

Bella CRAFTS™

2017 Volume 5 Issue 3

Learn-Make-Craft

30+ Projects

Planner Clips

Altered Monogrammed Clipboard

Venetian Blind Card

Vintage Gypsy Necklace

Glass Painted Vase

and 20 Minute Crafts

Meet designer Julie McGuffee
& articles for Craftpreneurs

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BellaTeam



[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 tradeshows. 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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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 a designer, teacher, author, and was one of the judges on TLC's Craft Wars with host Tori Spelling. She has hosted cruises, was a teacher on Michael's 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!"

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.



[Helen Bradley](#) finds embroidery a great way to relax away from her computer. She is always seeking out new and interesting stitches to sew and ways to combine buttons, beads and small mirrors with stitches. She loves using natural materials, wool felt and natural fibers such as burlap, linen, and cotton are

her media of choice for sewing projects. She finds that designing and sewing small projects means she gets to do a large variety of techniques in small amounts so she's never bored and can generally find time to try new things.



[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.



[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.



Originally from England, [Julie McGuffee](#) is an award winning designer, crafter, decorative painter, industry consultant and product developer. Professionally involved in the Arts & Crafts industry for 25+ years, she has

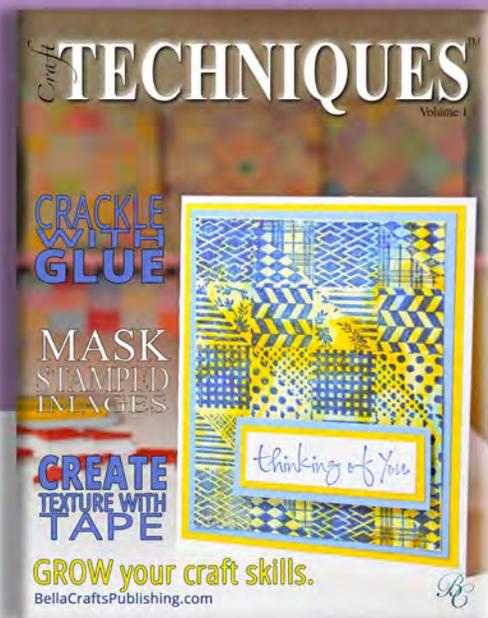
authored over 50 "How To" craft books as well as feature columns in national and international magazines. For 15 years, Julie has hosted a popular TV show on scrapbooking, which aired on Public Television stations nationwide and represented manufacturers on QVC and HSN. She loves her "Life in the Craft Lane" and her goal is to inspire others to be creative too!



[Marilyn Gossett](#) is a freelance designer and has made the craft industry her oyster since the early 90's. She has authored over 40 how-to craft books and is presently working as the lead

designer and design team coordinator for DreamSolutions Marketing. She also enjoys teaching and consulting whenever the opportunity arises. Her greatest joy in life comes from family, friends and fur babies. A favorite saying is; "What the mind can perceive and conceive; it can achieve!"

Check out all of our publications!



Let there be Light!

Inexpensive and pragmatic light options for Photographers.

Photography is all about light. It's the light reflecting off a surface that the camera captures when you take a photo. Without light you won't have an image. Some photographers create their own light using expensive studio lighting setups. But lighting doesn't have to be expensive – sunlight, for example, is free.

Harness light from the sun:

In the early morning and early evening sunlight has great color – which is fantastic for most photography. However, if you're shooting crafts and other objects where capturing true colors are important then full sun is better. However full sun is also a harsh light and it creates deep shadows and unsightly reflections on shiny surfaces. The solution is to tame the sun with a diffuser.

A diffuser is a large sheet of partially transparent white fabric that filters the sunlight. You (or your assistant) hold the diffuser between the sun to filter (diffuse) the light falling on your subject. This will soften the light so you avoid shadows and bright reflections so you can shoot beautiful photos even in full sun.

A reasonable quality diffuser will cost less than \$20. For a few dollars more, a 5 in 1 diffuser will give you one diffusing panel and four reflective surfaces in a package that is light enough to hold over your subject for a period of time and which collapses into a small package for storage or travel.

Lighting indoors:

If you'd prefer to shoot indoors you have a couple of options. Sunlight coming through a large window can provide great natural light for

you to shoot in. If the light is direct, position your diffuser or a sheer white fabric curtain between the window and your subject to filter and soften the sunlight.

Having your own lightbox is an 'anytime' lighting solution for photographing crafts and smaller objects. A lightbox is simply a cube covered in semitransparent fabric - you can construct one for a few dollars from PVC pipe and cloth. For lights, buy or repurpose, a couple of adjustable desk lamps and invest in some daylight balanced light bulbs. Your bulbs are probably the most expensive part of a DIY lightbox project! Specialty daylight balanced bulbs are designed to mimic daylight so they'll help you capture more accurate color in your images – don't skimp on buying these.

You can create a range of 'looks' in your light box with backdrops. Make your own by painting sheets of fabric or paper – it's a fun weekend DIY craft project in itself.



A 5-in-1 diffuser like this one from Westcott lets you control sunlight to take great shots even in full sun.



25 Facebook Live Topic Ideas

Have you been putting off doing Facebook Lives?

Is it because you don't think you have anything to say?

No worries! If you have been wanting to take advantage of live streaming on Facebook, we have you covered.

Here is a list of 25 topic ideas to get you started:

1. What is your favorite type of crafting? Why?
2. Share a favorite craft project.
3. Demo a quick and easy project.
4. Share a favorite crafting tool.
5. Talk about the benefits of having a crafting hobby.
6. Tell a story about a favorite crafty adventure.
7. Share a favorite craft tip.
8. What was your biggest accomplishment as a crafter?
9. Choose someone from the craft industry who inspires you. Share why.
10. Recount a time you shared your love of crafting with someone. How did it make you both feel?
11. Share your biggest craftastrophe.
12. What are your favorite colors? Share why.
13. Where do you find your craft inspiration?
14. How did you start crafting?
15. Share your biggest crafting struggle. How did you overcome it?
16. Did you learn to craft from a family member? Share that story.
17. Do you have a favorite time of day that you like to craft? When is it and why?
18. How do you store your craft supplies?
19. What was the best crafty bargain you ever happened across?
20. Show and tell...what's in your craft stash?
21. What crafty accomplishment are you most proud of?
22. If you could learn a new craft skill, what would it be and why?
23. Do you have a solution for a creative problem? What is it?
24. How do you get into a creative mindset?
25. What lesson did you learn from your biggest craftastrophe?

There are so many topics you can talk about on your Facebook Live. This list should help get you started. Don't be afraid to just get started. See you online!

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Background Basics

For this installment of my column, we're going to be talking about my favorite craft product in the world...Rubber Stamps!!! I have been using rubber stamps in my designs for over 20 years. For someone like me, who can't draw to save my own life, rubber stamps allowed me to create beautiful things without having to draw or paint my designs. Rubber stamps have changed and evolved through the years. We have stamps mounted onto wood, clear stamps, foam-backed stamps. Heck, we even have digital stamps that you can download right off of your computer! Although each of these types of stamps has their own capabilities and uses, today I want to talk about a unique type of stamps.

These rubber stamps were designed to create the look of quilting and quilt patterns, without the need to stitch or sew a thing! Unless of course, you want to. Are you thoroughly intrigued and want to know more? I'm sure you are. So, without further ado, let me introduce you all to the wonderful world of **Ann Butler's ColorBox® Background Basics by Clearsnap!**



When I first saw the Background Basics rubber stamps, I was so excited imagining the possibilities of using these stamps in my projects. As you can see in my scrapbook page, these Background Basics stamps can be used to create fun & funky elements to give your projects a little extra pizzazz. You can also combine them together to make very interesting backgrounds. That was my very thought when I decided to use them to create this scrapbook page with my husband and granddaughter having a blast in the kitchen for their "cookie challenge". I wanted something fun and different to express the silliness you can see in the photos.



But, what I like most about Background Basics is creating the look of quilting! I cannot sew that well, so being able to follow in my mom's quilting

footsteps was not going to happen! That is, until I found these stamps. Unlike other rubber stamps, you can align these stamps next to each other to give you the ability to create quilt patterns and other cool designs. For my first project, I created a pillow using the stamps to design it. When I showed it to my mom, she was amazed at how much it looked like real quilting. If you take a peek at some of the projects that Ann has made, you would never know by looking at the patterns, that they were actually done with these rubber stamps!

The versatility that you have with the Background Basics is what makes them so unique. Whether you're using them to create new backgrounds on your projects or for faux quilting, the possibilities are endless. You can use them on paper, wood, clay, glass, cork, plastic, fabric, etc. They come in 3" squares, triangles, and four different patterns. Ann recently added a new set called "Stitches" that has 6 types of stitching designs. While you're shopping for these fabulous rubber stamps, also check out Ann Butler's ColorBox

To get your Creative Juices Flowing check out these projects created by Designer Beth Watson using The Background Basics Stamps...



[Home Sweet Home Houses](#)



[Faux Quilted Sewing Box](#)

Crafter's Inkpads by Clearsnap. There are 12 stunning colors in the product line and they also work well with the surfaces I have mentioned above. If you take time to look through Ann's website at www.AnnButlerDesigns.com, you can see tons of projects created with these stamps, using the faux quilting technique and so much more! You are going to LOVE these rubber stamps. If you create a project using them in your design, send me a photo; I would love to see what you created. And, if you send me the photo, I'll put it in the next issue of Bella Crafts. Let's get creative!!!



[30 Minute Monogrammed Napkins](#)

An Artist's View

with Ann Butler

In depth with ...

Julie McGuffee



Originally from England, [Julie McGuffee](#) is an award winning, multi-talented, licensed designer, on-air personality, crafter, decorative painter, consultant and product developer. Professionally involved in the Arts & Crafts industry for over 25 years, she has authored over 50 "How To" craft books on a wide variety of subjects as well as feature columns in both national and international magazines.

Julie has appeared on many popular craft shows since the early 90's and for 14 years hosted a popular TV show on scrapbooking. The show aired on Public Television stations across the United States and internationally. She has also represented leading manufacturers on retail TV -

QVC, HSN and Shop at Home.

When designing for manufacturers, Julie's goal has always been to design projects to promote their product and inspire the customer to purchase.

In 1996, Julie and fellow designer, Jean Kievlan founded K-Mc Design Services which quickly became one of the leading consulting and design companies in the industry.

Julie met and married her husband while living in Germany and now lives in Texas. They have two married children, four grandchildren and Tucker, the cocker spaniel.

A: What was your first experience with crafting?

J: My first crafting memory is sitting at a little card table in front of the fire, making Christmas cards with my mum. She was writing hers and I was decorating mine using those old brown paper stencils, a basic stencil brush and green and red cake type paint. This was in the early 50's and I was probably about 3-4 years old. We didn't even have a television back then, so we listened to the radio for entertainment and made good use of our imagination to create our own.

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

J: I don't know that I ever wanted to be an "artist". I just loved making things. I could (and still can) sew, knit, crochet, tat (with a shuttle) and I loved embroidery. My dad went to Art school in the 30's. He loved to paint and draw, so, of course I loved to do that too. I remember saving pocket money to buy colored pencils from the art store - one at a time, and Plasticine...a very soft clay. I made dolls from pipe cleaners and furniture for fairies from matchboxes while my mum sewed clothes for us. I still have her portable sewing machine with its original handle. My mum was also a fabulous baker and made the most beautifully decorated cakes. I did not inherit that particular talent unfortunately - my rock buns (cupcakes) literally turn out like rocks. Hmm, I should make some now and paint them LOL. I also loved to read and write stories of my own - short poems too...my imagination knew no bounds. No TV, iPad or computer and I was never bored - imagine that!

A: Kids nowadays could learn a few things from you:0)

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

J: I always loved to paint and in the late 80's taught a friend of mine basic, decorative painting skills I had picked up from a couple of books on Bavarian Folk Art. It didn't take us long to have a room full of painted wood pieces and we had to figure out what to do with them. We concentrated mainly on Bavarian Folk Art and decided to exhibit at the local Oktoberfest. We sold almost everything,

so decided to rent a small booth in a craft mall. It would be a place to keep our finished pieces and the sales funded our hobby – a win win.

I enjoyed painting glass ornaments (no prep work required) and in 1991 a customer bought a few of my ornaments to show a local publisher she worked with. 24 hours later I had a book contract! She needed me to design about 10 ornaments to finish a book another designer had started. I also had to write instructions and drew the artwork and patterns. A week later she asked if I would write a book on decorative painting. Of course, I said yes, and **Basic Steps to Painting** was published soon after. More books followed on a variety of crafts. Seaside Treasures (shell projects); Victoria's Charms (jewelry); Ribbons & Trims (for Leisure Arts); Cards to Art (Victorian scrap crafts); Button Box Treasures (buttons) and lots more painting books.

I also acquired computer skills and by 1995 I was able to turnkey books that went directly to the printer. I was definitely a professional at this point - my hobby had become a bona fide business. I attended trade shows, decorative painting shows and became a member of the Society of Craft Designers (SCD), which is where I met manufacturers and publishers. My projects appeared regularly in craft and painting magazines and I was a feature columnist for Craftworks and Scrapbooking & Beyond. TV appearances followed - The Carol Duvall show, Crafts & Company, Aleene's, even QVC and HSN and in the late 90's after appearing on Crafting for the 90's, I was a regular guest on Hands on Crafts for Kids and invited to co-host a TV show with Julie Stephani, which I continued to host for almost 15 years.

A: Oh, my goodness Julie, what an amazing career! I remember meeting you almost 20 years ago at the Minnesota SCD conference, my first, and you were so kind and sweet to this newbie...I have never forgotten that and try to pass it forward whenever I can.

A: Do you have a favorite craft technique?

J: It's easier to tell you what I don't like; messy crafts like papier maché for example. I



Welcome to my Craft Room - Come on In!



really enjoy a lot of things, but if I had to pick one, it would be "Spirelli", a form of string art. If anyone isn't familiar with this, instructions and samples on my blog, [Life in the Craft Lane](#). I also love glass etching and painting on glass.

A: What inspires you?

J: The products. My mind goes into overdrive thinking about the things I can create. It's the challenge that's exciting. A lot of the books I wrote in the 90's were for manufacturers who

needed ideas and inspiration to sell their products. This was my favourite thing to do. I'm also an idea person and a number of these (ideas) have translated into product lines, still around today. Branding yourself as a designer wasn't a "thing" back then, before the internet, so what they are will stay between me and the bed post.

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

J: LOL - a hot mess! I use heavy metal shelving, folding tables and a kitchen counter top supported by two drawer units. It's very serviceable and would never, ever be featured in a magazine, but I love my creative space and even though it doesn't look it, at least it's an organized mess.

A: You're so funny!

A: What is the best part of your job?

J: Everything. I love the creativity of working with product, the tools, even computer software! And the people I have met through the business. My daughter also works in the Arts & Crafts Industry. She started by demoing for EK Success at the HIA trade show in the mid 90's. At that time, she was "Julie McGuffee's daughter". Now she is the National Sales Director for one of the major companies

in the industry and I'm "Jennie Smith's mom" - ya gotta love it...

A: That's wonderful, you must be so proud of her.

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

J: I've been professionally involved in the industry for almost 30 years and, even though it has changed a lot, I continue to love every minute. One of the major turning points was in 1996 when my friend and fellow designer, Jean Kievlan and I formed our own company, Kievlan-McGuffee Design, Consulting & Product Development Services, Inc.

We work independently now under our corporate umbrella, but within the first few years in business, our work won two Pri-Media (industry) awards: for EK Success in 1997 and for Xyron in 2001. A few years ago Jean developed Babyville Boutique for Dritz which can be found in select stores and for 5 years I've been tickled pink to see my laser cut wood and frame designs hanging in Michaels.

Change is inherent in our industry, the result of a creative spirit. It's the very nature of what we do so I try to change with it, or at least keep up. I continue to work with a few manufacturers, but at this point in life I spend a lot of time helping and supporting other designers. I founded the Designer Crafts Connection several years ago and publish a group blog where all members can post photos and links to projects featured on our own blogs. My business has, definitely changed over the years from designer, author, TV Host, consultant, product developer, licensed designer to design team coordinator... I'm wondering what the next few years will bring. I don't particularly want to get into manufacturing, but I thought I'd try selling some of my designs online and have a few of my laser cut wood pieces on my website, juliemcguffee.com. Maybe I'll try videos next...stay tuned!

A: Julie, thank you for sharing with our readers. You truly are a very special lady and I am so happy to be in this ever changing Creative Industry with you!!



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Junkin' with Jo

with Jo Pearson

“It’s an Illness”

So, how many of you get excited about a new craft and must BUY everything remotely associated with that craft? Been there done that SOOOO many times. Doesn’t matter if I have to buy tools, books, or videos! It just doesn’t matter. You would think I’d try making something first, BUT, No! I just jump in feet first.



Well, that has happened again. I’m in love with vintage glass totem statues. I’m sure you have seen them on Pinterest and in magazines. Well, instead of collecting a few glass pieces at a flea market or Goodwill, I go to every resale shop I can find and buy enough glass to make 100 statues. REALLY!

Then a friend says she tried making the totems but she didn’t like making them, so I could have

all her glass really cheap! When I went to her house, she had two 6-foot tables filled with hundreds of pieces of glass and says, if I want it, I have to take it all because she’s needs the tables for a party that night! Holy Moly! And, the saving grace was, she only wanted \$20.00 for all of it. Bonus!!!!

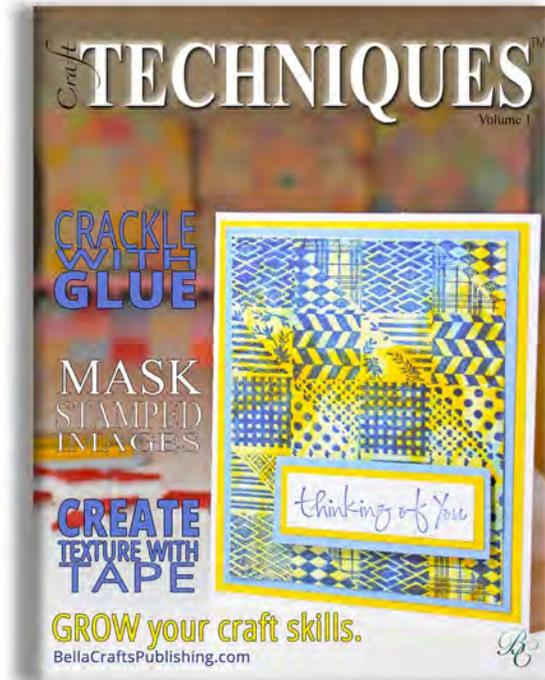


So, I am having great fun making these sculptures with only GLUE and GLASS! You have to use water resistant glue, like E-6000 or a marine glue. Be careful as you apply the glue so that you won’t see it all over your glass. I sometimes use clear pebbles around the area where two pieces go together. Always try out your sculpture before gluing it together in case you prefer a different piece of glass. Glue and stack a piece at a time.

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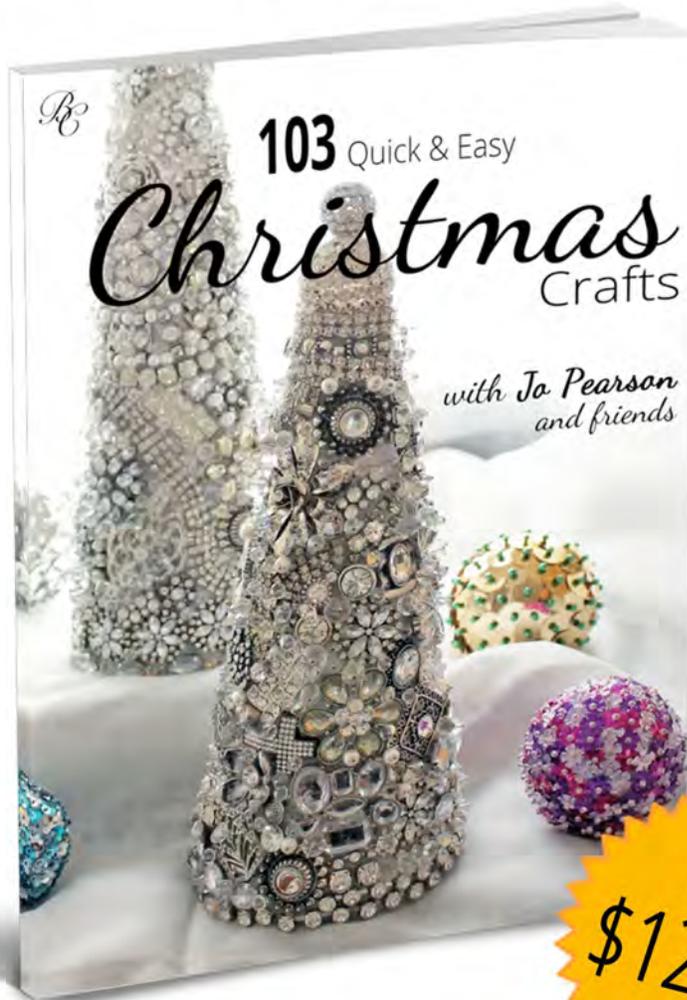
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20 Minute CRAFTS

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



Sparkly Hanging Candle Holder

By [Theresa Cifali](#)

Late summer/early fall is the perfect time to hang out on the patio or deck with a little wine and good company. Spruce up your space with some sparkly hanging candle holders that you can make yourself. Though you do have to wait a day for the paint to dry completely, it literally takes a few minutes to create a whole bunch of these. They are so simple, but so pretty.

Materials:

- ◆ Mason jar
- ◆ Lid with hangar
- ◆ Plaid Extreme Glitter, Silver
- ◆ Tulle, glitter white
- ◆ Glass pebbles (optional)

Tools:

- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Pencils (2)
- ◆ Wax paper

Instructions:

1. Wash and dry the mason jar completely.
2. Pour a generous amount of glitter paint into the jar. Turn the jar around to coat the entire inside, pouring the excess paint back into its container.
3. Place two pencils parallel to each other on top of a piece of wax paper and rest the jar, lid side down, onto the pencils so that any excess paint can drain.
4. Once the paint has dried completely (it will be translucent), tie a piece of tulle around the middle of the jar.
5. Add some glass pebbles, a battery-operated candle and the lid.
6. Hang outside on your patio or porch.

 PUBLISHING Proudly Presents

103 Quick & Easy Christmas Crafts

with Jo Pearson & friends

All of your holiday crafts needs in one place!

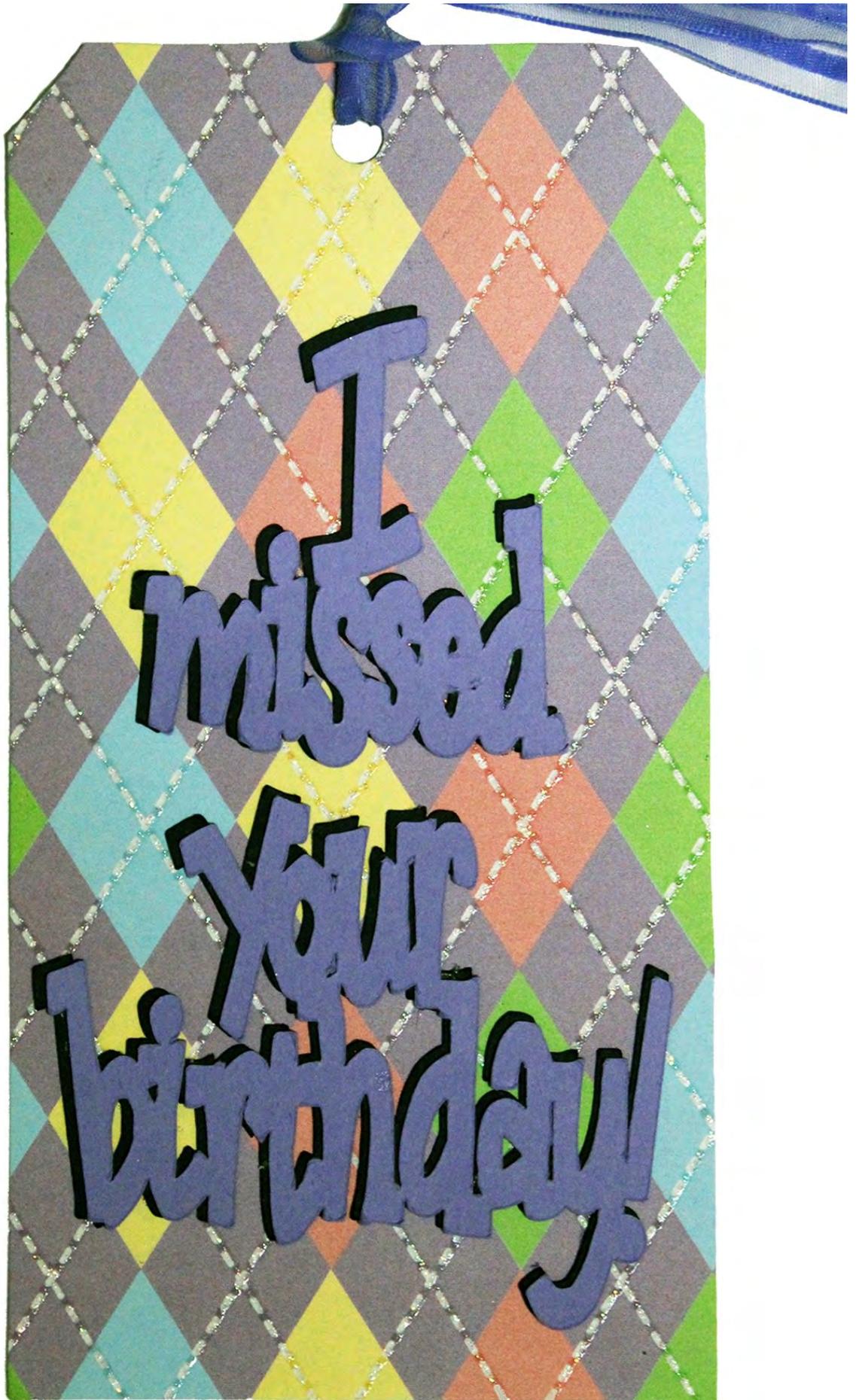
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Mixed Media, Home Decor, Wearable Art and more!

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Birthday Tag

By [Ann Butler](#)

Having a few of these little Tags around might come in handy if you have ever forgotten someone's Birthday. They can easily be placed on a bottle of Wine, inside a Book or other gift you might want to give them next time you see them. Plus, these are so quick to make...so why not take a few minutes to make a few to have on hand!

Materials:

- ◆ Patterned cardstock, 6 1/4" x 3"
- ◆ Shipping tag
- ◆ Cardstock: Black, Purple
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives Zip Dry
- ◆ Ribbon

Tools:

- ◆ [Cricut Explore](#)
- ◆ [Cricut Design Space](#)
- ◆ [Cricut Wild Card](#)
- ◆ Computer
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Hole punch

Instructions:

1. Use the shipping tag as a pattern, cut a tag from the patterned cardstock and then punch a hole at the top.
2. Open the Cricut Design Space and then, find the "I Missed Your Birthday" saying in the Wild Card Cartridge. Place it on your mat measuring 4 1/5" x 2 3/4". Die cut one from the black and one from the purple cardstock.
3. Adhere the purple saying on top of the black one and just to the left, creating a shadow effect.
4. Glue the saying onto the tag.
5. Attach a ribbon at the top.

Designer tips:

- ⇒ You do not have to have a Cricut to create these tags, it just simply speeds up the process.
- ⇒ Use stickers to create a saying for the tag.
- ⇒ Stamp your saying onto the tag with black ink.

Fall Mini Centerpiece



By [Lisa Rojas](#)

This mini fall centerpiece is perfect for your family's Thanksgiving table and what a perfect way to give them a little gift to take home. You can create larger ones for your main decorations to pull the whole theme together.

Materials:

- ◆ Foam core board
 - ◆ Corrugated paper
 - ◆ Patterned paper
 - ◆ Cardstock, white
 - ◆ Inkpad, black
 - ◆ Chalk pencils
 - ◆ Mini flower pot, 1 ¼" (2)
 - ◆ Mini hay bale, 2 ½" x 1 ¼"
 - ◆ Ribbon
- ◆ Toothpicks, (2)
 - ◆ Mini flowers
 - ◆ Confetti

Tools:

- ◆ Glue gun
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Exacto knife

Instructions:

1. Cut the foam core board 3 ½" x 2 ¼" using an Exacto knife. Cut the patterned paper the same size and adhere it to the top of the foam core board.
2. Stamp the floral images twice on white cardstock with the black inkpad. Color

the images with pencils and cut out. **Note:** Cut out the bottom sunflower on the second image only.

3. Glue toothpicks to the backs of each image. Attach the ribbon around one of the flower pots. Add confetti to the inside and then add the stamped images.
4. Cut a piece of cardboard 1" x 4 ½". Attach the trim around the foam core board. Next, glue cardboard, hay bale, flower pots and mini flowers to the foam core board. Use the photo for placement if needed.



Pretty Planner Clips

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

Journals and planners are incredibly hot right now and these planner clips are a very pretty way to help keep you organized. They are also a great way to use up your left over supplies.

Materials:

- ◆ Various patterned papers
- ◆ Cardstock: Purple, Lilac, Yellow, Orange
- ◆ Various embellishments
- ◆ Paperclips, large
- ◆ Inkpad, black
- ◆ Art-C Rubber Stamp & Die Cut Set
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives Zip Dry

Tools:

- ◆ Glue gun
- ◆ [Big Shot](#)

Instructions:

1. Using the Big Shot, cut out the dies with the patterned papers and cardstock.
2. Glue the cardstock shapes to the backs of the patterned shapes.
3. Stamp the words onto three of the shapes with the black inkpad.
4. Using the glue gun, attach the embellishments to the front and the paperclips to the backs of the shapes.



Simple & Elegant Monogrammed Card Set

By [Theresa Cifali](#)

Do you remember when people would send actual cards instead of ecards? I really miss those days, which is why I like to have a stack of handmade cards on hand. Then, when I need a thank you card or I just want to send out a card to let a friend or family member know I'm thinking of them, I just reach into my stash and I'm good to go. Making sets of the same style card is a great time saver. This monogrammed card is so easy to create. Make a bunch for yourself or a bundle of 8-10 cards to give as a gift.

Materials:

- ◆ Card, white, A7
- ◆ Cardstock, patterned: 3"x 3", 4"x 5 ¼"
- ◆ Cardstock, light purple 2 ½"x 2 ½"
- ◆ Permanent ink: purple, black
- ◆ Ribbon, twill, cream, 7/8"x 6"
- ◆ Ribbon
- ◆ Tape runner
- ◆ Foam tape

Tools:

- ◆ Paper trimmer
- ◆ Rubber stamp, script
- ◆ EZ-De's Flourish Alphabet Set
- ◆ Acrylic block
- ◆ Stipple brushes
- ◆ Heat gun

Instructions:

1. Stamp the letter of your choosing onto the light purple cardstock. Heat set.
2. Tape the monogrammed paper to the 3"x 3" patterned paper and then, stamp the script in black. Heat set.
3. Stamp the script over the remaining patterned paper piece. Heat set.
4. Next, lightly stipple purple ink onto the card front and all paper pieces. Heat set.
5. Rub the purple stamp pad across the twill ribbon. Heat set.
6. Tape the larger patterned paper piece to the card front. Then, attach the ribbon across the middle of the card front, wrapping the ends around to the back.
7. Use foam tape to secure the monogrammed panel over the ribbon, to the right and slightly towards the bottom of the card front.
8. Decorate your envelopes by stippling purple ink around the outside edges.

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Washi Tape Tea Candles

By [Ann Butler](#)

I love candles and use them throughout my home. I often buy tea candles in bulk so I always have them on hand. Here is a super quick way to give them some color so that they can be on display.

Materials:

- ◆ Washi Tape, assorted
- ◆ Tea Candles

Instructions:

1. Adhere Washi Tape to the outside edge of the tea candle.
- ⇒ Designer Tip: Remember to never leave a candle unattended.

Lucky Lottery Card



By [Lisa Rojas](#)

Bring a little luck to your friends and family with this simple card holder!

Materials:

- ◆ Cardstock: Lavender, Light Lavender
- ◆ Patterned paper
- ◆ Copy paper, white
- ◆ Mini brad, lavender
- ◆ Mini flower, lavender
- ◆ Ribbon
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives Zip Dry

Tools:

- ◆ [Pattern for card](#)
- ◆ Pencil
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Decorative scissors
- ◆ Hole punch, 1/4"
- ◆ Computer

Instructions:

1. Using a pencil, trace the pattern for the outside of the card onto the lavender cardstock, and the inside card onto the light lavender cardstock. Cut out.
2. Cut the patterned paper 1 1/4" x 3 1/4". Assemble the card and glue the patterned paper to the card. Fold up the bottom of the card and glue.
3. Print the sentiment out. Cut out the sentiment using decorative scissors. Cut the ribbon 5" long.
4. Punch a hole in the card and attach the ribbon, wording, and the flower with the brad. Insert the inside card and lottery tickets.

Flower Pot Wall Hanging



By [Lisa Rojas](#)

Materials:

- ◆ Flower pot doily
- ◆ Fleece, tan
- ◆ Flower trim
- ◆ Fabric butterfly
- ◆ Assorted flowers
- ◆ Ribbon, tan 9"
- ◆ Paper confetti

Tools:

- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Glue gun

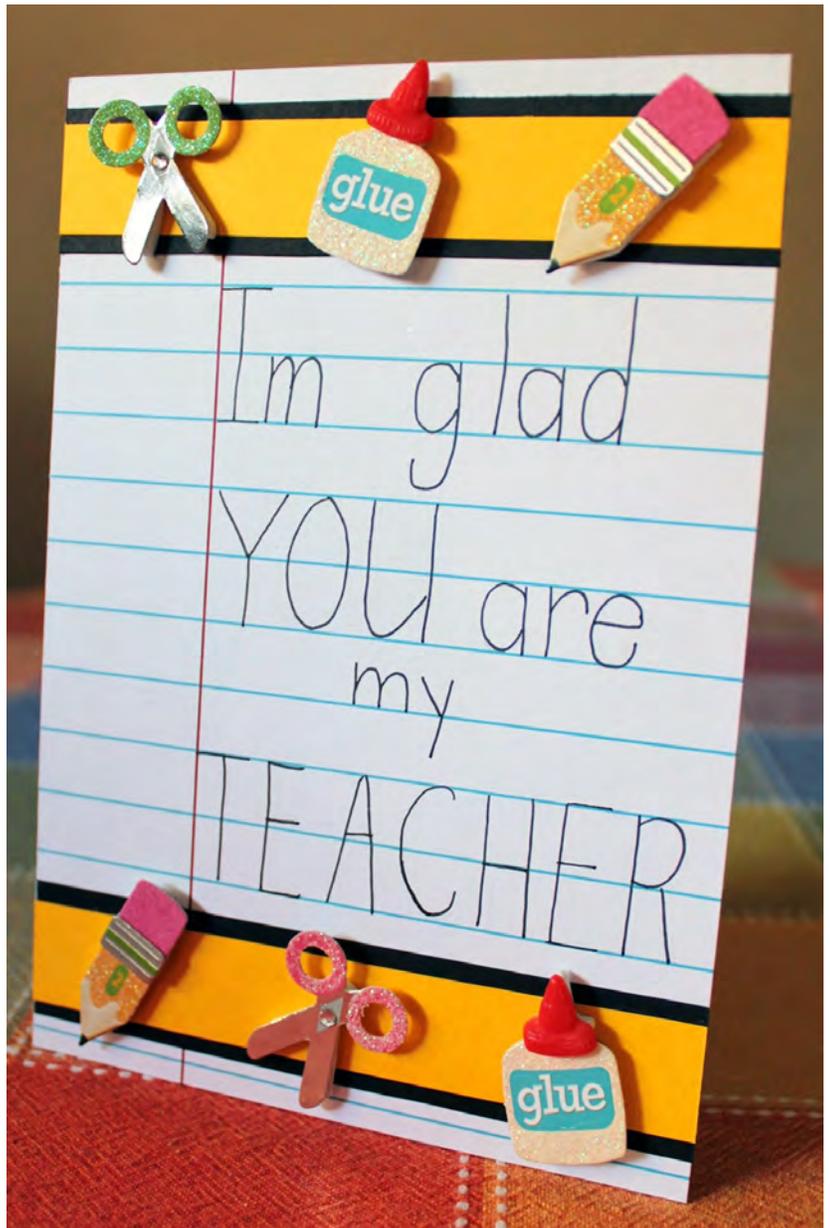
Instructions:

1. Cut two pieces of fleece the same size as the flower pot doily.
2. Glue one piece of the fleece to the back of the doily.
3. Glue the second piece of fleece to the back of the doily, around the edges only, and leave the top portion open.
4. Fill the flower pot with confetti. Arrange the flowers as desired and place them into the flower pot.
5. Glue the trim and the butterfly to the front. Glue the ribbon on the back to create a hanger.

First Day of School Card

When my girls were elementary school aged, they were most excited to find out who their teacher was going to be that fall.

Typically, they would make a handmade card (and sometimes a little gift) to give to their new teacher on the first day of school. This card is so simple to make and will help get your little one's excited for a new school year. Have an adult pre-cut all of the papers and just let the kids assemble! Handwriting the sentiment on the front makes it extra special, too!



By [Theresa Cifali](#)

Materials:

- ◆ Card, white, A10
- ◆ Cardstock, Notebook, 5" x 7"
- ◆ Cardstock, yellow, 3/4" x 5" (2)
- ◆ Cardstock, black, 1" x 5" (2)
- ◆ Jolee's Boutique, School Supplies Repeat
- ◆ Tape runner

Tools:

- ◆ Paper trimmer
- ◆ Marker, thin, black

Instructions:

1. Tape the notebook paper to the front panel of the card.
2. Attach the yellow paper strips to the black strips. Then, secure those to the top and bottom of the card front, about a 1/2" from the top and bottom edges.
3. Handwrite "I'm Glad You're My Teacher" or another sentiment of your choosing between the two strips.
4. Add the stickers onto each of the strips.



Easy Foiled Card

By [Ann Butler](#)

Foiling is HOT right now and I love the look! But, I do not always have the patience to wait for my 20 year old laminating machine to heat up to foil something. So, when my creative girlfriend Rebekah Meier asked me to try out her new product line with therm-o-web, I was thrilled to find out I could make a Foiled Card without my laminating machine.

Materials:

- ◆ [Rebekah Meier Designs Mixed Media Foam Sheets by therm-o-web](#)
- ◆ [Rebekah Meier Designs Mixed Media Transfer Foil by therm-o-web: Patina, Antique Pearl](#)
- ◆ Cardstock, Purple, 5 1/4" x 4", 4 1/2" x 3"
- ◆ Cardstock, Yellow, 5" x 3 3/4"
- ◆ Top folding card base, White, 5 1/2" x 4 1/4"
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives Zip Dry

Tools:

- ◆ [Cricut Explore](#)
- ◆ [Cricut Design Space](#)
- ◆ [Cricut Wild Card](#)
- ◆ Computer
- ◆ Scissors

Instructions:

1. Open the Cricut Design Space and then, find the "just a note" saying in the Wild Card Cartridge. Place it on your mat measuring 3 1/2" x 3 1/4". Then, find the frame and place it on the mat measuring 4 3/4" x 3 1/2". Die cut both using the Foam Sheet and then, remove them from the mat.
2. Peel off the top layer from the frame and apply the Antique Gold, shiny side up. Rub over the foil and remove. Reapply if needed in any areas.
3. Repeat step 2 for the saying with Patina.
4. Adhere the large purple cardstock to the card base followed by the yellow cardstock.
5. Peel the back layer off of the frame and center the small piece of purple cardstock to the back of it and then, attach the frame to the card base.
6. Remove the backing off of the saying and attach it to the card front.



Altered Monogrammed Clipboard

By [Theresa Cifali](#)

When I used to be a teacher, I used clipboards all of the time. They sure are ugly though, so I'd pretty mine up! Here is one idea for jazzing up a clipboard...and it makes a great teacher gift also!

Materials:

- ◆ Clipboard
- ◆ Patterned paper, double sided (2)
- ◆ Cardstock, light purple
- ◆ Washi tape: $\frac{3}{4}$ ", $\frac{3}{8}$ "
- ◆ Permanent ink: purple, black
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives Zip Dry

Tools:

- ◆ Paper trimmer
- ◆ Stipple brushes
- ◆ Heat gun
- ◆ Circle punch, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
- ◆ Xacto knife and mat
- ◆ EZ-De's Flourish Alphabet Set
- ◆ Acrylic block
- ◆ Pencil

Instructions:

1. Cut a circle from the purple cardstock and then, stamp the letter of your choosing to the center in black. Heat set and set aside.
2. Cut a piece of patterned paper for the top 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "x 9" and then, cut another piece 5"x 9".
3. Choosing the larger piece for the top, mark in pencil, where the notch needs to be made for the clip at the top of the board. Use an Xacto knife to trim away the notch.
4. Glue the notched piece to the top of the board and the smaller patterned paper piece to the bottom.
5. Trim the edges with an Xacto knife.
6. Stipple purple ink along the edges of the board, as well as around the edges of the monogrammed circle.
7. Place the wider washi tape across the seam where the two pieces of paper meet and then, add the thinner washi tape underneath it. Trim the excess tape.
8. Glue the monogram over the washi to the left of the board.



Mini Post-it-Note Holder



Since Post-it-Notes can be found all over my studio, literally! I decided to create a quick and easy holder to have right on my desk so they are always within reach when needed.

By [Ann Butler](#)

Materials:

- ◆ Ann Butler Crafter's Ink by Clearsnap: Lilac
- ◆ Chipboard coaster, 4" x 4"
- ◆ Post-it-Notes, 1 1/2" x 2"
- ◆ Binder clip
- ◆ Newsprint, 4" x 4"
- ◆ Oval cardstock, white, 1 3/4" x 7/8"
- ◆ Scallop oval cardstock, lilac, 2" x 1 1/8"
- ◆ Paper flower
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives Zip Dry

Tools:

- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Dauber
- ◆ Alphabet Stamp Set, small

Instructions:

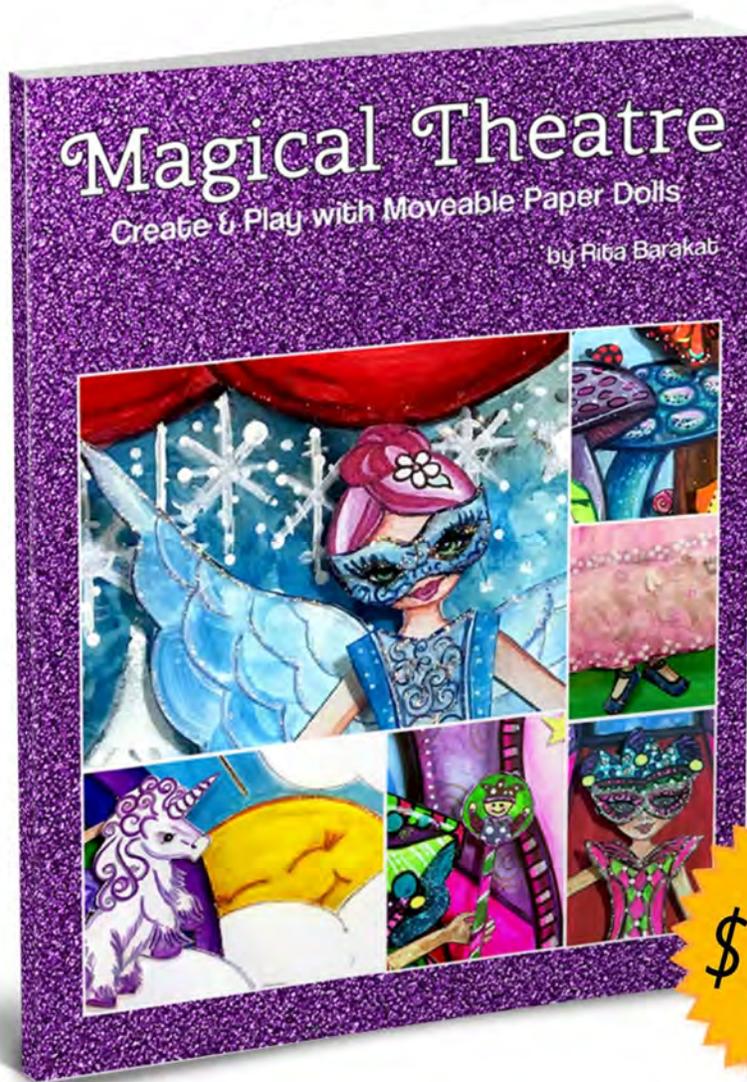
1. Attach the large piece of newsprint to the coaster and then, using the dauber ink, around the edges to give it some color.
2. Ink the edges of all of the layers of the paper flower.
3. Stamp out the word "Notes" onto the white oval and then, ink around the edge. Glue the oval to the scallop oval.
4. Adhere the flower and oval to the coaster as shown in the photo.
5. Use the binder clip to place the Post-it-Notes onto the holder.

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by Rita Barakat



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Dragon's Egg Pendant

By [Mylène Hillam for ETI](#)



Inspired by Game of Thrones...learn how to make an original master from EasySculpt, then create a mold from it that you can cast again and again.

Materials:

- ◆ EasySculpt
- ◆ 1" x 1-1/2" / 30 x 40mm oval bezel

Tools:

- ◆ Craft knife
- ◆ Clay blade
- ◆ Plastic egg
- ◆ Nylon Scouring Pad
- ◆ Talcum powder
- ◆ Rubber or Vinyl gloves

⇒ Designer Tip: EasySculpt is very sticky when first mixed so wear gloves and dust them well with talcum powder before beginning to work with it.

Instructions:

1. Cut the plastic egg in half lengthwise, then trim to fit oval bezel.
2. Measure equal amounts of EasySculpt.
3. Mix the EasySculpt according to the package instructions.
4. Flatten the clay out into a circular shape. Place it over the egg and work it out to the edges. Trim away any excess.
5. Smooth out the surface by rolling the egg between your gloved hands
6. Press the bottom third of the egg into the scouring pad to texture the clay.
7. Test that the egg sits inside the walls of the bezel with enough room to add scales.
8. Mix a small batch of EasySculpt and set it aside to firm for 30 minutes. Roll the clay into three thin logs of varying thicknesses. Line the three logs up and use the clay blade to slice each one into small pieces.
9. Roll each piece into a ball and then form each one into a flattened tear drop shape.
10. Position the first row of scales about half an inch from the bottom of the egg, with the points facing down.
11. Add the second row of scales. These should overlap the first row and sit in the gaps between the scales of the first row. Continue adding scales in rows in this way, using the medium scales and then the small scales.
12. Leave the dragon's egg to fully cure before creating a mold from it.

Create a Mold from the Dragon's Egg

Materials:

- ◆ EasyMold Silicone Putty
 - ◆ EasySculpt Dragon's Egg
1. Measure out equal quantities of EasyMold Putty and mix them together according to the package instructions.
 2. Place the putty over the egg and press it onto the surface. Flatten the back slightly so that it will sit level when you pour resin into it. Set it aside to cure. It is best to allow the mold to cure for 24 hours before casting resin in it.

Step 7



Step 9



Step 10



Step 11



Cast the Dragon's Egg

Materials:

- ◆ FastCast resin
- ◆ Castin' Craft black pigment
- ◆ Pearl Ex powders: suggested color combinations: *Drogon* – Blue Russet, Red Russet, Super Copper; *Rhaegal* – Apple Green, Emerald, True Blue; *Viserion* – Citrine, Pumpkin Spice, Super Copper
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives Quick Grip
- ◆ Bezel, oval, brass, 30x40mm
- ◆ Leather cord with clasp

Tools:

- ◆ Measuring cups
- ◆ Wooden stir sticks
- ◆ Dragon's Egg Mold
- ◆ Soft bristled brush
- ◆ Sandpaper, 180 grit wet/dry

Instructions:

1. Liberally brush the scales of the mold with PearlEx in your choice of colors. Try not to dust the textured area with PearlEx so that it remains black.
2. Measure out 1/4 ounce of Part A and Part B of the FastCast. Add 5 or 6 drops of black pigment to Part A. Because FastCast is a white resin when cured, you need to add more pigment than you usually would so that the resin will be dark gray/black. Stir the pigment into the resin well.
3. Add Part B to the colored Part A and stir for at least one minute until the resin is thoroughly mixed. Make sure you scrape all the unmixed resin away from the sides and the bottom of the cup and mix it in well. The resin will become warm as you stir which is an indication that the chemical reaction that causes curing is already taking place.
4. Pour the resin into the mold and fill to just below the top. Allow the resin to cure. It will take a little longer than usual (about 15 minutes or so) to cure because of the extra pigment in the resin.
5. Once cured, gently pull the silicone away from the resin and remove the egg.
6. Sand the back with sandpaper and water until it is level. Apply adhesive to the back of the egg and position it into the bezel with the point facing upwards.
7. String the pendant onto a leather cord.

Step 1



Step 4



Step 5



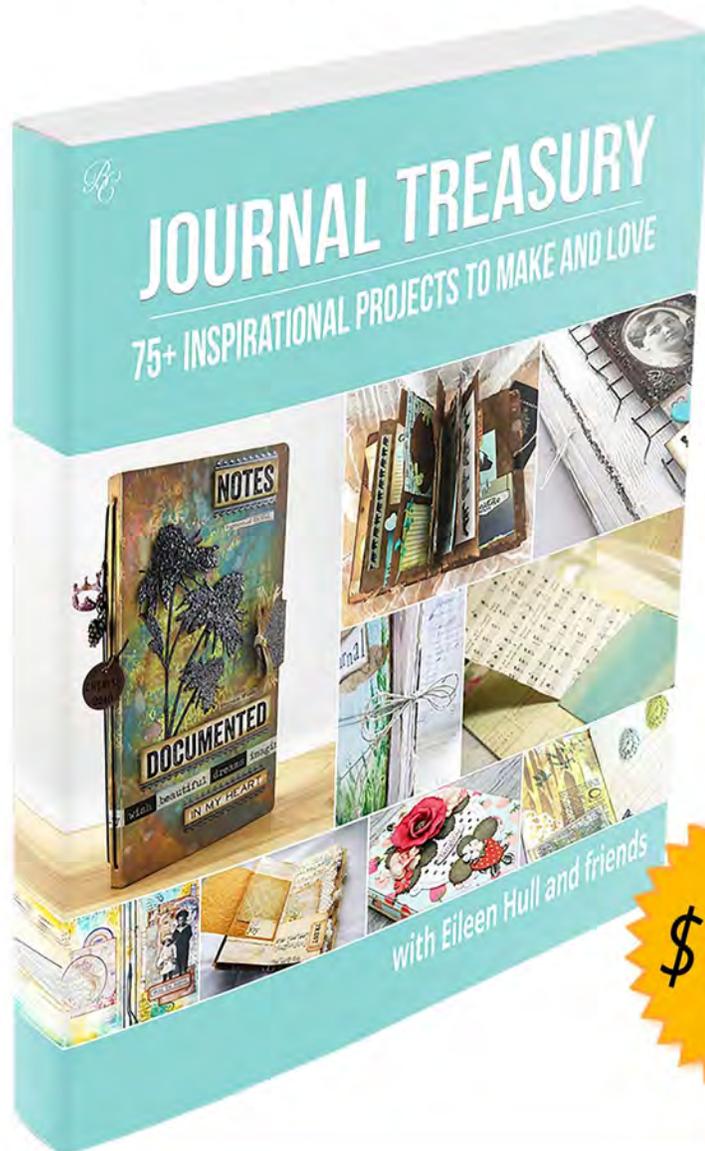
Step 6



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Nora's Baby Book

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

There's nothing more special than welcoming a new little one into the family. And what better way to remember every milestone than by keeping a journal to record the first year?

Materials:

- ◆ Sizzix® Matboard sheet, white, 6" x 13" (2)
- ◆ Scrapbook papers, coordinating colors
- ◆ Ephemera
- ◆ [Therm O Web](#): Deco Foil (gold), Foam Adhesive (White), Memory Tape Runner XL, Adhesive Pen
- ◆ Eileen Hull's [Color Box Blends inks](#): Stop, Melon, Tutu, Golden, Leaf, Bay, Beach
- ◆ Twine, pink
- ◆ Ribbon, pink
- ◆ Paper clips
- ◆ Ruffle trim, pink
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives Zip Dry

Tools:

- ◆ Sizzix® Eileen Hull™ ScoreBoards Journal XL Die
- ◆ Sizzix® Big Shot
- ◆ [Sizzix Homemade Alphabet](#)
- ◆ [Sizzix Elephants & Giraffe](#) (retired)
- ◆ Paper trimmer

Instructions:

1. Die cut two journal covers and flip one 180 degrees so both binding strips butt up to each other in the middle.
2. Select the palette of Blends ink colors desired for journal cover. On a non-stick mat, spritz a small amount of water. Starting with the lightest color, take Blends ink applicator and dip the sponge in water. The color will fade slightly and allow the applicator to glide freely across the matboard, producing a watercolor effect. Arrange colors as desired and begin swiping the Blends across the covers. Allow to dry.

3. Die cut two Elephant shapes (shadow and detail) from Adhesive Foam. Peel off release paper from one side. Place dull side of the foil on adhesive. Burnish all areas and peel up revealing a beautiful foiled elephant! Die cut the baby's name from adhesive foam and repeat. When you are ready to position name and elephant, remove other side of release paper and adhere to cover. Two elephants are stacked on top of each other for dimensional look. TIP: Make sure the foil is on the correct side of the foam, otherwise, letters could be reversed.
4. Cut 10-12 pages for baby book measuring 8 1/2" x 8 1/2". If you want to make a pocket, then cut 8 1/2" x 12" and score at 4 1/4" and 8 1/2" and fold the flap over.
5. To bind pages, cut a length of twine about two feet for each page. Wrap twine around the inside of the fold and tie it into the book. Knot each page inside or the outside of the book.
6. On the back inside cover, glue pink ruffle.
7. Decorate each page of the book. Add baby related stamps, lettering, ephemera and photos!
8. Wrap Traveler's Notebook with a headband for a closure and add in a flower planner clip and you are in business!



Vintage Gypsy Necklace

By [Lisa Marie Jimenez](#)

The warm summer days are giving way to the cooler fall air. With the fall comes deeper tones in clothing colors and this Vintage Gypsy necklace is sure to bring sparkle to your fall outfit. This necklace is a mesh of vintage and gypsy styles and is a stunning design to wear. The colors of this design can easily be customized to your liking by changing the bead, stone and ColoriQue colors used.

Materials:

- ◆ Pendant with 10 bottom rings: Brass Ox
- ◆ ColorBox® ColoriQue, Grape Vine
- ◆ Swarovski® bicone bead: Tanzanite, 4mm (35), 6mm (2)
- ◆ Glass Pendant: Tanzanite, 25mm
- ◆ Crystal rondelle spacer bead, Brass Ox, 4mm (3)
- ◆ Headpin, Brass Ox, 2 inches (2)
- ◆ Eyepin, Brass Ox, 1.5 inches (19)
- ◆ Oval jumpring, Brass Ox, 4mm (8)
- ◆ Round jumpring: Brass Ox, 4mm (4), 6mm (2)
- ◆ Etched jumpring: brass ox, 8mm
- ◆ Lobster clasp, Brass Ox
- ◆ Round metal bead, Brass Ox, 3mm (4)
- ◆ Rhinestone flatback, amethyst, 6mm
- ◆ Rhinestone pointed back, light topaz, 3mm (16)
- ◆ Wire, bronze, 22 gauge
- ◆ Small link chain, brass ox (12")
- ◆ Medium link chain, brass ox (12")
- ◆ Glue

Tools:

- ◆ Flat nose pliers (2 sets)
- ◆ Round nose pliers
- ◆ Chain nose pliers
- ◆ Cutters
- ◆ 1 step looper tool (optional)
- ◆ Small paint brush
- ◆ Sponge sanding block
- ◆ Heat embossing tool

Instructions:

1. Paint the entire front of the metal pendant with Grape Vine. Heat set. Be careful to let pendant cool, as it will be hot after it is heated. When the pendant is cool, use the sponge sanding block to remove some of the ColoriQue to allow the metal to show through.
2. Cut a strip of the wire and make a wrapped loop on the glass teardrop pendant. Open the end loop on an eyepin and connect to the loop on the glass pendant. Load the eyepin in the following order: 6mm bicone, crystal rondelle, 4mm bicone. Trim and make a simple loop.
3. Open an oval jumpring and connect it to one of the two bottom center rings on the metal pendant. Repeat for the opposite center ring. Open a 4mm round jumpring and connect the two oval jumprings and the end loop on the previous step. Close the jumpring.
4. Load a headpin in the following order: 6mm bicone, crystal rondelle, 4mm bicone. Trim and make a simple loop. Open the end loop on an eyepin and connect to the end loop on the headpin. Load an eyepin with 4mm bicone. Trim and make a simple loop. Connect the loop to the ring on the metal pendant directly to the left of the one in Step 3. Repeat this step for the opposite ring.
5. Use an oval jumpring to connect the small link chain to the next bottom ring on the metal pendant. Drape the chain so it falls directly

below the center glass pendant. Cut the chain and use another oval jumpring to connect to the ring.

6. In this step, you can use the 1 step looper to make the beaded chain or follow this step. Load an eyepin with a 4mm bicone bead. Trim and make a simple loop. Before closing the loop add the end loop of another eyepin and then, close. Load the eyepin with a 4mm bicone. Trim and make a simple loop, adding another eyepin before closing. Continue this step until you have 16 beaded links. Use an oval jumpring to connect the chain to the bottom rings on the metal pendant. Use picture as placement reference.
 7. Use a jumpring to connect the remainder of the small link chain to the outer ring on the metal pendant. Drape the chain so it falls below the beaded chain in previous step. Cut the chain and use an oval jumpring to attach it to the opposite ring.
 8. Make another beaded section of chain in with the following pattern using eyepins: 4mm bicone; 4mm bicone, 3mm metal bead, 4mm bicone; 4mm bicone; 4mm bicone, 3mm metal bead, 4mm bicone. Repeat this step for a
9. Cut the medium chain into two equal sections. Open the loop at the end of the beaded chain section in previous step and add to the end of the chain. Close loop. Repeat for second beaded section.
 10. Attach the lobster clasp to the end of the chain, using a jumpring. Add a 6mm jumpring to the opposite section.
 11. Add a 6mm jumpring to the top ring on the metal pendant and then add 4mm round jumpring to the end loop on the beaded chain in Step 8. Repeat for opposite beaded section.
 12. Open the etched jumpring and add items in the following order: jumpring on the beaded chain section with the lobster clasp, jumpring on second beaded chain section, 6mm jumpring on pendant. Close the jumpring.

⇒ Designer Tip: Necklace chain is 18 inches. To adjust the length of the necklace simply add or subtract the amount of medium link chain used.

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Painted Cheeseboard, Knives and Pinecone

By [Plaid Enterprises](#)



A cheese board and knife set will make a thoughtful gift to your closest friend.

Materials:

- ◆ Martha Stewart Crafts® Multi-surface satin paint: Pollen, Wild Blueberry, Fuchsia, Chipotle, Copper
- ◆ Cheeseboard
- ◆ Knives
- ◆ Pinecones
- ◆ Ribbon

Tools:

- ◆ Martha Stewart Crafts® Basic Brush Set

Instructions: Cheeseboard

1. Using a small basic brush, hand paint a stripe around the edge of the cutting board. Let dry and repeat to apply coats until desired effect is achieved.

Cheese knives

1. Using a small basic brush, paint knives solidly in Pollen, Wild Blueberry, and Fuchsia. Let dry and repeat to apply more coats or until desired effect is achieved.

Copper Pinecones

1. Using a small basic brush, paint pinecone solidly in Copper metallic paint. Let dry and repeat to apply more coats or until desired effect is achieved.
2. When everything is dry, tie the knives together and tie the pinecones to the cheeseboard with ribbon.



A Symphony of Color

By [Chantal Johnson](#)

Creating Perfectly Pearlized Papers with a tribute to the Impressionists.

Impressionism has always been my favorite art and inspiration. The colors, the softness, the depth and the richness all blend seamlessly while creating different emotions for each one who beholds the beauty. In this Symphony of Color project, you will discover the Impressionist in you. While this technique is fast, fun and effortless, the results will have you thinking of Monet's Haystacks of Giverny or perhaps his Impression Sunrise. What is wonderful about this technique is that simply by changing the colors of the rainbow pad or the Perfect Pearls™ Powders, each new piece will become a masterpiece ready to be "played" into your next piece of art.

Materials:

- ◆ Manila Folder
- ◆ Cardstock, vintage sheet music
- ◆ Ink pad, Rainbow
- ◆ Colorbox Ink Pad, Chestnut Roan
- ◆ Stamp, sentiment of choice
- ◆ Perfect Pearls Medium
- ◆ Perfect Pearls Pigment Powders: Forever Green, Perfect Gold
- ◆ Ribbon
- ◆ Flower (1)
- ◆ Metal bezel (1)
- ◆ Frame, 5" X 7" (1)

Tools:

- ◆ Brayer
- ◆ Spritzer, water-filled
- ◆ Paper towel
- ◆ Tiny spoon
- ◆ Brush, Perfect Pearls
- ◆ Sponge brush, round
- ◆ Glue gun
- ◆ Dimensional glaze
- ◆ Paper adhesive
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Die cut machine
- ◆ Tag die

Instructions:

1. Apply the Rainbow ink to the manila folder with the brayer. Repeat, if needed.
2. Spritz the inked folder with 2-3 sprays of water. Blot the excess water with a paper towel, making sure that the paper is still damp.
3. Sprinkle the Perfect Pearls (one color at a time) onto the wet paper towel. Next, brush the powder across the paper.
4. Buff the paper with the round sponge brush to bring out the shine.
5. To create the finished frame, cut the paper to the desired tag size. Ink the edges with Chestnut Roan to give it definition.
6. Cut the ribbon to desired length and tie it around the flower, finishing with a bow.
7. Attach the ribbon-wrapped flower to the tag.
8. Cut a small circle from the vintage sheet music paper and adhere it to the bezel and then, fill with dimensional glaze. Set aside to dry.
9. On a separate piece of manila folder, stamp a sentiment with the Perfect Pearls Medium and then, sprinkle with the Perfect Gold. Brush away the excess and then, ink the edges.
10. Cut the sheet music paper to fit the frame. Next, cut a small strip of the pearlized paper to be placed under the stamped sentiment.
11. With paper adhesive, glue the strip in place and then adhere the tag and sentiment.
12. Adhere the small bezel to the center of the ribbon bow.



Twig and Leaf Embroidery

By [Helen Bradley](#)

Digging around your garden for twigs isn't a typical step in most embroidery projects but this month's project isn't typical!

Mixing nature with embroidery, this leaf embroidery project features thread wrapped twigs and easy to embroider leaves – it's a simple project and fun to do. Find your twigs, choose a color scheme to suit the season or your décor and you're ready to get sewing. Ready to start? Read on...

Materials:

- ◆ Embroidery hoop (7" - 9")
- ◆ DMC® Pearl Cotton #5, three coordinating colors
- ◆ Linen fabric or similar, Cream, 14"x14"
- ◆ Felt, Cream, 9" x 9"
- ◆ Ribbon, 10"
- ◆ Twigs, 3 (approximately 7" each)

Tools:

- ◆ Sharp fine point scissors
- ◆ Embroidery and sewing needles
- ◆ Sewing thread
- ◆ Disappearing marking pen (optional)

Instructions:

1. Select and clean the twigs. Whip or wrap each twig with pieces of embroidery thread. Use 2-3 short ¾"-1" whips/wraps per twig.
2. Iron the linen fabric. Place the fabric in the embroidery hoop.
3. Using a regular sewing needle and coordinating thread, sew the twigs to the fabric with their thickest ends at the bottom of the hoop. Use the illustration as a placement guide.
4. Mark out 10 -12 leaf shapes each 1"-1¼" long along the twigs. Either sew these with a tacking stitch or draw with a disappearing marker.
5. Using the embroidery thread backstitch around each of the leaf shapes and sew a line through each leaf from base to tip for the center vein of the leaf. Alternate the colors used.
6. Using a straight stitch, sew a series of single stitches from the center vein of the leaf to the outside edge on one side of the leaf only. For a consistent look – sew these on the bottommost half of each leaf.
7. 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.
8. (Optional) Thread the ribbon through the top of the hoop and tie the ends in a knot for hanging.



At the Farm Album

By [Craft Marketing Connections for Bella BLVD™](#)

Let a fun family of scrapbook papers inspire you to make an awesome album of a special outing! Coordinating papers and accessories pull everything together.

Note: This project uses chipboard that is covered with scrapbook paper for pages. Plan the layout, thinking in terms of the front and back of the album; an inside first page and last page; and eight 2-page

spreads. Set the photos on the table to match with themes (such as child holding lamb with lamb paper) or colors (such as red clothing with red barn paper). (Note: This album has one photo per 2-page spread, intentionally leaving the left page without a photo on each spread for more photo impact. But you may decide to use two or more photos, as desired.)

Materials:

- ◆ Bella BLVD™ Barnyard™ Collection:
 - 6" x 8" double-sided paper pad (sheets fit perfectly on chipboard pages)
 - 12" x 12" double-sided patterned papers (offer larger images and more prints)
 - Fundamentals sticker sheet (for words & images)
 - Page embellishments: Puffy Stickers, Paper Pieces, Designer Clips, Epoxy Pieces and Washy Tape
- ◆ Chipboard pieces, 6" x 8" (9)
- ◆ Ribbon: polka dot, stripe, check & solid in coordinating colors, 12" lengths of 1/8" - 3/8" wide (22)

- ◆ Notebook rings, 1" (2)
- ◆ Photos of kids and the family on the farm, 4" x 6" (8 - 16)
- ◆ Optional: Paper clips, colored and striped, to match

Tools:

- ◆ Paper trimmer
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Glue stick
- ◆ Tape runner
- ◆ Craft knife
- ◆ Cutting mat
- ◆ Ruler
- ◆ Paper punch, 1/8"





Instructions:

1. From the paper pad, tear out two color coordinating background papers for each 2-page spread and single sheets for front and back. Go through the 12" x 12" papers and pull any additional prints for backgrounds or bands of words and images to be added. Wait to plan the detailed embellishments and captions, working general to specific on all cardstock pages at the same time (so that later, you don't wish you'd saved a caption for a different page.)
2. Apply glue stick on a chipboard piece and attach a sheet. Repeat for all pieces. For the two ring holes, measure 1/4" from the left side, 2" down from the top and 2" up from the bottom and mark with pencil. Punch the front first. Insert the rings to be sure they will fit. Then use the front as a template to mark the holes on each of the other pages. Before punching, however, hold up the pages in album formation to make sure that you're punching the correct edge. Assemble with the rings to double check. (Tip: If you accidentally punch the wrong edge, insert a couple of decorative paper clips through the holes and make it look intentional!)
3. Set out the covered chipboard pages in front of you. Before working on the individual pages, assign photos for each page and go through the paper pieces and stickers to select words, or captions, etc. as desired. Save the best for the front of the album.
4. For each cardstock page, determine the crop, position and angle of the photo, as well as the mounting paper color. (Pay attention to 2-page spreads and photo positions.) Use the tape runner to attach the photos, words and strips of paper.
5. Add puffy stickers for dimension and accents, (saving some for the front, too.) Before finalizing those embellishments, plan the Designer Clips that go on the tops of the pages – Decide how to stagger them, and how each one will fit on both the front and the back of the page to which it's attached. Come up with clever ways to decorate the back sides of them to coordinate with what is on that page. Then attach them with hot

glue and be sure they're secured.

(Optional: Add small notes and comments for fun.)

6. Assemble the album with the notebook rings. Cut the 12" length ribbons, alternating them at random with eleven tied and knotted to both the top and bottom rings. Diagonally trim the ribbon ends and let them hang loosely. Remember to date and write a special message as the album's creator!





Venetian Blind Card

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

Venetian Blind cards have been around for a while, but I haven't created one in over 15 years! I thought it would be a lot of fun to bring this card back for some of the newbie crafters to see. It looks a lot harder than it really is and it's guaranteed to make the recipient of this card say, "How did you do that?".

Materials:

- ◆ Vellum paper
- ◆ Cardstock, White
- ◆ Patterned paper for the back
- ◆ Heavy cardboard
- ◆ Pigment inkpads: Black, Purple, Orange
- ◆ Embossing powder, Clear
- ◆ Rubber stamps
- ◆ Floral trim
- ◆ Floral buttons, (2)
- ◆ Ribbon, purple, 52"
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives Zip Dry

Tools:

- ◆ Needle, large-eye
- ◆ Heat tool
- ◆ Paper trimmer
- ◆ We R Memory Keepers® CROP-A-DILE™
- ◆ Scor-Buddy™

Instructions:

1. Cut the papers as follows; vellum 5" W x 7 1/2" H, cardstock 5" W x 7" H and heavy cardboard 5" W x 7" H.
2. Stamp the butterfly and floral images randomly on the vellum with the purple and orange inkpads. Stamp the word image in the center with the black inkpad. Cover the images with clear embossing powder and heat set.
3. Using the Scor-Buddy, score the vellum horizontally every 1/2 inch. Fold from the bottom up, with the first fold being a valley fold.
4. Continue the accordion folds up to the top of the vellum. Hold the sections together and punch a hole on both sides about 1/4" in.
5. Smooth out the vellum and match up the bottom ends. Punch holes through the two bottom holes on the cardstock.
6. Stamp the images on the cardstock with the inkpads and dry with the heat tool. Color the center image with the chalk pencils. Fold the top 1/2" of the vellum over the top of the cardstock and glue in place. **Note:** You can emboss the images if you choose to do so.
7. Using a large needle, start threading the ribbon in the bottom right hole. Leaving a 4" tail, go up the right side, across the top and down the left side. Then go across the back of the vellum and cardstock and up the right bottom hole. Repeat up the right side, across the top and then down the left side, leaving a 4" tail.
8. Adhere the vellum/cardstock piece to the heavy cardboard. Attach the flower buttons to the ends of each ribbon and adhere the trim to the top of the card.



Glass Painted Vase

By [Martha Lucia Gomez](#)

Converting the ordinary into extraordinary is very easy if you have the right elements and imagination. This was a clear glass vase and now it is a sophisticated vase created with some inks that you can personalize and give the colors and style that they deserve or need for a special occasion.

Materials:

- ◆ Glass vase
- ◆ StazOn Ink: Orange Zest, Gothic Purple
- ◆ GlazOn Clear
- ◆ StazOn Metallic Gold Ink

Tools:

- ◆ Sponge
- ◆ Heat tool
- ◆ Stencil
- ◆ Stamps
- ◆ Painters tape

Instructions:

1. Clean the glass vase and start applying the light color of StazOn ink using a sponge.
2. With the sponge apply a thin layer of GlazOn Clear to fix the ink. Let dry. If you need to speed up the process you can use the heat tool.
3. Fix and secure a stencil over a face of the vase.
4. With a sponge apply the darker color of StazOn Ink.
5. Remove the stencil and apply a thin layer of GlazOn Clear to fix the ink. Repeat steps 1 - 4 on the other three faces of the vase following the pattern of the stencil.
6. Ink the stamp of your preference with StazOn Metallic Gold Ink and stamp over the inked surfaces.
7. Let dry or heat set.



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Butterflies In Flight

By [Mitsyana Wright for Xyron](#)

I am constantly mesmerized by the beauty and delicacy of butterflies. I wanted to capture that beauty onto a piece of art that I could keep in my home. So I created this 3D mixed media canvas piece.

Materials:

- ◆ Primed Canvas, 16" x 20"
- ◆ DecoArt® Americana® Acrylic Paint: Iris, Eggplant, Black Tie
- ◆ Cardstock: Canary Yellow, Black
- ◆ Idea-ology® Tissue Wrap, Melange
- ◆ ColorBox® Pigment Ink, Orange
- ◆ Ranger Glossy Accents™

Tools:

- ◆ Xyron® 9" Creative Station™
- ◆ Xyron® 3" Sticker Maker
- ◆ Sizzix® Big Shot™
- ◆ Sizzix® Alterations™ Thinlits™ Dies: Detailed Butterflies, Detailed Butterflies Mini
- ◆ Paintbrush
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Sponge dauber

Instructions:

1. Cut out pieces of the Tissue Wrap varying in sizes and shapes.
2. Run the cut pieces through the Xyron® Creative Station.
3. Peel off the protective film and apply the Tissue Wrap onto the pre-primed canvas.
4. On a palette mix the Iris and a small amount of water to thin out the paint to create a wash.
5. Starting from the center of the canvas working outward, apply the paint wash working in a circular motion.
6. As you work your way outward gradually darken your color by adding Eggplant.
7. Darken your paint once again, working outward from the Eggplant color, adding Black Tie to the mix.
8. Set aside and allow the canvas to dry. (Tip: You can also speed up drying time by using a heat gun.)
9. Die cut the butterfly solid backgrounds dies,

from both of the die sets, with canary yellow cardstock.

10. With a sponge dauber apply orange ink, lightly shading the center of the butterflies. Set aside to dry.
11. Cut the black cardstock to 3" and then, run them through the Xyron® 3" Sticker Maker.
12. Remove only the clear top protective film from off the cardstock, leaving the white adhesive film attached underneath. Then die cut the black cardstock with the butterfly detailed overlay dies from both of the die sets. Cut the same amount of butterflies as you did earlier from the yellow cardstock.
13. Peel bottom protective film and adhere the butterfly details onto the matching yellow butterfly background die cuts. The layered die cuts should line up perfectly to one another.
14. Attach the butterflies onto the canvas in a diagonal pattern, using Glossy Accents™.
15. Enjoy your masterpiece!



Thankful Plaque



By [Sandy McTier for Dynasty Brushes](#)

Fall brings with it a crispness to the air and gorgeous colors as things in nature begin their seasonal changes. It's also a time to remind ourselves to be Thankful and Blessed! Hope this piece inspires and reminds you to do just that! This piece was painted using the best brushes around...Dynasty Brushes! Dynasty makes the perfect brush for any medium and surface!

Materials:

- ◆ Scallop Dome Plaque, 13"
- ◆ DecoArt Americana Paints: Dioxazine Purple, Brilliant Purple, Lavender, True Ochre, Saffron Yellow, Banana Cream, Burnt Umber, Lamp Black, Light Buttermilk
- ◆ DecoArt Extreme Sheen, Vintage Brass
- ◆ DecoArt Multi-Purpose Sealer
- ◆ DecoArt Soft-Touch Varnish
- ◆ Ribbon

Tools:

- ◆ [Dynasty Brushes](#): Black Gold (206S) #20, Black Gold (206S) #8, Black Gold (206A) 3/8", Black Gold (206R) #1, Black Gold (206WV) #8, IPC7 Large Oval Foam, IPC1 Small Point Blend, IPC8 Small Detailer Foam
- ◆ Stampendous Jumbo Stamp, Leaves
- ◆ Transfer Paper & Pen, White
- ◆ Sandpaper
- ◆ Paper towels
- ◆ [Pattern](#)

Designer Tips:

- ⇒ Use promo code sandymc for an additional discount on brushes when ordering from [The Brush Guys](#).

Instructions:

1. Seal the surface with Multi-Purpose Sealer.
2. Load #20 with Lavender and paint the bottom 1/3 of the plaque. Wipe the brush off and then, load with Brilliant Purple and paint middle 1/3. Wipe the brush and then, load with Dioxazine Purple and paint top 1/3. Clean the brush really well and softly blend between the colors to achieve a gradation from top to bottom.
3. Transfer the pattern on using transfer paper and a pen.
4. Load the Oval Foam with Vintage Brass. Lightly tap on the Leaves stamp and then,

stamp onto the surface. Reapply paint to the stamp and continue to add leaves here and there. Don't worry if you go over the transfer lines for the design.

5. Sunflower: Using the #8 Shader, paint the petals with Light Buttermilk. Paint the center with a mixture of Burnt Umber and Lamp Black. Repaint the petals with Saffron Yellow. Load #8 Wave with True Ochre and pull lines up from the base of the petals. Rinse the brush and then, load with Banana Cream and pull 2-3 strokes down from the tip of the petals. Rinse the brush and then, load with some Brilliant Purple and paint one stroke on each of the larger petals. Load the toe of the 3/8" Angle with Burnt Umber and shade between the petals, at the base each petal and around the bottom of the frilly center where it meets the petals. Load #1 Liner with Vintage Brass and paint one side of the petals. Load the Point Blend with True Ochre, Saffron Yellow and Banana Cream and dot the frilly center. Randomly add dots of Vintage Brass and Light Buttermilk. Paint dots around the center using the Detailer Foam and Vintage Brass and then, paint a wash of Burnt Umber over the center.
6. Load a very wet #8 Shader with Light Buttermilk and tap the handle of brush onto another brush to add splatter here and there. Lay a piece of paper towel over the splatter and lightly touch to soften the look. Add some to the center of the sunflower as well.
7. Paint the words with the #1 Liner loaded with Light Buttermilk. Using Brilliant Purple, add a shadow on the word 'Thankful' using Dioxazine Purple and add a shadow on the word 'Blessed'.
8. Load #8 Shader with Light Buttermilk and paint small scroll strokes on both sides of the words.
9. Scuff up the edges of the plaque with the sandpaper. Load your index finger with a touch of Dioxazine Purple and run along the edge of the plaque.
10. Varnish the pieces with Soft-Touch Varnish; let dry.
11. Add ribbon of choice and hang in your home for the holidays or give as a gift at a holiday gathering.



Rustic Autumn Love

By [Suzanne Cannon for Quietfire Design](#)

Create rustic little messages around your home! Celebrate the seasons or leave little love notes scattered where family members will see them. It's so easy using this fast and simple technique. How about a little welcome note in a guest bedroom? They're fun to make, too!

Materials:

- ◆ Quietfire Design [Give Me the Splendid Silent Sun](#) (#5857)
- ◆ Elizabeth Craft Designs A Way With Words: [4 Seasons](#) (#1199), [Love](#) (#1165)
- ◆ Walnut Hollow Birch Value Bag (#41402)
- ◆ Ranger Distress Inks: Wilted Violet, Dusty Concord, Squeezed Lemonade
- ◆ Ranger Super Fine Detail Embossing Powder, Clear
- ◆ Ranger Distress Oxides: Fossilized Amber, Wilted Violet
- ◆ Ranger Specialty Stamping Paper

Tools:

- ◆ Die cutting machine
- ◆ Heat tool
- ◆ Ranger Mini Ink Blending Tool
- ◆ Saw

Instructions:

1. Select three Birch rounds that are nice sizes for the word dies. Use the saw to cut a shallow groove across the surface of the rounds about 1/8" deep.
2. Die cut the words and gently blend Distress Ink colors together on the surface-until you have the look you desire. You can use any colors you please! Designer Tip: Blending a dark color on the bottom and lighter on the top gives the impression of light shining down on the project.
3. Rest the words in the grooves. Sometimes you will have to trim a bottom flourish to make the word sit straight. Designer tip: In a pinch, use a little Glue Dot to hold the word straight in the groove!
4. Stamp sentiment on cardstock and then, emboss. Blend Distress Oxides onto the cardstock surface right over the embossed words and spritz with water to achieve the look you want! Allow to dry.
5. Place card in Birch round, stand back and admire!



Candy Dispenser Card

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

Now, this is a very unique way to give candy as a special treat for birthdays and other celebrations. And it really does work! Just lift the handle up and the candy comes out and ready to eat.

Materials:

- ◆ Foam core board
- ◆ Patterned paper
- ◆ Cardstock, White
- ◆ Clear plastic
- ◆ Stickers
- ◆ Inkpad, Purple
- ◆ Ribbons, Yellow
- ◆ Large brad
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives Zip Dry

Tools:

- ◆ Rubber stamp, frame
- ◆ Paper trimmer
- ◆ Glue gun
- ◆ Exacto knife
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ CROP-A-DILE

Instructions:

1. Cut two pieces of foam core board 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ "W x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "H. Cut the center out of one piece, about 4"W x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "H. **Note:** The size of the center will depend on your stamp. Cut three pieces of various patterned papers 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ "w x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "H.
2. Adhere two pieces of the patterned papers to the front and back of one piece of the foam core board. Next, adhere the last piece of patterned paper to the foam core board and cut out the center.
3. Stamp the frame onto a piece of white cardstock twice with the purple inkpad. Cut one of the frames out completely, including the center, and then cut out the bottom part of the second frame only. This will become the handle.
4. Cut out the clear plastic a little larger than the center of the frame. Adhere it to the back of the frame. This will create the window.
5. Align the frame and the handle together and punch a hole in the lower left side. Adhere the frame to the foam core board. Punch the hole again, this time through the foam core board. Attach the handle with a large brad.
6. Lift the handle out of the way and cut a hole through the frame and foam core board, large enough for the candy to go through. **Note:** The hole will be hidden by the handle once it's lowered back in place.
7. Adhere both pieces of foam core board together, leaving enough space around the brad so that the handle can move freely. Adhere yellow ribbon around the outside edges.
8. Decorate the front of the card with stickers, including a sticker to cover the brad on the handle. Add a bow to the top. You can now add the candy through the hole under the handle.

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that's so cute! Onesie

By [Ann Butler for Artograph](#)

Who would not want this adorable Onesies to give as a gift for a new mom! With an iron on film, an electronic dye cutting machine and Artograph's LightPad™ it has never been easier to create one-of-a kind personalized items!

Materials:

- ◆ Onesie, washed and dried
- ◆ Neenah EPC Film

Tools:

- ◆ Artograph® LightPad™ Pro1200™
- ◆ Electronic Dye Cutting Machine
- ◆ Computer
- ◆ Iron
- ◆ Tweezers

Instructions:

1. Use your computer, type out a saying to go on the Onesie. This can be a quick process or take some time once you start playing around with fonts and words.
2. Once your happy with your saying, save it as a jpeg, png or svg file, whichever your electronic die cutting machine will accept.
3. Upload your saying to your electronic die cutting machine.

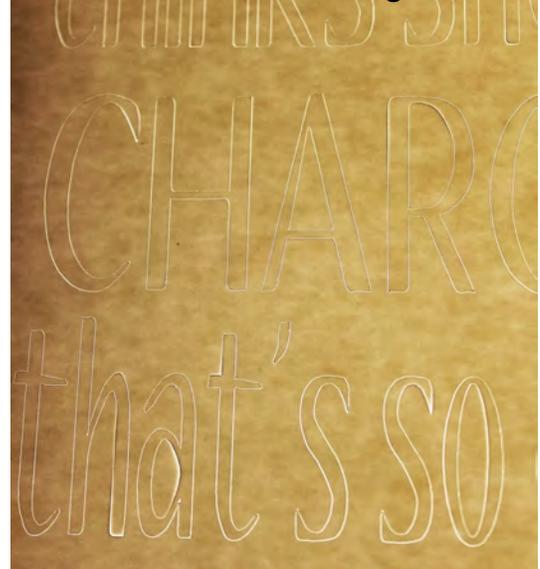
4. Place the EPC Film onto your cutting mat, use the proper setting for the film so that it only cuts through the top layer (I use the vinyl setting but you may have to test it for your machine) and cut the design out in reverse.
5. Turn the LightPad™ on and then, pull the EPC Film off of your mat and place onto the LightPad™.
6. Use the tweezers to weed off the excess EPC Film, leaving behind only the saying.
7. Place the EPC Film right side down onto the Onesie. Iron, following manufacturer's instructions. Let cool and pull the backing paper off.

The photos below show what the EPC Film looks like right after cutting. This sample was not done in reverse, so that you can see what letters you can actually see...with the LightPad and without! It is so much easier to see what you have to weed off of the film with the LightPad!

EPC Film without the LightPad



EPC Film with the LightPad





For My Teacher Flowerpot

By [Theresa Cifali](#)

Looking for a teacher gift idea? Why not give them something that will last the whole year and beyond? Add a plant and you're good to go!

Materials:

- ◆ Flower pot with saucer
- ◆ Chalk paint, Black
- ◆ DecoArt Patio Paint, Deep Buttercup
- ◆ Paint pen, black

Tools:

- ◆ Paint brushes, 1"
- ◆ Paper paint

Instructions:

1. Paint the flowerpot with black chalk paint according to the package directions. Let dry completely.
2. Paint the saucer and the rim of the flowerpot with Deep Buttercup. Let dry and then, add a second coat. Let dry completely.
3. Use the paint pen to add ruler marks around the rim of the flowerpot. Let dry.
4. Add a plant.
5. Optional: Write a message with chalk on the flowerpot.

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Glittered Bangle Bracelet

By [KC Eddy](#)

This quick and easy glittered bangle bracelet will add a pop of color and sparkle to any outfit. This project is simple, fun and would be great for a girl's-night-in project.

Materials:

- ◆ DIY wooden bangle, domed exterior, 1 ½"
- ◆ Apple Barrel acrylic paint, Leaf Green
- ◆ Redline tape: 1/8", 1/4", 1/2"
- ◆ Art Glitter Ultra Fine: Purple Passion, Old Gold, Lush Pink, Celery
- ◆ Acrylic spray sealer

Tools:

- ◆ Paintbrush
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Plastic spoon
- ◆ Paintbrush, soft
- ◆ Paper cupcake liners or plain paper

Instructions:

1. Paint the interior and exterior of the bracelet. Allow to dry thoroughly.
2. Line the end of one piece of redline tape up with the edge of the bracelet and tape across to the other edge. Trim the tape as close as possible to the edge.
3. Continue around the bracelet with strips of redline tape, alternating widths of tape and leaving spaces between each strip.
4. Remove the red protective backing from one strip of the tape.
5. Working over a cupcake liner (or paper), use the plastic spoon to pour one color of glitter over the exposed tape. Repeat as necessary until that strip is completely covered.
6. Repeat step 5 with the same color on 4 or 5 more strips around the bracelet.
7. Use the soft brush to wipe all of the excess glitter from the bracelet into the cupcake liner and then, pour the glitter from the cupcake liner back into the glitter's container.
8. Repeat this process with the remaining colors of glitter until all tape strips have been covered.
9. Seal the glitter with acrylic spray. Let dry.

NEW

JOURNAL TREASURY WITH EILEEN HULL & FRIENDS

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Upcycled Pencil Holder

By [Theresa Cifali](#)

Looking for a teacher gift idea? Why not give them something that will last the whole year and beyond? Add a plant and you're good to go!

Materials:

- ◆ Plastic bottle, 16oz
- ◆ Colored pencils, 64 count
- ◆ Ribbon, yellow, 5/8"

Tools:

- ◆ Xacto knife or box cutter
- ◆ Glue gun, low temp

Instructions:

1. Cut 4" off of the top of the bottle. Wash and dry thoroughly.
2. Glue the colored pencils one-at-a-time, working around the bottle until the entire surface is covered.
3. Cut a piece of ribbon to fit around the circumference of the bottle and glue it to the center of the holder.
4. Cut another piece of ribbon and tie a bow. Glue the bow over the seam of the first ribbon.
5. Add pens and pencils.

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Day of the Dead Fall Wreath

By [Julie McGuffee](#)

Day of the Dead, or Dia de los Muertos in Spanish, may sound a little morbid, but it is, in fact an enjoyable celebration of life. In many parts of the world, tradition believes that this is the day when the souls of loved ones return to their families to be greeted by elaborate festivities lasting from October 31st to November 2nd. November 1st is also known as All Saints Day in the church calendar, a day when, in many European countries, family members decorate the gravesites of their loved ones with flowers and candles.

Materials:

- ◆ [Day of the Dead Skull Wood Laser Cut](#)
- ◆ Craft paint, Black
- ◆ Glitter, Black
- ◆ 14" Smoothfoam™ Wreath
- ◆ White glue
- ◆ Ribbon, Yellow, roll
- ◆ Burlap, 3" x roll
- ◆ Ribbon spools: 1/8", 3/8":Purple, Yellow, Fuchsia, Lavender, Orange
- ◆ Silk flower heads: Fuschia, Yellow, Orange
- ◆ Quilt pins, large
- ◆ Nylon thread (or fishing wire)

Tools:

- ◆ Scissors
 - ◆ Sponge pouncer, 1" round
- ⇒ Designer Note: Marigolds are traditionally used for decorating and flowers are often made by crumpling and layering circles of brightly colored tissue paper

Instructions:

1. With an up and down motion, use the pouncer to paint the wood skull black. Let dry then use the pouncer again to cover with glue. Sprinkle liberally with glitter. Shake off excess glitter then set skull aside to dry.
2. Wrap the wreath with wide, yellow ribbon. Secure the ends with quilt pins. Wrap again with burlap, leaving spaces between wraps as shown.
3. Starting at the top center, use quilt pins to attach flower heads.
4. Create bunches of narrow ribbons and attach to each side with a quilt pin, looping at the top.
5. Depending on the style of skull, add stick on jewels if desired. Hang the skull from the top of the wreath with nylon thread. Secure the thread to the wreath with a quilt pin then add an additional loop of the thread to the top of the wreath for a hanger.



Halloween BOO Card with Envelope

By [Marilyn Gossett](#)

Fall is the time of year for parties, surprises and treats! I like to treat my friends by thinking of them on special occasions. I will attach a card to a gift and anonymously leave it on a doorstep. The friend has been “Boo’ed”! I hope you will BOO one or 2 of your friends and I think this greeting card is perfect for just that!

Materials:

- ◆ Greeting card with envelope, Kraft, 5" x 7"
- ◆ Cardstock: Purple, 4 1/2" x 6 1/2", 1 3/4" x 4 1/4"
- ◆ Cardstock, Orange, 4 1/4" x 6 1/4", 2" x 6 1/2", 1" x 5 1/4"
- ◆ Cardstock, Black, 2" x 4 1/2", 3 3/4" circle, 2 1/2" die-cut cat
- ◆ Cardstock, Yellow, 3 1/2" circle
- ◆ Embroidered letters, Black, 1": B (1), O (2)
- ◆ Inkpads: Purple, Yellow, Orange
- ◆ Tape runner
- ◆ Tacky glue
- ◆ Wiggle eyes (2)

Tools:

- ◆ Sizzix Big shot
- ◆ Embossing folders: mini polka-dots, mini jack-o-lanterns
- ◆ Paper trimmer
- ◆ Wedge sponges tool

Instructions:

1. Emboss the paper cuts as follows: purple rectangle and yellow circle with polka dots; orange with mini jack-o-lanterns
2. Assemble and adhere the layers as follows: Border yellow circle with black circle. Repeat for the small purple rectangle by adhering to the top of the black rectangle.
3. Adhere the large purple rectangle to the front of the card; adhere the orange rectangle to the top of the purple.
4. Adhere the small purple rectangle (with the black border) to the bottom of the card. Adhere the yellow circle (moon) above it.
5. Adhere the cat, embroidered letters to spell “BOO” and the wiggle eyes to the card as shown.
6. For the envelope, emboss the two orange paper cuts with the mini polka-dot embossing folder. Adhere the larger one to the top of the envelope flap and the smaller one to the opposite side to where you apply the mailing stamp.



Halloween Treat Cup

By [Lisa Rojas](#)

Halloween is right around the corner and what a fun way to give out candy to the littles at your door. Or use this “creepy” treat cup as a party favor for your favorite ghouls & goblins!

Materials:

- ◆ Patterned paper, Halloween theme
- ◆ Cardstock: White, Black, Purple
- ◆ Inkpads: Black, Purple
- ◆ Chalk pencils
- ◆ Various ribbons
- ◆ Stickers, Halloween theme
- ◆ Chipboard, Halloween theme
- ◆ Washi tape, black glitter
- ◆ Toothpicks, (2)
- ◆ Skewer, (1)
- ◆ Iridescent confetti
- ◆ Wire, silver, 22 gauge
- ◆ Spray adhesive

Tools:

1. Glue gun
2. Hole punch, ¼”
3. Paper trimmer
4. Scissors
5. Decorative scissors
6. Rubber stamps

Instructions:

1. Adhere 12” x 12” patterned paper and purple cardstock together with the spray adhesive. Cut with the paper trimmer to 8” x 8”.
2. Fold the papers together into the cup shape, using the pattern for instructions. Trim the front and back flaps with decorative scissors and adhere them in place with a dab of glue.
3. Ink the edges with purple inkpad. Using a hole punch, punch holes in each side of the cup. Cut the wire 14” long. Wrap the wire around a pencil to curl it and attach it to the holes in the cup.
4. Stamp the images with the black inkpad onto white cardstock. Color images with chalk pencils and cut them out. Glue the toothpicks to the backs of the images.
5. Cut the skewer 6 ½” long and wrap with the washi tape. Adhere black cardstock to the back of the large chipboard sticker and cut it out. Glue the skewer to the back of the chipboard sticker.
6. Cut various pieces of ribbon and tie around the wire. Fill the cup with confetti and add the images, stickers and embellishments. Add some stickers to the front.



Contain It with Faux Metal and Inky Techniques!



By [Gail Green](#)

Recycle, repurpose...and transform a humble glass jar into an upscale decorative statement using an embossing folder from your “stash” and a unique inky stamping technique! Simply pressure emboss on aluminum tape to create interesting texture and then try a double inking technique that creates patterns inside a solid silhouette stamp image! The results are quick, easy and amazing!

Materials:

- ◆ Impression Obsession: E7840 Web Border, D7898 Black Arched Cat
- ◆ Colorbox® Archival Dye Ink: Seattle Sky, Wicked Black
- ◆ Clearsnap Art Dauber
- ◆ Nashua Multi-Purpose Foil Tape
- ◆ Delta Ceramcoat® Select Multi-Surface Satin Acrylic Paint, Black
- ◆ FolkArt® One Stroke™ Brush Set #1059
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives Gem-Tac®
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives Zip Dry®
- ◆ Glass jar or container of your choice
- ◆ Ribbon or other trim of your choice
- ◆ Cardstock: White, Black 2 1/4" X 2 5/8"
- ◆ Streak-free glass cleaner (optional)

Tools:

- ◆ Embossing folder of your choice
- ◆ Sizzix Big Shot
- ◆ Nonstick scissors
- ◆ Ball-tip stylus
- ◆ Corner punch
- ◆ Ruler
- ◆ Soft cloth

Instructions:

1. Clean and dry the glass container using dishwashing liquid and a lint-free tool. Streak-free glass cleaner and lint-free paper towels may also be used.
2. Depending on the dimensions of your container and the size of the embossing folder, cut six to ten 5" strips of aluminum tape.
3. Place two tape strips inside the embossing folder, run through the die-cutting machine and remove. Repeat the embossing steps for all the strips.
4. Lightly dab black paint over all the embossed strips using the scruffy brush. Allow the paint to dry until slightly tacky and then, softly wipe with a soft cloth to remove excess paint from the raised surfaces. If desired, reapply paint and repeat. Allow the painted embossed strips to dry completely.
5. Remove the backing paper from an embossed tape strip. Line up the long edge along the bottom edge of the jar. Press firmly so the strip adheres to the glass. Repeat with an additional strip, matching the long and short edges. Cover the rest of the container with the remaining strips, slightly overlapping the edges and trimming excess where necessary. Wrap the strips over the top edge, about 1/4" inside the neck opening. Cover the bottom of the container with leftover strips or trimmed scraps from the embossed strips.
6. Burnish the tape edges with a stylus until smooth so the jar surface looks like one continuous embossed metal wrap.
7. Apply Seattle Sky ink to the cat stamp. Apply Wicked Black ink to the spider web border and quickly stamp repeatedly onto the inked cat stamp until the pattern fills in the entire cat shape. Stamp the cat on the white cardstock scrap. Let the ink dry completely.
8. Hand tear around the edges of the stamped white scrap. Using the Art Dauber, carefully dab Seattle Gray around the torn edges.
9. Trim the black cardstock scrap so it is 1/4" larger than the stamped white scrap. Using a corner punch, round out the corners. Attach the two scraps together with Zip Dry. Attach the layered piece to the jar with Gem-tac. Dry completely.
10. Cut and tie the ribbon around the neck of the jar, as desired.
11. Creative Option: Measure and cut a length of ribbon to fit inside the neck opening of the jar. Slightly overlap the edges of the embossed strips and glue in place with Gem-tac.



Pumpkinhead

By [Gail Green](#)

What says Halloween and Harvest more than a pumpkin full of personality! Quick and easy to make, this adorable pumpkin is THE perfect fall holiday decor for a small space. A little bit of decoupage, some dabs of glue and a few strokes of a pen is all it takes to transform a wood ball knob into the cutest guy on this side of the pumpkin patch!

Materials:

- ◆ Decorative paper or tissue paper: Orange, Green
- ◆ Decoupage glue
- ◆ Toner Fun Wire: Icy Gold, 18 gauge
- ◆ Sakura Micron™ Archival Ink pen 03
- ◆ Hex machine screw nut, smaller than 1/4" size, stainless (2)
- ◆ Round plastic gems, black, 6mm (2)
- ◆ Round rhinestones, black, 5mm (7)
- ◆ Beacon Adhesives Gem-Tac®
- ◆ Plaid Enterprises Mod Podge® Gloss
- ◆ Wood ball knob, 2"

Tools:

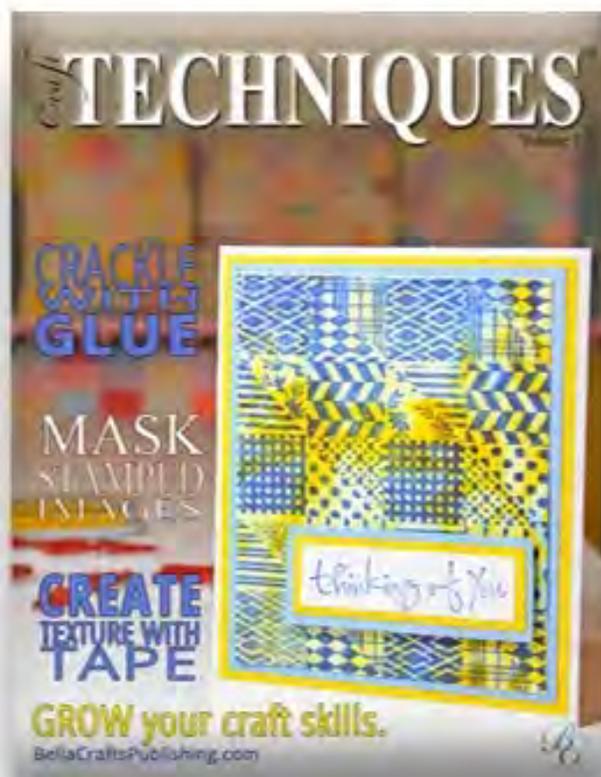
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Paintbrush, synthetic bristles or foam
- ◆ Non-stick teflon mat

Instructions:

1. Hand tear a one to two inch piece of orange decorative paper or tissue.
2. Brush decoupage glue onto one half of the ball knob. Brush the glue onto one torn paper piece. Pick up the piece with the brush and smooth it onto the ball knob.
3. Continue tearing and attaching orange pieces to the ball knob until the entire round portion is covered. Dry completely.
4. Using the Micron pen, draw broken lines onto the decoupage ball knob to resemble a pumpkin's ridges. Dry completely before handling.
5. Cut a 2" x 3" piece of orange paper or tissue. Fold and roll into the shape of a carrot nose, trimming as needed. Unfold and glue between layers and folds. Set aside on the non-stick mat to dry.
6. Fold and roll the green paper or tissue to form a stem. Unfold and glue between layers and folds. Set aside on the non-stick mat to dry.
7. Attach the nose and the stem onto the ball knob.
8. Cut a 6" length of wire. Using the paintbrush handle as a form, bend the wire to form the eyeglass shape. Glue the wire eyeglasses onto ball knob, placing them right above the nose.
9. Glue the two round plastic gems into the center of the nuts and then place onto the non-stick mat to dry. When dry, glue onto the ball knob, inside the glasses.
10. Adhere the seven rhinestones onto the ball knob in a curved pattern to form a smiling mouth. Dry completely.

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