottom, as well as top part of lamp. In a well-ventilated, newspaper-covered area (inside box), spray lamp with two light coats Primer. Let dry. Then spray it with two light coats of Turquoise ColorTool®. Let dry.
2. Also, spray two light coats of Clear Finish Matte sealer on the white fabric lampshade, to lightly seal the surface. Let dry.
3. With the lampshade seam to the back, align the

owl Textile Stencil on the lampshade and secure edges with masking tape to hold. (Note: Depending on size of lampshade, the Stencil may run off at bottom, but that will work. If desired, move owl design up as far as possible and then plan to draw the triangular tufts a bit smaller so that they will completely show on lamp, instead of running them off edge, as you may have on bottom.)

4. Before coloring the lampshade with Fabric Markers, use a pencil to trace the owl Stencil on copy paper. Plan colors on paper first, lightly dabbing a dot with the brush tip end of markers onto the various areas. When satisfied with color choices, use the extra fine tip end of Marker to trace each opening in Stencil with the chosen color onto lampshade, by referring to paper drawing. (Note: You may decide you like the look of tracing around the Stencil shape a couple of times to create a darker outline.) When finished with tracing owl, remove the Stencil and tape.
5. Use the brush tip to fill in outlined areas. When finished, decide if you want to duplicate the circular eye motif on rest of lampshade. If so, trace a couple of circle patterns from the Stencil onto copy paper and choose colors for them. Then, repeat the process of taping the Stencil to the lampshade, tracing with extra fine tip and filling in with brush tip. (Note: If at any time drawing around Stencil areas with the extra fine tip causes difficulty, lightly trace with pencil and color the areas free-hand.
6. Assemble the lampshade on lamp.



# Sweet Friend Piccolo Necklace

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

Everyone who knows me well, knows that I just love jewelry! The more bling there is, the more I like it. I also like to create jewelry pieces for myself, my family and friends. Because I don't think of myself as a jewelry designer, the jewelry pieces that I create have a tendency to be more simplistic in style, but almost always with lots of bling! That is what I love about this necklace. The Piccolo elements used can be as plain or as elaborate as you want to make them. After all, isn't that what being creative is all about?

## Materials:

- ◆ Globecraft & Piccolo™ Keys To My Heart Accents
- ◆ Globecraft & Piccolo™ Acrylic Craft Charms, rectangle
- ◆ Globecraft & Piccolo™ 3D Enamel Gel, Purple Mist and Metallic Silver
- ◆ [Clearsnap® ColorBox® Premium Dye Inkpad, Grape](#)
- ◆ [Beacon Adhesives® Zip Dry Paper Glue™](#)
- ◆ JustRite® Clear Stamps Grand Sentiments
- ◆ Pattern paper
- ◆ Assorted fibers
- ◆ Chain necklace, silver
- ◆ Metal charm
- ◆ Jump ring, silver

## Tools:

- ◆ Westcott® Non Stick Scissors
- ◆ Round nose pliers
- ◆ Exacto knife

## Instructions:

1. Cut the pattern paper to fit the tag shaped acrylic charm and then adhere the paper to the charm with the Zip Dry™ glue. Stamp "Sweet Friend" on the charm with the Grape inkpad. Ink the edges of the charm with the Grape inkpad.
2. After removing the chipboard accents from the cardboard backing, cover the heart pieces with the Purple Mist 3D enamel gel and the



key pieces with the Metallic Silver enamel gel. Let the pieces dry completely following the manufacturer's instructions. Add additional layers of the enamel gel if desired.

3. Poke paper through the hole in the top part of the charm with an exacto knife. Tie the various fibers through the hole in the charm and attach the silver chain. Use the round nose pliers to attach the jump ring to the metal charm and then attach the metal charm to the necklace.

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# Festive Photo Cubes

By [Theresa Cifali](#)

If you are looking for a fresh way to display your family photos, you should consider creating these easy photo cubes. It's way cooler than a frame because when you get tired of looking at one set of photos, you can just rearrange the cubes for a brand new look!

## Materials:

- ◆ Wood Attitude™ Printable Craft Film
- ◆ Krylon® ColorMaster™ Paint+Primer, white
- ◆ Aleene's® Crystal Clear Acid-Free Tacky Spray™
- ◆ 3" Wooden Cubes
- ◆ Assorted stickers and gems
- ◆ Photos

## Tools:

- ◆ Paper trimmer
- ◆ Ink-jet printer

## Instructions:

1. Prepare the wood blocks according to the directions in BCQ Techniques.
2. Spray the blocks with the Paint+Primer. Let dry completely.
3. Select the photos you wish to add to the blocks and format them to measure 2 ¾-inches square.
4. Print the photos onto the printable craft film following manufacturer instructions.
5. Next, one-at-a-time, spray each photo and add it to a section of the block.
6. Embellish each photo with assorted stickers and gems.
7. Display for all to enjoy. When you want to change things up, simply rearrange the blocks.





# Chic Paris Necklace

By [Marjolaine Walker](#)

I dream of going to Paris and having an adventure. The timeless allure of Paris calls me, urging me to experience all it has to offer. I imagine walking hand in hand with the one I love as we explore the city and it's impressive architecture and picturesque landscape. In this fantasy, we linger in cafés enjoying delectable pastries as the sun sets. I envisage perusing through art galleries while wearing haute couture or chic ensembles and eating a fresh baguette at the top of the Eiffel Tower. I dream big dreams about Paris but for the moment, I will simply wear a reminder of it around my neck. You too can wear your dream with this simple, but elegant necklace. Simply follow the instructions to create a one of a kind piece using casting medium.

## Materials:

- ◆ [Cool2Cast Casting Medium](#)
- ◆ Plaid® Mod Podge® Dimensional Magic
- ◆ Tattered Angels Glimmer Mist
- ◆ ©Piddix Ilc Vintage Paris 1"

- ◆ Circles
- ◆ Plaid® Mod Podge®
- ◆ iLoveToCreate® Liquid Fusion
- ◆ Neck wire
- ◆ Crafts Gem Chic Self-Adhesive Rhinestones
- ◆ Thin wire
- ◆ Cousin® Pendant Base
- ◆ EK Success®/MD Swarovski Elements™/MD 14 Beads

## Tools:

- ◆ Fiskars® Amplify® Mixed Media Shears
- ◆ 1" Circle Punch
- ◆ Fine grit sand paper
- ◆ Round circle chocolate mould

## Instructions:

1. Mix together an equal amount of Cool2Cast and water as per package direction.
2. Pour the casting medium into your mould and tap the side of your mould to remove air bubbles. Allow it to dry for an hour.
3. Remove the medallions from the mould and gently sand the edges.
4. Spray one medallion with

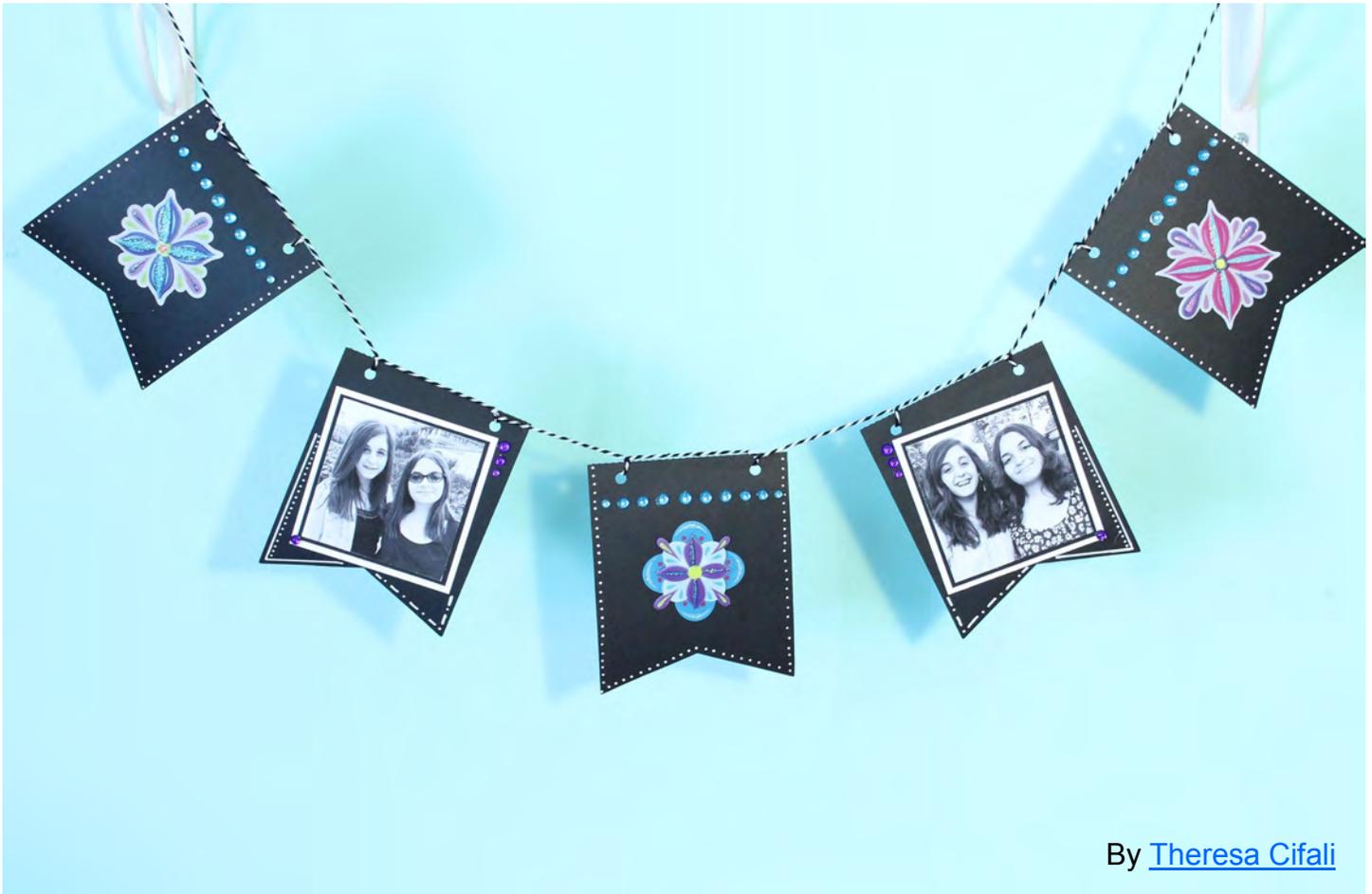
Turquoise Glimmer Mist and set it aside to dry.

5. Use a 1-inch circle punch to cut out an image or cut one out by hand with scissors.
6. Adhere your image to the medallion with Mod Podge®, also covering the top of the image as well.
7. Adhere a few small rhinestones to the surface of the medallion.
8. Cover the surface of the medallion with a layer of Mod Podge® Dimensional Magic and remove any bubbles by popping them with a sharp needle. Allow your piece to dry (overnight is best).
9. Adhere the medallion to the pendant base with Liquid Fusion and allow it to dry completely.
10. Insert one end of the neck wire through the pendant base that is attached to the medallion.
11. String the beads through a 6-inch piece of thin wire and wrap it around the neck wire with seven beads on each side of the medallion.

[Marjolaine Walker](#) is a mixed media artist and designer. She teaches paper crafting and mixed media classes at events and charity crops, as well as in her own studio, Twelve Stones Scrapbooking which is a travelling store in Ottawa, Canada. Marjolaine is passionate about sharing her knowledge and teaching others; she especially loves to encourage people to make time for what they love to do or what they dream of doing. She loves to dabble in all kinds of art but prefers mixed media and collage. She loves trying new things and enjoys the learning aspect of it tremendously.



# Chalkboard Photo Banner



By [Theresa Cifali](#)

If you have teens, the chances are they take a lot of photos with their friends and siblings. If you have teen GIRLS, chances are they then print and plaster those pictures all over their walls! Instead of ruining the paint, why not encourage them to display those pics more creatively? This cheerful banner is the perfect way for your teen to be artistic and show off her blossoming photography skills. It's also a great activity for birthday parties and Girl Scout troop meetings.

## Materials:

- ◆ American Crafts™ DIY Shop, notch banner
- ◆ EK Success Brands® Sticker® Dimensional Stickers, Vellum Fantasy Flowers
- ◆ Queen & Co. Candy Shoppe, Bubbles: Purple, Blue
- ◆ Marvy® Uchida Bistro Chalk Marker, white
- ◆ Aleene's® Tacky Tape Runner™
- ◆ Cardstock: black, white
- ◆ Photo paper

**Tools:** Scissors, paper trimmer, printer

## Instructions:

1. Choose 2 photos and edit/crop them to measure 2 ¾-inches square.
2. Mat the photos onto black cardstock that measures 3-inches square. Then, mat those onto white cardstock that measures 3 ½-inches square.
3. Remove 2 banners from the pad. Attach a photo to each square so that it is slightly tilted.
4. Add doodles and hash marks with the chalk marker. Then, add 3 purple gems to each panel.
5. Next, remove 3 more banners from the pad. Embellish these with the larger flower stickers from the pack.
6. Add the blue gems along the top of each panel and add dots along the edges with the chalk marker.
7. Once the marker is completely dry, space the panels out and use the baker's twine from the banner package to link the panels together.
8. Hang and enjoy.

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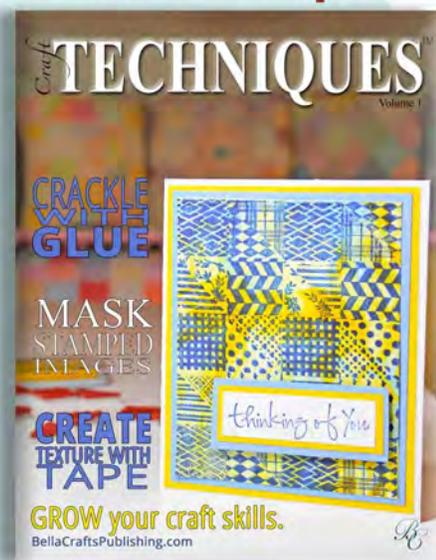
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## Craft Techniques™





By [Sara Naumann](#)

# The Earth Laughs Embossed Card

Want to give your handmade cards a dash of bright, bold color—with lots of texture and dimension, too?

Simply combine embossing paste and a stencil on top of a background made with your favorite washi tapes. It's easy! And whether you're a newbie or experienced embosser, I've discovered a couple of tricks along the way to make it even easier.

First, be sure to secure your stencil to the cardstock and to your work surface with masking tape. This prevents the stencil from sliding around on the slick surface of the washi tape.

Second, you can either apply the embossing paste with a palette knife or with your finger. I've tried both, and prefer my finger since I feel I have more control in the detail areas of the stencil.

Third, be sure to clean your stencil right after you use it.

Ready to try this fun technique?

## Materials:

- ◆ MT washi tape: Turquoise solid, Turquoise/Lime patchwork
- ◆ [VersaMark™ Watermark Stamp Pad](#)
- ◆ Wendy Vecchi Studio 490 embossing paste, black
- ◆ WOW! Embossing Powder: Opaque Pastel Blue, Ebony Super Fine
- ◆ White matte cardstock: 5 3/4" x 4 1/8", 6" x 4 1/4", 6 1/2" x 4 1/2", 1 5/8" x 3 1/8", 3/4" x 5 1/4", 3"x3"
- ◆ Black cardstock: 6 1/4" x 4 3/8"
- ◆ Turquoise cardstock: 7" x 5", 1 7/8" x 3 1/4"
- ◆ Ribbon: sheer teal, 7"
- ◆ Self-adhesive rhinestones

- ◆ Clear button
- ◆ White fabric flowers (2)
- ◆ Blank white card, 7 1/4" x 5 1/4"
- ◆ Foam tape
- ◆ Craft glue

## Tools:

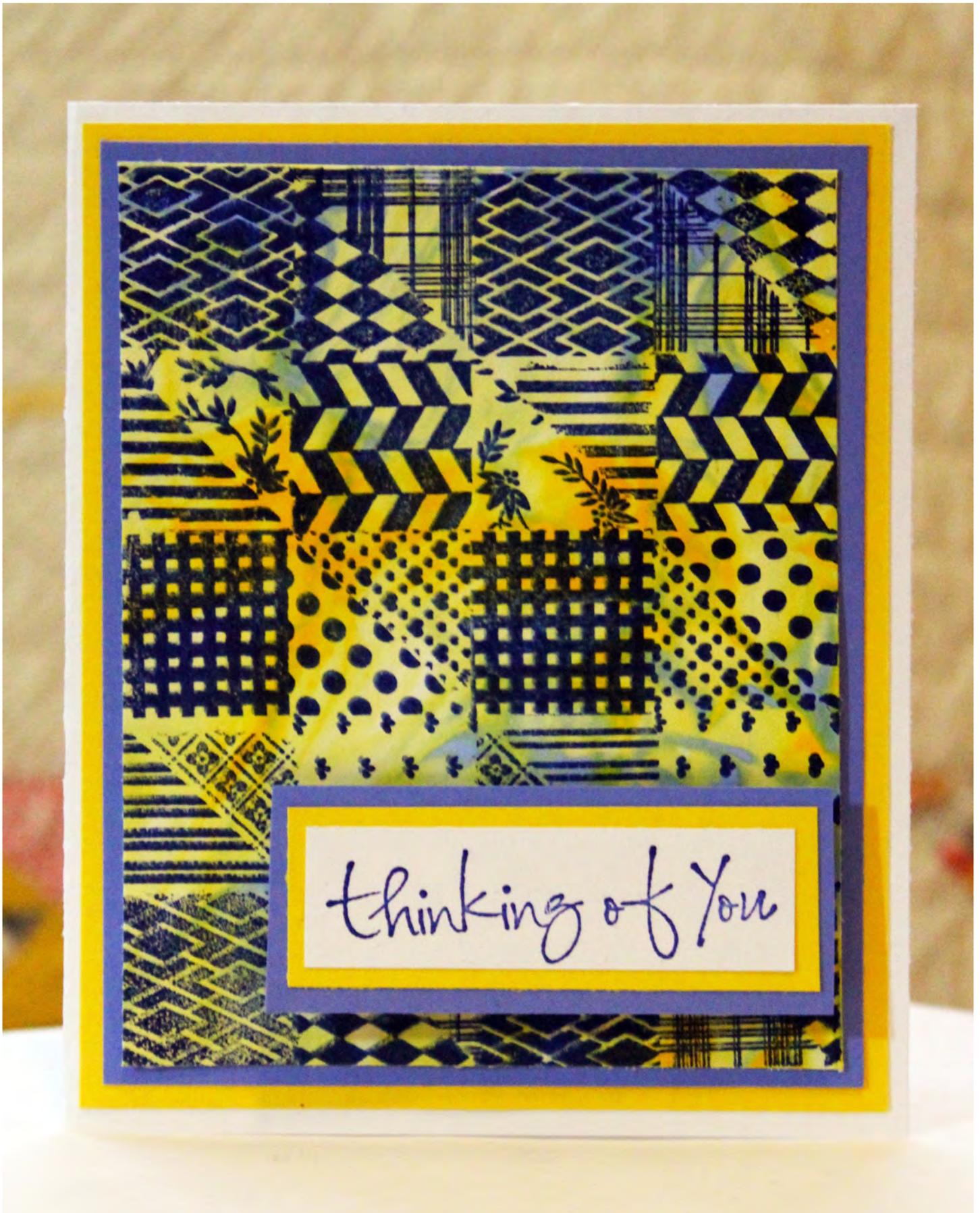
Eclectica<sup>3</sup> {Sara Naumann} ESN14 stamps, Crafter's Workshop Mini Harlequin 6"x6" stencil, scissors, heat tool, masking tape, palette knife

## Instructions:

1. Place alternating strips of turquoise solid and patchwork washi tapes on a 5 3/4-inches by 4 1/8-inches piece of white cardstock, leaving a narrow gap between each strip. Use scissors to cut off the ends of the washi tape, or fold them to the back of the cardstock.
2. Place the stencil on top of the washi tape piece, securing the edges with masking tape. Apply the black embossing paste through the stencil. Use a palette knife to scrape the excess paste from the stencil and return it to the jar.
3. Let the embossing paste dry and then mat the piece on black cardstock, allowing a wider border at the bottom.
4. Mat again on white cardstock and then on turquoise. Glue to the card front.
5. Place a strip of patchwork washi tape on white cardstock and glue across the card front, overlapping the bottom of the stenciled piece.
6. Stamp and emboss the quote on white cardstock with Ebony Super Fine. Mat on turquoise and foam-tape it to the card front. Place a rhinestone on either side.
7. Stamp and emboss the flower with Opaque Pastel Blue on the 3-inch square of white cardstock. Cut out the flower and use foam tape to layer it between two fabric flowers. Glue the button in the center and add a rhinestone on top. Tie a bow in sheer ribbon and use craft glue to attach it as shown. Use foam tape to attach the flower to the front of the card.

[Sara Naumann](#) is an American papercraft author, designer and instructor currently living in a seaside town in Poland. Sara is well-known for her "make it easy" approach to mixed media techniques—she recently released a DVD called [Mixed Media Made Easy](#). Her latest creative project is a series of Eclectica<sup>3</sup> stamps designed for the UK stamp company [PaperArtsy](#). You can catch up with Sara's work in various stamping magazines, drop by her blog, or pop by her [You Tube channel](#) (Studio SN) for a weekly online papercrafting video tutorial!





# Faux Quilted Marbled Card

By [Ann Butler](#)

Marbling is a technique I had not done for years and when Theresa mentioned it was one of her techniques, I thought I would give it a try. I found it to be so much fun and addicting and I loved the results. Then came the decision of what to make! Since I love to Faux Quilt with my stamps, I thought I would see how it looked with the marbling and again I loved the results.

The possibilities are endless when combining these two techniques.

## Materials:

- ◆ [Ann Butler's Crafter's® Ink by Clearsnap, Blueberry](#)
- ◆ [Ann Butler Designs™ Faux Quilting Stamps by Unity Stamp Company, assorted 1" squares and triangles](#)
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives Zip Dry™
- ◆ Marbled paper, 5" x 4" ([Learn the step by step technique in the Craft Techniques Volume 1](#))
- ◆ Cardstock, blue, 5 1/4" x 4 1/4", 3 1/4" x 1 1/4"
- ◆ Cardstock, yellow, 5 1/2" x 4 1/2", 3" x 1"
- ◆ Cardstock, white, 5 3/4" x 9 1/2", 2 3/4" x 3/4"
- ◆ Sentiment Stamp
- ◆ Foam squares

## Tools:

- ◆ Heat gun

## Instructions:

1. Stamp quilt pattern onto the front of the marbled paper using the squares and triangles with Blueberry ink. Heat set with heat gun.
2. Fold large white cardstock in half so that it is 5 3/4-inches by 4 3/4-inches. This will create your card.
3. Center and glue the large yellow cardstock to the front of the white card.
4. Center and glue the large blue cardstock on top of the yellow card front.
5. Center and glue the marbled cardstock onto the top of the blue card front.
6. Stamp sentiment onto small white cardstock with Blueberry ink.
7. Center and glue the sentiment onto the small yellow cardstock.
8. Center and glue the yellow cardstock and sentiment onto the small blue cardstock.
9. Adhere the sentiment onto the card front as desired with foam squares.



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# Spring Wooden Blocks

By [Larissa Pittman](#)

## Materials:

- ◆ Chipboard letters
- ◆ Wooden blocks
- ◆ Acrylic paint
- ◆ Pattern cardstock
- ◆ Plaid® Mod Podge®

## Tools:

- ◆ Paintbrushes
- ◆ Glue gun

## Instructions:

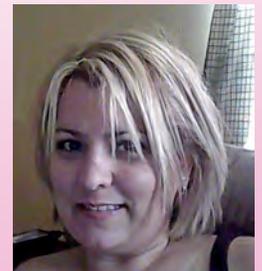
1. Make sure the blocks are smooth with no rough edges.
2. Paint each block with acrylic paint.
3. While the blocks are drying, paint the chipboard letters.
4. Once the paint is dry on the wooden blocks, cut pieces of the pattern cardstock to fit on the front.
5. Paint a thin layer of Mod Podge® on the back of the cardstock and a generous layer on the front of the block.
6. Adhere the cardstock to the front of the block and make



7. Paint another layer of Mod Podge® to the top of the cardstock on the block, covering it completely.
8. Once the Mod Podge® is

- dry, use your hot glue to adhere the chipboard letters to the front of the block.
9. Add embellishments to one or all of the blocks.

[Larissa Pittman](#) lives in a small town in the Texas Hill Country. She is a stay at home wife. She has been creating most of her life and loves working with every kind of medium. Larissa has been making cards for about 10 years and recently started playing with mixed media. She tends to work more with bright colors and lots of bling. She is married, has a 24 year old daughter and 2 fur babies. When she is not in her studio creating, she is spending time with her family, blogging, cooking, baking, reading magazines, pinning pins on Pinterest or watching a little Reality TV.



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# Up-cycled Plate

By [Ann Butler](#)

I love going to auctions and thrift stores looking for items I can use in my projects. I am always able to pick up clear decorative plates for pennies. There are so many ways to up-cycle plates and to give them a new life. Make several to have on hand as they are perfect to give as gifts.

## Materials:

- ◆ Ann Butler Designs™ Iridescent by Earth Safe Finishes: Sapphire, Orchid, Emerald
- ◆ Earth Safe Finishes Acrylic Paint, Black
- ◆ Clear decorative plate

## Tools:

- ◆ Foam brush
- ◆ Heat gun (optional)

## Instructions:

1. Randomly apply the Iridescent to the back of the plate. Let dry. Use the heat gun to speed up drying time if desired. Repeat if needed for a more intense color.
2. Paint the back of the plate with black paint. Let dry. This will make the colors pop.



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By [Niki Meiners](#)

# Padded iPad 2 Sleeve

Transport and protect your iPad2 with simplicity and style using this easy-sew iPad case.

By using a lightweight, fusible batting, creating this lightly padded case is easier than ever and it also will help ensure protection from everyday bumps and scratches. The ability to customize this envelope-style case to genuinely express your own personal style lies in the choice of fabrics, trims and notions selected.

Due to the design utilizing multiple patterns of fabric, the combination options are truly endless.

In addition to the personalization of style, the fact that the simplistic design allows for the addition and customization of size, shape and number of pockets used, allowing this fabulous iPad case to really meet all needs of both style and function.

## Materials:

- ◆ Free Spirit Fabric, Tula Pink - Bumble Honeycomb Jade, Bumble Forest Stripe Jade 1/2 yard each
- ◆ Coats and Clark Dual Duty XP Thread
- ◆ Fairfield Processing - Smooth Fuse Interfacing 1/2 yard
- ◆ [VELCRO® Brand 1" x 1" Square White Sew On](#)
- ◆ Grey button (optional)

## Tools:

Scissors, ruler or tape measure, iron, ironing board, sewing machine, straight pins, sewing needle, thread in a coordinating color.

## Instructions:

Cutting guide: For the layer with the fold-over flap (the longest piece,) cut two pieces of fabric and one piece of the fusible batting to measure 9-inches by 15-inches.

For the smaller layer, cut two pieces of fabric that measure 9-inches by 11-inches and one piece of fusible batting that measures the same.

1. Sew your VELCRO® Brand 1"x1" square 9-inch by 11-inch OUTER piece. Then match it up with the INNER piece that is 9-inches by 15-inches. You are sewing both of these on the right side of the fabric. They're to line up when the flap is folded down.
2. With your VELCRO® Brand 1"x1" square in place, iron your fusible fleece to your inner pieces. Iron it so that it is on the back side of the fabric. Lift and press the iron. Do not move back and forth. That will stretch your fabric.
3. With the right sides together, pin the layers in place. Next, sew the 2 outer pieces together and the 2 inner pieces together. Trim off any excess fabric. Leave one edge open so you can turn it right side out. Repeat this step on the longer piece, too. Trim off any excess threads. Turn both of the pieces right side out and press both of the pieces flat.
4. Places the pieces together with the outside fabric on the inside. Start with the open edges and pin the two pieces together. Sew around three of the four edges. (This will form the pouch.) Trim off any excess from the bottom and press flat. Turn the pieces right side out and press again. Trim off any excess threads. Hand-stitch the button onto the flap. Trim off any excess threads.

**Note:** To adjust the measurements for any tablet or electronic device, take the measurements of the device and add 1 1/2-inches to 2-inches. If the piece is thick, add the 2-inches. If it is thin, add 1 1/2-inch.

Growing up in a small midwestern town, [Niki Meiners](#) was surrounded by a modest, resourceful and very entrepreneurial family. Her simple upbringing spurred her "Can do" attitude and gave her the confidence to try any challenge placed before her. She is known for her distinctive, high quality creations that feature a diverse mix of styles and highly creative approach to even the smallest detail. Niki is an Idea Architect, easily outlining every project from concept to completion. Her creations are simultaneously beautiful and functional. Her work is featured in the industries' leading craft and lifestyle publications and manufacturer websites.



By [Carmen Whitehead](#)

# Spring Flowers Door Decor

Spring time is here and flowers are in bloom everywhere. Pansies are one of my favorite spring flowers and this wicker pitcher basket is a wonderful alternative to the traditional wreath. This basket is one that I had on hand and gave it some new life. If you have a metal pitcher, that will work perfectly for this project also. I used faux flowers here, but you can easily use real flowers in a small pot and insert them into the basket.

## Materials:

- ◆ Pitcher basket, wicker or metal
- ◆ Americana Décor™ Chalky Finish New Life
- ◆ Americana Décor™ Crème Wax Clear and Deep Brown
- ◆ Americana Décor™ Light Satin Varnish
- ◆ Canvas Corp Brands™ Burlap minis triangle
- ◆ Canvas Corp Brands™ Burlap fringe 1 yard
- ◆ Canvas Corp Brands™ Burlap flower
- ◆ Canvas Corp Brands™ Jute twine
- ◆ Sheet moss
- ◆ Artificial flowers
- ◆ Small piece of dry foam
- ◆ Tacky glue

## Tools:

- ◆ 2" round brush
- ◆ 1" angle brush
- ◆ scissors

## Instructions:

1. Using the 1-inch angle brush, apply Chalky Finish paint to the basket. If it is a wicker pitcher, make sure you angle the brush into the crevices. I didn't paint the inside of the pitcher since it wouldn't be seen. Let dry and apply a second coat.
2. Using the 2-inch round wax brush, apply a thin layer of clear crème wax in a rotating motion to the entire painted surface. Let dry.
3. Using the 2-inch round wax brush apply the deep brown crème wax in a rotating motion. A little bit goes a long way, use a small amount on the brush. Once wax is applied to the entire painted surface, wipe with a clean cotton cloth to remove any excess brown wax. Let dry.
4. Using the 1-inch angle brush apply the light satin varnish to the entire painted and waxed surface. Let dry.
5. Cut approximately an 18-inch piece of jute twine and adhere with tacky glue two burlap triangles onto the middle of twine. You don't need to fold over the edge of the triangle; just lay the top edge flat onto the twine. Once dry, tie the twine around the top of the pitcher.
6. Adhere a small dry foam piece with tacky glue to the inside bottom of pitcher. Let dry.
7. Cut sprigs of artificial flowers and insert the ends into dry foam piece. Arrange and bend the flowers so they have a natural look.
8. Adhere pieces of sheet moss with tacky glue around the top edge of the pitcher, so it looks like the moss is growing out of the pitcher. You can insert small pieces of moss in between the flowers to give a full look and hide the dry foam.
9. Tie the 1 yard burlap fringe through the handle, leaving a long loop for hanging. You may need to iron the fringe to remove any folds.
10. Adhere the burlap flower to the knot on the burlap fringe with tacky glue. Let dry for at least 12 hours before hanging.

[Carmen Whitehead](#) is a self-taught Mixed Media Artist with a love of everything vintage. She likes to incorporate vintage items and ephemera into her canvases, tags and cards. Carmen also uses many encouraging and inspiring words or phrases in her work. As a 3 year survivor of Stage III Ovarian Cancer, art was part of my healing and is now her full-time career. She wants her work to encourage young girls and women to seek their dreams, never give up and to trust the journey. She a true believer and example that it's never too late to find your passion.





# Stenciled Chair

By [Craft Marketing Connections](#)

What a great way to add a touch of excitement to your spring décor while repurposing a flea market find! (Or, possibly even your own basement, attic or garage rediscovery!) Simply remove the seat and spray an old wooden chair with an exciting new color, like Design Master® ColorTool® Blue Bright!

Then, stencil a Tulip® Pillow Cover with a Textile Stencil and Metallic Blue Fabric Paint, all from iLoveToCreate®! Attach the Cover to the chair and voila! You WILL love to create when you see how easy it is! (Pssst.... You're already thinking about other chairs you saw, aren't you?!!) How about painting them Fuchsia Bright... Spring Green...Turquoise...?)

## Materials:

- ◆ Wood chair with upholstered seat
- ◆ Tulip® Pillow Cover by iLoveToCreate®, gray, 18" x 18"
- ◆ Tulip® Textile Stencil by iLoveToCreate®, #32345 (Moroccan look), 14" x 14"
- ◆ Tulip® Spray Adhesive by iLoveToCreate®
- ◆ Tulip® Fabric Spray Paint® by iLoveToCreate®, permanent, Metallic Blue
- ◆ Tulip® Sponge Pouncers by iLoveToCreate®
- ◆ Design Master® Spray Primer
- ◆ Design Master® ColorTool® Spray Color, Blue Bright

## Tools:

- ◆ Screwdriver (to remove seat)
- ◆ Staple gun
- ◆ Medium and fine sandpaper
- ◆ Masking tape
- ◆ Seam ripper
- ◆ Soft cloth
- ◆ Old newspapers
- ◆ Very large cardboard box (for

spraying)

- ◆ Washer
- ◆ Clothes iron and ironing board

## Instructions:

1. Remove the seat from chair and set aside. Sand the chair to rough surface, with medium sandpaper. Thoroughly wipe off with a soft cloth.
2. In a well-ventilated, newspaper-covered area (inside a large box or outside), spray the chair with two light coats Primer. Let dry. Lightly sand with fine sandpaper and spray with two light coats of Blue Bright ColorTool®. Let dry.
3. Prewash Pillow Cover according to Fabric Spray Paint® instructions (without fabric softener). Let air dry and iron until smooth.
4. Use a seam ripper to separate seams of the Pillow Cover into flat fabric (removing zipper). Set it on the chair seat to check fit.

Use scissors to trim excess fabric on one end, leaving enough fabric to wrap around the edge of the seat. Set the Stencil on fabric to determine how much of the Stencil to use, depending on how large seat is. (Note: Photo example uses entire Stencil). Use a pencil to lightly mark inside Stencil opening in four corners to be able to align the Stencil to the proper position on fabric.

5. Remove the fabric and set onto the newspapers on the table. Tape both fabric and newspapers to the table to prevent shifting.
6. Read Spray Adhesive can and Textile Stencil package instructions. In spraying area, apply Spray Adhesive to the back (dull side) of the Stencil. Set the Stencil on fabric (aligning with pencil marks) and hand press to secure.

7. Fully pump Fabric Spray Paint® onto Stencil. If needed, use Sponge Pouncers to assist in the application. Apply two light coats for greater opacity. Without removing tape, peek under Stencil to check. When satisfied, carefully remove Stencil to reveal design. Clean up with mild soap and water. Let dry.
8. Center stenciled fabric right side down, on table. Center chair seat right side down, on top. Pull edge of fabric up and onto seat (wrong side) and staple it once on one side. Pull just enough to make fabric snug and staple once on opposite side. Before continuing to staple, turn over seat and see if design is still straight. Adjust as needed. Then staple one staple in third side and another in fourth side. Again



check and then continue stapling a couple staples at a time, working on opposite sides as you go. At corners, pull so that you can spread out excess fabric all along

- curves, so that no pleats or folds are created.
9. Re-assemble chair seat on wood chair.

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By [Theresa Cifali](#)

# Elegant Sister Frame

Frames can be really expensive. Oftentimes, it can be difficult to find one that you like or that will be “just perfect” for that special photo. Creating your own is the perfect solution! Many of the craft stores carry plain wood frames for just a buck apiece. With a little paint, a few embellishments and a lot of imagination, you can create a gorgeous one-of-a-kind frame for yourself or to give as a gift.

## Materials:

- ♦ Plaid® folkArt® Acrylic Paint, Jamaican Sea
- ♦ Petaloo Textured Elements, Burlap Blossoms, Natural
- ♦ Wood frame
- ♦ Lara’s Crafts™, Block Letters, ¾”
- ♦ Silk flowers, purple
- ♦ Spanish moss, green

## Tools:

Scissors, hot glue gun, foam brush

## Instructions:

1. Prepare the wood frame according to the directions in [Craft Techniques Volume 1](#).
2. Once prepared, paint the frame with Jamaican Sea paint. Let dry and then, apply a second coat.
3. Arrange the wood letters onto the front of the frame as shown. Then, attach them with hot glue.
4. Next, glue the Spanish moss along the bottom and about 2/3rds of the way up the left side of the frame.
5. Add the Burlap Blossoms and silk flowers over the moss.
6. Place a picture inside the frame and display.



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By [Lisa Rojas](#)

# Butterfly Hurricane Lamp

These butterfly hurricane lamps are a perfect accent for your spring party table decorations. They are also pretty simple to create, giving you the ability to make multiple ones as the centerpieces for that special wedding you might be planning. By using battery operated candles, instead of flame candles, you can relax at your gathering without the worries of them getting knocked over by accident.

## Materials:

- ◆ Planter, blue
- ◆ Hurricane lamp
- ◆ Spanish moss
- ◆ Floral foam
- ◆ Assorted flowers
- ◆ Butterfly accent (1)
- ◆ Feather accent (2)

- ◆ Cardstock, blue
- ◆ Cardboard
- ◆ Toothpicks (4)
- ◆ Beacon Adhesive® Zip Dry Paper Glue™

## Tools:

Westcott® Non Stick Scissors, glue gun, exacto knife, hole punch 1/8", battery operated candle

## Instructions:

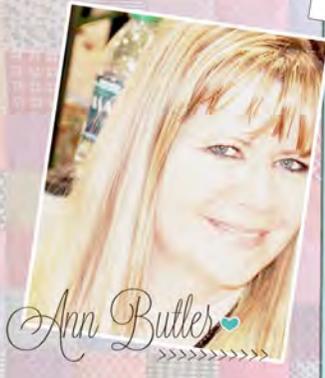
1. Using an exacto knife, cut the floral foam to fit the inside of the planter. Place the floral foam inside the planter and adhere it with the glue gun. Fill the planter with the Spanish moss covering the floral foam.
2. Cut a 3 1/2-inch circle from a piece of blue cardstock and a

piece of cardboard. Adhere the two circle pieces together with Zip Dry™ glue. Use the hole punch to punch four holes in the circle 2-inches apart. Apply Zip Dry™ glue to the back of the circle and adhere the circle to the center of the inside of the planter. Place the toothpicks into each hole and push them into the floral foam, leaving 1/4-inch of the toothpick sticking up. Note: This will add stability when you place the hurricane lamp onto the planter.

3. Use the glue gun to adhere the flowers, feather accents and the butterfly accent to the planter. Place a battery operated candle onto the circle in the center of the planter and add the hurricane lamp on top.

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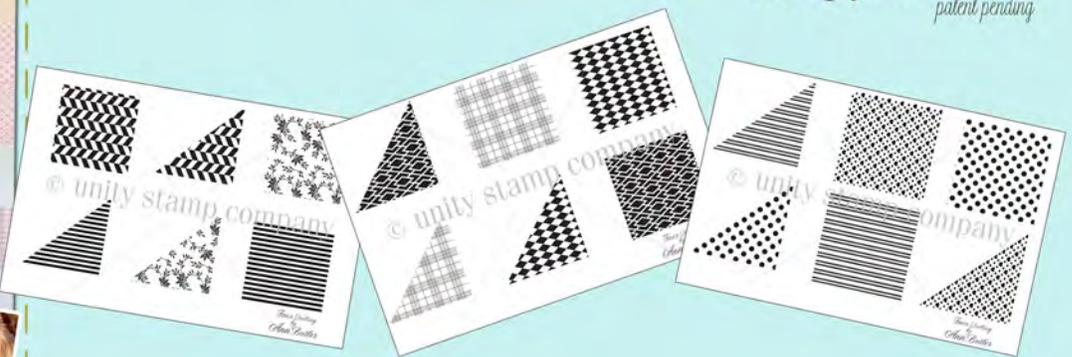


*Ann Butler*

# Ann Butler

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# Stenciled Clay Pot

By [Ann Butler](#)

Clay pots are inexpensive and the perfect canvas to decorate with paint and stencils. This clay pot is simple to recreate. Use this as a starting point and then let your imagination soar with all sorts of designs.

## Materials:

- ◆ Earth Safe Finishes Gesso, White
- ◆ Ann Butler Designs™ Iridescent by Earth Safe Finishes: Snow, Sky, Lilac, Aqua Marine
- ◆ [Ann Butler Art Screen by Colorbox®, Stars](#)
- ◆ Clay pot and saucer

## Tools:

Colorbox® Art Daubers (3). foam brush

## Instructions:

1. Apply gesso to inside and outside of the pot and saucer. Let dry. Repeat if needed.
2. Paint the bottom part of the pot with Sky. Let dry. Repeat if needed.
3. Paint the top of the pot, the inside and saucer with Snow. Let dry. Repeat if needed.
4. Use the daubers and the stencil to create the stars in Sky, Lilac and Aqua. Marine, as shown in the photo. Let dry.



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*Ann Butler*

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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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# Dream Big: Faux Cloisonné Tutorial

By [Irit Shalom](#)

Sometimes I think I am this "faux techniques" person. I love to try all possible ways to get the look of metal or wood using paper crafting supplies. So, this is one of those tutorials a Faux Cloisonné technique using embossing powders, stamps, pigments and a lot of imagination. Even if this technique looks a bit complicated, you can recreate easily with basic supplies. You don't need to be an advanced stamper. A couple of good stamps, your old heat gun and some embossing powders will do the job.

## Materials:

- ◆ Ann Butler Design's™ EZ De's by KellyCraft, 1" Rail Fence
- ◆ Unity Stamp Company Dream Big stamp set
- ◆ Ann Butler's Crafters® Ink by Clearsnap, Aquamarine
- ◆ Ann Butler's Crafters® Reinker by Clearsnap, Aquamarine
- ◆ Clearsnap Crafter's® Ink, Night
- ◆ Clearsnap Embossing Powder: Clear, Black
- ◆ Ann Butler Design's™ Iridescent Powders by Earth Safe Finishes, Copper
- ◆ [Ann Butler Design's™ Iridescents by Earth Safe Finishes, assorted colors](#)
- ◆ American Crafts™ cardstock, white
- ◆ Prima Marketing® flowers
- ◆ Thin chipboard, white

## Tools:

- ◆ Colorbox® Art Daubers by Clearsnap, Cherry Lynn Designs® A2 Cardmakers Nesting Dies, die cutting machine, washi tape, heat gun

## Instructions:

1. Connect two dies from the nested set into one big frame using some washi tape and die cut the outer frame and the inside piece.
2. Ink the outer frame with Night. Add black embossing powder and heat set. For this technique, make 3-4 layers of embossing powder, so just reheat and add another layer of the powder and so on. Let cool.
3. Cover the embossed frame with a mix of Iridescents. These are highlights, so add a very thin layer of those colors over the frame.
4. Add a thick layer of Iridescent Copper and heat the whole frame again to mix the pigments together. Heat in small segments.
5. Reheat small sections of the embossed frame and stamp into the hot surface. If you don't like the stamped images, just reheat the section and stamp again until you get a good impression..
6. Ink the inner chipboard frame with Aquamarine using the dauber. Do not try to achieve full coverage with the ink on the chipboard piece. The project calls for a "not so perfect" look. Sprinkle a small amount of clear embossing powder around and heat set. It gives the chipboard piece a nice water drop effect.
7. Stamp the butterflies and the sentiment with Night and cover with black embossing powder then, heat set. Repeat this step until the desired look is achieved.
8. Add a few drops of the Aquamarine reinker, cover with clear embossing powder and heat set.
9. Arrange the finished project over the basic cardstock. Add the flowers and enjoy your project.

[Irit Shalom](#) is an Israeli artist/designer. In her real life, she is a working Dentist, married to a retired high Police officer, Mom of four adults and a grandmother of two adorable babies. For the last five years, she's been addicted paper crafter and Mixed Media artist. She has been web-published in every possible paper crafting magazine around the world and print-published in major stamping and paper crafting magazines such as Rubber Stamp Madness, Craft Stamper, Just Cards etc. She has designed for more than 20 manufacturers around the world and right now designs for 8-9 more.





By [Theresa Cifali](#)

# Faux Metal Charms

If you like the look of metal, but not the cost, then this is the project for you. With salt dough, which is easy and inexpensive to make, you can create dozens of shapes and sizes. Make magnets, pins, ornaments, tags, pendants and more!

## Materials:

- ◆ Salt Dough ([learn how in Craft Techniques Volume 1](#))
- ◆ Krylon® ColorMaster™ Primer, black
- ◆ Krylon® Craft Series™ Shimmer Metallic, silver
- ◆ [StazOn® ink pads, assorted colors](#)

## Tools:

Makin's Clay® Cutter Sets, Makin's Clay® Texture Sheets, assorted stamps, toothpicks

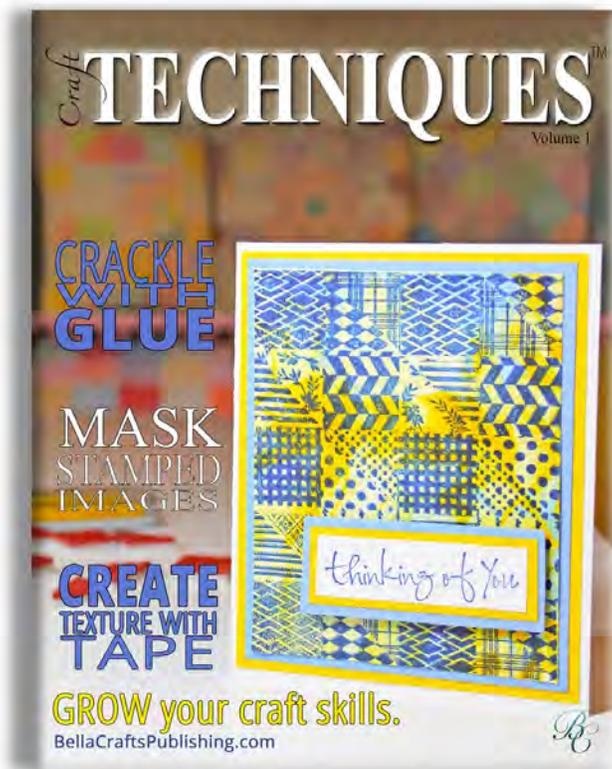
## Instructions:

1. Make your salt dough using a recipe from the Internet or from BCQ Techniques.
2. Roll out a section of the dough about 1/8-inch thick. Then cut shapes with the clay cutters.
3. Add texture to the shapes by pressing stamps into the dough.
4. Use toothpicks to make holes in the charms if you intend to use them for pendants.
5. Bake the charms according to the recipe directions.
6. Let the charms cool completely. Then, spray them with black primer. Let dry.
7. Finally, spray the charms with silver metallic paint. Let dry.

Note: For a variation, ink a stamp with StazOn®. Then, stamp that image into the raw dough (see inset).

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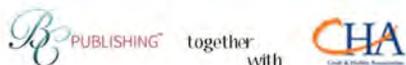
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# Quick and Easy Mixed Media Tags

By [Ann Butler](#)

Tags are fun and quick & easy to make. They can be used for gift tags, in scrapbooking, books, mixed media and so much more. These are created right on top of decorative paper which gives them depth instantly.

## Materials:

- ◆ [Ann Butler Designs™ Iridescent by Earth Safe Finishes, Ocean Breeze](#)
- ◆ Ann Butler Crafter's® Ink by Clearsnap: Blueberry
- ◆ Colorbox® Glitter, Silver Lining
- ◆ Colorbox® Embossing Powder, Clear
- ◆ Aleene's® Tacky Glue™
- ◆ Decorative cardstock with some swirls, 6 ½" x 4 ½"
- ◆ Sentiment stamps of choice
- ◆ Fibers, assorted

## Tools:

- ◆ Westcott® Brand Non-Stick Scissor
- ◆ Colorbox® Dauber
- ◆ Foam brush
- ◆ Pencil
- ◆ Heat gun
- ◆ Hole punch
- ◆ Ruler

## Instructions:

1. Paint over the cardstock with Ocean Breeze. Let dry.
2. Cut cardstock into the following sizes: 5 ¼-inches by 2 ¾-inches, 3 ¼-inches by 1 7/8-inches, 2 5/8-inches by 1 ¼-inches.
3. Trim off the corners of each tag evenly.
4. Punch a hole in the top center of tag and a ¼-inch down from the top.
5. Add Blueberry ink to the edges of each tag with the dauber. Heat set.
6. Apply glue over some of the swirls on the tags then cover with the glitter. Tap off all excess glitter and place it back into the container. Let dry.
7. Stamp sentiment onto each tag with Blueberry, then apply the embossing powder on top of the sentiment. Tap off excess embossing powder. Heat set.
8. Add assorted fibers through the hole at the top of each tag.





By [Lisa Rojas](#)

# Floral Picnic Basket

I really loved creating this floral picnic basket! With the finished size being only 7 ½" x 4 ½", you won't be planning on using it for your next family picnic, but it's still a terrific basket that you can put some baked goodies, a small gift or a matching set of notecards inside. Whatever you decide to place inside this little basket, the person that you give it to will love it and you for going that extra mile to create something so special just for them.

## Materials:

- ◆ Cardboard, 5" x 8"
- ◆ Corrugated cardboard, 4" x 26"
- ◆ Cardstock, aqua 8" x 5" (1), 1" x 4 1/4" (1), 1 1/2" x 1 1/2" (6)
- ◆ Cardstock, tan 7 1/4" x 4 1/4" (1)
- ◆ Pattern paper, 7 3/4" x 4 3/4" (1), 3/4" x 4" (1), 1 1/4" x 1 1/4" (6)
- ◆ Raffia paper, 13"
- ◆ Twine, 20"
- ◆ Artistic Wire® 18 gauge, copper
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives® Zip Dry Paper Glue™
- ◆ Clearsnap® ColorBox® Premium Dye Inkpad, Wicked Black
- ◆ Heartfelt Creations® Sunflower Patch Pre Cut Set
- ◆ Prismacolor® Color Pencils
- ◆ Paper flowers (2)

## Tools:

[Scor Pal® Score Board](#), Westcott® Personal Paper Trimmer, Westcott® Non Stick Scissors, wire cutters, round nose pliers, glue gun, hole punch 1/4", deckle scissors

## Instructions:

1. After cutting the cardboard, use the Scor Pal® board to score a 1/4-inch around all of the edges of the cardboard. Snip the edges with scissors to miter the corners of the cardboard,

forming a 1/4-inch lip all around the cardboard. Attach the corrugated cardboard to the lip of the cardboard piece with the glue gun and adhere the corrugated cardboard ends together, forming the basket.

2. Stamp the floral image onto the tan cardstock two times using the Wicked Black inkpad. Color the images with color pencils. Adhere the aqua cardstock, the pattern paper and the stamped cardstock together with Zip Dry™. Next, layer the smaller pieces of the aqua cardstock and pattern paper to the middle of the stamped cardstock, attaching them with Zip Dry™. This will become the lid to the picnic basket.
3. Cut the wire 14-inches long. Wrap the raffia and twine around the wire, leaving 1-inch on each end to form the handle. Measure the top center of the basket on each side and punch a hole. Repeat the process with the lid of the basket. Attach the handle through the holes in the basket and the lid with the round nose pliers.
4. Cut the smallest pieces of the aqua cardstock and the pattern paper and trim the edges with the deckle scissors. Layer the pieces together and adhere three pieces to each side of the basket and one flower to each side of the basket with the Zip Dry™.

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