

Bella

CRAFTS™

2017 Volume 5 Issue 1



30+

Springtastic
PROJECTS TO MAKE

Plus...

upclose with John Creighton Petersen
& articles for Craftpreneurs

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[Ann Butler](#) 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.



[Lisa Rojas](#) has been a mixed media artist and professional designer for the craft industry over 20 years. Her work has appeared in numerous craft magazines and books, on websites, national advertisements and tradeshow booths. Lisa has also filmed multiple television segments on Creative Living with Sheryl Borden. She works with many manufacturers using their products in her work, creating projects and teaching classes at tradeshow. Lisa is a member of the Craft and Hobby Association.



[Theresa Cifali](#) 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.

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Note to Readers

Bella Crafts™ makes every effort to present information in a clear, complete and accurate manner.

Please craft in a responsible and safe manner. Failure to do so can result in injury.

Bella Columnists



[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.



[Jo Pearson](#), AKA Glitter Queen, is the Manager of Where Creativity Happens for Michaels Stores. Starting with Michaels in 1987 was just the catalyst of her creative career. Jo is a designer, teacher, author, and was one of the judges on TLC's Craft Wars with host Tori Spelling. She has hosted cruises, was teacher on Michaels 18 wheeler craft truck, and even got to throw out first pitch at Cardinals baseball game!

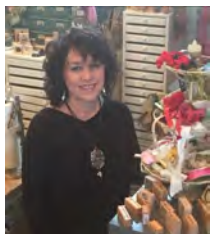
Glitter is her craft material of choice but she does admit that "If you can't glue it, don't do it". Beading is one of her favorite crafting venues and she will tell you she has her own bead store in her design room! An avid mixed media artist, Jo loves to "JUNK" thus her up and coming video series "Junkin with Jo".

Going to flea markets, garage sales and antique shops is a passion and the results are nothing less than unique to say the least. "Everyone has some creativity in them, they just need to embrace it and not be afraid" says Jo. "Try several mediums and find what is comfortable for you and then just GO! Don't let someone tell you, you can't...there is no such word in crafting. Not everything turns out like you want...but you tried!"



[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

Bella Contributors



[Chantal Johnson](#) has been the recipient of God's great love and has been given creativity as one of her many gifts. Her heritage is one of Southern hospitality and European style but her heart is pure Texan!! Her home, as well

as her art, resounds with sentiments from a joyful, grateful spirit to that of faith and hope mixed with a touch of wonder. She loves all things that can inspire others to find joy in the everyday. Her work has been published in Somerset Studio, Somerset Home, Sew Somerset, Apronology, Haute Handbags, Belle Armoire and Green Craft. She is currently on the ICE Resin® 2016 Design Team.



[Lisa Marie Jimenez](#) is a professional jewelry designer with 24 years of experience in the industry. She designed her own line of jewelry which sold to gift/clothing boutiques for 10+ years. Her designs have been published in US and International bead/jewelry magazines, along with

several front cover features. Lisa's designs have also graced the covers of four romance novels. She shares her jewelry designing techniques with others through her personal blog and currently writes a column for an international bead magazine.



[Beth Watson](#) is a creative design professional, specializing in mixed media design, three dimensional crafts and home décor. Armed with a formal education in

Marketing from Ringling School of Art & Design, Beth developed her professional skills in the restaurant industry before turning her focus to the craft world in 1998. Beth is a member of the CHA Designer Council and her designs have been published in numerous craft magazines and books. She enjoys bringing a unique twist to her designs by using traditional materials in unconventional ways.



[Lorine Mason](#) is first and foremost a Maker. She loves creating projects to inspire others that are unique, homemade and above all personal. Sharing her creativity and the experience of creating something

homemade is her passion. Lorine has authored 13 books and has had her work featured in print, online publications, on packaging and through television programming. She is a licensed artist and product designer. Whether through her design work, teaching or demonstrating, Lorine is at her best when sharing her love of creating something beautiful.



[Martha Gomez](#) lives with her husband and their two daughters. She divides her time between her family, her work in a Public Relations Company and her passion: stamping and crafting.

She loves to create cards, 3D's and alter different projects.



[Anna-Karin Evaldsson](#) started paper crafting in 2002. She feels very lucky to have found the joy of making art from paper, dies, stamps, ink and paint. She enjoys switching between different types of projects: cards, tags, mini-

books, art journaling, layouts, canvases and 3-D/home décor. Anna-Karin loves to experiment and try out different techniques. Every project is a creative adventure and the possibilities are truly endless. She is very happy to be on some wonderful design teams and she has worked with Eileen Hull's dies since 2012, both on the Sizzix US design team and for Eileen's Inspiration Team.

Check out all of our publications!



Start with a Photo

Helen Bradley explains how a simple photo can morph into so much.

Savvy crafters know that a photograph can be a starting point for creating all sorts of art. So, when you're shooting images, be aware of the possibilities of turning a photo into something completely different. You can turn a photo of a leaf into a Photoshop brush or a pattern or you can capture a color scheme for a project from an image.

In many cases, you can do this on your desktop computer using a program like Photoshop. And in other cases, you can use apps such as Adobe Capture, which is part of the Adobe Creative Cloud, to do the same thing.

On the desktop – I like the Cutout filter in Photoshop – it converts a detailed photo into a series of simpler solid color shapes. The effect is more like a drawing than a photo. It's best to use an image which has been isolated from its background, then apply the filter and finally, convert the resulting image into a repeating pattern or a Photoshop brush. Use the brush in your Photoshop projects or take your repeating pattern swatch to a site like Spoonflower to print it as one of a kind fabric.

To make a brush from an image, first isolate the element you want to make into the pattern by removing any unwanted background. Run the Cutout filter on the photo and then select the image and save it as a brush by choosing Edit > Define Brush Preset. This makes a stamp style brush you can use in any document.

To make a pattern, after running the Cutout filter, save the image as a pattern by choosing Edit > Define Pattern. You can then fill any image with the pattern by choosing Edit > Fill, choose Pattern and then the pattern you just made.

For a more sophisticated pattern ensure you have some extra space around your shape – about as much again as the shape itself all around it. Choose Layer > Duplicate Layer and then Filter > Other > Offset. Set the Horizontal and Vertical values to half the width and height of the document and click Ok. Select all the shapes by choosing Select > All and make your pattern as before. This will give you a pattern where the shapes are offset from each other.

For converting a photo into a color swatch, one site I like is pictaculous.com. An advantage of this site is that once you have uploaded your photo and viewed your color scheme, you can download it as a Photoshop ACO color swatch file. Simply double click on the swatch file to open it in Photoshop or any program that can use ACO files and the colors will be immediately available to you.



This balloon pattern started out as a photo of a balloon and, with a few minutes of work, it could be printed as scrapbook paper or uploaded for one off fabric printing.



Why Be Social?

Key Reasons You Should Leverage Social Media for Your Creative Business

Are you currently considering how to best leverage social media as part of your ongoing creative business' online marketing mix? You're not alone. There is no doubt about it, to say that social media is extremely popular among consumers is an understatement. If you are not using social, you can really be missing out.

Benefits Social Media Networks Can Deliver To Your Creative Business

If you're ready to make the initial leap into the realm of social media, read on; understanding some of the major benefits you can reap from this formidable online force can help make the initial transition as seamless as possible.

Tapping into social media delivers:

Free Advertorial Resources: Many traditional and online marketing tactics, while seemingly effective, still come with a hefty initial investment price tag. Yes, coordinating your creative business pages will take up some internal resources, but the pages themselves are all free.

Global Reach: More importantly than simply being free, social media networks are a proven and effective way for businesses in any industry to reach their prospective client demographic en masse. When it comes to connecting with sheer numbers of potential customers, it's tough to beat these online resources.

Instant "Street Cred": No matter what type of business you're operating in, it's important to establish your organization as in "in the know"

industry expert. Deciding to leverage social media instantly showcases your business as relevant, in touch with its modern audience and a seasoned industry leader with something to offer – aka instant street cred!

Personalized Connection With

Customers: Unlike other one-dimensional promotional tactics, social media networks deliver an opportunity for business owners to connect with and respond to their customers. You'll instantly gain insight on consumer opinions as well as what you're doing right (and not so right) to help quickly modify issues as soon as they arise.

Competition Evaluation: Finally, deciding to leverage social media is an outstanding (and perfectly legit!) way to keep a steady eye on your closest competition. It's no secret that competitors like each other's pages – it's the best way to gauge critical factors such as their existing consumer offerings, how they engage with their consumers, as well as which tactics are (and are not) working for their organizations. Conversely, once your company successfully leverages its business pages, the competition will recognize that you are an 'in-the-know' artistic force with which to be reckoned!

Taking advantage of social media, particularly social media networks most popular for creative businesses (such as Instagram, Facebook and Pinterest), can be helpful to growing and established businesses alike. If you have not yet dived into social, start small. Pick one network and grow from there.



The MISTI Tool

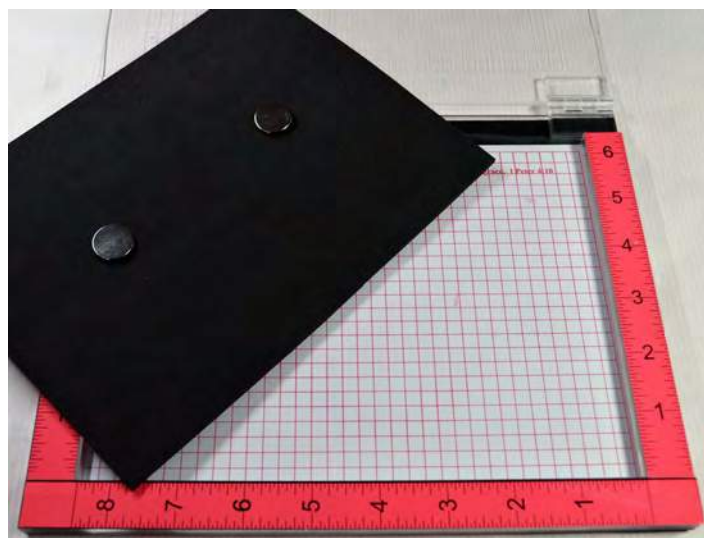
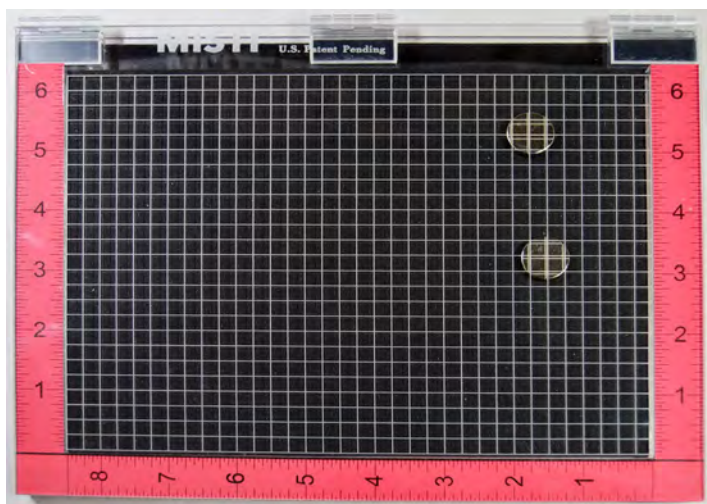
What is it about crafters that makes us love our tools so much that we're always looking for the next best thing that has arrived on market? That question is rhetorical because I know the answer and I'm sure you do, too.

We look for new tools for a couple of reasons: They make our crafting lives easier and/or the tool will teach us something new. As a longtime rubber stamper, my biggest weakness is stamp positioners. A new tool that claims to help me stamp my images perfectly straight will send me to the craft store every time!

Since I began stamping 20+ years ago, I have been on a mission to find the perfect stamp positioner. I have bought and tried them all. My new favorite stamp positioner is the MISTI tool.

MISTI is short for *Most Incredible Stamp Tool Invented* and is created by the company, My Sweet Petunia. To be honest, I haven't had it long enough to say it's the most incredible stamp tool, but so far it's pretty darn close.

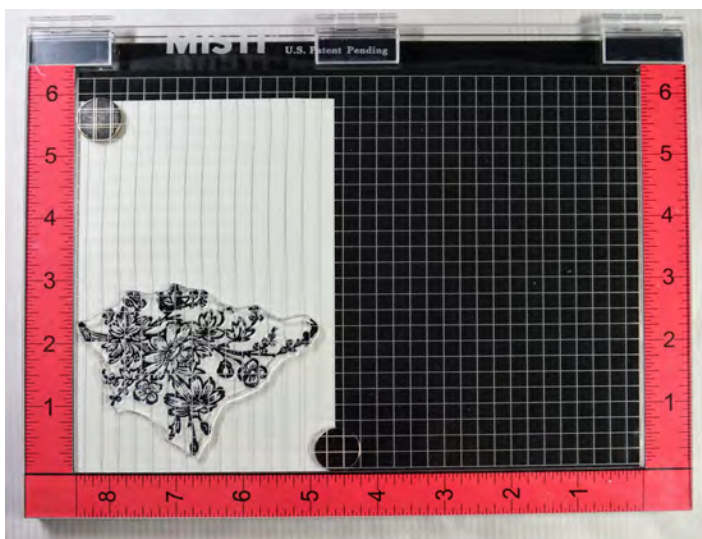
The MISTI tool comes in three sizes. The MISTI Mini has a stamping area of 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 6" and it's great crafting standard A2 size cards. The MISTI Original which is the one I have, is awesome for larger sized cards with a stamp area of 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". The Memory MISTI is the largest of the three and is perfect for scrapbooking projects. The stamping area for this tool is 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ ".



MISTI can be used with clear, foam and wood mounted stamps. The tool has a removable foam rubber pad that is used to accommodate the various widths of the rubber stamps.

Now, let's breakdown some of the fun things you can do with this very cool tool:

- ◆ Precision Stamping
- ◆ Over Stamping
- ◆ Stamps in the same place each time
- ◆ Duplicate Card Making
- ◆ Stamping Borders
- ◆ Perfect Impression for larger stamps
- ◆ Create Great Backgrounds
- ◆ Stamp Multiple Images at once
- ◆ And much more



I have listed just a few things you can do with this tool, but there are many more. There are some really great videos on YouTube. You can also discover additional inspiration on the company's blog.

MISTI is an award-winning tool created for card makers and paper artists alike. Give this tool a chance and take your stamping to all new levels!

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An Artist's View

with Ann Butler

In depth with ...

John Creighton Petersen



[John Creighton Petersen](#) is a lifelong resident of Seattle. Although John has a degree in photography, his vast knowledge of a wide variety of art mediums includes painting, calligraphy, journal and book making, collage to beading, resin jewelry, soldering and metal work has lead him to be dubbed a “Mixed Media Fusion” artist by combining all of these mediums into works of art. An in-demand working artist in the truest sense with a passion for teaching, he’s on the road several months every year sharing his knowledge and techniques with others. He

has served as an educator and designer for many high-profile companies in the craft industry including Prima Marketing, Imagine Crafts/ Tsukineko, "The ICE Prince" with ICE Resin and Authentique Paper part of the Finnabair Creative Team.

Get inspired by visiting John’s website at www.artnewwave.com where you can find his teaching schedule, tutorials and blog. Follow him through social media channels with **artnewwave**.

A: What was your first experience with crafting?

J: I can always remember being creative, whether with paper crafts, painting or drawing. I can definitely say that my favorite classes in school were always my art classes or any class that involved some type of creativity. As a family, we always made decorations for the holidays, from decorating Easter eggs to making Christmas ornaments. When I was older, I began making journals and dabbled in making jewelry, simply because I couldn't find anything at a store that I liked.

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

J: I think that being an artist has always been a part of me, simply because it's what made me happiest when I was younger. It wasn't until I was in high school and began getting more involved in more advanced art classes and traveling abroad as an exchange student that it dawned upon me that being an artist could actually be a career. This idea was solidified when I went to college and truly found my artistic voice.

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

J: I had begun creating a line of greeting cards that featured my photography, along with handmade journals and other books that I was selling on the weekends at a local artists market while still working full time at a job where I was using my talents for creating samples, teaching classes, etc. but felt that I wasn't being compensated for my talent. It was the realization that my skills and talent were making money for someone else instead of myself that I decided to take the leap into being a full time working artist.

A: We are so happy that you did!

A: Do you have a favorite craft technique?

J: Because I work in so many different mediums, I don't have one particular technique that is my favorite, per se. As long as a project involves creating some sort of cool texture and mixing different colors, I'm happy!

A: What inspires you?

J: I'm inspired by so many different things – from lyrics to a song, to the beauty found in nature, architectural lines, works by other mixed media artists. Often times it's the most random things

that pop an idea into my head for a future project.

A: Describe your studio or crafting area.

J: Despite what many people think, you don't need a large area to call your studio. For years I used to create everything in the basement of our old home – it wasn't the ideal place, but it got the job done. When we moved into our current home a few years ago, the only thing on my check list was a dedicated place for my studio. So, we converted one of the bedrooms into a studio space with a large closet for storing all of my supplies.



I'm surrounded by many of my prototypes for projects and classes and artwork of my friends for inspiration.



Check out some of John's FABULOUS projects below and on the following page.



"Art Mechanicals Jewelry"

The majority of my supplies are organized and stored for easy access for while I'm working and to easily pack for teaching trips.



My studio is definitely function over fashion!



"Art Mechanicals Jewelry"



“Creative Assemblage”



“Art Mechanicals Frame”



“Art Mechanicals Canvas”



“The Artist Bakers Dozen”
Mixed Media Muffin Tin



Tips for writing more effective copy

As crafters, we all know that eye-candy gets likes and a picture's worth a thousand words. But it's those thousand words that are more likely to drive people to click your links, check out your site and buy your stuff.

There are so many things that a creative solopreneur like you needs to write on any given day to communicate with your audience - interesting stories, clear tutorials, engaging headlines, enticing descriptions, direct calls-to-action, unique observations and more. Your ability to write well is crucial to your marketing and/or self-promotion efforts.



Good writing can be highly subjective, but **effective** writing gets the job done. Whether you're writing an email, a blog post or copy for a new page on your website – the words, phrasing and formatting that you choose are just as important (if not more so) as proper spelling and grammar. Your thoughtful choices should make your readers delight in your copy from beginning to end.



Here are just a few tips for writing more effective copy, in no particular order...and please don't start tweeting me if you find I'm not practicing what I'm preaching, lol.

Make it more fun – Try peppering in a little humor or light controversy. It's okay to use a little poetic license, such as staccato sentences, text-speak or slang, to create an effect.

Show off your personality – Your own voice is unique and it's YOU that will differentiate your wares or services from everyone else's.

Write strong headlines – Wait until after you've finished writing the body of your piece, then work out a headline that best represents it and elicits something emotional from your readers. Good copywriters have a "4-U" rule: [urgent](#), [unique](#), [useful](#), [ultra-specific](#).

K.I.S.S. – Be clear and concise (avoid using 12 words when 3 will do) so your reader can grasp your main points quickly. For example - in a tutorial, don't write "apply the red paint with a brush to the surface of the canvas..." when you can just write "paint the canvas red."

Format in palatable chunks – Split longer posts or tutorials into shorter paragraphs or steps, use subheadings, bulleted lists or other visual cues (like little arrows) to make it easier on the eyes.

Use an active voice – Instead of writing "This adhesive allowed me to easily reposition each element..." which is a passive voice, try "With this adhesive, I could easily reposition each element..." If you are the subject, then you should be doing things, rather than having things done to you.

Find the best word – Adding exclamation points won't always add punch (but your reader might want to punch you in the face if you use too many). Try substituting "pretty!!!" with "stunning" or "captivating."

By using more descriptive words, you can make a stronger point without exclamation. You can avoid excessively repeating adverbs like "very" or "so", as well.



Writing is just like anything else – practice makes perfect. The more often you write, the better writer you'll become. Write on!



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Let's Socialize!



We love connecting
with our readers, so...

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Junkin' with Jo

with Jo Pearson

I love dolls made of old things; love adding unusual items to make them one of a kind. Just walk through an antique or junk store and let your imagination run wild. Thus, an old bobbin becomes a whimsical doll. A little ephemera, like old spoons, door knobs, ribbon and jewelry, becomes that one of a kind treasure. Let's get started.

Materials:

- ♦ Old wooden spool (the one I used is 12 inches)
- ♦ Old door knob
- ♦ Flattened spoons, (2)
- ♦ Flat-backed rhinestone pieces for spoons
- ♦ Burlap ribbon, 1 yard
- ♦ Print tulle, 2 yards
- ♦ Tulle, gold, ½ yard for bow
- ♦ Assorted pieces of choice for top of door knob (I used a ring type piece with a rhinestone ball on top)
- ♦ Rhinestones, flat backed (3) for buttons
- ♦ Hanging jewelry piece as necklace (I used an old earring)
- ♦ Mini eyehook
- ♦ Small screws (2 for spoons)
- ♦ E-6000 glue

Tools:

- ♦ Dremel-like drill with small bit
- ♦ Needle and thread
- ♦ Anvil and hammer
- ♦ Safety glasses

Start the FUN: Always wear your safety glasses when drilling!!!

Instructions:

1. Drill 3 small holes in the top rim of the spool, one on each side as arms and one in center to hang a jewelry piece.

Note: You can keep your spoons as they are or flatten them, like mine. Always hammer on a SOLID surface!!!

2. Flatten your spoons and drill a hole at end of the handle. Glue flat, rhinestone pieces to center of the spoons.

3. Use the small screws to attach the spoons to the top of the spool.
4. Attach the necklace piece to the eye hook and screw it into center hole.
5. Glue the door knob to the top of spool and attach an embellishment on top of it.
6. Gather tulle and secure around the bottom of spool as shown.
7. Gather burlap ribbon and secure around the spool on top of the tulle.
8. Tie a small tulle bow around the top of the burlap.



Remember that my doll is just an idea to help you get started. There are so many sizes and shapes of spools to choose from. Your door knob can be new too—there are some great ones to choose from at craft stores. Just have fun and most of all use your imagination!!



20 Minute CRAFTS

What? No time to craft?
NO WAY!
We've got you covered.



You're So Special Wall Hanging

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

A few years ago, my mom gave me a huge box of antique lace, doilies, hand towels and hankies. I was in heaven thinking of all the projects I could create with these beautiful items! This no-sew project is easy to create and would make a wonderful gift for someone you love. This one is on its way to my mom.

Materials:

- ◆ Vintage hand towel
- ◆ Assorted lace
- ◆ Doilies, white, heart shaped, (2)
- ◆ Fabric flowers, lavender 1 ¼", (2)
- ◆ Fabric flowers, lavender 1", (2)
- ◆ Pearl stickers, (2)
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives Fabri-Tac
- ◆ Ink, lavender
- ◆ Cardstock, lavender, scrap piece

Tools:

- ◆ Iron
- ◆ Word stamp
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Display hanger

Instructions:

1. Cut the hand towel to 5 ½" x 7". Turn the top and both sides under ¼" and iron to create seams. Then, glue them down.
2. Cut three pieces of lace 5 ½" long and attach to the hand towel.
3. Adhere the heart doilies, flowers and pearl stickers.
4. On a small scrap of lavender cardstock, stamp the saying. Cut it out and add it to the label on the display hanger. Attach the hand towel to the display hanger.



Shaker cards are one of my favorite paper craft projects to create. I have always made them with foam core board, so this clear plastic photo sleeve was a fun change of pace. Instead of a typical card, I made a tag that would be perfect to put on a keychain or hang it in your car. How fun is that?!

Little Cutie Pie Shaker Tag

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

Materials:

- ♦ We R Memory Keepers Photo Sleeves, clear, 4" x 6"
- ♦ Chipboard frame
- ♦ Cardstock, light green
- ♦ Button
- ♦ Assorted beads and sequins
- ♦ Assorted fibers
- ♦ Zip Dry Paper Glue
- ♦ Eyelet, blue
- ♦ Photo

Tools:

- ♦ We R Memory Keepers: Photo Sleeve Fuse Tool, Fuse Ruler, Crop-A-Dile
- ♦ Scissors

Instructions:

1. Adhere the photo to the chipboard frame. Cover the back with light green cardstock
2. Cut the photo sleeve into a tag shape.
3. Place the chipboard frame into the photo sleeve. Also add the beads and sequins inside.
4. Following the manufacturer's instructions, use the Fuse Tool and Ruler to seal the sleeve.
5. Punch a hole in the top of the photo sleeve and set the eyelet into the hole.
6. Add fibers through the eyelet.

This project came about one afternoon when I found a few keys. I asked my husband what the keys were for and I received the answer to my question with an “I don’t know”. How frustrating!!! I decided that after I found where the keys belonged, I would mark them somehow. These little Mod Podge molds were perfect for the job!



Organize Your Keys

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

Materials:

- ♦ Mod Podge Mod Melts, White Milk Glass
- ♦ Mod Podge Mod Molds: Flowers, Royal Icons
- ♦ Mod Podge Sheer Colors: Yellow, Purple, Green
- ♦ Beacon Power-Tac

Tools:

- ♦ Mod Podge Melter Tool
- ♦ Paintbrush

Instructions:

1. Following the manufacturer’s instructions, fill the Mod Melter mold with the Melts. When they’re dry, pop them out of the molds.
2. Use a paintbrush to apply the sheer colors to each embellishment.
3. Once the paints are dry, glue the embellishments to the keys.
4. Note: Make sure the embellishment does not interfere with the notches on the key and key ring.



Decorative Dry Erase Board

By [Ann Butler](#)

Create a one-of-a kind dry erase board in minutes with decorative paper and a frame. Take it a step further and print a permanent To Do List on the paper before framing and you are set.

Materials:

- ♦ Decorative cardstock
- ♦ Frame, 8" x 10"
- ♦ Dry erase markers
- ♦ [To Do List PDF](#), optional

Tools:

- ♦ Paper trimmer
- ♦ Computer, optional

Instructions:

1. Remove the back from the frame.
2. Print the PDF onto the cardstock, if desired.
3. Cut the decorative cardstock to fit into the frame and then, place inside.
4. Reassemble the frame.

Designer Tips:

- ⇒ Simply use a baby wipe to clean off the marker from the glass.
- ⇒ Create your own list to print off and put into the frame.

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I'll admit it, I'm a typical Nana who loves taking photos of my grandchildren! Unfortunately, life gets busy and my photos end up stored in my computer. So, when I get an idea for a quick photo album, I jump on it. This is one of those albums.

Capture the Moment Photo Book

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

Materials:

- ♦ Kaisercraft Polaroid Chipboard Album
- ♦ Patterned papers
- ♦ Cardstock, light green, scrap piece
- ♦ 3D stickers
- ♦ Assorted buttons
- ♦ Assorted ribbons
- ♦ Zip Dry Paper Glue
- ♦ Binder rings, green (2)

Tools:

- ♦ Computer
- ♦ Printer
- ♦ Exacto knife

Instructions:

1. Cover the front of the album pages with patterned papers. Cut the centers out with an exacto knife. Add photos and cover the backs with patterned papers
2. Decorate the pages with stickers and buttons.
3. Create the names on a computer and print them out on light green cardstock. Cut it out and adhere it to the front of the album
4. Place the album pages together and secure with binder rings.
5. Cut six pieces of assorted ribbons 7" long. Tie the ribbons around the binder rings.

This vintage keychain is so easy to make. The assembly just takes a few minutes, even though you will need to leave it a while to dry thoroughly.



Vintage Typewriter Key Chain

By [Theresa Cifali](#)

Materials:

- ♦ Vintage typewriter keys
- ♦ Wire, 30 gauge
- ♦ Fibers
- ♦ Keychain ring
- ♦ Jump rings, 10mm (2)
- ♦ Beacon Adhesives PowerTac

Tools:

- ♦ Flat nose pliers (2)

Instructions:

1. Decide on a word and select the appropriate typewriter keys.
2. Glue the keys together and let dry overnight.
3. Once dry, attach a jump ring to each end of the glued keys. One 10mm jump ring will easily go through the 2 holes that are already in the typewriter keys.
4. Cut a few lengths of fibers and tie to one of the jump rings.
5. Add a keychain ring to the other jump ring.
6. Next, turn the keys over and weave some wire through the holes between the typewriter keys, twisting and securing them together. Then, add some more adhesive over the wire, for additional strength.



Spring Birthday Gift Card Holder

By [Theresa Cifali](#)

Surprise someone this spring, with a handmade birthday card with a gift card holder built right in. It's sure to brighten someone.

Materials:

- ♦ Watercolor paper
- ♦ Patterned paper
- ♦ Permanent ink pad, black
- ♦ Dye ink pad, light purple
- ♦ Library pocket
- ♦ Colored pencils
- ♦ Foam tape or dots
- ♦ Double-sided tape

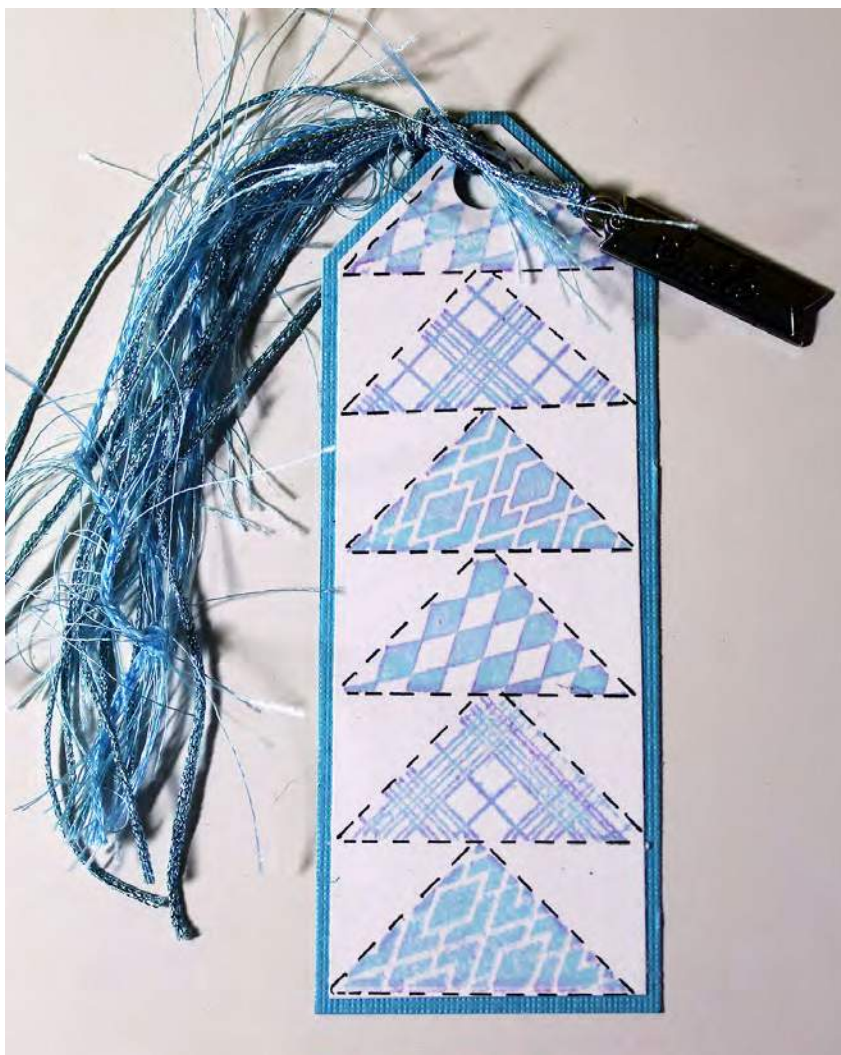
Tools:

- ♦ Rubber stamps: butterfly, Happy Birthday sentiment
- ♦ Paper trimmer
- ♦ Scissors
- ♦ Heat gun

Instructions:

1. Cut a piece of watercolor paper 5 ½" x 8 ½" and then, fold in half to make the card base.
2. Smoosh the purple ink pad over the card front, making sure to get the edges.
3. Cut the patterned paper 3 ¾" x 5". Tape to the card front.
4. Stamp the butterfly and Happy Birthday onto watercolor paper in permanent ink. Heat set.
5. Color and cut out the butterfly.
6. Tear around the Happy Birthday and smoosh the purple pad over the torn edges.
7. Attach both pieces to the card front with foam tape.
8. Next, stamp the sentiment to the center of the library pocket. Stamp the butterfly wings partially around the edges. Heat set.
9. Smoosh the purple ink pad around the outside edges of the pocket. Then, add some color to the butterfly wings with the pencils.
10. Tape the pocket to the inside of the card.





Tags are so quick and easy to make and they can be used for just about anything. I like to keep a good supply of tags on hand as they are a perfect addition to a gift, gift bag or to tuck into a card.

Flying Geese Charm Tag

By [Ann Butler](#)

Materials:

- ♦ Ann Butler's Faux Quilting Stamps, 1" Triangles, assorted
- ♦ Ann Butler's Crafter's Ink by Clearsnap, Ocean Breeze
- ♦ Fine tip marker, black
- ♦ Charm
- ♦ Tag, 1 ½" x 4 ½", white
- ♦ Tag, 1 ¾" x 4 ¾", blue
- ♦ Fibers, assorted
- ♦ Glue stick

Tools:

- ♦ Scissors
- ♦ Heat gun

Instructions:

1. Stamp 6 triangles onto the white tag, as shown in the photo. Heat set.
2. Draw dash lines around each triangle.
3. Glue the white tag onto the center of the blue tag.
4. Attach the charm to the tag with a piece of fiber.
5. Add more fibers to the top of the tag.

I love taking pictures with my camera, but being a designer, I hated the plain black camera strap.

I need color and pretty patterns! I thought about covering my strap with rhinestones, but I didn't think they would hold up to wear and tear, so I decided to create this no-sew strap cover. I even made a few different ones, so if I get bored I can change them out.



No Sew Camera Strap

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

Materials:

- ♦ Fabric
- ♦ Beacon Fabri-Tac

Tools:

- ♦ Iron
- ♦ Scissors

Instructions:

1. Cut the fabric 5" x 21". Iron to remove any wrinkles.
2. Fold the sides of the fabric under ¼". Iron each side to create a seam.
3. Glue down each edge.
4. With the wrong sides together, fold the fabric in half lengthwise and glue edges together.
5. Once dry, slip the camera strap inside the fabric tube.



Washi Tape Trivet

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

Who wouldn't want to share a pot of tea on this cute floral trivet? By adding a small tea pot and cup in a decorated bag, this trivet would be a perfect hostess gift.

Materials:

- ♦ Trivet, wood
- ♦ Washi tape
- ♦ Plaid Mod Podge, Gloss

Tools:

- ♦ Paintbrush, 1/2"
- ♦ Scissors

Instructions:

1. Wipe off the trivet with a clean paper towel to remove dust and dirt.
2. Adhere the washi tape to each slat in the trivet.
3. Cut off excess washi tape.
4. Apply two coats of Mod Podge to the trivet. Let dry between each coat.



Birthday Goody Bag

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

A birthday party is never complete without some super fun goody bags! These little bags can be filled with all kinds of cool stuff, making them great for kid parties and adult parties alike.

Materials:

- ♦ We R Memory Keepers Photo Sleeve, 4" x 4"
- ♦ We R Memory Keepers FUSEables Fringe Strip, kraft
- ♦ Patterned paper, 4" x 4"
- ♦ Assorted stickers
- ♦ Candy

Tools:

- ♦ We R Memory Keepers Photo Sleeve Fuse Tool
- ♦ Scissors

Instructions:

1. Cut the patterned paper 4" x 4". Slip the paper into the photo sleeve.
2. Add the candy into the photo sleeve
3. Cut the fringe strip 4" long.
4. Using the Fuse tool, attach the fringe strip to the photo sleeve.
5. Adhere the stickers to the front of the photo sleeve.



Live Life Floral Pop Up Box

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

Nothing says “Welcome Spring” better than a box full of flowers, even if they’re paper! This pretty box would make a fabulous table decoration for a springtime party or even an outdoor wedding. Using pre-colored stickers instead of stamped flowers makes this project quick and easy too!

Materials:

- ♦ Cardstock: light green, plum
- ♦ Patterned paper, 2 ¼” x 2 ¼”, (4)
- ♦ Clearsnap Colorbox Ink, Frosted Plum
- ♦ Wire, green, 24 gauge
- ♦ Zip Dry Paper Glue
- ♦ Floral stickers
- ♦ Floral chipboard pieces
- ♦ Shredded paper, iridescent

Tools:

- ♦ Spellbinders Die Cutting Machine
- ♦ Spellbinders Scalloped Pop Up Box Die Cut
- ♦ Paper trimmer
- ♦ Wire cutters
- ♦ Glue gun

Instructions:

1. Following the instructions for the die cutting machine, cut out the pop up box in light green cardstock. In plum cardstock, die cut eight of the small lace, one large lace and three strips for the inside of the box.
2. Assemble the box following the manufacturer’s instructions. Glue together with Zip Dry.
3. Cut four pieces of the patterned paper 2 ¼” x 2 ¼”. Ink the edges. Adhere the patterned papers and the lace to the box. See photo for placement.
4. Attach the three strips inside the box.
5. Cut seven pieces of wire 3 ½” long. Add the wire to the backs of the flowers with hot glue. Add the iridescent paper and the flowers to the inside of the box.
6. Glue the chipboard pieces to the front of the box.

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NATIONAL
DIY DAY



founded by the crafters of {CraftBoxGirls}

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Second Annual National DIY Day Celebrates the Art of Creativity for Kids of All Ages

Partners with AdoptAClassroom.org to Inspire Creativity Among Students in Low-Income Areas

On April 2, 2017 the crafters of Atlanta-based Craft Box Girls will host its second annual National DIY Day to celebrate creativity and the art of making at a time when screen time among children is at an all-time high.

“It remains important, even critical, that kids are empowered to explore their imagination through the power of play and crafting is one of the best play-time activities in the books,” said Lynn Lilly, chief executive officer of Craft Box Girls. “We launched National DIY Day last year to bring broader recognition to the art of creativity through crafting and this year, we’re excited to expand our impact even further.”

This year, Lilly expects to have 15 million people take part in National DIY Day, a growth rate of 650% over last year and she plans to do it by leveraging digital media, partnership with brands like Plaid Crafts, Cricut and Bella Crafts Magazine, as well as a national television campaign and partnering with AdoptAClassroom.org, its 2017 cause partner.

Lilly and her team in Atlanta will lead the global digital event and creative workshops from [Binders Art Supplies & Frames](#) at the popular Ponce City Market. Additionally, 25 crafting ambassadors were selected from all parts of the United States to help make this a fun-filled day and shine a light on the art of creativity. They will use their digital channels to “live craft” on National DIY Day in events that will run from 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. on April 2. The lineup of live stream crafting and DIY events and Atlanta

based workshops is available at NationalDIYDay.com.

“Our National DIY Day team will teach kids of all ages how to express their creativity through crafting and DIY with fun and engaging activities planned throughout the day. All of which will be live streamed from multiple digital platforms including Facebook Live, Instagram Stories, and blogs,” Lilly said. “Many of the ambassadors as well as myself are also booked on local television across the country to teach viewers simple crafting projects to bring more awareness to the art of making and creativity.”

New this year is Craft Box Girls’ cause partner for National DIY Day 2017, AdoptAClassroom.org.

“National DIY DAY and Craft Box Girls are proud to support AdoptAClassroom.org and their mission to give teachers a hand by providing much-needed classroom materials so that their students can learn and succeed. Craft Box Girls is committed to supporting classrooms and providing tools for students and teachers to enhance the creative learning experience,” Lilly said.

Leading up to National DIY Day, from March 1 to April 2, Craft Box Girls will host a “Text to Give” campaign to fundraise for AdoptAClassroom.org, which will be promoted through its social media channels, ambassador network, television segments and the AdoptAClassroom.org social media networks.

Craft Box Girls has also teamed up with Plaid Crafts to give 15 lucky crafters a “Plaid Party” which includes a craft party kit to host their own National DIY Day event at home. Participants may enter the contest on NationalDIYDay.com. Additionally, supporters are encouraged to shop the newly-launched merchandise store on NationalDIYDay.com. T-shirts, designed by three artists who won a national design competition, as well as tote bags are for sale.



National DIY DAY was established annually on the date of April 2. It is a movement to celebrate creativity and the art of making. The Craft Box Girls team launched the very first National DIY DAY on April 2, 2016, to bring people together for a day of creativity and making.

Photos from the 2016 event:



National DIY DAY and Craft Box Girls are proud to support AdoptAClassroom.org and their mission to give teachers a hand by providing much-needed classroom materials so that their students can learn and succeed. Craft Box Girls is committed to supporting classrooms and providing tools for students and teachers to enhance the creative learning experience

Support AdoptAClassroom.org by Texting a Donation Today! Text the word "Give" to (678) 582-8594 and you will be prompted through a secure system to make a donation of your choice!

Lynn Lilly and members of the National DIY DAY ambassador team are available for television, radio and digital interviews and demonstrations.



Moss Garden Sign

By [Chan Vu for Craft Box Girls](#)

I love the flexibility of dried moss. The evergreen aspect makes moss one of the best craft supplies for anything fun and whimsical. I've used moss on many DIY projects and the outcomes are always satisfying. With National DIY Day just around the corner this spring, I wanted to add this to our collection of fun spring projects.

I'm using dried moss to create a garden moss sign. I think it adds a fresh look to the garden during the transition from winter to spring. Let's start celebrating!

Materials:

- ♦ Metal letters
- ♦ Arrow
- ♦ Spray paint, white
- ♦ Moss, dried roll
- ♦ Wood board
- ♦ Nails

Tools:

- ♦ Glue gun
- ♦ Hammer
- ♦ Scissors

Instructions:

1. Spray paint the metal letters and arrow.
2. Trim the moss to fit the dimensions of the board.
3. Glue the moss to the board. Be sure to glue around the edges and in the middle of the board.

4. Lay the letters and arrow out onto the board as desired. Then, attach the letters and arrow on the board using the hammer and nails.
5. Hang the board at the entrance of a garden gate.



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Travel Photo Coasters

By [Carl Becker for ETI](#)

Materials:

- ◆ EnviroTex Lite® 8 oz Kit
ArtMinds Wood Coaster Set
- ◆ Craft Smart Premium Satin Acrylic Paint, Black
- ◆ Aleene's Original Tacky Glue
- ◆ Adhesive Felt Sheets, Black
- ◆ Photos

Tools:

- ◆ Measure / mixing cups
- ◆ Stir sticks
- ◆ Paintbrush
- ◆ Disposable foam brush
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Wax or newspaper
- ◆ Disposable latex gloves

Instructions:

1. Paint the coasters on all sides. Let dry.
2. Cut photos to fit the coasters.
3. Brush a thin layer of glue on the top of each coaster and then, align and attach the photos. Use your fingers to press and smooth the photos as required. Ensure no air bubbles are trapped between the paper and project surface. If necessary, a brayer or a hard, round, smooth bottle works well to roll out trapped air.
4. Apply a thin layer of glue over the top of each photo, ensuring that the edges of the photos are covered. This seals the paper so that the EnviroTex isn't absorbed into the paper, creating wet spots along the edges. Let dry overnight.
5. Protect your work surface with wax or newspaper. Then, elevate the coasters with disposable plastic cups or similar item. This will allow the EnviroTex to drip over the edge of the project surface.
6. Measure and mix 4 oz. of EnviroTex Lite according to the product instructions.
7. Pour EnviroTex Lite onto the surface of each coaster, as per the product instructions.
8. If necessary, gently help spread the EnviroTex Lite with a foam brush to help product flow over the edges of the coasters.
9. 15 minutes after pouring, remove any bubbles from the coating, as per the EnviroTex Lite instructions. Allow the pieces to completely cure (72 hours) and then, sand the drips on underside, if necessary. Wear protective eyewear and dust mask while sanding.
10. Cut the felt to fit the bottom of each coaster and apply.



Felt Flower Caddy Bag

By [Anna-Karin Evaldsson](#)

This pretty Felt Flower Caddy Bag doubles as a home décor piece and storage unit. It can be used for a small gift or to store, for example, pens, buttons, or other craft supplies. The painted, stenciled and stamped background can be customized to fit the recipient's interests and décor. Handmade flowers are fun to make and using a die to cut them makes the process very easy and quick.

Materials:

- ♦ Sizzix Little Sizzles Mat Board, White, 6" x 13"
- ♦ Ranger Watercolor Paper
- ♦ Ranger Dina Wakley Media Heavy Body Acrylic Paint: Sky, Elephant, White
- ♦ Ranger Dina Wakley Media, White Gesso
- ♦ Ranger Distress Ink: Cracked Pistachio, Evergreen Bough
- ♦ Ranger Archival Ink, Jet Black
- ♦ Tim Holtz idea-ology Small Talk Stickers
- ♦ Ranger Wonder Tape
- ♦ 28 Lilac Lane Birds of a Feather Embellishment Bottle Kit
- ♦ Felt
- ♦ Embroidery floss

Tools:

- ♦ Sizzix Eileen Hull Caddy Bag ScoreBoards XL Die #657123, Heart & Soul Flower Bigz Die #661108, Spring Leaves Bigz Die #661111
- ♦ Sizzix Big Shot
- ♦ Sizzix Cutting Pads
- ♦ Sizzix Extended Cutting Pads
- ♦ Stamper's Anonymous Tim Holtz Stencils: Industrial, Mini Stencil Set 5
- ♦ Spellbinders Tammy Tutterow, Dear Ruby Stamp
- ♦ Palette knife
- ♦ Non-stick craft sheet

Instructions:

1. Die cut the Caddy Bag from the matboard.
2. Coat the matboard with a layer of gesso, to prepare it for painting. Let dry.
3. Smear acrylic paints on the mat board with a palette knife.
4. Before the paint has dried completely, place a stencil on top and rub off paint through the stencil with a slightly moist cloth. Repeat with a second stencil.
5. Randomly stamp the surface with a script stamp.
6. Assemble the Caddy Bag with the Wonder Tape. The Sizzix ScoreBoards dies both cuts and scores the material, which makes assembly very easy.
7. Die cut two big flowers and one smaller one from purple felt.
8. Layer the flowers together and stitch a button to the center.
9. Smear Cracked Pistachio and Evergreen ink on a craft sheet and mist with water. Press a piece of watercolor paper into the ink.
10. When dry, die cut leaves from the paper.
11. Glue the flower and leaves to the bag and embellish with buttons, beads and sentiment stickers.



Shimmery Embossed Gift Card Box

By [Eileen Hull for Eileen Hull Design](#)

Add an elegant and personal touch to the next gift card you give. The handmade box is a present in itself! The iridescent paint accentuates the embossing and the blues and greens are perfect for any occasion.

Materials:

- ♦ Ann Butler's Iridescents by Earth Safe Finishes: Emerald, Limelight
- ♦ Sizzix mat board pack, white
- ♦ ThermOWeb Super Tape, 1/4"
- ♦ Coffee filters
- ♦ Crinoline
- ♦ Wire, gold, 24 gauge
- ♦ Jump rings
- ♦ Brad
- ♦ Embroidery floss, white
- ♦ Cap finding

Tools:

- ♦ Sizzix Big Shot
- ♦ Eileen Hull Twist & Style Tool by Sizzix
- ♦ Eileen Hull Dies by Sizzix: Box with Scalloped Flap, Romance Flower, Spring Leaves
- ♦ Eileen Hull Texture Sheet by Sizzix, Eyelet Lace
- ♦ Stapler

Instructions:

1. Die cut the box from mat board. Place it in the Eyelet Lace folder and emboss it.
2. Die cut two smaller Romance flowers from coffee filters and thread them onto a brad. Take each petal and squish into the center. Then fluff out when all are "squished".
3. Die cut leaves from crinoline and paint lightly with Emerald.
4. Paint the outside of the box randomly with Emerald and Limelight, blending the colors together.
5. Place tape on the tabs of box and adhere together. Attach flower and leaves to the point of the box flap.
6. Cut two lengths of wire about 1 1/2 yards long and fold each one in half. One at a time, twist each with the Twist & Style tool, following the package directions. With one, form the word "bloom" to fit across the flap of the box. Staple it to the box. Fold the other into thirds and makes loops on both ends.
7. Punch small holes at top of box on each side. Insert jump rings in holes. Attach the looped wire ends into jump rings to create a handle.
8. To make the tassel, cut two pieces of cording 1 yard and 5". Wrap 1 yard of cording around four fingers of your dominant hand in loops. When you have enough for a tassel, slide it off your hand and make a knot over one section of loop using 5" piece (this is the top). Thread strings through the cap. Cut the cord at the bottom of the tassel and trim, so all strands are even. Tie onto the jump ring on the side of the box.
9. Add a gift card and a note!



Dreamy Pan Pastels Statement Necklace

By [Carole Monahan for Makin's Clay®](#)

Soft, subtle colors, combined with an interesting textured pattern, make this dreamy pendant made with Makin's Clay® a perfect accent for your spring wardrobe.

Materials:

- ♦ Makin's Clay®, white, 60g
- ♦ Pan Pastels
- ♦ Grommets, brass (2)
- ♦ Swarovski crystal (1)
- ♦ Leather cord
- ♦ Findings, brass for necklace
- ♦ Beacon Adhesives Tacky Glue
- ♦ PYMII

Tools:

- ♦ Makin's Professional® Ultimate Clay Machine®
- ♦ Makin's® Texture Sheet Set H - Abstract A
- ♦ Makin's® Cutting Mat
- ♦ Makin's® Professional Clay Tools®
- ♦ Altered Art Source unmounted rubber template
- ♦ Hole punch
- ♦ Jewelry pliers

Instructions:

1. Place the clay in the machine and roll on setting #1. Repeat on setting #2.
2. Place the texture sheet over the rolled clay and gently press to add texture.
3. Place the rubber template over the textured clay and press the edges only to impress the shape, but not the texture.
4. Remove the template.
5. Color with Pan Pastels, layering and blending colors.
6. Mount crystal accent with Tacky Glue. Let dry.
7. Use the cutting wheel from to remove excess clay from around the shape.
8. Let the pastel colored clay dry for 24 hours.
9. Seal with PYMII. Let dry.
10. Punch holes in the two upper corners.
11. Add grommets, adding a small amount of glue for extra strength.
12. Add the leather cording.
13. Add the closure.



Mystical Garden Fairy Necklace

By [Lisa Marie Jimenez](#)

Spring is here and gardens are starting to bloom. Garden fairies are dancing from petal to petal. Their wings may still be dusted with snow and have a beautiful aurora borealis effect when the sunlight glistens on them. This Mystical Garden Fairy necklace has beautiful, glittering purple and blue tones that mimic that of a fairy with snow dusted wings.

Materials:

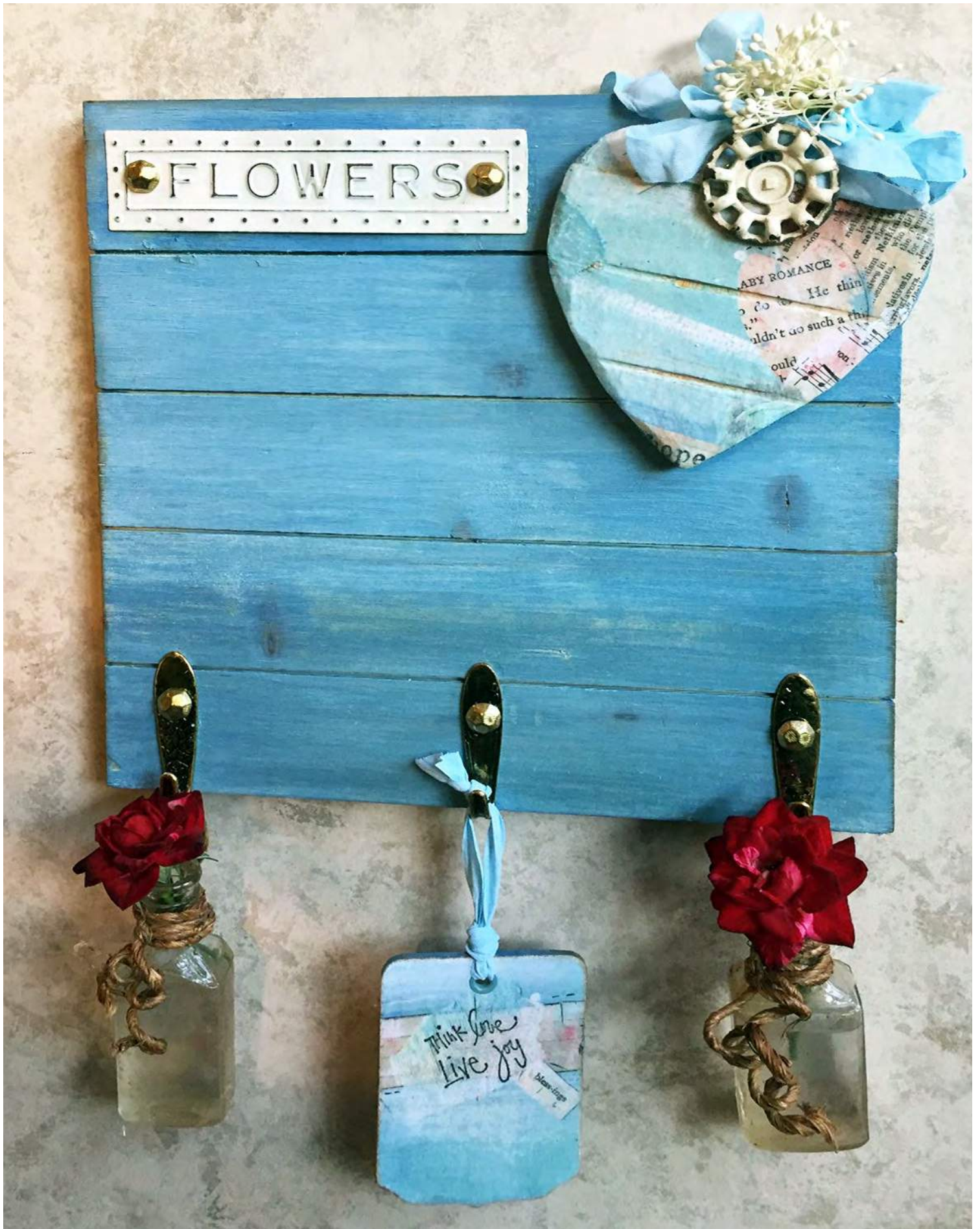
- ◆ Glass teardrop pendant, 38x24mm
- ◆ Colored wing connectors, 50mm (2)
- ◆ Fairy charm, Antique Gold
- ◆ Oval link chain, Antique Gold, 14"
- ◆ Etched round jump ring, Antique Gold
- ◆ Round jump ring, Antique Gold, 6mm (6)
- ◆ Lobster clasp, Antique Gold
- ◆ Fold over filigree bail and Micro brass screw/nut or ice pick bail, Antique Gold

Tools:

- ◆ Flat nose pliers (2 sets)
- ◆ Round nose pliers
- ◆ Chain nose pliers
- ◆ Cutters
- ◆ Small metal file
- ◆ Glue

Instructions:

1. Remove the top ring from the fairy charm and then, glue the fairy to the front of the glass pendant. Set aside to dry.
2. Add the ice pick bail to the top of the glass pendant. Or, if using a fold over bail and micro screw, fold the filigree bail in half and then secure to the glass pendant using the micro screw and nut set. Cut off any extra metal left on the back of the screw. File away any rough edges.
3. Open the etched jump ring and then, add it to the top of the bail. Leave the jump ring open for next step.
4. Open a 6mm jump ring and then, add it to the bottom hole of the wing connector. Close the jump ring. Repeat this step for the opposite wing. Next, add the jump rings to the etched jump ring from previous step. Use the photo as a guide. Close the etched jump ring.
5. Cut the chain into two 7 inch pieces. Open a 6mm jump ring and then, connect the end link of the chain to the top hole on the angel connector. Repeat for opposite wing.
6. Open a jump ring and then, connect the lobster clasp to one end of the chain. Add the last jump ring to the opposite end of the chain.



Winter Blue's Wall Hanging

By [Chantal Johnson](#)

Usually, the Winter Blues set in a little after the holidays are over. It's not a surprise when, with all that holiday cheer that filled our home during the season and is all packed up and put away, our house can feel a little empty; a little less colorful. This project is designed to chase those blues away with a simple whitewash technique revealing the intricacies of the wood grain that will turn these winter blues into a wall hanging of beauty. You will find that you will want to wash everything but the laundry.

Materials:

- ◆ Wood pallet plaque or board
- ◆ Small wood heart
- ◆ Wood tag
- ◆ Hooks (3)
- ◆ Upholstery tacks (5)
- ◆ Metal word
- ◆ Metal embellishments of choice
- ◆ Seam binding or ribbon, white
- ◆ Small bottles (2)
- ◆ Jute covered wire (available in the floral section of you craft store)
- ◆ Small bunch of dried flowers
- ◆ Eyelet
- ◆ Scrapbooking paper, 1-2 sheets
- ◆ Chalk Acrylic Paint: Buttercream, Blue Jay
- ◆ Eco Green Acrylic Paint, Lake
- ◆ Colorbox® inkpads, Chestnut Roan
- ◆ Mod Podge® or Ranger Collage Glue™
- ◆ Glossy Accents™

Tools:

- ◆ Paintbrushes, medium size (3)
- ◆ Paint palette
- ◆ Disposable bowl or cup
- ◆ Paper towels
- ◆ Sanding paper, if needed
- ◆ Crop-o-dile® or Eyelet Setter
- ◆ Round nose pliers
- ◆ Small hammer
- ◆ Wire cutters

Instructions:

1. Sand the wood, if necessary. Paint a thin coat of Blue Jay on all sides and edges of the wood pallet, tag and heart. No need to worry about this coat, just a nice covering. Let dry.
2. In a disposable cup/bowl, mix 30% of Lake with 70% water. This needs to be very thin and more of a water consistency. Paint the pallet with a generous coating of the white wash mixture. Then, use a new brush to brush the excess paint off of the wood pallet. You can also use the paper towels to wipe the excess. Let dry.
3. Here's where you can build layers, let it dry and then go back and repeat step 2 until desired look is achieved. You should see the wood grain after each layer of paint.
4. Place the ivory seam binding/ribbon into the white wash paint mixture, scrunch it up and wring the excess out. Let dry or dry with a heat gun. Now your ribbon coordinates with your wood.
5. Ink the edges with Chestnut Roan to define them.
6. Once the paint is dry, seal with Mod Podge or a sealer of choice.
7. Hammer in small upholstery tacks. Then, add hooks and metal word.
8. With Mod Podge or Collage Glue, adhere scrapbooking paper to front of the heart and tag. Ink edges as in step 4. Set an eyelet in the tag with the Crop-o-dile. Add the ribbon to the tag.
9. Create a double bow and tie it through the hook on the heart. If your heart doesn't have a hook, use an adhesive to adhere the bow.
10. Cut an 18" length of jute covered wire and wire wrap the top of the bottle creating a hanger.
11. Using a strong adhesive such as Glossy Accents, adhere the heart and the metal embellishment to the wood pallet. Set aside to dry.
12. Add fresh or dried flowers to your bottles and hang it up in your home...the winter blues look great!!



Cut Fabric Embroidery

By [Helen Bradley](#)

Sewing small pieces of shiny, fragile fabric sounds like it should be a nightmare. It is! But this embroidery only looks like it's made by sewing on small pieces of fabric. In fact, there's a secret to sewing this that makes it simple to make and not fiddly at all. Interested? Read on...

Materials:

- ♦ Embroidery hoop (5" - 6")
- ♦ DMC® 6 strand thread to match pink/purple fabric
- ♦ Pink/purple satin or similar fabric, 9" x 9"
- ♦ Gold satin or similar fabric, 9" x 9"
- ♦ Ribbon for hanging, 10"

Tools:

- ♦ Sharp fine point scissors
- ♦ Embroidery and sewing needles
- ♦ Disappearing marking pen (optional)

Instructions:

1. Iron both fabrics. Assemble both fabric pieces face up with the gold on top of the pink. Place both layers in the embroidery hoop with the gold fabric right side facing up.
2. Sketch the outline of the project on your fabric using disappearing pen (Optional) on your fabric. Tack over the pen lines to mark out where you will sew. You may download a free for personal use copy of the diamond design from app.box.com/v/diamondpattern,
3. Using the embroidery thread, sew your diamond and narrow triangle shapes around it. Make sure to sew through both pieces of fabric.
4. Remove the fabric from the frame and cut away the gold fabric leaving only a small piece of the fabric under the stitches. Once you have cut away the larger pieces of fabric you may find it easier to return the embroidery to the frame to finish

cutting. Do not cut through the pink fabric!

5. Finish the embroidery by gathering up the excess fabric at the back of the hoop. Cut a circle of stiff fabric slightly smaller than the hoop and hem stitch the felt over the gathered satin.
6. Thread the ribbon through the top of the hoop and tie the ends in a knot for hanging. (Optional)

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Springtime in a Bag

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

With a piece of muslin, some rubber stamps and fabric inks, you can create a beautiful project that will definitely bring a touch of spring into your home décor!

Materials:

- ◆ ColorBox Crafter's Ink, Night
- ◆ Ann Butler Designs Crafter's Re-inkers by Clearsnap: Berry, Ocean Breeze, Lilac, Sunshine, Evergreen
- ◆ Flower bouquet
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives Fabri-Tac
- ◆ Rice
- ◆ Stuffing
- ◆ Raffia
- ◆ Ribbon, green checkered

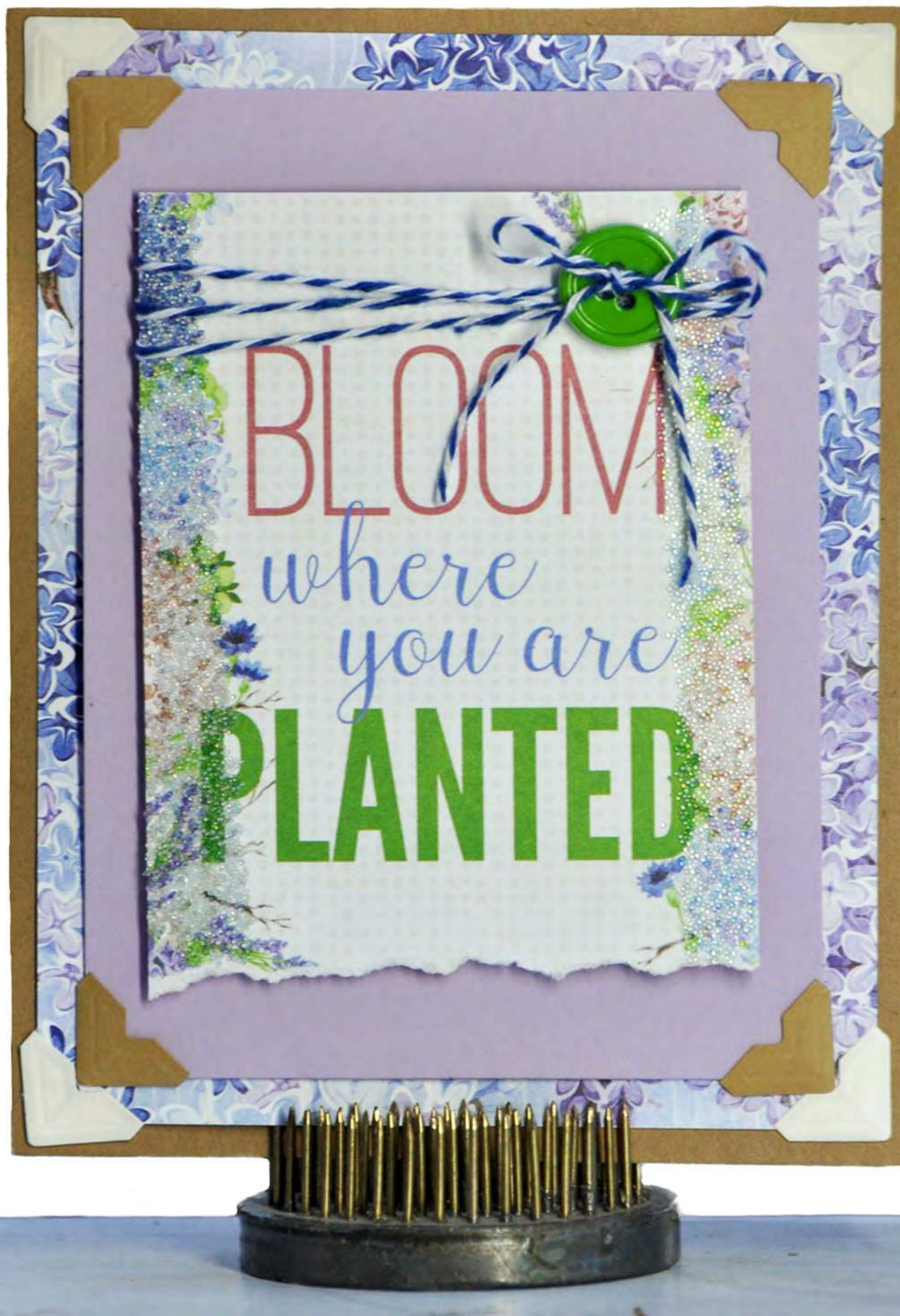
Tools:

- ◆ Rubber stamps
- ◆ Paintbrush
- ◆ Iron
- ◆ Heat tool
- ◆ Scissors

Instructions:

1. Cut the muslin 7 ½" x 23 ½". Then, fold it in half.
2. Turn the top and sides under ¼" and iron them down. Glue the seams together.
3. With the right sides together, glue at the edges. Turn the fabric inside out. You now have your bag and you're ready to paint it.
4. Place a piece of cardboard inside the bag before you begin painting. This will keep the ink and paints from spreading to the back of the bag.
5. Stamp the flowers and butterflies on the front of the bag in black. Heat set.
6. Paint the images on the bag using re-inkers and paintbrush. Heat set.
7. Fill the bottom of the bag with approximately two cups of rice to help the bag stand up. Fill the remainder of the bag with stuffing.
8. Place the flower bouquet in the bag. Tie a raffia bow around the flowers and the bag to close it. Add a small ribbon bow to the front of the bag.





Bloom Card

By [Beth Pingry for Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L®](#)

Use coordinating paper and adhesives to create a sweet card with an unexpected element! Simply use clear adhesive along the edge of a pre-printed sign and add clear micro beads. Wrap with twine, pop on a button and add a few layers with photo corners. It's done and ready to wow the lucky recipient!

Materials:

- ◆ Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L® E-Z Dots® Permanent Refillable Dispenser
- ◆ Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L® Creative Photo Corners Kraft
- ◆ Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L® Creative Photo Corners Ivory
- ◆ Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L® Dodz Adhesive Dots Medium
- ◆ Donna Salazar with Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L® Girlie Grunge Twine
- ◆ BoBunny Secret Garden Papers: Lovely, Arbor
- ◆ Micro beads, clear
- ◆ Button
- ◆ Cardstock: kraft, purple

Tools:

- ◆ Scissors

Instructions:

1. Trim the pre-printed sign from the sheet. Tear the bottom edge.
2. Apply E-Z Dots along both sides of the sign.
3. Pour clear micro beads onto the E-Z Dots and then, shake off the excess.
4. Wrap Girlie Grunge Twine around the top of the card 3 times. Tie on the back side.
5. Thread Girlie Grunge Twine into the button. Tie a bow.
6. Attach the button with Dodz.
7. Trim the patterned papers and cardstock, adhere with E-Z Dots and Creative Photo Corners, alternating the colors of the corners with each layer.
8. Create a card base from kraft paper and then, attach the layers to the card front.



Recycled Desk Organizer

By [Amanda Vasquez for Xyron](#)

Jazz up your office with a pretty desk organizer in colors you love!

Materials:

- ◆ Fabric
- ◆ Cardstock
- ◆ Washi tape
- ◆ Ribbon
- ◆ Empty cereal box
- ◆ Cardboard tubes
- ◆ Bottle caps, (2)
- ◆ Flower embellishments, buttons, etc.

Tools:

- ◆ Xyron® Creative Station™ with Permanent Adhesive Cartridge
- ◆ Xyron® 1.5" Sticker Maker
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Glue gun

Instructions:

1. Cut the flaps off of the cereal box and a small rectangle section from the top-front. Make an angled cut on both sides of the box. Cut the cardboard tubes to size.
2. Decide which cardstock and fabric pieces will go on both the inside and outside of the box. Cut accordingly.
3. Place the fabric and cardstock pieces through the Creative Station with the permanent adhesive cartridge. Peel off the pieces one at a time, and stick them to the box.
4. Cut strips of ribbon to place over where each place the cardstock and fabric pieces meet. Place them inside the Sticker Maker. Rub, peel and stick into place.

5. Add fabric/cardstock to the cardboard tubes. Place a bottle cap on one end of each tube. This will be the bottom. Add ribbon to the edges.
6. Embellish with flowers, buttons and so on.
7. Wrap washi tape around a pen with a flower at the top. Place in a cardboard tube holders.
8. Variation: Turn it into a magnet that hangs on a file cabinet. In step 1, cut the back off and send that separately through the Creative Station using a magnet/laminate cartridge. Then, follow instructions as shown.





Label Your Bins with Tags

By [Martha Lucia Gomez](#)

Crafts and organization need to run hand in hand in order to know what you have and what you "need". These tags, created with a watercolor technique, allows me to label all my scrap bins with something beautiful and different, while keeping me organized. You can use different stamps or colors for each bin but if you are like me, you'll prefer all the tags with similar designs and a few different touches that only the watercolor can bring.

Materials:

- ♦ Cardstock: Wisteria Wonder 4 1/4"x 11", Certainly Celery 4 1/4"x 5 1/2"
- ♦ Watercolor paper 9" x 7 1/2"
- ♦ Classic Stampin Pad™: Perfect Plum, Soft Sky, Certainly Celery, Marina Mist
- ♦ Stampin Write Marker's™: Perfect Plum, Marina Mist, Certainly Celery, Soft Sky
- ♦ Stampin Acrylic Block
- ♦ Glimmer paper, Blue
- ♦ Stampin Dimensionals®
- ♦ Snail adhesive
- ♦ Small pearls
- ♦ Bakers Twine, Metallic

Tools:

- ♦ Peek a Boo Designs Stamp Set, Humming Blossom
- ♦ Stampin Up™ Butterfly Punch, small
- ♦ Stampin Up™ Deco Frames Thinlits, Labels
- ♦ Little B™ Numbers Die Cuts
- ♦ Big Shot
- ♦ Piercing tool

Instructions:

1. Cut the cardstock in two equal pieces of 4 1/4" x 5 1/2".
2. Cut the big Deco Frame with the two pieces of Wisteria Wonder and the Certainly Celery cardstock.

3. Cut 3 pieces of watercolor paper using the next smallest size of the frame.
4. Ink the acrylic block with all four colors of Classic Stampin Pad ink and then, spray with water.
5. Lay the watercolor paper over the sprayed acrylic block, press down gently and remove the paper. Let it dry.
6. Repeat the process with the other two pieces of watercolor paper.
7. Place the stamp on the acrylic block and ink it with the Stampin Write Marker's.
8. Spray the stamp with water and stamp it over the inked watercolor paper.
9. Paste the stamped watercolor paper over the color base.
10. Decorate the borders with the piercing tool.
11. Cut out the numbers in blue glimmer paper and paste onto your tags.
12. On the back of your tags, paste a white piece of paper with the info about the content of your bin or box.
13. Finalize the decoration by adding the punched butterfly and pearls.
14. Tie your tag to your bin or box.



Spring Flowers Shadow Box

By [Sherrie Ragsdale for Plaid](#)

Materials:

- ◆ Folkart® Multi-Surface Paints: Medium Blue, Lime Yellow, Ocean Blue, Light Blue, Violet Pansy, Wicker White
- ◆ 12" x 12" Shadow box with soft fabric backing
- ◆ Rubbing Alcohol
- ◆ 1/2" yard of white duck cloth fabric
- ◆ Fabric, white

Tools:

- ◆ Folkart® Stencils, Flowers
- ◆ Folkart® Tools: Detail Painters, Soft Grip Wash Brush Set, 5/8" Round Stencil Brush
- ◆ Bowl of water
- ◆ Scissors

Instructions:

1. Cut a piece of the duck cloth fabric to 12 1/2" x 12 1/2". Soak the piece in water until it is saturated. Squeeze all the excess water out of the fabric and lay flat.
2. Use the stencil brush to blend in all the listed colors except for the Wicker White. You may want to add some water to the paint to make blending easier. Let dry. Glue the fabric and tuck the edges under the edge of the back of the shadow box. If you cannot tuck it under, cut the fabric to fit and then, glue it to the back of the shadow box.
3. Stencil the flowers with stem in Wicker White. You will have to cut the stencil edges to make fit inside the shadow box. Let dry.

4. On a portion of the white fabric, paint Violet Pansy on a large enough area to stencil each flower in Wicker White. On another portion of the white fabric, stencil 4 of the smallest flower in Violet Pansy. You should have a total of eight flowers. Cut out each flower. On the rest of the fabric paint Lime Yellow on a large enough area to stencil all the leaves in Wicker White. Allow those to dry and then, cut them out.
5. Paint the centers of the Violet Pansy flowers with Medium Blue. Once dry, glue a Wicker White flower to its matching flower on the fabric. Then glue the Violet Pansy flower on top of each of those. Make sure you can see the set of flowers underneath.
6. Glue the leaves on top of the matching leaves on the painted fabric.
7. Clean the inside of the glass with rubbing alcohol. Using the detail painters, paint the vine on the inside of the glass in Wicker White. You may need to cut the fabric to making stenciling easier.



Faux Metal Garden Butterfly

By [Beth Watson](#)

I love spending time outdoors on my patio when the weather is nice, but I definitely do not have a green thumb. So, I create ways to decorate my courtyard that don't include plants. The inspiration for my project came from my never-ending supply of small, wooden embellishments that I have ~~hoarded~~ collected over the years and my love of crafting from my stash!

Materials:

- ♦ Foam core board, black
- ♦ Wooden candlestick, 8"
- ♦ Wooden ball knob, 2"
- ♦ Wooden wheel, 2" diameter
- ♦ Wooden finial, decorative
- ♦ Wooden embellishments, assorted
- ♦ Plain paper
- ♦ Craft glue
- ♦ Design Master Colortool Spray Paint: Flat Black, Metallic Taupe, Copper Fusion, Antique Gold
- ♦ Newspaper
- ♦ Wire, black 24 gauge

Tools:

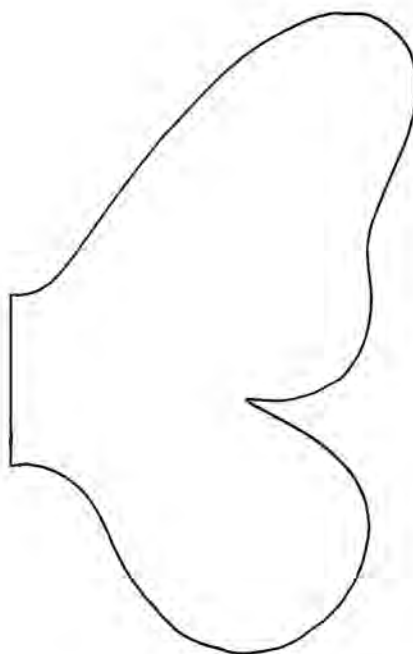
- ♦ [Butterfly wing pattern](#)
- ♦ Scissors
- ♦ Craft knife
- ♦ Self-healing mat
- ♦ Paper piercer (or awl)
- ♦ Wire cutters
- ♦ Tree trimming shears
- ♦ Sanding block
- ♦ Pencil

Instructions:

1. Download the butterfly wing pattern [HERE](#), print on plain paper, cut out, trace on black foam core and then, cut it out with a craft knife on a self-healing mat. NOTE: When cutting foam core board, make sure that your craft knife is sharp to obtain a clean cut.
2. To create the butterfly body, glue the following wooden elements together in this order: attach the finial to the top of the candlestick, the wheel to the bottom of the candlestick and the ball knob to the wheel. Let dry.
3. Dry fit assorted wooden embellishments on top of the butterfly wing paper pattern until you are pleased with the composition.
4. Transfer those embellishments to foam core butterfly wings and glue down each element. Start with eleven mini clothespins on each side, add eight wooden buttons just above and then, the skewers. Trim excess length from the skewers with scissors prior to securing them with glue.
5. Starting at the center, adhere 24 mini wooden pegs to each half of the butterfly wings and then, place the wooden wheels inside the curve of the pegs. Fill in the

remaining space with mini popsicle sticks, trimming excess length with scissors or tree trimming shears. Then, sand any rough edges. Finish with 56 mini wooden buttons around the top edge. Accent with wooden hearts, carved medallions and wheels.

6. Place the butterfly wings and body on newspaper in a well-ventilated area (or outside), spray a black base coat and then, let dry. Top coat with layers of taupe, copper and antique gold spray paint, using small random bursts of paint until you are pleased with the result. NOTE: If placing outside, hang in a protected area, away from the weather.
7. To assemble, place the butterfly body in center of butterfly wings, marking on either side of the body at the top and bottom of the wings. Create four holes with paper piercer or awl. Cut two 24" lengths of wire, thread one wire through the set of holes at the top looping the wire across the butterfly body, twist tightly at the back of the wings, then create a 2" loop, twist wire again and then trim excess. Repeat with the second wire and bottom set of holes. Trim any excess wire.



Bella Crafts ©2017



Dandelion Pallet Art

By [Rose Powell for Clearsnap](#)

There's something whimsical about blowing a dandelion and making a wish. Create your own distressed Dandelion Pallet Art and wish to your heart's content.

Materials:

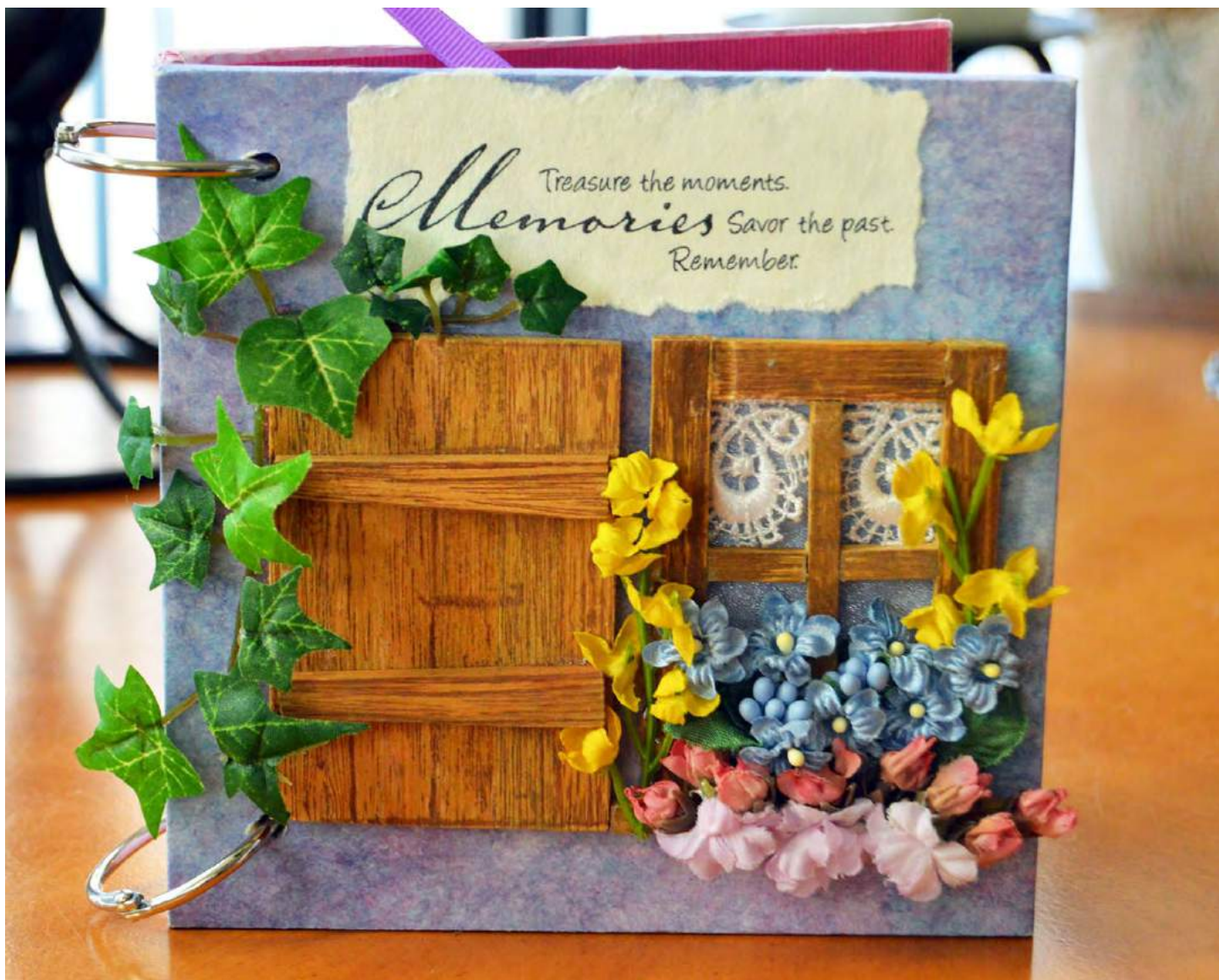
- ♦ ColorBox Crafter's® Inkpads by Ann Butler: Ocean Breeze, Aquamarine
- ♦ Crafter's Full Size Inkpads: Spiced Plum, Snow, Night
- ♦ Paint Pen, white
- ♦ Walnut Hollow Rustic Heart

Tools:

- ♦ Paintbrush
- ♦ ColorBox® Blending Kit

Instructions:

1. Press the blending tool firmly into the Aquamarine ink and begin adding color around the edges and top of the heart.
2. Reapply ink, as needed. Apply less pressure as you draw the blending tool into the center of the heart. Layer the same color on top to create more intense areas of color around the center focal point.
3. Add snow ink to an Art Dauber and press firmly onto the surface in a circular pattern. Layer the ink to create more intense color.
4. Next, with a flat tip paintbrush and Night ink, draw lines to create dandelion stems.
5. Use an Art Dauber to create random dots in Ocean Breeze and Spiced Plum, randomly over the heart. Smudge with a finger to blend and dull out the color a bit.
6. Lastly, add details using a white paint pen.
7. Allow surface to dry. Then, heat set with a dry iron or a heat gun for permanence.



Into the Garden Album

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

I have been a paper artist for many years now and one of the things I love to do is add unexpected products to my projects. For this album, I added balsa wood to create the door and window. It's very easy to cut with an exacto knife and it gives the album a unique look. I hope you give this a try!

Materials:

- ♦ Chipboard album, 6" x 6"
- ♦ Cardstock: ivory, variety
- ♦ Patterned paper, variety
- ♦ Mini flowers
- ♦ Mini ivy
- ♦ Lace
- ♦ Binder rings
- ♦ Re-inker, brown
- ♦ Inkpad, black
- ♦ Stickers, floral
- ♦ Balsa wood
- ♦ Beacon Adhesives Zip Dry

Tools:

- ♦ Glue gun
- ♦ Rubber stamps, words
- ♦ Paintbrush
- ♦ Paper trimmer
- ♦ Exacto knife
- ♦ Paper bowl

Instructions:

1. Cover the chipboard album with patterned papers with Zip Dry.
2. For the door, cut a $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick piece of balsa wood $2\frac{1}{4}$ " x $3\frac{1}{4}$ ". Next, cut two pieces $2\frac{1}{4}$ "

x $\frac{1}{4}$ ".

3. For the window, cut two pieces $\frac{1}{4}$ " x $3\frac{1}{4}$ ", cut two pieces $\frac{1}{8}$ " x $\frac{1}{2}$ ", two pieces $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $\frac{1}{4}$ ", and one piece $\frac{1}{8}$ " x $2\frac{3}{4}$ ".
4. In a bowl, add a small amount of water and the brown ink to create a wash. Paint all the pieces of the balsa wood. Let dry.
5. Assemble the door and window with the glue gun. See the photo for placement.
6. Attach a small piece of lace to the backside of the window. Then, glue the door and window to the front of the album. Add the ivy and flowers to the front with hot glue. See photo for placement.
7. In black ink, stamp the word sentiment onto a piece of ivory cardstock. Tear around the edges and glue it to the front of the album.
8. For the inside pages, cut various cardstock and patterned papers 5" x 5". Stamp word sentiments on ivory cardstock, tear the edges and attach them to the pages. Add floral stickers randomly on the pages. On some of the pages, add different frames for photos.
9. Once the inside pages are laid out as desired, put all of them together with the front and back album covers using binder rings.



Spring Plaque

By [Sandy McTier](#)
for [Dynasty Brushes](#)



Welcome Spring! Flowers blooming, birds chirping and butterflies fluttering around are truly inspirational. Create this sweet and colorful piece, reminding you to inspire and be inspired. This piece was painted using the best brushes around. Dynasty brushes make the perfect brush for any medium and surface.

Materials:

- ♦ Plaque
- ♦ Butterflies, wood
- ♦ Inspire, wood
- ♦ DecoArt Americana Paints: Spa Blue, Desert Turquoise, Titanium White, Purple Pizzazz, Purple Rain, Evergreen, Pistachio Mint
- ♦ DecoArt Multi-Purpose Sealer
- ♦ DecoArt Soft-Touch Varnish
- ♦ Transfer paper
- ♦ E6000 Glue
- ♦ [Pattern](#)

Tools:

- ♦ Dynasty Brushes: Black Gold (206S) #16, Black Gold (206S) #8, Black Gold (206R) #2
- ♦ Mezzaluna, Medium
- ♦ Stencil, 1/2"
- ♦ Sandy McTier M2 Stencil, Polka Dots
- ♦ Identi-Pen
- ♦ Pen

Instructions:

1. Prepare the plaque surface with Multi-Purpose Sealer. Let dry.
2. Load #16 with Spa Blue, Desert Turquoise and White and then paint surface using crisscross strokes. Let dry.
3. Transfer the pattern onto the plaque using transfer paper and a pen.
4. Stencil polka dots randomly onto the plaque in White.
5. Paint the outer edge of the petals with Purple Pizzazz. Paint White daisy stroke in the center of each petal. Then, add a smaller daisy stroke in the center of the White in Desert Turquoise.
6. Add a White dot at the base of each daisy stroke with a #2 brush. Add dots down one side of each petal by dipping the end into the paint, adding one dot on the petal and then, continuing without reloading. As you continue to paint, the dots will get smaller in size.

7. Next, dip the end of the #2 brush into Purple Rain and paint dots at the top of each petal. Then, add a smaller dot of white on top.
8. Load the #8 brush with Evergreen and paint the stem, scrolls and center of the flower.
9. Load the Mezzaluna with Pistachio Mint and dry brush on the top of the scrolls and on the left of the stem.
10. Load the #2 brush with Purple Rain and paint a small stroke on the stems and scrolls. Repeat with a stroke of Desert Turquoise and White to highlight.
11. Load the stencil brush with Pistachio Mint and brush over stencil on the center of the flower.
12. Let everything dry and then outline all of the design with an Identi-Pen.
13. Paint the word in White. Let dry. Load the Mezzaluna with Purple Rain and dry brush the bottom half of the word. Wipe the brush off, load it with White and dry brush the top half. Load the stencil brush with White and stencil polka dots on the top "white" part of the word.
14. Butterflies: Load a damp #8 brush with Purple Rain and paint butterflies. Let dry. Draw lines on the butterflies using the fine tip of the Identi-Pen. Load the #2 brush with Evergreen and paint the body. Highlight with a small stroke of Pistachio Mint in the center of the body. Rinse the brush, load with White and paint small daisy strokes on the wings. Dip the tip of the brush into Desert Turquoise and paint dots on wings. Once glued in place, draw antennas using the Identi-Pen.
15. Load the #2 brush with White and paint small strokes around the scrolled top of the surface.
16. Load the stencil brush with White and dry brush around the edges of the surface.
17. Varnish the pieces with Soft-Touch Varnish. Let dry.
18. Attach the butterflies and Inspire.

Designer Tips:

- ⇒ When dry brushing, load the brush with paint, wipe most of it off onto a paper towel and then, dry brush an area. Repeat, as needed, to build color.
- ⇒ Use promo code sandymc for an additional discount on your [brushes](#).



Always Believe Panel

By [Suzanne Cannon for Quietfire Design](#)

“Believe” is such a wonderful word and can be used in so many ways! Here I’ve used it as encouragement by pairing it with a comforting quotation. It’s combined with butterflies on a wooden canvas so it can be hung anywhere or it can sit on a table top or mantle as a constant reminder. Keep it for yourself or give it to someone who might need a little boost. You know they’ll love it because you made it!

Materials:

- ♦ Walnut Hollow 6 x 6” Basswood Canvas
- ♦ Plaid FolkArt Home Décor Chalk Paint, Cascade
- ♦ Plaid FolkArt Acrylic Paint, Purple
- ♦ Plaid FolkArt Multi-Surface Satin Acrylic Paint, Sky Mist
- ♦ Imagine Crafts VersaMagic Stamp Ink: Purple Hydrangea, Aspen Mist, Aegean Blue, Sage
- ♦ Core’dinations Cardstock, Valiant Violet
- ♦ Glue Dots, Micro
- ♦ Removable tape

Tools:

- ♦ Quietfire Design – [Always Believe stamp](#)
- ♦ Elizabeth Craft Designs A Way With Words, [Believe die](#)
- ♦ Elizabeth Craft Designs A Way With Stencils, [Butterflies & Stars Spray](#)
- ♦ Foam brush
- ♦ Sponges

Instructions:

1. Apply chalk paint to the canvas. Let dry. One coat should be sufficient.
2. Stamp the sentiment in Purple Hydrangea ink. Let dry.
3. Tape the stencil in place (positioned as shown in the photo) with removable tape and lightly sponge Purple and Sky Mist paint through the butterflies. Gently peel away the stencil and let dry.
4. Replace the stencil and sponge Distress ink through the butterflies until the color suits your taste. Remove the stencil and let dry. Place the stencil along the edges of the panel and sponge ink. Without the light paint underneath, the effect will be subtler. Let dry before stenciling the next side. Repeat until all four sides are colored.
5. Sponge Aegean Blue ink lightly around the edges of the panel front.
6. Die cut Believe and adhere to canvas, as shown.
7. Pat yourself on the back!



Monoprint Thank You Card

By [Donna Salazar for Donna Salazar Designs](#)

I've been doing a lot of mono printing on the Gel Press plates. I usually like to make my mono prints on the 12" x 14" plate and trim them down to fit my projects so I end up with lots of extra strips that I keep on hand for use on projects like this.

The mono print strips make a great bohemian looking background for the die cut flowers on this card. The combination of paint, glitter, ink, flowers and twine make this a very typical Girlie Grunge style project.

Materials:

- ♦ Donna Salazar Designs® with Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L®: Girlie Grunge Art Medium, Girlie Grunge Twine
- ♦ Donna Salazar Designs® Colorbox Mix'd Media Inx, Berries
- ♦ Donna Salazar Designs® Colorbox Twinkle Dust Glitter, Mixed Berries
- ♦ Cardstock, ivory
- ♦ Patterned paper
- ♦ Flower stamens
- ♦ Permanent marker

Tools:

- ♦ Donna Salazar Designs® with Spellbinders®: Jumbo Rose Steel Rule Die, Big Blossom Die, Journal Words stamp set
- ♦ Spellbinders Tool-in-One
- ♦ Foam pad
- ♦ Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L, E-Z Runner Ultra, Crafty Power Tape, Dodz XL, Dodz 3D
- ♦ Gel Press Reusable Gel Printing Plates

Instructions:

1. Cut 8.5" x 11" cardstock in half, score one and fold in half for the card base.
2. Cut several strips of paper to fit across the center of the card (monoprints made on the Gel Press are used on the sample)
3. Adhere the strips together and then, attach to the front of the card. Trim off the ends.
4. Die cut 2 layers of ivory card stock using the Jumbo Rose die.
5. Die cut 2 layers of patterned card stock using the Big Blossom die.
6. Die cut leaves from mono printed paper.

7. Cup the petals of each flower die cut with the Tool-in-One or a dry embossing stylus and foam pad.
8. Adhere the Jumbo Rose die cut flowers with the petals off set.
9. Feed flower stamens through the center hole in the Jumbo Rose, trim the ends and use a Dodz XL to adhere the stamens to the back of the flower.
10. Wrap the Big Blossom die cut around flower stamens and use a Dodz XL on the tab to secure the flower.
11. Repeat for the 2nd flower.
12. Ink the sides and top of the Big Blossoms as well as the tips of the Jumbo Rose with ink.
13. Paint the inside of the petals and the center of the Jumbo Rose as well as the center of the Big Blossoms with the art medium and then, sprinkle with the glitter.
14. Adhere the flowers and 3 leaves to the card.
15. Use a permanent marker to add squiggly lines to the edges of the mono printed strips and leaves.
16. Fold several flower stamens in half and wrap the ends with tape. Then, tuck them into one of the flower clusters. Repeat 2 more times.
17. Wrap twine around 3 fingers 8 times and then, wrap the end with tape. Repeat a 2nd time and tuck the ends (with the adhesive) into the flower cluster.
18. Stamp the "Journal Words" stamps onto ivory card stock. Cut the words into strips.
19. Ink the edges of the word strips and card with ink and then, attach them to the front of the card.





Hand Painted Espadrilles

By [Lorine Mason](#)

An outfit is not considered complete without the right footwear. What says I am a maker and I am proud of it better than a pair of hand-painted Espadrilles that perfectly complement your chosen outfit? Show off your personal style while wearing your artwork.

Materials:

- ◆ Dritz® Espadrille soles
- ◆ 100% Cotton duck fabric, natural color, 1/3 yard
- ◆ Cotton blend lining fabric of your choice, 1/3 yard
- ◆ Pentel Arts® gel roller fabric pen, black
- ◆ Tulip® Fabric spray paint, assorted colors
- ◆ Espadrille creative yarn
- ◆ Espadrille iron-on stabilizer
- ◆ Thread to match cotton duck fabric
- ◆ Copy paper, multiple sheets

Tools:

- ◆ Elastic Bands, (4)
- ◆ Fabric marking pen
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Pencil
- ◆ Fabric transfer paper
- ◆ Dritz® Espadrille large eyed needle
- ◆ Dritz® Espadrille yarn wax
- ◆ Dritz® Espadrille point turner
- ◆ Dritz® Espadrille glass head pins
- ◆ Measuring tape or ruler
- ◆ Paintbrushes, assorted sizes
- ◆ Paint palette
- ◆ Paper towel
- ◆ Water bucket
- ◆ Iron
- ◆ Sewing machine

Instructions:

1. Select the correct size pattern from the espadrille sole package and cut the pattern pieces apart, cutting along the appropriate size lines identified on the pattern pieces.
Note: Tips have been provided to assure a correct fit. Read the directions provided with the packaging before starting the project.
2. Place the pattern pieces on top of the cotton duck fabric, referring to the directions regarding grain lines. Trace around each of the pattern pieces loosely, drawing the tracing line a minimum of ½ inch out from the pattern line. Note: The cotton duck fabric will shrink when paint and water are applied. The exact pattern pieces will be cut out later in the project. Do not cut out pattern pieces at this time.
3. Fold the fabric back and forth, creating 1 inch fan-like folds. Wrap elastic bands around the fabric to secure.
4. Using the color of Tulip® fabric spray paint of your choice, spray the fabric. Cut the elastics and open the fabric folds. Let dry then press flat. Note: If you would like more color, simply repeat the process.
5. Open the Espadrille creative yarn and spread yarn on top of multiple layers of the paper towel. Using the color of Tulip® fabric spray paint of your choice, spray the yarn. Let dry.
6. Choose a desired line work pattern using clip art on your computer, coloring books or by tracing an image using a stencil.
7. If using a printed pattern, place the transfer paper between the pattern and the right side of the cotton duck fabric and trace over the pattern lines using the pencil. Add images as desired. If using a stencil or free-hand drawing your own pattern, do so directly onto the right side of the cotton duck fabric.
8. Use the gel roller pen to trace over the pencil lines. Create interest in the line work design by varying the thickness of the lines and filling in the designs with a variety of

repetitive patterns. Follow the manufacturer's directions and heat set the ink before moving to the next step.

9. Pour fabric spray paints into the wells of the paint palette. Dip your brush into clean water and then remove the excess water by touching the brush to a piece of clean paper towel. The paper towel will absorb the water. Dip the end of the brush into the chosen color of paint. Using a scrap of cotton duck fabric practice painting color onto the fabric. Play with the colors, deciding which colors you like together. Adjust the amount of water that is left on the brush for a watercolor look. Once you feel confident, you are ready to start adding color to your line work design.
10. Lightly touch the tip of the paintbrush to the cotton duck fabric just inside the line work

and let the paint flow towards the outside line. If the color flows over the line work and you are not happy with the look, let the paint dry and then extend the line work over the excess paint. You might just be surprised and actually like the look. Be kind to yourself.

11. Let the paint dry a minimum of four hours.
12. Press the painted fabric flat.
13. Lay the pattern pieces onto the painted fabric and cut out all of the pattern pieces, cutting along the appropriate size lines.
14. Refer to the Espadrille sole instructions provided within the packaging to complete your Hand Painted Espadrilles.
15. You may want to protect your Hand Painted Espadrilles by spraying them with a protective coating of your choice.



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The I-Cord EZ Knitter

By [Retro Recreations](#)



We didn't pioneer the idea of an I-Cord knitter. In fact, we weren't around when the machine was introduced in 1947. However, we did resurrect the idea with the purpose of perfecting its design and reintroducing a more user-friendly version. Handcrafted from Northern Michigan Maple, our I-Cord EZ Knitter is the perfect way to heighten anyone's knitting or weaving game.

I-Cord EZ Knitter Threading Instructions

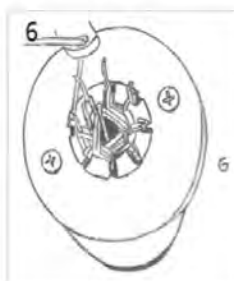
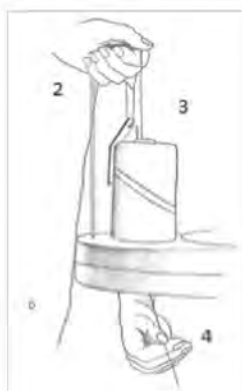
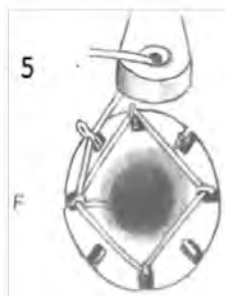
1. Run the yarn through the circle on the **mast** so it comes out on the side where the front loop is. (figure 1)
2. Run the yarn through the hole in the **yarn guide**. (figure 2)
3. Feed the yarn down through the **center hole** in the needle arbor. (figure 3)
4. Tie a loop in the yarn that has come out the bottom of the **needle arbor**. (figure 4)
5. Hold the yarn just above the loop and hang the **weight** on the loop. Do not release the yarn until steps 7 and 8 are completed.
6. Grasp the yarn just before it goes into the circle on the yarn mast.
7. Hold the yarn firmly enough that it does not slide through your fingers when you release the weight.
8. Gently lower the weight until there is tension on the yarn.
9. Using your right hand, slowly turn the crank clockwise.
10. **Skip every other needle** as the cylinder rotates until you have made one complete revolution. Using a small crochet needle to help you guide the yarn over the needles that you are skipping is helpful; although you can do it with your fingers. (figure 5)

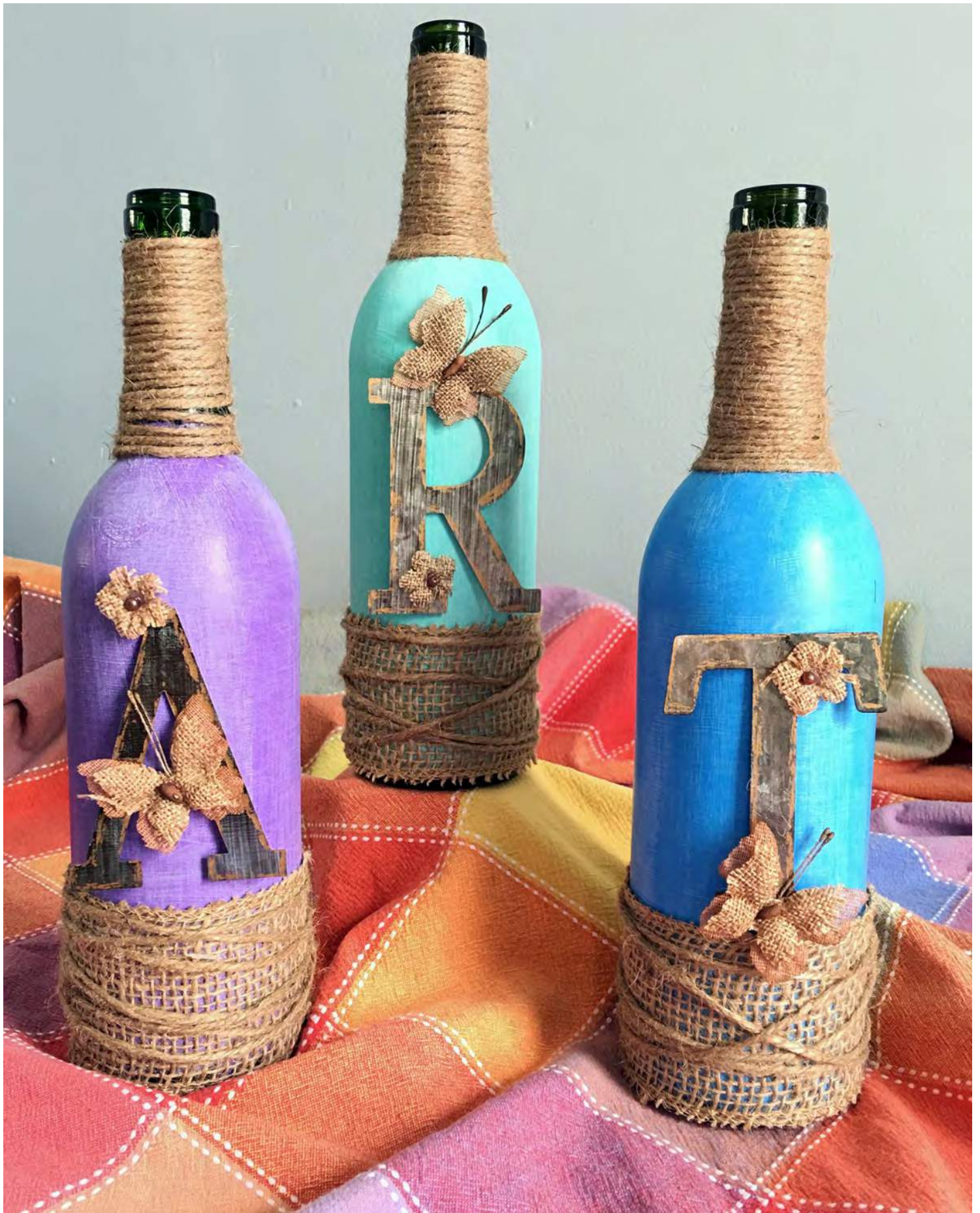
11. The yarn should **hook onto all the needles** after the first revolution. It will look similar to a spider's web as the I-cord begins to form. (figure 6)

CAUTION: As you knit, watch your weight and yarn. **Your weight must never touch the floor**, doing so will cause the needles to drop stitches and the yarn will ride up on the needles. You will need to move your weight up the I-Cord strand as you continue to make I-cord. **Your yarn must flow freely** from the ball. If you feel any resistance as you crank, stop immediately and discover the problem.

To remove the I-cord, cut the yarn at the yarn guide. Remove the weight and gently pull the I-Cord with one hand while turning the crank with the other until the yarn is through the machine and the I-Cord is released.

For more information on our company, the crafts you can make with I-cord, or to purchase your I-Cord EZ Knitter go to: www.retrorecreate.com





Upcycled Wine Bottles

By [Theresa Cifali](#)

I don't know about you, but the holidays mean having lots of empty wine bottles. Instead of recycling them, upcycle them instead! This project is so much fun to make and will find their home on my fireplace mantle. They'd look great on a coffee table, too!

Materials:

- ♦ Wine bottles (3)
- ♦ Apple Barrel Multi-Surface Paint: Princess Purple, Acapulco, Primary Blue, White
- ♦ White Gesso
- ♦ Burlap ribbon, 2 ½"
- ♦ Twine
- ♦ Metal letters
- ♦ Burlap flowers and butterflies
- ♦ Beacon Adhesives Power Tac
- ♦ Rubbing alcohol

Tools:

- ♦ Glue gun
- ♦ Sand paper, 220 grit
- ♦ Flat brush
- ♦ Small container with lid
- ♦ Scissors
- ♦ Cotton balls
- ♦ Paper towels

Instructions:

1. Clean the outside of the bottles with rubbing alcohol.
2. Mix the Primary Blue and White paint together in a sealable container to lighten up the blue.
3. Paint each bottle with one color of paint. Let dry and then, sand.
4. Working in sections, add gesso over the colored paint and then, wipe off immediately. Repeat until the entire bottle has a white wash effect.
5. Securing with hot glue as you work, wrap the twine around the bottleneck, starting at the top and working down to the base of the neck.
6. Next, wrap a piece of burlap ribbon around the bottom and secure with hot glue in the back.
7. Randomly wrap twine over the burlap ribbon in a criss-cross pattern, securing with small dabs of hot glue.
8. Attach a metal letter, burlap flower and burlap butterfly to the front of the bottle with Power Tac. Let dry completely.
9. Repeat steps 4 through 8 for each bottle.



SPRING Wall Art

By [Ann Butler](#)

Welcome Spring with this framed wall art. Simply made by stamping out SPRING onto layered coordinating cardstock squares and arranging onto mat board.

Materials:

- ♦ Ann Butler's Crafter's Ink by Clearsnap, Blueberry
- ♦ Ann Butler's 2" Flourish Alphabet Stamp Set
- ♦ Colorbox Embossing Powder, Clear
- ♦ Decorative cardstock, 2 ½" x 2 ½" (12), 2 ¾" x 2 ¾" (12), 3" x 3" (12)
- ♦ Cardstock, 3 ¼" x 3 ¼" (12)
- ♦ Frame, 12" x 14"
- ♦ Mat board, white, 12" x 14"
- ♦ Tape runner

Instructions:

1. Stamp the word SPRING onto 6 pieces of the 2 ½" x 2 ½" cardstock. Then, apply embossing powder and heat set.
2. Layer the cardstock squares and glue together starting with the smallest to the largest.
3. Attach the squares onto the mat board, as shown in the photo.
4. Place the mat board into the frame.

Tools:

- ♦ Heat gun

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CHECK OUT AMAZON





Vintage Style Monogrammed Box

By [Theresa Cifali](#)

The inspiration for this box came from a stencil I saw that reminded me of an old couch we had when I was a child. Adding a little bling and a monogram dresses it up and adds a more modern touch. This box will make a wonderful addition to any woman's vanity.

Materials:

- ♦ Folk Art® Handmade Charlotte, Paisley Delight stencil
- ♦ Folk Art® Home Décor, Chalk: Seaside Villa, White Adirondack
- ♦ Folk Art® Home Décor, Wood Tint, White
- ♦ Wood box
- ♦ Wood letter
- ♦ Glitter, ultra fine
- ♦ Paper towel

Tools:

- ♦ Foam brush
- ♦ Flat brush, 1/2"
- ♦ Stencil brush
- ♦ Blue Painter's Tape
- ♦ Sand paper
- ♦ Glue gun
- ♦ Tin pan, large

Instructions:

1. Lightly sand the box and the letter. Wipe off any dust with a damp paper towel.
2. Remove the lid from the box. Using a foam brush, stain both parts. One coat should do, but add a second if desired. Let dry completely.
3. Paint the letter white. Let dry completely and then, sand the edges and top to distress.
4. Place the stencil on the bottom front of the box and secure with tape. Then, stencil on the Seaside Villa paint. Remove the stencil, sprinkle on glitter over a tin and tap off the excess. Continue this process around the entire box bottom. Let dry.
5. Next, secure the stencil to the top of the box and add paint. Remove the stencil, sprinkle on glitter over a tin and tap off the excess. Depending on the size of your box, you may need to move the stencil over and continue the pattern. Let dry.
6. Attach the stencil to the top of the letter and add paint. Remove the stencil, sprinkle on glitter over a tin and tap off the excess. Let dry.
7. Paint the sides of the letter with Seaside Villa.
8. Paint around the lip of both the top and bottom of the box with Seaside Villa.
9. Glue the letter to the top, center of the box.

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Bee Earrings in 5 Easy Steps

FEBRUARY 14, 2016 BY LISA JIMENEZ — [LEAVE A COMMENT](#)



These beautiful Bee Earrings are quick and easy to make. It takes just 5 steps to make these Bee Earrings! The earrings are lightweight and fun to wear. They are so easy to make, you can make a pair for yourself and for a friend. Let's get started. Supplies: Creative Soul Treasures Floral Bee Charm [...]

DIY Felt Project Ideas

FEBRUARY 2, 2016 BY BELLA CRAFTS QUARTERLY — [LEAVE A COMMENT](#)



We are thrilled to be bringing you 8 diy felt project ideas. Felt has been a popular fabric among crafters for many years. It's a soft, easy material to work with that comes in a multitude of different colors. It has often been used throughout the years for children's projects, but it's come along [...]

Mixed Media Cardmaking

FEBRUARY 8, 2016 BY LISA FULMER — [1 COMMENT](#)



Recently I took a cardmaking class from my friend Daniela Costa. She designs totally adorable papercraft projects with loads of texture and distress. I just love how mixed media techniques can bring so much character to a greeting card. Whether you're celebrating Valentine's Day or expressing your love any day of the year, this is the type of [...]





CREATE

FREE-SPIRIT

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Free Spirit Keepsake

By [Karen Jiles for Xyron](#)

Handcrafted gifts are the perfect way to let someone know you are thinking of them. What I love most about handcrafted items is you can tailor them to any color, theme, event or person. This project is an inspirational keepsake to encourage creative expression. I added some fun texture and colorful elements to inspire my own creativity!

Materials:

- ◆ Xyron® Adhesive Dots
- ◆ Xyron® Mega Runner
- ◆ Watercolor paper, 6" x 6"
- ◆ Wooden frame 7 3/4" x 7 3/4"
- ◆ VersaMark™ ink
- ◆ Ranger Distress® Inks/Stains
- ◆ Embossing powder, clear
- ◆ Ribbon
- ◆ Gesso
- ◆ Resin frame
- ◆ Typo bulbs
- ◆ Flowers
- ◆ Charms

Tools:

- ◆ Xyron® Creative Station™
- ◆ Foam brush
- ◆ Script stamp
- ◆ Water
- ◆ Heat tool
- ◆ Craft sheet
- ◆ Glue gun

Instructions:

1. Ink the script stamp with VersaMark ink and stamp onto watercolor paper.
2. Apply clear embossing powder to the stamped image. Shake off excess.
3. Use the heat tool to emboss the stamped image on the paper.
4. Apply Ranger Distress inks to the craft sheet and spray water into the ink.
5. Lay embossed watercolor papers onto the inked craft sheet. Stand paper up to allow the ink to drip and set aside to dry.
6. Repeat step 4 to create additional backgrounds for layering.
7. Ink ribbon with the remaining ink on the craft sheet and set aside to dry.

8. Create distressed bows with the ribbon.
9. Apply white gesso to the wooden frame. Let dry.
10. Apply Ranger Distress stain to the frame with finger. Set aside to dry.
11. Run two inked watercolor papers through the Creative Station to apply adhesive.
12. Remove film and layer the watercolor papers together using a step down effect on the wooden frame.
13. Adhere the resin frame onto the wooden frame with hot glue.
14. Using the Mega Runner, adhere flowers, leaves and distressed ribbon bows to the frame.
15. Attach CREATE and inspire typo bulbs to the frame with the Mega Runner.
16. Add the metal charm, hang on the wall and enjoy!



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Readers SPOTLIGHT



Project by: [Julie McGuffee](#)

Name of Project: Save Water...Drink Wine

Type of Project: 3D Shadowbox Wine Frame

Technique Used: Glass etching

Products Used:
etchall etching crème
etchmask and transferpaper
Pik tool
Squeegee

Name of Project: Beaded Double Necklace

Type of Project: Jewelry

Technique Used: None

Products Used:
Jesse James Beads
Beadalon



Project by: [Maria Soto](#)

Name of Project: Mixed Media Mermaid

Type of Project: Mixed Media

Technique Used: Painting

Products Used:
So You Say You Can't Draw Stencil
Gelatos
Deco Art Mixed Media Fluids
Molotow Paint Pens



Project by: [Rita Barakat](http://RitaBarakat.com)



Name of Project: Beautiful Sculpted Clay Dress
on Wood Canvas

Type of Project: Clay

Technique: Sculpting

Products Used:
Makin's Clay
Deco Art Media Paint

Project by: [Donna Budzynski](http://DonnaBudzynski.com)



Name of Project: Live Creatively Journal

Type of project: Journal

Technique Used: Mixed Media

Products Used:
Deco Art paints
Stampendous stamps
Zip Dry
Chipboard
Chicken wire

Project by: [Marjolaine Walker](http://www.marjolainewalker.com)



Name of Project: Combing Ink & Paint in Your Art Journal

Type of Project: Tutorial

Technique: Inking and Paint Techniques

Products Used:
Gel Printing Plate
Tim Holtz Fariytale Frenzy stamp set
Paint
Ink

Project by: [Marjie Kemper](http://www.marjiekemper.com)

Name of Project: Felt Bear Pin

Type of Project: Jewelry

Technique Used: None

Products Used:
Kunin Classicfelt
Embroidery floss
Pin back



Project by: [Laura Bray](http://LauraBrayDesigns.com)



Project by: [Tanya Ruffin](#)

Name of Project: How I Used Resin with a Gel Plate

Type of Project: Painting

Technique Used: Creating a resin texture piece, painting it and then, using a Gel Press plate to leif off the paint.

Products Used:
Gel Press
Resin
Paint



Name of Project: Fun with Sizzix Gift Bags

Type of project: Paper

Technique Used: Die Cutting

Products Used:
Sizzix Big Shot
Sizzix Bigz Die Frog
Cardstock
Spring Themed gift bags
Paper flowers
Googly eyes

Project by: [Rena Gonzalez](#)

Name of Project: Making a Flower Coloring Page Card with Cricut

Type of Project: Paper

Technique Used: Electronic Die Cutting Maching and Coloring

Products Used:
Cricut Explore
Floral Coloring Card Make-it-now project
Cricut Design Space Software
Flower cut outs and hear accessories designed by Jen Goode



Project by: [Jen Goode](#)

Name of Project: Shabby Chic Lamp

Type of Project: Home Décor

Technique Used: Etching

Products Used:

etchall dip n' etch

Quart jar

Chalk paints

Trims



Project by: [Marilyn Gossett](#)



Project by: [Cheryl Boglioli](#)

Name of Project: Easy DIY Photography Backdrops

Type of Project: How-to

Technique Used: None

Products Used:

Craft board

Wood glue

Stain or paint

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