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ISSUE 168

127

exciting ideas
for any occasion



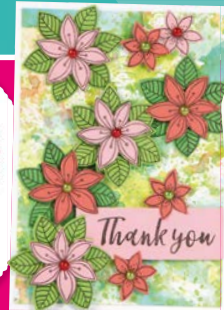
TONIC STUDIOS
Use new dies to create
milestone birthday
designs



On-trend techniques

Try watercolour block stamping
for stylish backgrounds & more

13 INSPIRING IDEAS USING YOUR VERSATILE GIFT



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December 2018

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Hello!



Welcome to the latest issue of **Papercraft Essentials** and the last for 2018! I say this every year but I really can't believe how quickly this year has gone – how time flies when you're having crafty fun!

Your gift with issue 168 is the versatile **Floral Mehndi** dies and stamp set. If, like me, you can't wait to put away your Christmas craft stash and get started on **pretty spring-inspired designs** then this is the gift for you! Why not pair it with one of the sentiment stamp sets on offer below?

If you're looking for ideas to get more from your Christmas leftovers (turkey and stuffing aside) then check out page 26, where Claire Gladman demonstrates how to **transform Christmas patterned paper** into birthday and all-occasion cards. Or, if you're looking to kickstart 2019 by learning some **new crafting techniques** don't miss our **Beginner's guide** to watercolour block stamping on page 30, or our **Masterclass** in shadow box cards on page 65.

We wanted to leave 2018 with a bang, so this issue your **Cut out & keep** is made up of four of our ultimate **favourite papercraft brands**. Turn to page 41 to see new collections from Creative, Kaisercraft, StickerKitten and Spellbinders. If that's not enough, you'll also find new releases from **Tonic Studios** on page 20, and cute cards from **Lawn Fawn** on page 61.

Before I sign off I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very **merry Christmas and a happy new year**. I hope you enjoy a wonderful and relaxing festive season – I'm already looking forward to seeing your crafty makes in 2019!

Happy papercrafting!

Ria x

Ria Clare
Editor
victoria.clare@practicalpublishing.co.uk

For subscription enquiries, please call 01858 438899 or email practicalpublishing@subscription.co.uk

Keep an eye on the Papercraft Essentials Facebook page for our video tutorial using your gift



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Editor's favourite

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Papercraft Magazines

Don't forget to check out the Papercraft Magazines website for bonus projects, downloads and more!

www.papercraftmagazines.com



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Your chance to win fab crafty prizes

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We've got £521 worth of prizes from top papercraft brands to be won!

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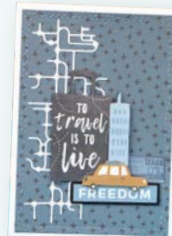
Catch up with Sara Davies for the latest gossip and top product picks

Cut out & keep!

16 pages of all-occasion inspiration to keep you crafting all year round!



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Nicky Gilbert showcases the versatility of your die and stamp gift

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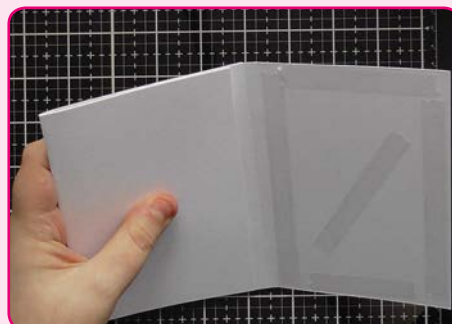
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Step-by-step guides



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Ingrid Vichova introduces us to watercolour block stamping



65 MASTERCLASS

Learn a new card blank technique in our shadow box card Masterclass



80 USING YOUR GIFT

Get more from your Floral Mehndi gift with Nicky Gilbert's handy tips

What's hot

Sit back and relax as we bring you all the latest from the world of crafts



Live a latte

Coffee: it's a bonding aid, a catching-up excuse, a hug in a mug and the perfect theme to bring into your papercraft projects. So, when our (highly) caffeinated eyes saw the new Echo Park collection, Coffee, we had to show you it! A wonderful collective of stencils, ephemera and papers with coffee board chalk drawings, flowers, sweet treats and sentiments, but the anchor is the stamp set. Coming with 11 sentiments including our faves 'coffee because adulting is hard' and 'I like big cups & I can not lie!' alongside a coffee bean heart and florals to echo the papers, this is one cool caffeinated collection.

See the whole collection and more at www.simonsaysstamp.com



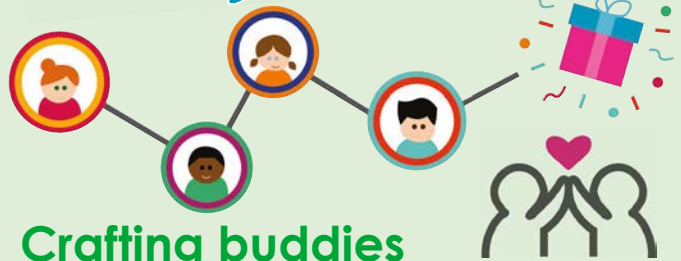
Nocturnal animals

Hunkydory has drawn inspiration from everyone's favourite nocturnal animals for its newest collection, Midnight Garden. The collective has everything you'd expect from a Hunkydory range – foiled acetate, inserts, toppers and a topper deck – but it's the imagery that makes this release stand out.

From nesting owls and a beautiful badger sett to mischievous hedgehogs and a pair of fantastic foxes, this collection has some of the strongest imagery we've ever seen; and when paired with tonal cardstock, gems and ink highlighting the colours in the imagery, this release is perfect for any animal lover.

Lose yourself in a craft-filled woodland at www.hunkydorycrafts.co.uk

CraftStash



Crafting buddies

Earn double points from now until the end of January 2019 when you refer a friend on CraftStash. Get an instant 500 points (worth £5) the second your friend places their first order, and best of all there's no limit to how many friends you can tell! CraftStash is the place for exclusive brands such as the hugely popular Christina Griffith's Card Making Magic, the home of Helen Griffin's Simply Made Crafts and the famous exploding box die, and the awesome Craftwork Cards, where you can buy a USB full of inspiration worth £600 for £44.99. There's also a huge array of all your favourite brands such as the fab Tonic Studios, Silhouette and Crafter's Companion!

For more information and terms & conditions, visit www.craftstash.co.uk/refer-a-friend



Noteworthy

If you're looking for a stunning notebook for 2019, then we suggest these wonderful Kate Spade notepads from Fox & Star. Complete with a foil monogrammed initial on the cover and 100 tonal pages to craft your ideas in, this notepad makes for the perfect stocking filler this Christmas.

Visit www.thefoxandstar.co.uk to see the whole collection and more



Fairy tales

Trimcraft is continuing its wonderful partnership with the mental health charity, Mind, with its latest release Fairy Tales. Mixing pastel shades of pinks and blues with pale green accents across embellishments, such as 3D flowers, pearls, and ribbons with butterflies and sentiments of 'believe in fairies' and 'with love'. The collection is anchored with a glittered découpage pad, a 12x12", 8x8" and 6x6" paper pads of graphic, floral and fairy filled imagery. There's also an adorable fairy stamp, which looks awesome on gift tags for any occasion.

Get inspiration from Trimcraft at www.thecraftblog.com



Birthday boy

A tiger, dinosaur and octopus in party hats, a frog and crown and playful party scenes are at the heart of this awesome Wish Big collection from Bella Blvd, which is a wonderful mixture of turquoise with hints of yellow, red and orange images created across papers, ephemera and chipboard stickers.

See more from Bella Blvd at www.hey littlemagpie.com



DIRTY WEEKEND



ON TOUR



New Dirty Weekend

IndigoBlu's Dirty Weekend is a must if you love getting your hands dirty with ink and a mixed-media project or two. It takes place across the country for 2019, with cities such as Manchester, Edinburgh and Exeter all getting the IndigoBlu treatment. If you live in Wales or Ireland fear not, Cardiff and Belfast are also getting a visit from the awesome team. At Cardiff's city centre Holiday Inn 25th - 26th May and the Titanic Hotel in Belfast 10th - 11th August, two workshops will run simultaneously with the wonderful Kay from IndigoBlu and Leonie Pujol!

Book yourself a Dirty Weekend at www.indigoBlu.com

Your cards

Here's a selection of stunning cards made by our lovely readers!

Free gift for each person whose card is featured!*

Don't be shy!

Send your crafty creations to: **Readers' Gallery**, Papercraft Essentials, Practical Publishing, Suite G2 St Christopher House, 217 Wellington Road South, Stockport, SK2 6NG. Don't forget to include your name and address. (*Prizes for UK entrants only)



1. Christmas wreath by Jennifer Burns from Consett
2. Merry Christmas by Shirley Paterson from Angus
3. Holly-days by Shirley Paterson from Angus
4. Star bright by Adrene Williams from Ebbw Vale

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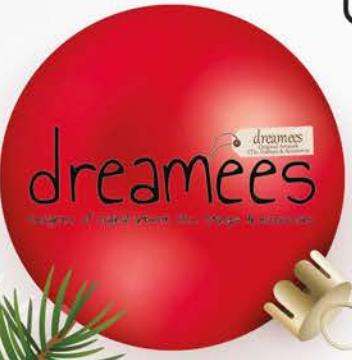
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Wanderlust

Give your craft an international flavour this year



Vanessa Hodgson has created a glorious getaway selection of cards perfect for wishing someone bon voyage or for a loved one who thrives on travel. These gorgeous cards with suitcases and in-flight details will have you booking your next holiday in an instant!



1



2



3

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6



5



7



8



9

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2. Simple Stories Travel Notes 8x6" paper pad **£6.50** www.sevenhillscrafts.co.uk
3. Altenew Mini Atlas stamp set **£3.84** www.altenew.com
4. Tonic Studios & Tim Holtz Travel Stamp Platform & Protective Sleeve **£22.99** www.craftstash.co.uk
5. Sentimentally Yours Phill Martin Traveller rubberstamp **£8.99** www.hunkydorycrafts.co.uk
6. Carta Bella Transatlantic Travel 6x6" paper pad **£6.15** www.papermaze.co.uk
7. Hero Arts Street Map Bold Print cling stamp **\$14.99 (£11.49†)** www.heroarts.com
8. Sizzix Traveller Words die set **£14.99** www.sizzix.co.uk
9. Spellbinders Post Me stamp **£6.85** www.spellbinderspaperarts.com

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†Price conversions and prices correct at the time of going to press

Your letters

Here's just a few of our favourite cards and letters from the last month

Free gift for each person whose card is featured!*



New techniques

As a regular subscriber to *Papercraft Essentials* magazine I am always amazed by the quality of the gifts and issue 166 was no exception. I was trying out the eclipse idea, I have never done this type of thing before and I'm not sure if I have it right yet. I had a sheet of Mirri Card left over from last year and I layered this onto cardstock and die-cut the sentiment. I'm not sure of my positioning but I had fun trying.

Cheryll Millington, Wolverhampton

Missed out on any of the recent issues mentioned here? Don't forget you can buy past issues of *Papercraft Essentials* from www.moremags.com or www.craftstash.co.uk



Winter Wonderland

Well you have done it again – given us a fabulous gift and an issue full of inspiration. I especially like the card on page 83 by Claire Rhodes-Brandon. I had everything in my stash so I set to it and I've made three so far! It is such an elegant design. I changed the gold mirror card to mauve glitter card on the ones I've made so far. The dies cut beautifully and the tip on how to create the partial die-cut panel makes the card so different. I learn something every issue.

Added to this, the embossing folder gives a deep luxurious finish to top off the quality look. I intend to use my gift to make the white wreath easel card by Nicky Gilbert next. Thank you so much and keep up the good work.

Betty Wakeham, via email

Ria says: I absolutely love how much effort you've gone to in creating these cards Betty! It's great to hear you enjoyed issue 166, it's so nice when readers take inspiration from our Design Team. We always try to include plenty of ideas using our gift so I'm glad you were inspired!



Get in touch and you could win our prize – £50 worth of fantastic crafty stash from Hunkydory!





Ready for Christmas

I could hardly believe my eyes when I saw my card and letter in the star prize place! I am still smiling! I was almost dancing on the ceiling, which would be a miracle given that I am 'getting on a bit'. I am enclosing my latest creation with the help of the fantastic gifts from issue 167. It is sent with best wishes for a happy Christmas to all you lovely people at *Papercraft Essentials*. A million 'thank yous', you're the best.

Hazel Bullock, Powys



Happy crafting

I just wanted to share the first card I made using the gift from issue 166. I love this gift and I know I'll be using it loads more this year, and probably for many years to come. Thank you *Papercraft Essentials*.

Trina Balharrie, Berkshire



Crackin' Christmas

Here is a card I made using the cracker die gift as part of issue 164. I just love it and knew straight away exactly what I wanted to make. I hope you like it!

Charlotte Pauls, Portsmouth



Family crafting

On my long journey from the south coast to the north east to see my grandchildren, I picked up a copy of *Papercraft Essentials* issue 166 to read on the train. The train was so busy I didn't get to read my magazine but I spent a glorious week with my four-year-old granddaughter, helping her with crafting as she is an up-and-coming cardmaker. She really enjoyed working with nanny making her Christmas cards and still I was too busy to read my magazine! When it was time to come home I finally got to read it on the train.

I love the gift and after being inspired by working with my granddaughter I set to making my first Christmas cards of the year. As you can see I cut ovals and embossed them with the beautiful folder. I also used the die and finished it off with a poinsettia on one side and mistletoe on the other.

Vivienne-Jayne Westgarth, Hampshire

Get in touch!

Papercraft Essentials Letters, Practical Publishing,
Suite G2 St Christopher House, 217 Wellington Road South, Stockport SK2 6NG
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Flower power



Create show-stopping makes with your Floral Mehndi dies and stamps – Fiona Wilkes shows you how



Turn to **page 97** to see next issue's gift!

Keep an eye on the *Papercraft Essentials* Facebook page for our video tutorial using your gift



Découpage heart

You'll need

- ▶ Floral Mehndi gift
- ▶ white 6"-square card blank
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ Crea-Nest-Lies XXL no. 22 square die set
- ▶ Tuxedo Black Memento inkpad
- ▶ Spectrum Noir Blendable Coloured Pencils
- ▶ Post-it notes
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ gems
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Use Tuxedo Black ink to stamp the large heart onto white cardstock and cut out. Colour the heart using Spectrum Noir pencils.

2 Stamp another large heart onto white cardstock and use the largest flower die to cut the central motif.

3 Stamp the medium-sized flower and three small flowers

Top Tip This stamp is brilliant for a multi-layered découpage – look carefully at the pattern to see where you can make the most of this feature

onto white cardstock. Use the co-ordinating die to cut the medium flower and fussy-cut the small flowers using scissors.

4 Colour the flowers to co-ordinate with the colours used in the main heart. Use 3D foam pads to attach the flowers to the front of the large heart as shown.

5 Use Post-it notes to mask the left-hand side of the unfolded card blank. Use Tuxedo Black ink and the large heart stamp to work around the edge of the card blank, creating a background pattern as shown.

6 Die-cut a large white square and adhere to the centre



Spectrum Noir pencils used to colour this card:

012, 030, 036, 065 and 072

of the card front. Mount the découpage heart onto the centre of the panel using 3D foam pads. Decorate with gems to finish.



Floral wishes

You'll need

- ▶ Floral Mehndi gift
- ▶ white C5 card blank
- ▶ white, black & pink cardstock
- ▶ Tuxedo Black Memento inkpad
- ▶ Crea-Nest-Lies XXL no. 24 rectangle die set
- ▶ My Favorite Things Die-namics Cause for Celebration die set
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Happy Happy Happy stamp set
- ▶ Spectrum Noir Blendable Coloured Pencils
- ▶ Post-it notes
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ gems
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Use Post-it notes to mask the left-hand side of the unfolded card blank. Use Tuxedo Black ink to stamp the large heart around the edge of the card front. Use the smaller stamps to fill in any blank spaces as shown.

2 Die-cut a rectangle of white cardstock and layer it onto a slightly larger piece of black cardstock. Adhere to the centre of the card front.

3 Use Tuxedo Black ink to stamp three large heart motifs onto white cardstock. Colour the flowers and die-cut. Cut the outer leaves from one of the flowers and cut away all but one leaf from another flower.

4 Use 3D foam pads to adhere the leafless flower over the leaved flower and adhere in the bottom-left corner of the card front. Adhere the flower with the single leaf in place alongside it.

5 Die-cut the sentiment three times from pink cardstock and adhere together. Attach to the card front then use Tuxedo Black ink to stamp the second section below it as shown.

6 Stamp the smallest flower onto white cardstock, colour and fussy-cut. Adhere below the sentiment then use gems to decorate.

Spectrum Noir pencils used to colour this card:

012, 030, 036, 065 and 072



Top Tip Remember to shade the leaves and flowers when you colour them – it gives them more shape and depth

Valentine

You'll need

- ▶ Floral Mehndi gift
- ▶ white 6"-square tent-fold card blank
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ Clearly Besotted Mini Basic Banners die & stamp set
- ▶ Tonic Studios Layering Scalloped Circle die set
- ▶ Crafter's Companion Signature Collection by Sara Davies All My Love stamp set
- ▶ Tuxedo Black Memento inkpad
- ▶ Spectrum Noir Blendable Coloured Pencils
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ gems
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Position a scalloped circle die over the top of the card blank and run through the die-cutting machine to create a hinged card. Trim a small piece from the bottom of the card blank so it will stand.

2 Stamp the heart into the centre of the card front, then colour the image using different shades of yellow and pink.

3 Position the largest flower die over the central image and pass through the die-cutting machine to create an aperture as shown.

4 Take the die-cut flower and carefully trim the outer white edge of the image. Close the card blank and use 3D foam pads to attach the flower through the aperture to the inside of the card.

5 Use Tuxedo Black ink to stamp the banner and sentiment then die-cut. Affix the banner to the card front using 3D foam pads. Decorate with gems to finish.

Spectrum Noir pencils used to colour this card:

012, 030, 036, 065 and 072

Birthday heart

You'll need

- ▶ Floral Mehndi gift
- ▶ white 5"-square card blank
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ Clearly Besotted Mini Basic Banners die & stamp set
- ▶ Tuxedo Black Memento inkpad
- ▶ Spectrum Noir Blendable Coloured Pencils
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ gems
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Stamp the heart onto the card front and colour the image using Spectrum Noir pencils.

2 Use Tuxedo Black ink to stamp the sentiment and cut out using the co-ordinating die.

3 Mount the sentiment banner to the card front using 3D foam pads as shown. Use gems to decorate the design to finish.



Spectrum Noir pencils used to colour this card:

012, 030, 036, 065 and 072

Top Tip

Why not add more interest by decorating some of the areas with glitter glue?

Happy birthday

You'll need

- ▶ Floral Mehndi gift
- ▶ white tent-fold card blank
- ▶ white & pink cardstock
- ▶ Tuxedo Black Memento inkpad
- ▶ Mama Elephant Birthday Script die
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Happy Happy Happy stamp set
- ▶ Spectrum Noir Blendable Coloured Pencils
- ▶ Post-it notes
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ gems
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Use Post-it notes to mask the left-hand side of the unfolded card blank. Use Tuxedo Black ink to stamp the top of the large heart in the bottom-left and top-right corner.

2 Stamp the largest flower three times and colour. Use the co-ordinating die to cut out the images. Cut the outer leaves

from two of the flower motifs, then layer one of these flowers onto the large flower using 3D foam pads.

3 Attach the leafy découpage flower to the bottom-left corner with the remaining flower.

4 Stamp two medium flowers and one small flower onto white cardstock and colour. Cut the medium flower out using the medium die and fussy-cut the smaller flower. Attach to the card front as shown.

5 Die-cut the sentiment three times from pink cardstock and adhere on top of each other. Adhere across the card front as shown.

6 Use Tuxedo Black ink to stamp the second part of the sentiment. Decorate the card front with gems to finish.



Spectrum Noir pencils used to colour this card:

012, 030, 036, 065 and 072



Spectrum Noir pencils used to colour this card:

012, 030, 036, 065 and 072

Best wishes

You'll need

- ▶ Floral Mehndi gift
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ Tuxedo Black Memento inkpad
- ▶ Creative Dies Nesting Heart die set
- ▶ Spectrum Noir Blendable Coloured Pencils
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ gems
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cut a 9x12cm piece of white cardstock and fold in half at 6cm on the long side.

2 Use Tuxedo Black ink to stamp the heart onto white cardstock. Colour the heart starting with yellow at the bottom and blending the colours

together as you move up to create an ombré effect as shown.

3 Die-cut the image using the co-ordinating die.

4 Cover the bottom half of the heart with 3D foam pads and attach to the tent-fold card blank.

5 Stamp the sentiment onto white cardstock, cut out and use 3D foam pads to affix to the card front. Decorate with gems to finish.



Bonus project

Find this project on our blog at www.papercraftmagazines.com

WIN a Chloe floral bundle

We have a fantastic prize worth over **£405** to give away!



Four of you will win a fantastic floral selection direct from Chloe HQ!

Consisting of four stamps and four co-ordinating dies, this collection is perfect for adding a gorgeous focal point to your creations. With corner details, borders and a trio of blooms,

this is the ideal prize package for celebration cards, wedding invites and complementary gift tags.

The stamps in this awesome prize package have two sentiments of 'wishing you the best day ever!' and 'wishing you a bloomin great birthday',

adding the perfect finishing touch to your craft.

Rounding off this prize package is a pair of Sparkelicious glitter pots in shades Bubble Bath (a playful pink and blue hybrid) and Sky's the Limit (a silvery blue hue) –

both perfect sparkly accents to a lovely monochrome creation.

To see more from Chloe, visit www.chloescreativecards.co.uk

How to enter

For your chance to this bundle, enter online at www.pjump.com/PE168 by 17th January 2019

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Moments & milestones



Celebrate a milestone birthday with the intricate new die sets from Tonic Studios



90 years young

Top Tip

Mix and match the die sets to create different looks

You'll need

- ▶ white 17cm-square card blank
- ▶ Fern Green, Pistachio Green, Bright White & Honey Gold Tonic Studios Craft Perfect Card
- ▶ Tonic Studios Essentials Milestone Years Young, Deco Squares & Numerals die sets
- ▶ circle die
- ▶ Key Lime Tonic Studios Nuvo Jewel Drops
- ▶ acrylic glue
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

- 1 Adhere a 16cm square of Honey Gold Card to the card front.
- 2 Use the largest Deco Squares die to cut two

squares from Fern Green and Bright White Card. Die-cut the detail into the white card using the next size down die. Adhere to the plain green square and attach to the card front.

- 3 Cut a backing plate from Fern Green Card using the large outside edge die from the Years Young set. Die-cut the wording

die from Pistachio Green card and attach to the Fern Green Card. Die-cut a smaller circle from Bright White Card and adhere to the centre of the die-cut.

- 4 Add a few Honey Gold die-cut numbers using 3D foam pads then decorate using Jewel Drops to finish.

21

You'll need

- ▶ white 14.5cm-square card blank
- ▶ Arctic Blue, Aubergine Purple, Bright White & Honey Gold Tonic Studios Craft Perfect Card
- ▶ Tonic Studios Essentials Milestone Layering Deco Square & Numerals die set
- ▶ paper flowers
- ▶ gold thread
- ▶ acrylic glue
- ▶ hot-glue gun
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Layer a 13.5cm-square piece of white cardstock onto a 13.8cm-square piece of Honey Gold card and adhere to the card front.

2 Use the two smallest Deco Squares dies to cut into an 11.7cm square of Arctic Blue Card. Place the smallest plain edge die over the detail and run through the die-cutting machine to give a small detailed square.

3 Cut a 12cm square of Aubergine Purple Card and use a smaller square die to create a frame. Adhere to the reverse of the large Arctic Blue Card.

4 Adhere both layers to the card front using 3D foam pads, then place the small blue square into the blank space using acrylic glue.

5 Die-cut numbers from Honey Gold Card and adhere to the card front using 3D foam pads. Add a bow made from gold thread and a paper flower to finish.

**Fab at 40****You'll need**

- ▶ white 16.5cm-square card blank
- ▶ Fern Green, Mauve Purple, Arctic Blue & Bright White Tonic Studios Craft Perfect Card
- ▶ Tonic Studios Essentials Milestone Life Begins at... Years Young & Numerals die sets
- ▶ Pale Periwinkle Tonic Studios Nuvo Jewel Drops
- ▶ acrylic glue
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ PC & printer
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Layer a 15cm square of Fern Green Card onto a 15.5cm square of Arctic Blue Card and adhere to the card front.

2 Repeat with a 13cm square of Mauve Purple Card onto a 13.5cm square of Bright White Card.

3 Die-cut the wording from Arctic Blue and Bright White Card and layer to create a drop shadow. Use the detail die from the Years Young set to cut into the circle. Add Fern Green Card behind the circle and undercut to remove excess.

Top Tip Use double layers of 3D foam pads for extra dimension

4 Cut again from Bright White Card and use the offcuts to paper-piece the elements back into the design as shown. Adhere to the card front using 3D foam pads.

5 Create the age sentiment on the PC, print and trim into an oval. Attach to the card front and decorate with Jewel Drops to finish.

**Where to buy**

The Tonic Studios Essentials Milestone die sets are available from www.craftstash.co.uk

Life begins at 40

You'll need

- ▶ white 16.2cm-square card blank
- ▶ Mauve Purple, Amethyst Purple, Aubergine Purple, Bright White & Honey Gold Tonic Studios Craft Perfect Card
- ▶ Tonic Studios Essentials Milestone Life Begins at... & Numerals die sets
- ▶ Apple Blossom Drinks Trolley Collection Champagne & Wine stamp set
- ▶ VersaMark inkpad
- ▶ gold embossing powder
- ▶ acrylic glue
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Layer a 13cm square of Aubergine Purple Card onto a 13.3cm piece of Bright White Card. Layer both to a 14.7cm square of Aubergine Purple Card and adhere to the card front.

2 Die-cut a Mauve Purple backing plate using the

largest outside edge die from the Life Begins at... set. Die-cut the wording and other detail onto Bright White Card. Add Amethyst Purple Card behind the

circle and undercut to remove the excess. Attach to the card front.

3 Die-cut the numbers from Honey Gold Card and attach

to the card front using 3D foam pads. Stamp and heat-emboss the sentiment and adhere below the numbers to finish.



Fabulous at 50

You'll need

- ▶ white 16.5cm-square card blank
- ▶ Mauve Purple, Amethyst Purple, Bright White & Honey Gold Tonic Studios Craft Perfect Card
- ▶ Tonic Studios Essentials Milestone Fabulous at... Deco Squares & Numerals die sets
- ▶ circle die
- ▶ white ribbon
- ▶ paper flower
- ▶ high-tack tape
- ▶ acrylic glue
- ▶ hot-glue gun
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Use the largest Deco Squares die to cut two squares from Mauve Purple and Bright White Card. Die-cut the detail into the Mauve Purple Card using the next size down die then adhere to the plain white square. Wrap a length of ribbon around as shown and secure using high-tack tape. Adhere to the card front.

2 Use the large outside edge die from the Fabulous at... set to cut a white backing plate. Die-cut the wording from Amethyst Purple Card and attach to Bright White Card. Use the same die to cut another from Honey Gold Card. Use the offcuts to paper-piece back into the design as shown.

3 Die-cut a smaller circle from Mauve Purple Card and adhere to the centre of the die-cut. Add die-cut numbers using 3D foam pads then add a bow and paper flower to finish.



When paper-piecing, keep the die and die-cut upside down on the plate after cutting to stop the waste from falling out

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Magic moments



Claire Gladman

Transform your Christmas papers into pretty birthday and all-occasion makes with Claire Gladman's handy tips

Well done

You'll need

- ▶ white A6 card blank
- ▶ Paper Addicts Magic Moments 6x6" paper pad
- ▶ circle nesting dies
- ▶ sentiment stamp
- ▶ Jet Black Ranger Archival Ink
- ▶ Old Paper Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Ink
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cover the card front with patterned paper leaving a narrow border.

2 Die-cut two nesting circles from patterned paper and adhere together. Cut four 1.5cm-wide strips of patterned paper and trim into fishtail banners. Attach to the reverse of the circles creating a rosette as shown.

3 Use 3D foam pads to attach the rosette to the card front. Stamp and trim the sentiment then apply Old Paper ink to the edges.

4 Layer the sentiment onto patterned paper then attach to the rosette using 3D foam pads to finish.



Top Tip

If your stamped sentiment hasn't come out fully then, instead of wasting it, use a black fine-line pen to fill in the blanks

Congratulations

You'll need

- ▶ white 6"-square card blank
- ▶ Paper Addicts Magic Moments 6x6" paper pad
- ▶ circle nesting dies
- ▶ mini alphabet dies
- ▶ sentiment stamp
- ▶ Jet Black Ranger Archival Ink
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

- 1** Fold the card front inwards to create an easel. Cover the base with pink lightbulb paper and the facing and back panels with lined patterned paper leaving a narrow border.
- 2** Die-cut a large circle from patterned paper and two smaller circles from dark snowflake and pink spotty paper. Cut across the pink spotty circle and attach one half to the snowy circle creating a landscape as shown.
- 3** Fussy-cut the trees and animal characters from the

paper pad and build a scene onto the circle. Cut triangles and create bunting in the corner. Adhere the scene to the larger die-cut circle.

4 Die-cut 'from all of us' and adhere to the bottom of the scene then fix to the card front. Fussy-cut characters then attach either side using 3D foam pads.

5 Cut a 15x2.5cm strip of patterned paper and affix across the card base using 3D foam pads. Stamp the sentiment and attach to the centre of the strip.

6 Attach fussy-cut characters either side of the sentiment to finish.

Top Tip Use a fine pair of scissors when fussy-cutting and turn the paper element, not your hands, to create an even cut



You'll need

- ▶ white 6"-square card blank
- ▶ red scrap cardstock
- ▶ Paper Addicts Magic Moments 6x6" paper pad
- ▶ Dovecraft: Just for You tag die
- ▶ pearls
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

- 1** Cover the card front with red cardstock leaving a narrow border. Cut two slightly smaller squares of contrasting patterned paper.
- 2** Adhere one square to the card front then cut out sunbeams from the other square. Border the sides of the sunbeams with red cardstock and affix to the card front using 3D foam pads.
- 3** Die-cut a sentiment tag from red cardstock and adhere to patterned paper. Cut out and attach to the centre of the card front. Cover the hole of the tag with a pearl to finish.

Top Tip Draw the sunbeams in pencil first so you create even beams around the panel



Just for you

Happy birthday

You'll need

- ▶ white A6 card blank
- ▶ gold glitter card
- ▶ Paper Addicts Magic Moments 6x6" paper pad
- ▶ sentiment stamp
- ▶ Jet Black Ranger Archival Ink
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cover the card front with dark patterned paper then again with pink patterned paper leaving a narrow border between each.

2 Cut four 1x4.5cm strips of contrasting patterned papers and cut four flames from gold glitter card. Use double-sided tape to adhere the flames to the top of the candles as shown.

3 Use 3D foam pads to attach the candles in a row to the centre of the card front as shown.

4 Stamp the sentiment and layer onto patterned paper then attach in the bottom-right corner to finish.



Play around with the placement of the candles – they would look fun at angles!



Birthday bow

You'll need

- ▶ white 6"-square card blank
- ▶ Paper Addicts Magic Moments 6x6" paper pad
- ▶ sentiment stamp
- ▶ Jet Black Ranger Archival Ink
- ▶ scoreboard
- ▶ glue gun
- ▶ pearls
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Mark 2cm either side at the top of the card blank and cut both sides from each point to the bottom corner to create a trapeze shape as shown.

2 Cover the card blank with patterned paper leaving a small border.

3 Cut three 2.5x15cm strips of patterned paper and score each at 1/2" on the scoreboard. Concertina fold and adhere together end to end. Push the circle of strips inward and use the glue gun to create a rosette. Attach a pearl to the centre.

4 Cut a 2.5x8cm banner and a 11.5x5cm banner. Mount onto pink patterned paper and adhere to the card front with the smallest on top. Attach the rosette to the top banner.

5 Stamp the sentiment and layer onto patterned paper. Attach to the bottom-right corner of the card front using 3D foam pads.



When adhering the centre of the rosette, place a small piece of cardstock and something heavy on top to keep it in place as it dries

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Watercolour block stamping



Ingrid Vichova demonstrates a few different ways to create stunning watercolour block backgrounds with your stamps



Nothing makes me happier than beautiful artsy backgrounds made with ink. I'm revisiting the popular acrylic block stamping technique in this feature and will hopefully inspire you! I created a few simple cards and a step-by-step guide for you to follow.

The idea is to add colour to an acrylic block and lightly mist it to make it wet enough to mix on the cardstock when turned upside down. I decided to show you the same technique with

three different media – the ZIG Clean Color Real Brush markers, Altenew dye ink and Distress Oxide Ink. You don't have to stop there, you can also use sprays, stains or even Brusho crystals – you'll be amazed with the results! I love creating ombre effects but there really are no rules here. Get as artsy as you like and try out different sizes of acrylic blocks for a variety of backgrounds and combinations.

There are a few things to

keep in mind when using this technique. It's a good idea to use colours in the same family so they mix well. This will prevent creating muddy backgrounds and keep the colours beautifully vibrant. Also, misting too much will not only dilute the colour but will result in dripping all over the place, so go easy on it!

Lightly mist two or three times until you see tiny droplets on the block and give it a go. It's worth

experimenting with scrap cardstock before moving onto the project, as each medium may need a different amount of water, for example, brush markers only need a light misting, whereas Distress Oxide Ink might need a couple more pumps due to it being a heavier medium. Experimenting is the key here and once you get the hang of it you will be unstoppable! This is super addictive and fun!

Happy birthday to you

You'll need

- ◆ white 4"-square card blank
- ◆ white cardstock ◆ Altenew Floral Art & Birthday Greetings stamp sets
- ◆ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpad ◆ Light Violet, Bright Yellow & yellow ZIG Clean Color Real Brush markers
- ◆ sequins ◆ water spritzer ◆ medium acrylic block

Step by step

- 1** Follow the step-by-step guide on page 33 to create the watercolour stamped image.
- 2** Trim the panel to 4" square then use Onyx Black ink to stamp the flower and sentiment. Add detail in the centre of the flowers using brush markers.
- 3** Add the panel to the card front and decorate with sequins to finish.

Top Tip

Lightly press down the acrylic block onto the panel to distribute the colour evenly



Thanks

You'll need

- ◆ white 4¼x5½" card blank
- ◆ black & white cardstock ◆ Altenew Floral Art stamp set
- ◆ Altenew Fine Alphabet die set ◆ Fresh Lemon, Honey Drizzle & Lavender Fields Altenew Crisp dye ink
- ◆ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpad ◆ clear Spectrum Noir Sparkle pen
- ◆ black foam sheet ◆ sequins
- ◆ water spritzer ◆ small cube acrylic block ◆ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

- 1** Stamp the background onto a panel of white cardstock using coloured ink and a cube acrylic block. Leave to dry.
- 2** Use Onyx Black ink to stamp the flowers onto the panel, then trim to size and attach to the card front.
- 3** Die-cut the sentiment from black cardstock and black foam sheet, layer together and adhere to the card front.
- 4** Decorate the design using a sparkle pen and sequins as shown to finish.

You'll need

◆ white 6x4" card blank ◆ white & black cardstock ◆ Altenew Hibiscus Bouquet & Birthday Greetings stamp sets ◆ Altenew Mega Happy die ◆ Fresh Lemon, Honey Drizzle, Lavender Fields & Deep Iris Altenew Crisp dye ink ◆ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpad ◆ VersaMark inkpad ◆ white embossing powder ◆ black foam sheet ◆ sequins ◆ water spritzer ◆ large acrylic block ◆ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

- 1 Add the coloured ink to the acrylic block in a gradient effect. Mist with water then turn over the block onto a panel of white cardstock and leave to sit for a while.
- 2 Carefully lift the block and allow everything to dry fully.
- 3 Die-cut the large sentiment from inked cardstock and from the black foam sheet.



Happy birthday



Experiment with different types of ink for variation

- 4 Place the card blank with the die-cut sentiment onto the stamping tool. Arrange the flowers on top then stamp once over the card blank

with the sentiment on top, then again without the sentiment.

- 5 Adhere the foam die-cut under the coloured die-cut then adhere onto the stamped card front.

- 6 Use VersaMark ink to stamp the 'birthday' sentiment onto black cardstock and heat-emboss in white.

- 7 Decorate using sequins to finish.



Thankful for you

You'll need

◆ white 4½x5½" card blank ◆ white cardstock ◆ Altenew Floral Art stamp set ◆ Altenew Fine Rectangle Frames die ◆ Fresh Lemon, Honey Drizzle, Lavender Fields & Deep Iris Altenew Crisp dye ink ◆ Bright Yellow & yellow ZIG Clean Color Real Brush markers ◆ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpad ◆ sequins ◆ water spritzer ◆ medium & large acrylic block ◆ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

- 1 Cut a 4x5¼" piece of white cardstock. Add the yellow shades of cube ink to the medium acrylic block, mist and turn over onto the white panel. Allow the block to sit for a little while, lift then leave to dry.
- 2 Repeat the same process with the

large acrylic block onto another piece of white cardstock.

- 3 Use Onyx Black ink to stamp a few flowers onto the large coloured panel and fussy-cut. Die-cut the rectangle frame from the medium panel, adhere onto the card front and use Onyx Black ink to stamp the sentiment as shown.

- 4 Arrange and adhere the fussy-cut flowers onto the card front as shown. Decorate using brush markers and sequins to finish.



Where to buy

Altenew stamps and dies are available from www.sevenhillscrafts.co.uk

You can do it

You'll need

- ◆ white 4x6" card blank ◆
- white cardstock ◆ Altenew Botanical Garden stamp set
- ◆ Altenew Mega You & Mega Greetings set 2 dies ◆ Mustard Seed, Wild Honey, Shaded Lilac & Wilted Violet Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ◆ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpads ◆ clear Spectrum Noir Sparkle pen ◆ white foam sheet ◆ sequins ◆ water spritzer ◆ large acrylic block ◆ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

- 1** Apply the Distress Oxide Ink onto the large acrylic block, not overlapping the colours. Mist with water and turn over onto a panel of white cardstock. Allow to sit for a few minutes then lift and leave to dry.
- 2** Trim the panel to 3¾x5¾" and leave to one side.
- 3** Die-cut the large sentiment from white cardstock and the white foam sheet, layer together and adhere to the inked panel. Use Onyx Black ink to stamp the flowers, butterfly and remaining sentiment.
- 4** Decorate the design using a clear sparkle pen then attach the panel to the card front and add sequins to finish.

Top Tip No need to overlap colours on the acrylic block, the water will do the job for you



How to... create a watercolour stamped image using Distress Oxide Ink



- 1** Apply the Distress Oxide Ink onto the large acrylic block, not overlapping the colours.



- 2** Mist a few times with water until tiny droplets form – be careful not to overwater.



- 3** Turn over the block onto a panel of white cardstock and leave to sit for a few minutes. Lift the block and leave to dry completely.

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Birthday bonanza



Eloise Blue

We can't get enough of this collection of bright birthday designs – perfect for kids of all ages!

Birthday fishes

You'll need

- ▶ Solar White 80lb Neenah Classic Crest Cardstock
- ▶ Black Licorice Lawn Fawn cardstock
- ▶ Tim Holtz Distress Watercolor Cardstock
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Really Rainbow 6x6" paper pad
- ▶ Couture Creations acetate
- ▶ My Favorite Things Gill Friends stamp set
- ▶ Salty Ocean, Tumbled Glass & Mustard Seed Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Ink
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpad
- ▶ clear embossing powder
- ▶ ZIG Clean Colour Real Brush Markers
- ▶ Mint & Aquamarine Pretty Pink Posh 4mm & 6mm, Cornflower Blue 6mm & Sparkling Clear 3mm sequins
- ▶ My Favorite Things Die-namics Gill Friends & Aquarium dies
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ Tim Holtz Mini Ink Blending Tools
- ▶ Pentel Aquash Water Brush
- ▶ 3M Post-it Masking Tape
- ▶ heat tool

Step by step

- 1** Cut white cardstock to 11.5x23cm, then score and fold in half to make the card blank.
- 2** Trim watercolour cardstock to 10.2cm square and die-cut the main rectangle of the aquarium from the top. Die-cut the remaining pieces from Licorice cardstock and adhere in place as

shown using 3D foam tape.

- 3** Stamp the sentiment below the aquarium and adhere a 1.3x10.2cm strip of patterned paper across the bottom. Affix acetate onto the back of the panel, then add 3D foam tape around the rectangle window, making sure there are no gaps.
- 4** Stamp and heat-emboss the images onto watercolour cardstock using VersaFine ink

Top Tip

Use an anti-static pad to remove any sticky excess from the foam tape. This way your sequins won't stick to the outside of the shaker or your images inside

and clear embossing

powder, then colour with ZIG markers and die-cut with the co-ordinating dies.

- 5** Cut two pieces of watercolour paper, one measuring 11.5cm square and one measuring 6.4x8.9cm. Blend the blue Distress Inks over the larger panel and blend the second, using blue and yellow ink, masking to create the sand at the bottom. Flick

water on the smaller panel, then pick up with paper towel and dry with the heat tool.

- 6** Adhere the smaller piece onto the larger square towards the top of the panel and secure the images to the panel using 3D foam tape. Place sequins around the images, then adhere the shaker panel over the top. Affix the finished panel to the card front.



Happy birthday to you

You'll need

- ▶ Solar White 80lb Neenah Classic Crest Cardstock
- ▶ Mermaid, Peacock & Blue Jay Lawn Fawn cardstock
- ▶ Tim Holtz Distress Watercolor cardstock
- ▶ Jen Hadfield for Pebbles Everyday 6x6" paper pad
- ▶ My Favorite Things Beary Special Birthday stamp set
- ▶ Copic Markers
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Jet Black inkpad
- ▶ Clear ZIG Wink Of Stella Brush Pen
- ▶ white Sakura gel pen
- ▶ My Favorite Things Die-namics Beary Special Birthday & Happy Birthday To You dies
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Stitched Trails Lawn Cuts dies
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Cut a piece of patterned paper to 2.5x14cm and adhere to the right side of the card front.

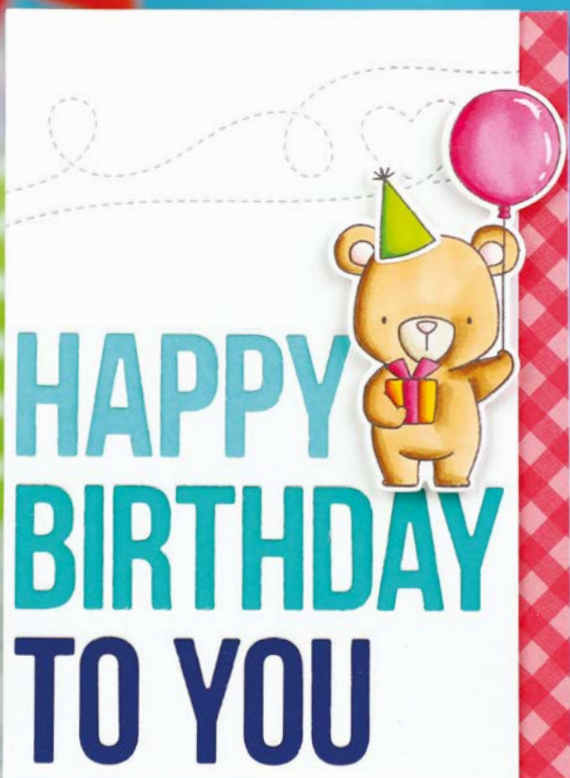
2 Trim white cardstock to 9.5x14cm and die-cut 'Happy birthday to you' from the bottom left of the panel, keeping the letter centres. Die-cut the Stitched Trails die across the top of the panel.

3 Cut a 2.5cm strip of each of the coloured cardstock and adhere behind the die-cut sentiment as shown. Turnover and colour in the letters using the Wink of Stella marker. Insert the letter centres and adhere in place then secure the panel to the left side of the card front.

4 Stamp the images onto watercolour cardstock using black ink and colour with Copics. Die-cut with the co-ordinating dies, then adhere the extra elements onto the bear with liquid adhesive. Secure in place using 3D foam tape.

Step by step

1 Cut white cardstock to 10.2x28cm, then score and fold in half to make the card blank.



Don't have several shades of coloured cardstock? Create your own with Distress Inks, Copic markers or any other colouring mediums you have

Birthday wishes

You'll need

- ▶ Solar White 80lb Neenah Classic Crest Cardstock
- ▶ Tim Holtz Distress Watercolor cardstock
- ▶ Jen Hadfield for Pebbles Everyday 6x6" paper pad
- ▶ Pretty Pink Posh Birthday Friends stamps
- ▶ Jet Black Lawn Fawn inkpad
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpad
- ▶ Frayed Burlap Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ clear embossing powder
- ▶ Copic markers
- ▶ Pretty Pink Posh Birthday Friends & Scallop Borders 2 dies
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ Tim Holtz Dotted Stencil
- ▶ Mini Ink Blending Tools
- ▶ Tim Holtz Distress Sprayer
- ▶ heat tool

3 Cut watercolour cardstock to 10.2x12.7cm and die-cut the top and bottom with the border dies as shown.

4 Blend Distress Ink over the surface of the die-cut panel. Place the stencil onto a paper towel and spritz with water. Place the wet stencil over the inked background and press. Lift and blot the water with a paper towel, then dry with the heat tool.

5 Stamp the sentiment in place then adhere the images using 3D foam tape. Adhere the panel to the card front using 3D foam tape.



Want the effect reversed so you have stamped/bleached dots? Use a baby wipe to remove the colour from the inside of the dots stencil instead

Step by step

1 Cut white cardstock to 10.2x28cm, then score and fold in half to make the card blank. Cover the card front with patterned paper.

2 Stamp the images onto white cardstock, then colour with Copics and die-cut with the corresponding dies.



Have a happy birthday

You'll need

- ▶ Solar White 80lb Neenah Classic Crest Cardstock
- ▶ Black Licorice Lawn Fawn cardstock
- ▶ Tim Holtz Distress Watercolor Cardstock
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Coaster Critters stamp set
- ▶ Jet Black Lawn Fawn inkpad
- ▶ Tumbled Glass, Salty Ocean, Twisted Citron & Mowed Lawn Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Ink
- ▶ VersaMark inkpads
- ▶ white Lawn Fawn embossing powder
- ▶ Copic markers
- ▶ My Favorite Things Slider Elements
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Coaster Critters, Coaster Critters Slide on Over Add On & Grassy Hillside Borders dies
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine
- ▶ EK Success Embossing Powder Tool
- ▶ Tim Holtz Mini Ink Blending Tool
- ▶ heat tool

Step by step

- 1** Cut white cardstock to 10.8x28cm, then score and fold in half to make the card blank.
- 2** Stamp the images onto white cardstock, then colour with Copic and die-cut with the co-ordinating dies.
- 3** Die-cut two Grassy Hillside Borders from watercolour paper to make the two hillside pieces and cut an additional piece of watercolour paper to 10.8x14cm. Colour with Distress Ink as shown, then flick with water, and blot. Dry with the heat tool.
- 4** Measure where the rollercoaster will sit on each grassy hillside piece and die-cut the slider as shown. Add a double layer of 3D foam tape on the back, leaving enough room for the slider element and adhere to the blue panel. Secure the slider cut outs back in the gap.
- 5** Secure the rollercoaster tracks into place using 3D foam tape. Add slider elements to the



- back of the carts, then insert in the track.
- 6** Affix the ticket stand in place using 3D foam tape, then stamp and heat-emboss the

greeting in white onto a strip of black cardstock and adhere in place using 3D foam tape. Secure the completed panel to the card front.



Birthday wishes

You'll need

- ▶ Solar White 80lb Neenah Classic Crest Cardstock
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Party Animal stamp set
- ▶ Janes Doodles Birthday Wishes stamp set
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpad
- ▶ Jet Black Lawn Fawn inkpad
- ▶ Peeled Paint, Twisted Citron, Peacock Feathers & Salty Ocean Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ Copic markers
- ▶ clear ZIG Wink Of Stella Brush Pen
- ▶ My Favorite Things Drifts & Hills Stencil
- ▶ masking paper
- ▶ Mini Ink Blending Tool

Step by step

- 1** Cut white cardstock to 10.2x28cm, then score and fold in half to make the card blank.

- 2** Trim white cardstock to 10.2x14cm and stamp the images onto the panel, making masks to stamp and position the images to create the scene as shown.
- 3** Once the images are stamped and covered with masks, place the stencil over the top and sponge with Distress Ink as shown.
- 4** Remove the masks and colour the images in with Copic markers. Add a Wink of Stella pen to the balloon, hats and present.
- 5** Stamp the sentiment onto the bottom centre of the image panel and adhere to the card front.



Don't get too caught up with cutting out your masks perfectly. If at the end you notice white halos around your images, go in with markers and colour to match your background, no one will ever know

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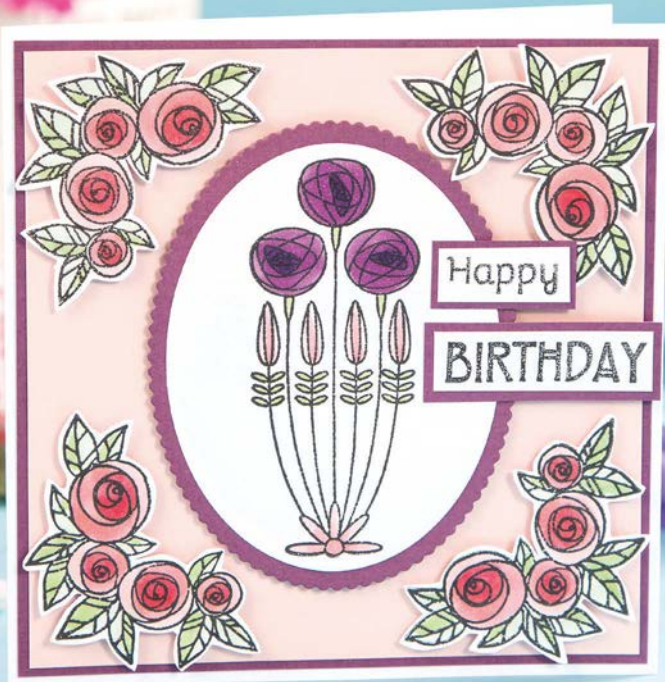
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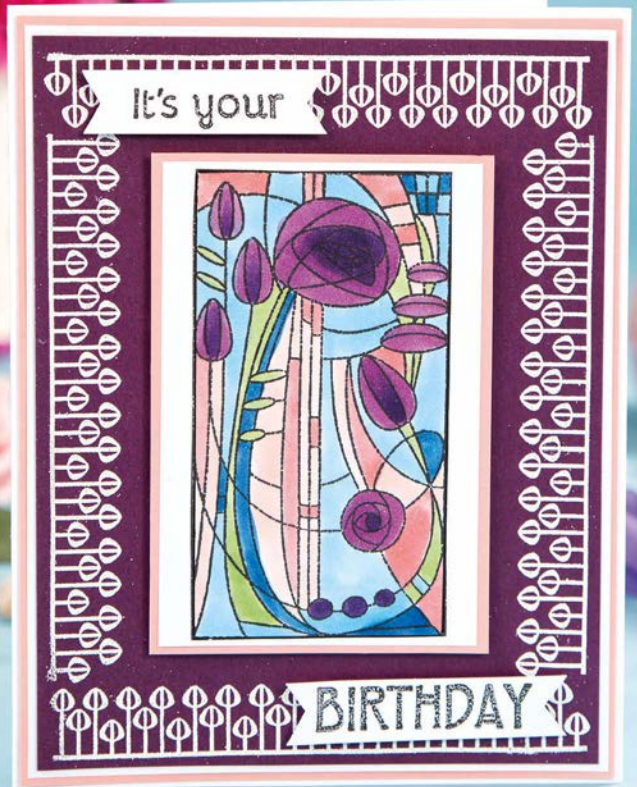
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Happy birthday



It's your birthday



Sae Hughes

Roses are red

Design Art Deco-style birthday cards and more with the stylish A4 stamp set from Creative

Bloom with happiness



To someone special



It's your birthday

You'll need

- ▶ white 12.5x16cm card blank
- ▶ Peach, Grape & white cardstock
- ▶ Echo Park Carta Bella Floral 6x6" paper pad
- ▶ Creative Decorative Roses stamp set
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpads
- ▶ VersaMark inkpads
- ▶ white embossing powder
- ▶ heat tool
- ▶ Copic markers
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Attach an 11.5x15cm piece of white cardstock onto a slightly larger piece of Peach cardstock and adhere to the card front.

2 Use VersaMark ink to stamp the floral border image along the bottom of an 11x14.5cm piece of Grape cardstock. Heat-emboss in white then repeat with each of the edges to create

a white embossed frame. Attach the panel to the card front.

3 Stamp the large floral rectangle image onto a 6.5x9.5cm piece of white cardstock and colour using markers. Layer onto a 7x10cm piece of Peach cardstock then attach to the centre of the card front using 3D foam pads.

4 Stamp 'It's your' and 'BIRTHDAY' onto white cardstock and trim each end into a fishtail shape. Use 3D foam pads to attach 'It's your' in the top-left corner and 'BIRTHDAY' in the bottom-right corner as shown.



Use border images to create frames around the image.

Use white embossing powder on dark coloured cardstock to make the image stand out

Happy birthday

You'll need

- ▶ Peach, Grape & white cardstock
- ▶ Creative Decorative Roses stamp set
- ▶ oval & scalloped oval nesting dies
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpads
- ▶ Copic markers
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Layer a 13.5cm square of Peach cardstock onto a 14cm square of Grape cardstock. Attach to a 14.5cm-square white card blank.

2 Stamp four rose corners onto white cardstock. Colour using markers and cut out. Attach to each corner of the card front using 3D foam pads.

3 Stamp the floral stems image onto an oval of white cardstock and colour using markers. Layer the oval onto a slightly larger Grape scalloped oval. Attach to the centre of the card front using 3D foam pads.

4 Stamp 'Happy' and 'Birthday' onto white cardstock, trim and layer onto Grape cardstock. Attach to the right-hand side of the image panel using 3D foam pads to finish.



For added interest and dimension use 3D foam pads to attach elements and layers to the card blank

To someone special

You'll need

- ▶ white 12cm-square card blank
- ▶ Grape & white cardstock
- ▶ Creative Decorative Roses stamp set
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpads
- ▶ Copic markers
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Fold the front of the card blank in half. Attach a 12cm square of white cardstock to the folded panel to create an easel card blank.

2 Stamp the bird-with-flowers image in the centre of an 11cm square of white cardstock and colour using markers.

Stamp the small floral stem to overlap each of the corners and colour using markers. Layer onto an 11.5cm square of Grape cardstock then attach to the top panel of the easel card base.

3 Stamp a variety of single roses in a random pattern onto an 11cm square of white cardstock and colour using markers. Layer onto an 11.5cm square of Grape cardstock then attach to the lower panel of the easel blank.

4 Stamp the sentiment onto white cardstock, trim and layer onto a slightly larger piece of Grape cardstock. Place onto the bottom panel to act as the stopper and secure using 3D foam pads to finish.

Bloom with happiness

You'll need

- ▶ white 12.5cm-square card blank
- ▶ Peach, Grape & white cardstock
- ▶ Creative Decorative Roses stamp set
- ▶ circle & scalloped circle nesting dies
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpads
- ▶ VersaMark inkpads
- ▶ white embossing powder
- ▶ heat tool
- ▶ Copic markers
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Place a circle die to slightly overlap the folded edge of the card blank and cut out to create a circular card blank. Die-cut the same circle from Peach cardstock and attach to the card front. Trim 0.5cm from the bottom of the circle.

2 Use VersaMark ink to stamp the floral flourish at the right-hand side of a circle cut from Grape cardstock. Heat-emboss in white. Stamp and heat-emboss the sentiment to the left-hand side of the flourish.

3 Layer the Grape circle onto a slightly larger white scalloped circle. Attach to the card front using 3D foam pads.

4 Stamp two large and three small roses onto white cardstock, colour using markers and cut out. Attach to the flourish on the card front using 3D foam pads to finish.

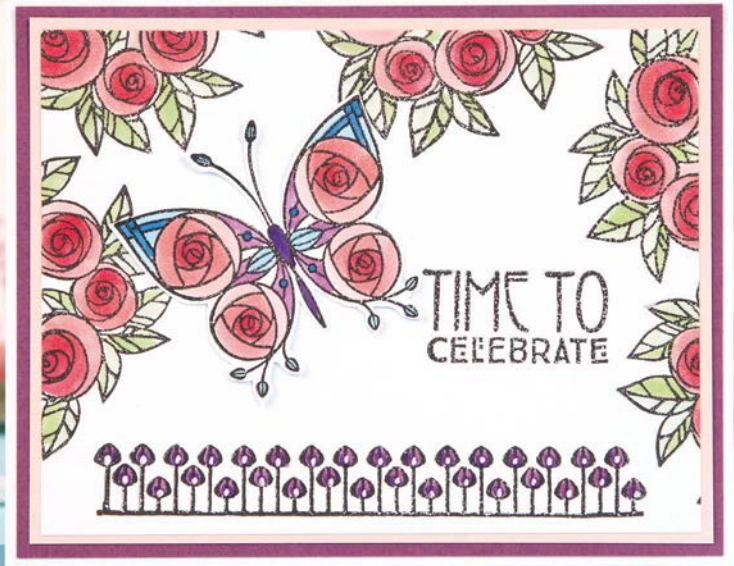


To ensure the circular card base will stand upright, trim 0.5cm from the bottom

Anniversary wishes



Time to celebrate



Birthday wishes



Get the look!



The Decorative Roses stamp set from Creative is available at www.craftstash.co.uk

Time to celebrate

You'll need

- ▶ white 14.5x11.5cm card blank
- ▶ Peach, Grape & white cardstock
- ▶ Creative Decorative Roses stamp set
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpads
- ▶ Copic markers
- ▶ white gel pen
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Cut a 13.5x10.5cm piece of Peach cardstock. Layer onto a 14x11cm piece of Grape cardstock then attach to the card front.

2 Stamp the floral border near to the bottom of a 13x10cm piece of white cardstock. Colour using markers and add highlights with a white gel pen.

Stamp the sentiment 3.5cm from the bottom of the card front.

3 Stamp the rose corner to overlap the left-hand, right-hand and top sides of the panel from the previous step, then colour using markers. Attach to the card front.

4 Stamp the butterfly onto white cardstock, colour using markers and cut out. Attach to the left-hand side of the sentiment on the card front to finish.

Top Tip When attaching the butterfly to the card front, only apply glue to the body to add dimension to the wings

Anniversary wishes

You'll need

- ▶ white 14cm-square card blank
- ▶ Grape & white cardstock
- ▶ Echo Park Carta Bella Floral 6x6" paper pad
- ▶ Creative Decorative Roses stamp set
- ▶ heart nesting dies
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpads
- ▶ Copic markers
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Layer a 13cm square of Peach patterned paper onto a 13.5cm square of Grape cardstock. Attach to the card front.

2 Die-cut a large heart from white cardstock and stamp the sentiment onto the right-hand side. Layer onto a slightly larger Grape heart then attach to the centre of the card front.

3 Stamp the framed floral-stem image onto white

cardstock, colour using markers and cut out. Attach to the left-hand side of the card front using 3D foam pads.

4 Stamp three roses with leaves, two large roses and two small roses onto white cardstock. Colour using markers and cut out. Attach a rose with leaves in the top-left corner of the framed floral image as shown.

5 Place the remaining roses in groups of three in the top-right and bottom-left of the heart on the card front then secure using 3D foam pads.

Top Tip To help with aligning sentiments, use a pencil and ruler to draw a faint line in the correct position - this can be erased when the ink has dried



Creative stamp sets are amazing value for money. Each set is A4 in size and offers an array of beautifully designed stamps. They're must-have products that really add depth to your craft

stash. The Decorative Roses collection is ideal for birthday and all-occasion cards and offers the chance to create clean and simple or detailed and traditional designs.

Birthday wishes

You'll need

- ▶ blue, Grape & white cardstock
- ▶ Creative Decorative Roses stamp set
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpads
- ▶ Copic markers
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Cut a 26x12.5cm piece of white cardstock. Score at 6.5cm from each end then fold the sides to meet in the middle to create a gatefold card blank.

2 Cut a 12.5x12cm piece of blue cardstock, attach to the inside panel of the card blank.

3 Stamp the floral corner image four times onto white cardstock, colour using markers and cut out. Attach to each corner of the card blank.

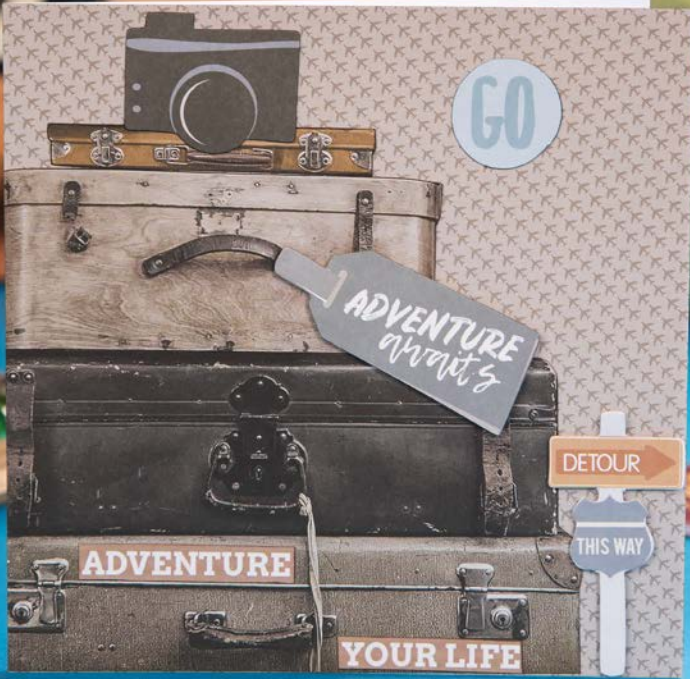
4 Stamp 'Birthday' in the top-left corner of a 6.5cm square of white cardstock and 'wishes' in the bottom-right corner.

Layer onto a 7.5cm square of Grape cardstock then attach to a slightly larger piece of white cardstock. Stamp a butterfly onto white cardstock, colour using markers, cut out and attach to the panel as shown.

5 Apply glue to the left-hand side of the square panel and attach centrally to the left-hand side of the card blank to finish.

Top Tip Colour the butterfly to co-ordinate with the floral corners to complete the look

Adventure awaits



Happy birthday

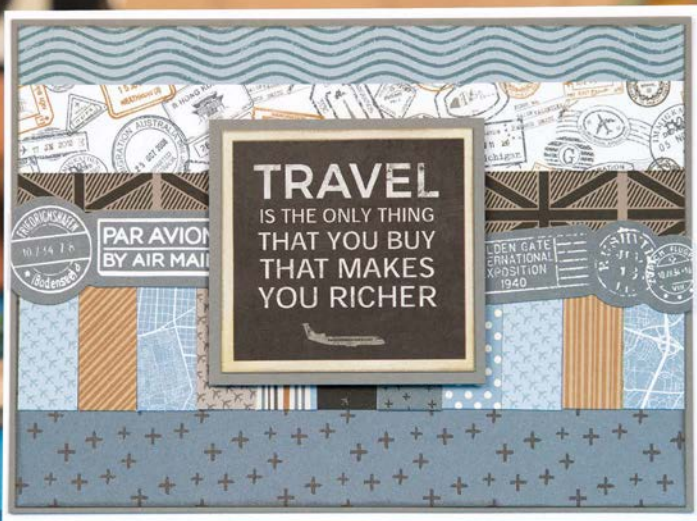


Vanessa Hodgson

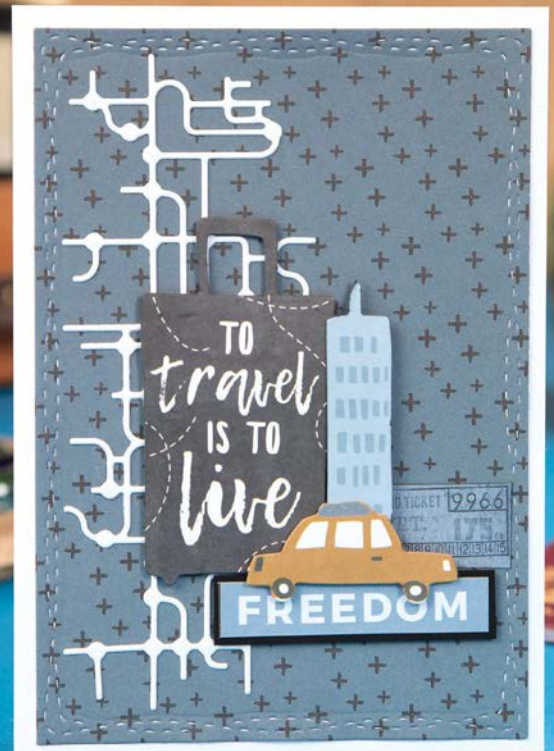
Let's go

Pack up your craft stash and get ready for an adventure with the brand-new Let's Go collection from Kaisercraft

Travel



Freedom



Happy birthday

You'll need

- ▶ white 12.5cm-square card blank
- ▶ white & kraft cardstock
- ▶ Kaisercraft Let's Go collection
- ▶ Kaisercraft Arrows 6x6" Designer Stencil Template
- ▶ circle nesting dies
- ▶ Gathered Twigs & Stormy Sky Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Ink
- ▶ ink-blending tool
- ▶ twine
- ▶ hole punch
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cut a 12cm square of kraft cardstock then cut a slightly smaller piece of spotty paper. Blend Gathered Twigs ink around the edges then layer together and adhere to the card front.

2 Emboss the stencil pattern onto a piece of white cardstock then, with the stencil still in place, use an ink-blending

tool to apply Stormy Sky ink to the arrows. Die-cut into a circle, cut in half then layer onto kraft cardstock and adhere to the card front.

3 Cut out the Sydney ticket from the 12x12" papers, apply Distress Ink to the edges and layer onto kraft cardstock. Punch a hole into the top and thread twine through then adhere to the card front using 3D foam pads.

4 Apply Distress Ink to the edges of the birthday sentiment and adhere to the card front using 3D foam pads. Add the 'By Air Mail' die-cut strip and the heart to the card front as shown to finish.

Top Tip If the low-tack tape sticks to the paper after embossing use a heat tool to warm up the tape so it doesn't tear the cardstock when trying to remove it

Adventure awaits

You'll need

- ▶ white 15cm-square card blank
- ▶ Kaisercraft Let's Go collection
- ▶ brown, blue & grey Memento marker pens
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Cover the card front with aeroplane patterned paper. Cut out four suitcase images from the 12x12" patterned paper and adhere to the left-hand side of the card front, ensuring the bottom three cases hang off the side as shown. Trim the excess.

2 Add the camera die-cut image to the top of the cases. Adhere the tag and detour sign as shown using 3D foam pads.

3 Cut out the 'adventure' and 'your life' words from the 12x12" paper pad and adhere to the bottom case then add the 'go' die-cut to finish.

Top Tip Edge the cases and die-cuts in co-ordinating water-based marker pens for a neater finish

Freedom

You'll need

- ▶ white 10.5x15cm card blank
- ▶ black cardstock
- ▶ Kaisercraft Let's Go collection
- ▶ Kaisercraft Texture Subway decorative die set
- ▶ Creative Dies Plus Wonky Stitched Nesting Rectangle die set
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Die-cut a rectangle from blue patterned paper and adhere to the card front.

2 Die-cut the texture subway from white cardstock and

adhere to the left-hand side of the card front as shown.

3 Adhere the case, building and ticket to the card front using 3D foam pads, ensuring to vary the height as shown.

4 Add the 'freedom' sticker to a strip of black cardstock and adhere to the bottom of the card front. Attach the car so it sits on top to finish.

Top Tip Using spray adhesive is a great way to adhere intricate dies

Travel

You'll need

- ▶ white 15x10cm card blank
- ▶ grey cardstock
- ▶ Kaisercraft Let's Go collection
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Attach a slightly smaller piece of grey cardstock to the card front.

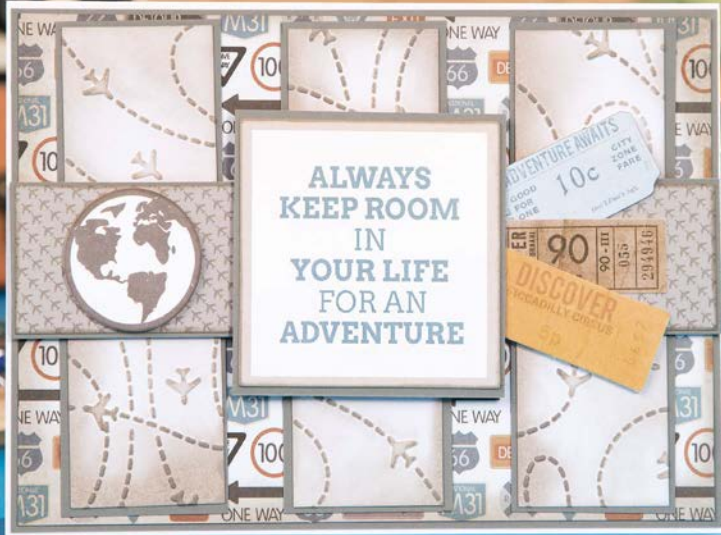
2 Cut a 14x5cm piece of striped patterned paper then cut a same-size piece of blue paper and adhere to the card front as shown.

3 Add the patterned sticker strips from the 12x12" sticker sheet across the centre of the card front. Place the 'By Air Mail' strip across the centre as shown.

4 Layer the sentiment panel onto grey cardstock and adhere to the centre of the card front using 3D foam pads to finish.

Top Tip Add strips of contrasting patterned paper for different effects

Adventure



Bon voyage



Best of luck



Get the look!

KAISERCRAFT



The Kaisercraft Let's Go collection is available from
www.kaisercraft.com.au or
www.charmedcardsandcrafts.co.uk

Bon voyage

You'll need

- ▶ white 17.5cm-square card blank
- ▶ black cardstock
- ▶ Kaisercraft Let's Go collection
- ▶ Kaisercraft Fly Away wooden flourish pack
- ▶ circle nesting dies
- ▶ dark blue & silver acrylic paint
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cover the card front with a slightly smaller piece of black cardstock. Trim a slightly smaller piece of black aeroplane paper and adhere on top.

2 Adhere skyscraper patterned paper onto a piece of white cardstock then die-cut a circle from the centre. Attach a double layer of 3D foam pads around the edges and leave to one side.

3 Trace the building shape onto black cardstock then cut out and adhere to the card front using the die-cut piece to help with placement as shown.

4 Paint three dark blue wooden buildings and adhere directly to the card front. Attach the third using 3D foam pads.

5 Paint the plane silver and adhere into the sky then use the same paint to add dashes to the buildings as shown.

6 Add the skyscraper aperture element to the card front. Adhere the sticker sentiments to strips of black cardstock and attach to the card front to finish.

Top Tip Apply wet glue to the reverse of 3D foam pads to help with placement

Adventure

You'll need

- ▶ white 17.5x12cm card blank
- ▶ white & grey cardstock
- ▶ Kaisercraft Let's Go collection
- ▶ Kaisercraft Flight Path embossing folder
- ▶ Pumice Stone Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Ink
- ▶ ink-blending tool
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cut a piece of grey cardstock slightly smaller than the card front. Cut a slightly smaller piece of signs patterned paper, apply Distress Ink to the edges then adhere both pieces to the card front.

2 Cut three 4.5x11cm strips of white cardstock. Emboss each piece using the flight path folder, apply Distress Ink to

the edges and layer onto grey cardstock then adhere to the card front.

3 Cut a piece of grey cardstock the length of the card front. Cut a piece of plane patterned paper, cut it in half and adhere at either end of the grey strip of cardstock. Adhere to the card front using 3D foam pads.

4 Layer the die-cut sentiment onto grey cardstock and adhere in the centre of the strip using 3D foam pads.

5 Adhere tickets to the side of the sentiment as shown, then adhere the world die-cut piece to the other side of the strip using 3D foam pads to finish.

Top Tip Adhere the centre strip to the cardstock first to help with even placement

KAISERCRAFT



Pack your bags, it's time to hit the Big Smoke! Featuring inspirational quotes, luggage tags and travel ephemera the Let's

Go collection will have you dreaming about your next big adventure to London, New York, Melbourne and everywhere in between!

Best of luck

You'll need

- ▶ white 15cm-square card blank
- ▶ grey cardstock
- ▶ Kaisercraft Let's Go collection
- ▶ Kaisercraft Fly Away wooden flourish pack
- ▶ circle nesting dies
- ▶ Pumice Stone Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Ink
- ▶ ink-blending tool
- ▶ Cosmic Shimmer Acrylic Glue
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Adhere a slightly smaller piece of grey cardstock to the card front.

2 Cut nine 3.5cm squares of grey cardstock then cut nine slightly smaller pieces of different patterned papers. Apply Distress Ink to the edges then layer a piece of patterned paper onto each grey square and attach to the card front as shown.

3 Select seven wooden shapes and adhere them onto each square as shown.

4 Die-cut the sentiment and layer onto grey cardstock then attach to one of the squares using 3D foam pads.

5 Apply Distress Ink to the edges of the bicycle then adhere to the card front using 3D foam pads to finish.

Mermazing



To my friend

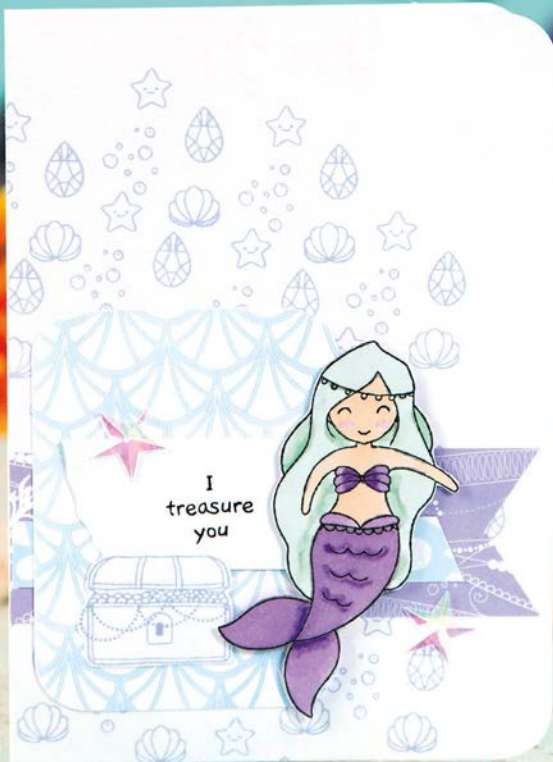


Sarah Douglas

Mermaid Treasures

Discover a selection of hidden gems with these brand-new designs using the Mermaid Treasures collection from StickerKitten

I treasure you



Happy to sea you



To my friend

You'll need

- ▶ white A6 card blank
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ StickerKitten Mermaid Treasures Designer Paper Pack, Basics Paper Pack & Birthday Fishes stamp set
- ▶ Xcut Flower Doily Decorative Border Punch
- ▶ circle nesting dies
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Large Stitched Circles Stackables dies
- ▶ Peacock Feathers Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ Jet Black Ranger Archival Ink
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cut a 10.5x13cm panel from purple fish paper and punch a border along the short edge. Repeat with a 10.5x11cm piece of turtle paper, then layer the

panels together on the card front as shown.

2 Die-cut a medium-sized circle from purple fish paper then a slightly smaller stitched circle from white cardstock. Stamp the jellyfish onto the white circle using Peacock Feathers ink. Attach the stamped circle to the purple circle using 3D foam pads then adhere to the card front.

3 Stamp the sentiment onto white cardstock, trim to size and distress the edges using scissors. Adhere to the card front, tucked under the stamped circle to finish.



Use simple card designs to let the patterned paper be the main focus

Mermazing

You'll need

- ▶ white 13.5cm-square card blank
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ StickerKitten Mermaid Treasures Designer Paper Pack, Basics Paper Pack, Mermazing stamp set, die-cut ephemera & wooden turtles
- ▶ Xcut Scalloped Circle Extra Large nesting dies
- ▶ Smoky Slate Stampin' Up! Stamping pad
- ▶ acetate
- ▶ 3D foam tape
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cover the card blank with purple patterned paper leaving a narrow border, then die-cut a medium-sized

scalloped circle in the centre as shown.

2 Cover the aperture with acetate from behind. On the reverse of the acetate, use 3D foam tape to create a barrier to keep the sequins in. Ensure it's not visible from the front. Place sequins inside then seal the reverse with a larger scalloped circle cut from purple shell paper.

3 Use Smoky Slate ink to stamp the sentiments onto white cardstock then cut out individually. For this design trim the extra decoration off the 'mermazing' sentiment.

4 Adhere the sentiment to the acetate then add a couple of wooden turtles below. Add the die-cut ephemera mermaid and merman using 3D foam pads to finish.

Happy to sea you

You'll need

- ▶ white 13.5cm-square card blank
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ StickerKitten Mermaid Treasures Designer Paper Pack, Basics Paper Pack, Birthday Fishes stamp set, wooden die-cut ephemera & wooden starfish
- ▶ Xcut Extra Large Scalloped Circle nesting dies
- ▶ Jet Black Ranger Archival Ink
- ▶ ZIG Wink of Stella Glitter Brush markers
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Use the largest scalloped circle die to cut the purple starfish paper to create a curved scalloped edge. Trim to fit the card front then cut off the top-right corner of the card blank,

following the curve of the circle as shown. Cover the inside of the card blank with turquoise gem patterned paper.

2 Cut an 11x5cm strip of seashell kraft paper and tear along three edges to give a rustic look. Adhere to the card front. Add a 10.5x3cm strip of turquoise shell paper cut into a pennant and a 9x0.5cm strip of blue starfish paper as shown.

3 Attach an octopus from the die-cut ephemera pack using 3D foam pads. Adhere one large and two small wooden starfish to the card front as shown and add a little sparkle using a ZIG marker.

4 Use Jet Black ink to stamp the sentiment onto white cardstock. Trim then distress the edges using scissors and attach to the card front using 3D foam pads to finish.

I treasure you

You'll need

- ▶ white A6 card blank
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ StickerKitten Mermaid Treasures Designer Paper Pack, Basics Paper Pack, Mermazing stamp set, Birthday Fishes stamp set & sparkly sequins
- ▶ Shaded Lilac Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ Tuxedo Black Memento inkpad
- ▶ Pool Party Light, Pool Party Dark, Light Highland Heather & Dark Highland Heather Stampin' Up! Stampin' Blends Marker
- ▶ Bisque Chameleon Colour Tones Colour Changing marker pen
- ▶ corner-rounder punch
- ▶ acrylic block
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Group the shell, gem, starfish and bubbles stamps close together on an acrylic block.

Use Distress Ink to stamp the background, starting in the bottom-left corner of the card front and moving towards the top-right corner as shown.

2 Cut a 10.5x3.5 strip of purple patterned paper and trim a banner shape from the end. Adhere to the card front. Cut an 8.5x1.5cm strip of blue gem paper, trim at an angle and adhere as shown. Cut an 8x6cm panel of scallop paper and round all corners using the punch. Adhere to the left-hand side of the strips.

3 Stamp the mermaid and sentiment and leave to dry. Colour the mermaid using markers and add a patch of pink for the cheeks. Adhere to the card front using 3D foam pads.

4 Tear the sentiment to leave a rustic edge and adhere tucked under the mermaid.

5 Stamp the treasure chest using Shaded Lilac ink and cut out. Adhere to the card front then decorate using star sequins to finish.

so happy to sea you

Fintastic day



Mermazing together



Birthday fishes



Get the look!



The Mermaid Treasures collection is available from www.stickerkitten.co.uk



Mermazing together

You'll need

- ▶ white 13.5cm-square card blank
- ▶ white & kraft cardstock
- ▶ StickerKitten Mermaid Treasures Basics Paper Pack, Designer Paper Pack, Mermazing stamp set, die-cut ephemera & Wooden Starfish
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Large Stitched Circles Stackables dies
- ▶ circle nesting dies
- ▶ Smoky Slate Stampin' Up! Stamping pad
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cut a 12cm square of turquoise shell paper from the Basics pack and adhere to the card front. Cut a 4.5cm-wide strip of net patterned kraft paper and adhere across the bottom half of the card front. Add a 2.5cm-wide strip of purple starfish paper on top as shown.

2 Die-cut a medium-sized circle from white cardstock and a slightly smaller stitched circle from kraft cardstock. Layer together using 3D foam pads and adhere to the card front.

3 Use 3D foam pads to add the wooden starfish in the top-left corner and the ephemera mermaid and merman in the bottom-right corner as shown.

4 Use Smoky Slate ink to stamp the sentiment onto white cardstock then cut out. Adhere to the card front as shown to finish.

Top Tip The 'you are mermazing together' sentiment stamp can be used in different combinations to create the desired sentiment

Fintastic day

You'll need

- ▶ white A6 card blank
- ▶ StickerKitten Mermaid Treasures Basics Paper Pack, Birthday Fishes stamp set & wooden die-cut ephemera
- ▶ Xcut circle nesting dies
- ▶ Jet Black Ranger Archival Ink
- ▶ sewing machine
- ▶ white thread
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Die-cut a large circle aperture in the card front and stamp the 'Birthday Fishes' sentiment in the centre using Jet Black ink.

2 Tear small strips of paper from the basics pack and place around the edge of the card front in alternating colours. Use a little glue to keep them in place. Stitch through the centre of them all using a sewing machine then gently bend the edges upwards.

3 Using a needle, pierce a hole in the top of the jellyfish and at the top of the circle aperture, then thread the jellyfish onto it so it dangles in the aperture as shown.

4 Attach a seaweed topper from the die-cut ephemera pack just inside the aperture so that it peeks through, then add two fish - one inside the aperture and one just outside.

5 Use Jet Black ink to stamp the sentiment onto white cardstock then layer onto turquoise fish paper. Distress the edges then attach to the card front using 3D foam pads to finish.

Top Tip If you don't have a sewing machine try hand stitching or drawing on faux stitching for a similar effect



The StickerKitten Mermaid Treasures craft collection is a cute and whimsical range of papers, stamps, sequins, wooden embellishments and die-cut ephemera based on the sweetest little mermaids and sea creatures! The collection includes adorable jellyfish, a cheeky octopus, mermaid family, lovely narwhal and fish, shells and starfish icons.



Birthday fishes

You'll need

- ▶ white 13.5cm-square tent-fold card blank
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ StickerKitten Mermaid Treasures Designer Paper Pack, Scallop Pattern stencil, Birthday Fishes stamp set & die-cut ephemera
- ▶ Shaded Lilac & Peacock Feathers Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ Jet Black Ranger Archival Ink
- ▶ ink-blending tool
- ▶ 3D foam tape

Step by step

1 Use an ink-blending tool to apply Distress Oxide Ink through the stencil onto a piece of white cardstock. Apply Shaded Lilac ink to some areas and Peacock Feathers to others as well as a mix of both. Trim the panel to 13cm-square and

attach to the card front using 3D foam tape.

2 Cut a 9cm square of happy jellyfish paper, apply Shaded Lilac ink to the edges and adhere to the centre of the card front using 3D foam tape.

3 Use Jet Black ink to stamp 'birthday fishes' and 'to my friend' sentiments onto white cardstock. Trim to size, layer onto purple patterned paper and use a mix of flat and 3D adhesives to secure onto the card front, with the mermaid and jellyfish ephemera pieces in between as shown.

Top Tip Use masking tape to temporarily fix the stencil in place so that it doesn't slip while you're apply ink

Gorgeous

You'll need

- ▶ white 4¼x5½" card blank
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ Teresa Collins Designs Daily Stories Floral 12x12" double-sided paper
- ▶ Spellbinders Shapeabilities Special Moments Floral Oval Etched dies
- ▶ The Ink Road Compliments Vol.2 stamp set
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpad
- ▶ Carnation Pink Tonic Studios Nuvo Crystal Drops
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cover the card front in patterned paper. Cut a 4¼x5½" piece of contrasting

paper and die-cut an oval aperture into the centre. Die-cut an identical oval from white cardstock and inlay the white oval into the patterned paper panel. Attach both to the card front using 3D foam pads.

2 Use Onyx Black ink to stamp the sentiment onto white cardstock. Trim into a strip and adhere across the aperture as shown.

3 Die-cut flourishes from white cardstock and flowers from patterned paper. Adhere both to the card front as shown. Decorate using Nuvo Crystal Drops to finish.

Happiest of birthdays

You'll need

- ▶ white 5½"-square card blank
- ▶ white, light pink & light blue cardstock
- ▶ Teresa Collins Designs Daily Stories Floral 12x12" double-sided paper
- ▶ Spellbinders Shapeabilities Special Moments Swirl Miss You & Floral Oval etched die sets
- ▶ Spellbinders Nestabilities Standard Circles SM etched dies
- ▶ Simon Says Stamp Sketched Flowers stamp set
- ▶ Vintage Sepia VersaFine inkpad
- ▶ silver brads
- ▶ white pearls
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cut a 5" square of patterned paper, layer onto pink cardstock and attach a silver

brad in each corner. Adhere to the card front.

2 Cut a 4½" square of patterned paper and layer onto pink cardstock. Attach to the card front using 3D foam pads.

3 Die-cut a white circle and attach using 3D foam pads. Die-cut smaller circles from pink and white cardstock, stamp the sentiment onto the white circle then layer together and adhere as shown.

4 Die-cut the Flower Crescent from light blue cardstock. Die-cut the flowers from light pink cardstock and adhere to the card front as shown. Decorate using pearls to finish.

Top Tip Use half pearls to decorate the design – they add elegance to any project

25th birthday

You'll need

- ▶ white 4"-square card blank
- ▶ white & light green cardstock
- ▶ Teresa Collins Designs Daily Stories Floral 12x12" double-sided paper
- ▶ Spellbinders Shapeabilities Special Moments Happy Birthday w/Numbers, Floral Oval & Vintage Stitched Squares etched die sets
- ▶ clear jewels
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cover the card front in patterned paper. Die-cut the Vintage Stitched Square from patterned paper and attach to the card front using 3D foam pads.

2 Die-cut the sentiment from white and light green cardstock, layer together slightly offset and attach to the centre of the card front.

3 Die-cut the circle from patterned paper and the '25' from white cardstock. Adhere together and attach to the card front.

4 Die-cut the flourish and flowers from patterned paper. Attach as shown then decorate the centre of the flowers using jewels to finish.

Top Tip Use 3D foam pads to add dimension to your project

Make a wish

You'll need

- ▶ white 4¼x5½" card blank
- ▶ white, light pink & light blue cardstock
- ▶ Spellbinders Shapeabilities Special Moments Flower Background Etched dies
- ▶ Papertrey Ink Birthday Cheer stamp set
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpad
- ▶ Doodlebug enamel hearts
- ▶ pink pearls
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cover the card front in light blue cardstock. Die-cut the floral panel from white

cardstock and attach using 3D foam pads.

2 Die-cut another floral panel from light blue cardstock and use the negative die-cut petals to inlay select flowers as shown. Embellish the flower centres using pearls.

3 Die-cut a circle of white cardstock, stamp the sentiment and adhere using 3D foam pads. Embellish with enamel hearts to finish.

Top Tip Inlay just a section of a background and leave as it is for a very clean and modern look

It's your birthday



Happy birthday



Thank you



Get the look!

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The Special Moments collection is available from www.spellbinderspaperarts.com





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Toot your own horn



Chari Moss

The adorable Critter Concert dies and stamps by Lawn Fawn are perfect to let a loved one know you care

Just a little note

You'll need

- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Critter Concert die & stamp set
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Quilted Backdrop die
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Bannertastic stamps
- ▶ Jet Black Lawn Fawn inkpad
- ▶ Tattered Rose, Worn Lipstick, Picked Raspberry & Seedless Preserves Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Ink
- ▶ ink-blending tool
- ▶ Prismacolor Pencils
- ▶ Gamblin Gamsol
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Blend Distress Ink onto a panel of white cardstock starting with the lightest colour in the centre and working out to the darkest. Spritz with water and allow to dry. Die-cut using the backdrop die then adhere to a white tent-fold card blank.

2 Use Jet Black ink to stamp the critter images and colour using pencils. Die-cut using the co-ordinating dies.

3 Stamp the banner, curve the sentiment stamp to fit in banner and stamp across the centre. Cut out using scissors.

4 Adhere the banner in the centre of the card front then add critters and instruments around the banner as shown. Use Jet Black ink to stamp random music notes to finish.



A little note



You'll need

- ▶ white, black & cream cardstock
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Critter Concert die & stamp set
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Large Stitched Square Stackables dies
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Reverse Stitched Scalloped Square Windows dies
- ▶ Jet Black Lawn Fawn inkpad
- ▶ VersaMark inkpad
- ▶ Tattered Rose & Worn Lipstick Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Ink
- ▶ white embossing powder
- ▶ ink-blending tool
- ▶ Prismacolor Pencils
- ▶ Gamblin Gamsol
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

- 1** Die-cut a square with a window in the centre and blend Distress Ink onto the frame. Adhere to the front of a white tent-fold card blank.
- 2** Use Jet Black ink to stamp the critter image onto white cardstock, colour using pencils and cut out using the co-ordinating dies. Adhere in the centre of the square window.

3 Curve the sentiment and stamp above the critter then stamp music notes around the image.

4 Trim a sentiment banner from black cardstock. Use VersaMark ink to stamp the sentiment and heat-emboss in white then adhere below the image using 3D foam pads to finish.



Where to buy

The Lawn Fawn Critter Concert dies and stamps are available from www.lawnfawn.com or www.sevenhillscrafts.co.uk

It's your birthday

You'll need

- ▶ white, green & black cardstock
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Critter Concert die & stamp set
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Scalloped Circle & Dotted Circle dies
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Simple Stitched Hillside Border dies
- ▶ Lawn Fawn A Birdie Told Me die & stamp set
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Little Music Notes dies
- ▶ Jet Black Lawn Fawn inkpad
- ▶ Tattered Rose, Picked Raspberry & Seedless Preserves Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Ink
- ▶ ink-blending tool
- ▶ Prismacolor Pencils
- ▶ Gamblin Gamsol
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cut two scalloped circles from green and white cardstock. Create a shaped card blank with white pieces by adding a fold to one and adhering above the fold. Add a green circle on the card front.

2 Cut a dotted circle of white cardstock and blend light pink shades of ink across. Adhere to the card front.

3 Die-cut a hillside border from white cardstock and blend dark pink shades of ink across. Adhere to the bottom of the circle as shown.

4 Use black ink to stamp the critter onto white cardstock and colour using pencils. Stamp the speech bubble and sentiment then cut out all the images using the co-ordinating dies. Arrange and adhere to the card front as shown.

5 Die-cut the music notes from black cardstock and adhere to the background then stamp the birthday sentiment at the bottom of the card front to finish.



You'll need

- ▶ white & green cardstock
- ▶ watercolour card
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Critter Concert die & stamp set
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Simple Grassy Border dies
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Bannertastic die & stamp set
- ▶ Jet Black & Juice Box Lawn Fawn inkpads
- ▶ Tattered Rose, Picked Raspberry & Worn Lipstick Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Ink
- ▶ Starry Colours ZIG Gansai Tambi Watercolour Paints
- ▶ ink-blending tool
- ▶ Prismacolor Pencils
- ▶ Gamblin Gamsol
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Toot your own horn



Step by step

1 Cut a piece of watercolour card the same size as the card blank. Blend pink shades of ink across the panel, starting with light on the bottom and dark at the top. Add flecks of metallic watercolour across the panel then leave to dry and add to the card front.

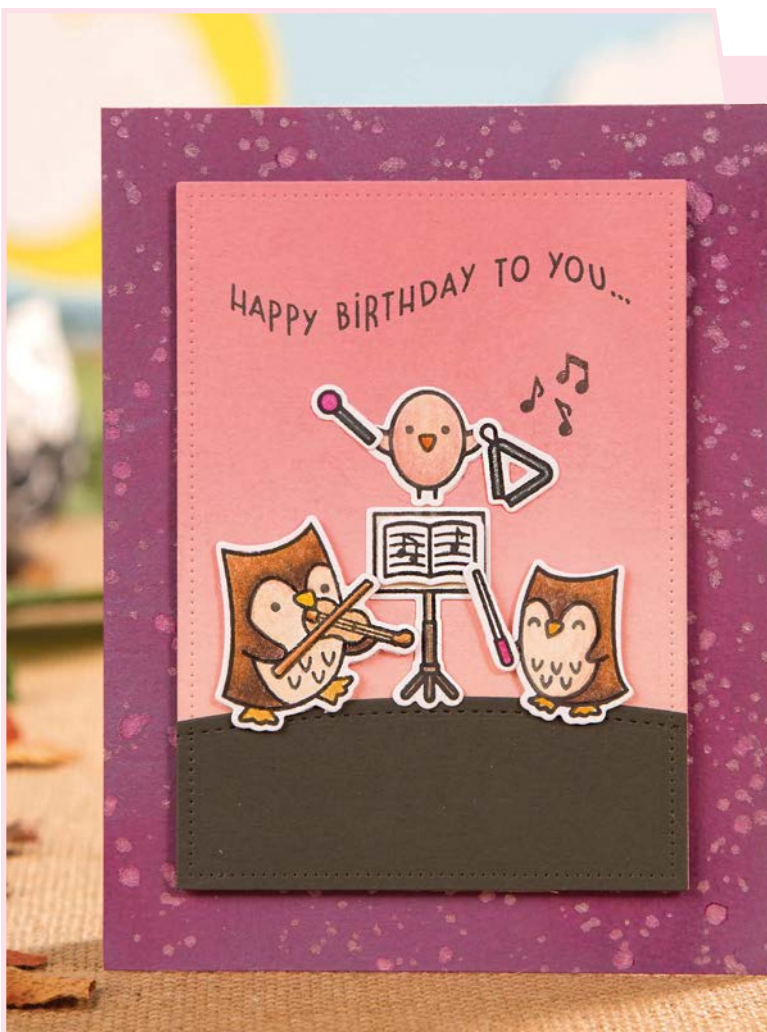
2 Die-cut the grass from green cardstock and adhere at the bottom of the card front.

3 Use Jet Black ink to stamp the critter images and colour using pencils. Die-cut using the

co-ordinating dies, arrange on the card front and adhere.

4 Stamp the sentiment and banner then cut out using the co-ordinating dies. Adhere as shown.

5 Stamp the other sentiment onto the grass below the critters then randomly stamp music notes around the sky to finish.



Happy birthday to you

You'll need

- ▶ white & black cardstock
- ▶ watercolour card
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Critter Concert die & stamp set
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Small Dotted Rectangle Stackables dies
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Simple Stitched Hillside Border dies
- ▶ Jet Black Lawn Fawn inkpad
- ▶ Tattered Rose, Picked Raspberry, Seedless Preserves & Worn Lipstick Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Ink
- ▶ Starry Colours ZIG Gansai Tambi Watercolour Paints
- ▶ Prismacolor Pencils
- ▶ Gamblin Gamsol
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cut a piece of watercolour card the same size as the card front. Blend purple shades of ink onto the panel then add flecks of metallic watercolour paint. Leave to dry and adhere to card front.

2 Die-cut a dotted rectangle smaller than the card front and blend pink shades of Distress Ink onto the panel. Die-cut a hillside border from black cardstock and attach at the bottom of the panel. Adhere the panel to the centre of the card front using 3D foam pads.

3 Use Jet Black ink to stamp the critters. Colour the images using pencils and cut out using the co-ordinating dies. Arrange on the card front and adhere.

4 Stamp the sentiment above the critters along with little music notes on the background to finish.



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Shadow box cards



Take your crafting out of the box with these interactive shadow box cards by Christine Smith

Don't miss next issue's masterclass on partial heat-embossed backgrounds



Shadow box cards are a great way to add an interactive element to your designs. They help to add dimension without bulk so they can be posted easily. It's better to stick to basic shaped cards for this technique as figuring out the measurements can become tricky. I've also included four templates to go along with this

Masterclass so you can see all the measurements used to create the cards.

I tried to showcase a few ways of just using basic shaped cards, varying the way in which the cards open, as well as the depth of the shadow box and even showing how to make it open the opposite way too. You can also use whatever dies you

like to create the shadow box on the inside. Keep it simple with squares, ovals, circles and rectangles, or go one step further and use butterfly and heart apertures – even create hanging elements inside the apertures!

Another advantage of shadow box cards is that you can decorate the inside and outside – adding patterned paper

behind the aperture is a great way of using up some of your stash too. You can use dies as well as stamps and coloured images too, as well as pre-made embellishments. Have a go at this cool shadow box card technique and wow all your friends – it's quite mesmerising to keep opening and closing the card and trying to figure out how it works!



Merry Christmas

You'll need
 ◆ white cardstock ◆ patterned paper ◆ Lawn Fawn Let's Bokeh & Happy Happy Happy Add On stamp sets ◆ Lawn Fawn Scripty Merry, Stitched Ornament & Mini Snowflake die sets ◆ Crafti Potential Fleur de Lis A2 die set ◆ coloured ink ◆ alcohol markers ◆ baker's twine ◆ scoreboard ◆ manual die-cutting machine

4 Add patterned paper inside the card blank while assembling the shadow box.
5 Add a couple more baubles, a scattering of snowflakes and a scripty sentiment inside the card blank. Add elements inside the shadow box and some to the outside frame to add depth.
6 Add a length of baker's twine and extra stamped details to tie it in with the card front to finish.

Step by step
1 Follow the basic principle of the step-by-step guide on page 67 along with template 2 to create the card base. Use an oval aperture on the inside section.
2 Die-cut lots of Lawn Fawn stitched ornaments and snowflakes from white cardstock to add decoration on the outside of the card blank. Use alcohol markers to colour, and layer up a single bauble as shown.
3 Use the Let's Bokeh stamp set with light colours of ink to add interest to the card front.



Use template 2 from www.papercraftmagazines.com to create this card

Birthday wishes

You'll need
 ◆ white cardstock ◆ patterned paper ◆ Lawn Fawn Let's Bokeh & Happy Happy Happy stamp sets ◆ Lawn Fawn Scripty Wishes, Hearts, Large Wreath, Stitched Tree Border & Spring Showers die sets ◆ alcohol markers ◆ coloured ink ◆ scoreboard ◆ manual die-cutting machine

3 Add patterned paper inside the card blank while assembling the shadow box.
4 Create a bold focal element inside the card blank, using the wreath die set to create lots of branch elements to surround the aperture as shown.
5 Add the remaining sentiment inside the card blank and add a few flowers and hearts to finish.

Step by step
1 Follow the principle of the step-by-step guide on page 67 along with template 3 to create the card base. Use a circular aperture on the inside section.
2 Keep the decoration on the outside of the card blank quite simple with a little background stamping and a few focal elements.

Top Tip When planning the design, remember the interior will appear ½" narrower or shorter than the outside dimensions of the card blank



Use Template 3 from www.papercraftmagazines.com to create this card

Use template 4 from www.papercraftmagazines.com to create this card

Smile

You'll need

- ◆ white cardstock
- ◆ patterned paper
- ◆ Lawn Fawn Let's Bokeh & Sewn with Love stamp sets
- ◆ Lawn Fawn Scripty Smile, Mini Pop Up Butterflies & Hearts die sets
- ◆ coloured ink
- ◆ alcohol markers
- ◆ scoreboard
- ◆ invisible thread
- ◆ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

- 1** Follow the step-by-step guide (right) along with template 4 to create the multi-aperture floating-element shadow box card. Between steps 1 and 2 in the guide, you will need to decorate the multi-aperture panel. To create the floating elements, die-cut a shape smaller than the initial aperture, add colour using alcohol markers then use a small length of invisible thread to attach it across the aperture.
- 2** The attachment of the thread doesn't need to be neat as it won't be seen, and the elements won't be able to spin so only one side needs to be decorated.
- 3** Use the Let's Bokeh stamp set and light colours of ink to add interest to the card front as shown.
- 4** The floating elements complete the interior decoration, so add the sentiment to the outside of the card blank using a combination of a scripty word die and a little stamping. Then add extra die-cuts from the interior apertures to finish.



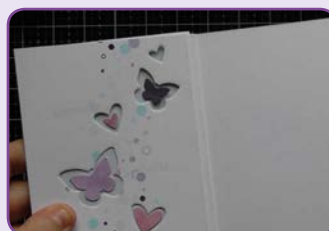
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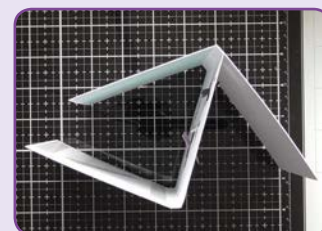
How to... construct a shadow box card blank



1 Die-cut the apertures into the section marked in the template you're following. Do any stamping on the main construction pieces of cardstock and add anything that's going to be behind the windows.



2 Add double-sided tape to the small flap that is next to the section you just die-cut your aperture into. Place this at the fold of the first piece of cardstock.



3 Remove the backing from the tape and fold the card shut to adhere both pieces together. You should end up with a shape like this.



4 Apply adhesive to the other side of the second piece of cardstock (the one you cut the aperture from). Ensure to place adhesive so it will adhere to the back of the first piece of cardstock.



5 Once confident how this will fold, remove the backing tape and fold the card flat so everything is adhered well.



6 Open the card blank to reveal the shadow box look.



You'll need

- ◆ white cardstock
- ◆ patterned paper
- ◆ Lawn Fawn Let's Bokeh & Happy Village stamp sets
- ◆ Lawn Fawn Scripty Congrats, Outside In Stitched Square, Stitched Tree Border, Puffy Cloud Border & Village Border die sets
- ◆ alcohol markers
- ◆ coloured ink
- ◆ vellum
- ◆ scoreboard
- ◆ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

- 1** Follow the basic principle of the step-by-step guide on page 67 along with template 3 to create the card base. Use a square aperture on the inside section.
- 2** For simple decoration on the outside, add a little subtle bokeh stamping then cluster a few die-cut elements.
- 3** Add patterned paper inside the card blank while assembling the shadow box.
- 4** To decorate the interior, die-cut lots of different border dies, including clouds, trees and

buildings. Add colour using alcohol markers then plan out the perspective of all layers. Place the foreground border at the bottom of the frame as shown.

5 Layer the subsequent border dies on top of one another directly onto the paper at the back of the scene. Use layers of vellum for the clouds.

6 Add the remaining sentiment to the design to finish.



Congrats



Use template 3 from www.papercraftmagazines.com to create this card

Use template 1 from www.papercraftmagazines.com to create this card



Hello sunshine

You'll need

- ◆ white cardstock
- ◆ patterned paper
- ◆ Lawn Fawn On the Mend, Let's Bokeh & Hello Sunshine stamp sets
- ◆ Lawn Fawn Scripty Hello, Spring Showers, Rainbow & Outside In Stitched Rectangle die sets
- ◆ coloured ink
- ◆ alcohol markers
- ◆ scoreboard
- ◆ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

- 1** Follow the basic principle of the step-by-step guide on page 67 along with template 1 to create the card base. Use a rectangle aperture on the inside section.
- 2** Add subtle detail with a bit of stamping then cluster on a few die-cuts and a stamped sub-sentiment as shown.
- 3** Add patterned paper inside the card blank while assembling the shadow box.
- 4** Continue the theme from the card front on the inside of the card blank and add another sentiment to finish.

Top Tip Keep the decoration on the outside of the card quite simple so the recipient is surprised when they open the card

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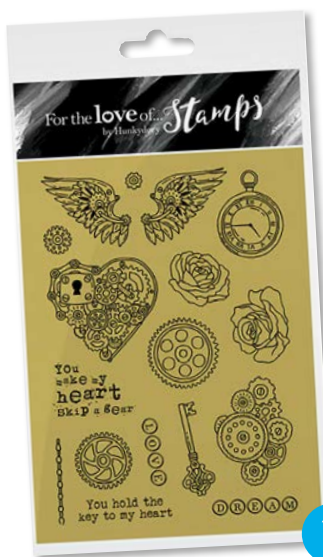
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Love letters

Send love letters in style this Valentine's Day

If you're looking for inspiration to create fabulous cards this Valentine's Day, we suggest flicking to page 76 to see Sarah Gray's art-inspired This Month we Love. Sarah's use of stylish watercolour elements across her collection of cards is something truly glorious to behold



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Happy crafting



We love this pretty box frame design by Solance Fleur – the perfect decoration to hang in your craft room!

Crafting is happiness frame

You'll need

- ▶ white 20cm-square box frame
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ Tattered Rose, Spun Sugar, Worn Lipstick, Tea Dye & Scattered Straw Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Ink
- ▶ E04 & E71 Copic markers
- ▶ White Opaque Matte Ranger Texture Paste
- ▶ chevron mask
- ▶ white alphabet stickers
- ▶ palette knife
- ▶ Washi tape
- ▶ heat tool
- ▶ water spritzer
- ▶ paper trimmer or paper trimmer
- ▶ sequins
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Use Washi tape to secure the chevron mask over a 16cm square of white cardstock.

2 Use a palette knife to swipe texture paste over the centre of the mask in a rough manner, to create a textured effect.

3 Carefully remove the mask and wash immediately using warm soapy water. Leave the panel to dry thoroughly.

4 Apply Distress Ink in any way you wish to cover the panel and texture paste to create the beautiful background as shown.

5 Take a piece of scrap white cardstock and apply Scattered Straw Distress Ink. Spritz water onto the cardstock

then dry using a heat tool to create a pretty inked and splash background.

6 Use Copic markers to colour the white alphabet stickers in an ombré effect, ensuring to get good coverage.

7 Use a ruler to carefully spell out the phrase 'crafting is happiness' onto the inked cardstock and press down firmly to secure. Use 3D foam pads to attach to the background panel.

Decorate the panel using sequins.

8 Place the background into a box frame and secure neatly at the reverse using Washi tape. Hang up in your craft room and enjoy!



Top Tip

To prevent the Washi tape being too sticky and ripping the card when you remove it, put it on the back of your hand and lift off a couple of times to remove the majority of the stickiness while keeping its tack

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Visit www.hunkydorycrafts.co.uk for more must-have products

5 My Favorite Things loved-up packages

My Favorite Things is giving five of you a loved-up stamp and die set, including a sentiment stamp of 'hugs kisses & Valentine wishes' alongside a trio of hearts and 'xoxo' that can create a wonderful border. There's also a pair of dies, a large 'love you' and a heart aperture ideal for framing a photograph for your loved one.

Get inspired at www.mftstamps.com



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4 Nuvo bundles

Calling all magpies and sparkle fans, this is a prize package you'll want to win! Four of you will receive a trio of four-piece sets from Tonic Studios' Nuvo range crafted into sequins, confetti and Pure Sheen glitter in wonderful copper, gold, dark green and Berry Red tones.

See more from Craftstash at www.craftstash.co.uk

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Lawn Fawn is giving you a haul and a half worth over £100, consisting of a trio of stamp sets with buildable flowers, a house-warming stamp set and a cute sloth and elephant collection with sentiments to boot! There's also a selection of dies to help you get a crisp edge to the stamps, plus you can create awesome scenes and tags with the Fall Tiny Tags set and a wonderful leaf selection perfect for homemade gifts.

See more cute products www.lawnfawn.com



3 Groves must haves

Groves is giving three of you the chance to win this awesome package of a classic red and cream ribbon with heart details, a glitter glue for adding a touch of sparkle to any creation and a Trimits Multi Cutter and Mat, for getting a precise cut each and every time.

Obtain more information about Groves by contacting groves@stockistenquiries.co.uk

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This month we love ...



Valentine's Day

Love is all you need to create this collection of artsy-inspired Valentine's designs for your special someone

Love easel

You'll need

- ▶ white & burgundy cardstock
- ▶ YUPO paper
- ▶ Sizzix Thinlits Tribal Words die set
- ▶ Creative Dies Nesting Heart dies
- ▶ Skull and Cross Buns Brush Hearts stamp set
- ▶ Watermelon, Flamingo, Wild Plum, Red Pepper & Cranberry Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Ink
- ▶ VersaMark inkpad
- ▶ Ranger Alcohol Blending Solution
- ▶ white & clear embossing powder
- ▶ Doodlebug Fairy Tales Rainbow Hearts Sprinkles Enamel Shapes
- ▶ Gold Minc Heidi Swapp Reactive Foil
- ▶ 3D foam tape
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Drop the pink and red shades of alcohol ink onto a piece of YUPO paper. Allow them to mix and move and use blending solution to dilute, then blend until the desired effect is achieved. Leave to dry.

2 While some areas are still tacky to the touch, rub gold foil over them to add gold highlights.

3 Adhere the YUPO paper to white cardstock and die-cut one large and one small heart. This will give them more substance for the easel card blank.

4 Stamp and clear heat-emboss the words and hearts from the Brush Heart stamp set onto a

piece of burgundy cardstock and trim to fit the card base.

5 White heat-emboss the sentiment onto burgundy cardstock and trim to create a stopper for the easel as shown.

6 Cut a strip of cardstock, score and fold it to create the support for the heart. Fold

a narrow flap at the end and adhere it to the card blank before adhering the burgundy embossed panel to the base.

7 Adhere the large alcohol ink heart to the card strip at an angle and attach the smaller heart to the top with foam tape as shown.

8 Die-cut the love arrow sentiment and trim the tail and arrow head from the cut to isolate the word. Adhere to the heart as shown.

9 Adhere the stopper to the card base and add a selection of enamel shapes to finish.



Top Tip

Clear embossing images onto cardstock can create a background that isn't too busy but co-ordinates with the rest of the design



Love heart

You'll need

- ▶ white, light pink & burgundy cardstock
- ▶ Sizzix Thinlits Natural Love & Tribal Words die sets
- ▶ My Favorite Things Roses All Over background stamp
- ▶ Rose Petal Altenew Mini Cube set
- ▶ VersaMark inkpad
- ▶ clear embossing powder

Step by step

1 Create a tent-fold card blank from white cardstock. Cut slightly smaller squares of burgundy and light pink cardstock, layer together and adhere to the card front.

2 Die-cut the Natural Love die then use the heart aperture created by the waste as a stencil and tape it down over the card front. Use Purple Wine ink from the Altenew set to stamp the rose background as shown.

3 While the stencil is still in place, lightly pull some of the purple ink in from the edges to give the heart shape extra definition.

4 Press VersaMark ink through the heart aperture and create a glazed look by heat-embossing using clear powder.

5 Die-cut the sentiment several times from burgundy cardstock and adhere together.

6 Splatter purple ink over the card front – any splatters that land on the glazed heart can be wiped off. Adhere the sentiment to finish.



Study the apertures created by the negatives on your die-cuts – they can create great stencil shapes

I adore you

You'll need

- ▶ white 15.5cm-square card blank
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ Concord and 9th Painted Rose stamp set
- ▶ Altenew Adore You stamp set
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpad
- ▶ Tattered Rose, Worn Lipstick & Cracked Pistachio Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ ink-blending tool
- ▶ Post-it notes

Step by step

1 Cut a square panel of white cardstock smaller than the card front and use Onyx Black ink to stamp the rose outline.

2 Use just one of the layers from the stamp set to add partial colour to the image, giving it a watercolour look as shown.

3 Stamp the rose outline on to a Post-it note, cut out and use as a mask to stamp some of the splatters from the Painted Rose set around the rose itself.

4 Stamp the sentiment and add further splatters to draw the eye across the card front.

5 Blend Distress Oxide Ink around the edges of a slightly larger square of white cardstock. Layer the squares together and adhere to the card front to finish.



Use selected layers of a layering stamp to create interesting effects – the partial coloured effect it gives can create an artsy look without the mess!

Ombré love

You'll need

- ▶ white A6 card blank
- ▶ white, dark purple & burgundy cardstock
- ▶ Sizzix Thinlits Tribal Words die set
- ▶ Uniko Scattered Polka Heart Background stamp
- ▶ VersaMark inkpad
- ▶ Seedless Preserve, Worn Lipstick & Tattered Rose Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ white embossing powder
- ▶ Doodlebug Fairy Tales Rainbow Hearts Sprinkles Enamel Shapes
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

embossed hearts will resist the ink and stay white. Clean any residual ink off with a paper towel.

3 Die-cut the sentiment four times from dark purple cardstock and adhere together to create a slightly raised effect.

4 Adhere the sentiment to the card front and finish the design with enamel shapes.



Where to buy

The Sizzix Thinlits Natural Love die is available from www.sizzix.co.uk

Step by step

1 Cut a panel of white cardstock slightly smaller than the card blank. Use VersaMark ink to stamp the heart background and heat-emboss in white.

2 Blend Distress Oxide Ink over the panel, fading out towards the bottom as shown. The



Layering up die-cuts can give them dimension and add impact to your design

Die-cut heart



You'll need

- ▶ white & burgundy cardstock
- ▶ Sizzix Thinlits Natural Love die
- ▶ Dusty Concord, Worn Lipstick & Abandoned Coral Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Ink
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Press the Distress Ink onto a craft mat and spritz with water. Place a square of white cardstock face down onto the craft mat and move around to pick up the ink. Repeat for the desired effect, drying the panel each time so the colours don't get muddy.

2 Die-cut the heart from white and burgundy cardstock. Adhere together slightly offset to create a shadow effect.

3 Adhere the heart to the inked panel, layer onto a slightly larger square of burgundy cardstock and adhere to the front of a white card blank to finish.



Adding a dark die-cut behind a lighter top layer can give the image added definition, particularly when placed on top of a busy background

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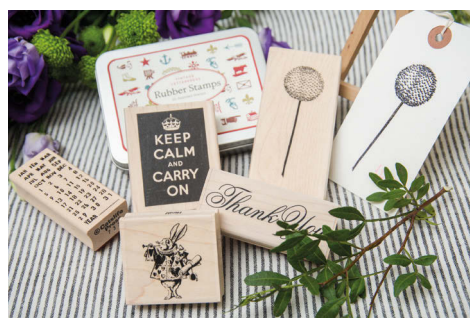
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Floral frenzy



Nicky Gilbert showcases the versatility of your Floral Mehndi stamp and die set with these bright and beautiful designs



Turn to **page 97** to see next issue's gift!

Birthday wishes

You'll need

- ▶ Floral Mehndi gift
- ▶ white 14.8cm-square card blank
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ Apple Blossom Everyday Sentiment stamp set
- ▶ Spun Sugar & Mustard Seed Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inepad
- ▶ Tuxedo Black Memento inepad
- ▶ VersaMark inepad
- ▶ clear embossing powder
- ▶ alcohol markers
- ▶ heat tool
- ▶ Stardust Ranger Stickles glitter glue
- ▶ Post-it notes
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Use Tuxedo Black Memento ink to stamp the heart over four 5.5cm squares of cardstock. Colour just the flowers using alcohol markers.

2 Blend Spun Sugar and Mustard Seed ink around the edges of four 6cm squares of cardstock and adhere a stamped square to each. Affix to the card blank as shown using 3D foam pads.

3 Use Onyx Black ink to stamp the sentiment in the centre of a 12cm square of cardstock and clear heat-emboss. Stamp again on a Post-it note, cut around it and mask the embossed sentiment. Stamp the

heart using Spun Sugar ink and clear heat-emboss immediately. Cut out and remove the mask.

4 Affix the heart to the card front using 3D foam pads.

Stamp, die-cut and colour three small flowers and attach as shown.

5 Decorate the flowers with glitter glue to finish.



Cover card

Top Tip Distress Oxide Ink can be clear heat-embossed for a lovely effect on sentiments or detailed stamps

Celebrate

You'll need

- ▶ Floral Mehndi gift
- ▶ white 12.5cm-square card blank
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ sentiment stamp
- ▶ Abandoned Coral, Mermaid Lagoon, Mowed Lawn, Mustard Seed and Worn Lipstick Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ VersaMark inkpad
- ▶ ink-blending tool
- ▶ white embossing powder
- ▶ heat tool
- ▶ water spritzer
- ▶ paintbrush
- ▶ pearls
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

- 1** Use VersaMark ink to stamp the heart in the centre of an 11cm square of white cardstock. Heat-emboss in white.
- 2** Press Worn Lipstick ink on a craft mat, spritz with water and use the acetate from the

stamp set to apply the colour around the design.

3 Press the other colours onto the craft mat, spritz each one and use as paints to fill in the design.

4 Layer onto a larger square of cardstock inked around the edge with Abandoned Coral. Affix to the card front as shown.

5 Stamp the centre of the design twice onto white cardstock. Heat-emboss and colour as before then die-cut and layer onto the main design using 3D foam pads.

6 Stamp a sentiment on scrap cardstock and heat-emboss in white. Paint a blue wash over it and trim, then adhere to the card front and add pearls to finish.



Top Tip Use any watercolour medium – ink, watercolour paint, watercolour pencil – to fill in the design as the embossing acts as a resist



Congrats

You'll need

- ▶ Floral Mehndi gift
- ▶ white 12cm card blank
- ▶ white & black cardstock
- ▶ gold glitter card
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Scripty Congrats die
- ▶ Creative Dies Hearts nesting dies
- ▶ Abandoned Coral, Mermaid Lagoon, Mowed Lawn, Mustard Seed, Worn Lipstick & Antique Linen Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ VersaMark inkpad
- ▶ white embossing powder
- ▶ ink-blending tool
- ▶ heat tool
- ▶ gems
- ▶ Gold Ranger Stickles glitter glue
- ▶ gold ribbon
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Create an easel card blank by folding the front of the card in half. Stamp flowers of all sizes all over the base using Antique Linen ink.

2 Use VersaMark ink to stamp the heart plus five large flowers onto scrap cardstock and heat-emboss in white. Cut out as shown and use an ink-blending tool to blend colours over the heart, and colour each small flower individually. Die-cut four small coloured flowers and one large green one to show the leaves.

3 Cut around the coloured heart and affix to a die-cut glitter heart then affix to the easel as shown. Affix four flowers in position on the base to create the stopper.

4 Die-cut the sentiment from black and white cardstock and layer together slightly offset. Adhere to the card front as shown.

5 Add the remaining flower to the side of the heart and a bow at the top. Embellish with gems and glitter glue to finish.



Top Tip if you don't have much coloured ink, just use different coloured papers for stamping and cutting out flowers and create the heart in one colour

Love

You'll need

- ▶ Floral Mehndi gift
- ▶ white 14.8cm-square card blank
- ▶ white, black & red cardstock
- ▶ Lawn Fawn Scripty Love die
- ▶ Worn Lipstick & Mustard Seed Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inepad
- ▶ Tuxedo Black Memento inepad
- ▶ ink-blending tool
- ▶ alcohol markers
- ▶ water spritzer
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ sequins and pearls
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Use Onyx Black ink to stamp one and a half heart 'tops' across opposite sides of a 14cm square of cardstock. Leave to dry

then blend Worn Lipstick ink over the stamping and Mustard Seed across the centre. Spritz with water and pat dry with a paper towel to lighten.

2 Layer onto black cardstock with a narrow border and attach to the card front.

3 Stamp the heart onto cardstock using Memento ink and colour using alcohol markers. Cut out as shown and affix to the left-hand side of the card front using 3D foam pads.

4 Die-cut a sentiment, adhere to red cardstock and trim. Attach to the card front using 3D foam pads. Add sequins and a pearl to finish.



Top Tip

Use just parts of the large stamp to make borders



Top Tip

Achieve easy results with no coloured ink by using coloured cardstock and a pretty background paper!

Thank you

You'll need

- ▶ Floral Mehndi gift
- ▶ white A4 card blank
- ▶ white, pink, coral & green cardstock
- ▶ Apple Blossom Everyday Sentiment stamp set
- ▶ Mermaid Lagoon, Mowed Lawn & Worn Lipstick Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ Tuxedo Black Memento inepad
- ▶ water spritzer
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ pearls
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Press each Distress Oxide inepad separately onto a craft mat and spritz with water. Use the acetate from the stamp set to pick up the colours, drying in between shades and create a background on an A6 piece of white cardstock.

2 Trim to fit the card blank and leave a narrow border then affix to the card front.

3 Stamp flowers onto coloured cardstock, die-cut enough elements to make five large flowers with leaves and attach together using 3D foam pads. Stamp and die-cut a selection of smaller flowers.

4 Stamp a sentiment and trim then arrange all the elements in position. Adhere using 3D foam pads once you are satisfied with the arrangement. Add pearls to finish.

Happy birthday

You'll need

- ▶ Floral Mehndi gift
- ▶ white & black cardstock
- ▶ pearls
- ▶ Tonic Studios Will's Hand Happy & Birthday dies
- ▶ Abandoned Coral, Mermaid Lagoon, Mowed Lawn, Mustard Seed & Worn Lipstick
- ▶ Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Oxide Ink
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpad
- ▶ Tuxedo Black Memento inkpad
- ▶ ink-blending tool
- ▶ water spritzer
- ▶ Post-it notes
- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

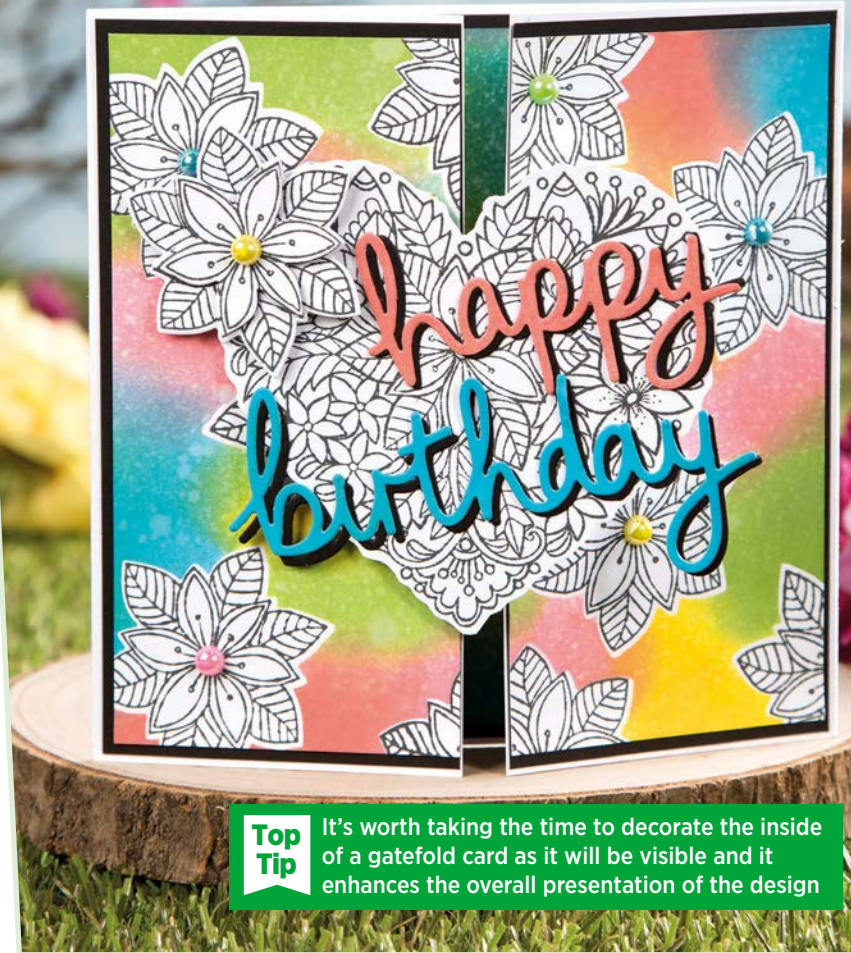
1 Create a gatefold card blank from a 29.8x14.8cm piece of white cardstock.

2 Follow the step-by-step guide below to create the background panel for the gatefold sides then make a plain inked panel for the inside.

3 Use Onyx Black ink to stamp the heart and two flowers. Die-cut the flowers and trim around the heart as shown. Layer the elements together and position in the centre of the card then use 3D foam pads to affix to the left-hand panel only.

4 Die-cut the sentiment from white cardstock and colour using ink. Die-cut again in black and attach together as shown then affix to the heart.

5 Decorate the design by adding pearls to the flower centres to finish.



Top Tip

It's worth taking the time to decorate the inside of a gatefold card as it will be visible and it enhances the overall presentation of the design

How to... create the inked background panel



1 Stamp the large flower eight times around a 14cm square of white cardstock, including over the edge.



2 Die-cut eight flowers from Post-it notes, making sure to cut over the sticky edge. It's easy to cut three or four together as it's thin paper.



3 Arrange the masks over each stamped flower, checking for a perfect match each time.



4 Use an ink-blending tool to add patches of colour all over the design, keeping each mask in position.



5 With the masks still in place, spritz the design with water and blot with a paper towel to dry.



6 Cut in half and layer onto panels of black cardstock covering the gatefold panels.

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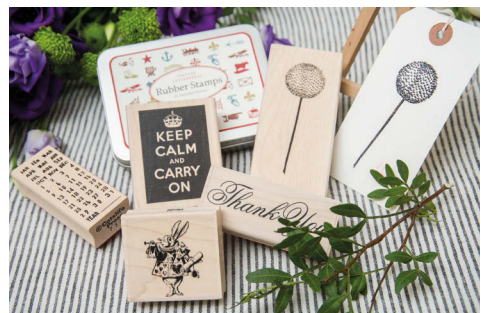
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Calendar

You'll need

- ▶ Tattered Lace Cardmaking Collection kit
- ▶ kraft cardstock
- ▶ mini calendar
- ▶ white ribbon
- ▶ distressing tool
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Step by step

1 Cut a 12.7cm square of kraft cardstock and distress the edges. Cut a slightly smaller piece of patterned paper, distress the edges and affix.

2 Cut out a pink frame from the paper pack and adhere to the centre of the floral panel using 3D foam pads. Add a sentiment topper using 3D foam pads, plus a bow topper.

3 Turn over the whole panel and add some double-sided tape to the top and bottom centre.

4 Fold a piece of ribbon and secure to the reverse of the top of the panel to form a hanging loop.

5 Add a small piece of ribbon to the reverse of the bottom of the panel, ensuring it is in the centre. Add the calendar.

6 Adhere a piece of patterned paper to the reverse of the panel to hide the ribbon ends.



2019		JANUARY						2019	
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT			
**	**	1	2	3	4	5			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
27	28	29	30	31	**	**			



When cutting out with scissors, move the paper rather than the scissors – it really does help the neatness of the cut!

How to... create a layered flower



1 Die-cut three large petal sets and three small petal sets from white cardstock.



2 Take three pink alcohol markers and colour the six pieces using the lightest one.



3 Add flicks to the pieces with the next-darkest marker.



4 On the larger petals only, add another layer of flicks with the darkest marker.



5 Adhere both sets of three on top of each other to create two flowers.



6 Add the smaller ones on top of the larger ones and add a large pearl into the centre.



Top Tip

If you don't have a distressing tool, you can create a similar effect with scissor blades, by running them along the edge of the paper. Take care with the sharp blade edges!

Notebook

You'll need

- ▶ *Tattered Lace Cardmaking Collection* kit
- ▶ kraft A6 notebook
- ▶ white cardstock
- ▶ pink & light pink paper
- ▶ circle die
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpad
- ▶ Copic markers
- ▶ distressing tool
- ▶ cheesecloth
- ▶ pearl gems

- ▶ 3D foam pads
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Cut a 9.5x14.5cm piece of patterned paper and distress the edges. Affix to a slightly larger piece of cheesecloth then fix to the notebook. Repeat with an 8x13cm piece of patterned paper. Cut a 6.5x11.5cm piece of patterned paper and fix in place.

2 Die-cut a circle topper from the paper pack and stamp a sentiment in the centre. Attach to the notebook using 3D foam pads.

3 Create the flower as shown below. Die-cut two flourishes from pink paper and fix in place, then add the flower using 3D foam pads.

4 Attach pearls in the four corners of the central paper panel to finish.

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5



6

8



7



- 5. Merry Christmas by Sheila Howells from Ilkeston
- 6. Christmas Forest by Shirley Paterson from Angus
- 7. Tartan moment by Jackie Trinder from Southampton
- 8. Have fun by Linda Byne from Sussex

If you missed out on issue 165 or 166, you can buy a back issue from www.moremags.com



Catch up with... *Sara Davies*

We catch up with Sara Davies from Crafter's Companion as she updates us on the latest gossip and shares this month's top product picks

I'm back with another catch up and it's been a fun few weeks here at CCHQ! We're officially counting down to Christmas in the Davies household (my favourite time of year!), but before that we had to celebrate two special little boys' birthdays! I can't believe our Charlie is now two and our Oliver is five – these past few years have gone so fast.

Speaking of birthdays, we also celebrated our 13th birthday here at Crafter's Companion recently, and what a wonderful party it was! We recorded a promo for the event at my house – it was a strange experience having cameras in my living room! We had loads of exclusive birthday sneak peeks, giveaways and so much more to celebrate our birthday. It really was a wonderful event – thanks so much to everyone who celebrated with us! I do wonder what the 'teenage' years have in store for us.

Now all the birthday celebrations are over, I'm really getting excited for Christmas and it seems the guys at the office are too! They dressed me in full Santa get-up to record our Christmas promos. I hope you all have a wonderful festive period and I'll be back with more crafting fun in the new year!

Sara



Recording the promo for our 13th birthday event



Sara's top picks!

3D embossing folder

Fans of our 3D embossing folders will love these brand-new 5x7" textured designs. They've been created using three different levels of depth to achieve that stunning 3D effect – so you can create beautiful three-dimensional backgrounds with one pass through your die-cutting machine! These embossing folders feature all-over patterns in a range of designs, perfect for a quick card with maximum impact, and you can have fun using different techniques to bring the designs to life. From inking and spritzing to waxing and distressing, there are so many beautiful looks you can achieve with these folders – I can't wait to give some of these techniques a try!



Gemini Storybook & Sentiment dies

Let me tell you a story all about these fantastic new dies in our Gemini range! We wanted to create something a little bit different to give your cards that special wow factor, and this die concept certainly does that! The Storybook die set features three nesting card base dies, which can be used to create a 3D open-page book. The open pages can then be embellished using the decorative dies included in the Storybook set, as well as the additional Sentiment dies to help bring your designs together. I love this range as it's a real mix-and-match affair that you can play around with to create personal and bespoke projects for any occasion.

Tropical stamps

My final sneak peek is of these stunning hand-drawn tropical-inspired stamps. Designed by our in-house talent Ruth Norman, these fun and colourful designs will add a tropical touch to your cards and papercraft projects! I'm loving the on-trend tropical florals and foliage in this set, and the stunning birds of paradise will look amazingly vibrant when hand-coloured with your choice of alcohol or water-based pens. Layer up the designs to create your own large-scale colourful compositions or add just a touch of the tropics with watercoloured background designs and stylish frames – let your imagination go wild!



The ritz

You'll need

- ▶ black cardstock
- ▶ Luxury Gold mirror card
- ▶ Crafter's Companion Roaring Twenties 12x12" card pack, Roaring 20s stamp set & The Ritz stamp set
- ▶ Fuchsia Harmony by Spectrum Noir Water Reactive Dye inkpad
- ▶ black inkpad
- ▶ ink-blending tool
- ▶ FS3, BP6, BP1, DG2 & DG3 Spectrum Noir pens
- ▶ clear Spectrum Noir Sparkle Pen
- ▶ pearls
- ▶ glitter glue
- ▶ Collall 3D glue gel

Top Tip

You can buy stepper card blanks if you aren't able to download the template to create your own



Visit www.papercraftmagazines.com to download the stepper template to create this card

Step by step



1 Cut an 11½x6" piece of black cardstock and use the template to create the stepper card blank.



2 Cut two ¾x4¼" pieces and two ¾"-square pieces of Roaring Twenties card and layer onto larger pieces of mirror card. Cut a 3½x5¼" piece of Roaring Twenties Card and layer onto a larger piece of Luxury Gold mirror card as shown. Adhere all panels to the card front.



3 Stamp two Roaring Twenties ladies and colour using Spectrum Noir pens. Once dry, add a top coat of clear Sparkle Pen. Fussy-cut the images then snip away sections of one of the images as shown to enable you to découpage it.



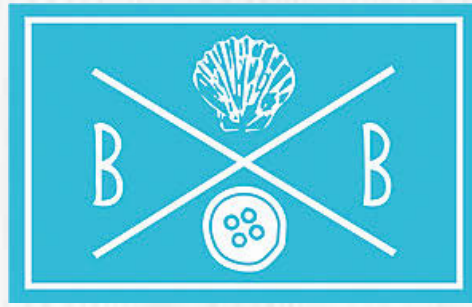
4 Fussy-cut some of the flower images from the patterned cardstock and lightly blend Fuchsia Harmony ink around the edges.



5 Use black ink to stamp the sentiment. Trim to size then layer onto a slightly larger piece of Luxury Gold mirror card as shown.



6 Assemble the design using Collall 3D glue gel to add dimension, then decorate using glitter glue and pearls to finish.



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Vintage birthday



We love this vintage-style masculine make – ideal for the car enthusiast in your life

Happy birthday



You'll need

- ▶ 5"-square card blank
- ▶ dark blue & kraft cardstock
- ▶ Onyx Black VersaFine inkpad
- ▶ Sara Signature Just for Men Rock Star stamp set
- ▶ Vilda Car Collage stamp
- ▶ Kaisercraft Decorative Cogs die
- ▶ Vintage Photo Ranger Tim Holtz Distress Ink
- ▶ manual die-cutting machine

Step by step

1 Trim a piece of dark blue cardstock slightly smaller than

the card blank. Use Onyx Black ink to stamp the car collage image in all four corners, then attach to the card blank.

2 Trim a piece of kraft cardstock the length of the card front and 1¼" wide. Use Onyx Black ink to stamp the image along it then layer onto slightly larger pieces of light blue then white cardstock and adhere across the centre of the card front as shown.

3 Use Onyx Black ink to stamp the Car Collage image onto

a square of white cardstock. Trim to size and blend Vintage Photo ink around the edges. Layer onto a larger piece of kraft cardstock and adhere to the centre of the card front.

4 Stamp the sentiment onto white cardstock, trim and blend Distress Ink around the edges. Die-cut cut two cogs from kraft cardstock, apply Vintage Photo ink across them then attach to the reverse of the sentiment. Add the sentiment as shown to finish.



Where to buy

The Vilda Car Collage stamp is available from www.beckab.co.uk

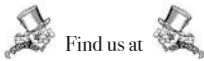
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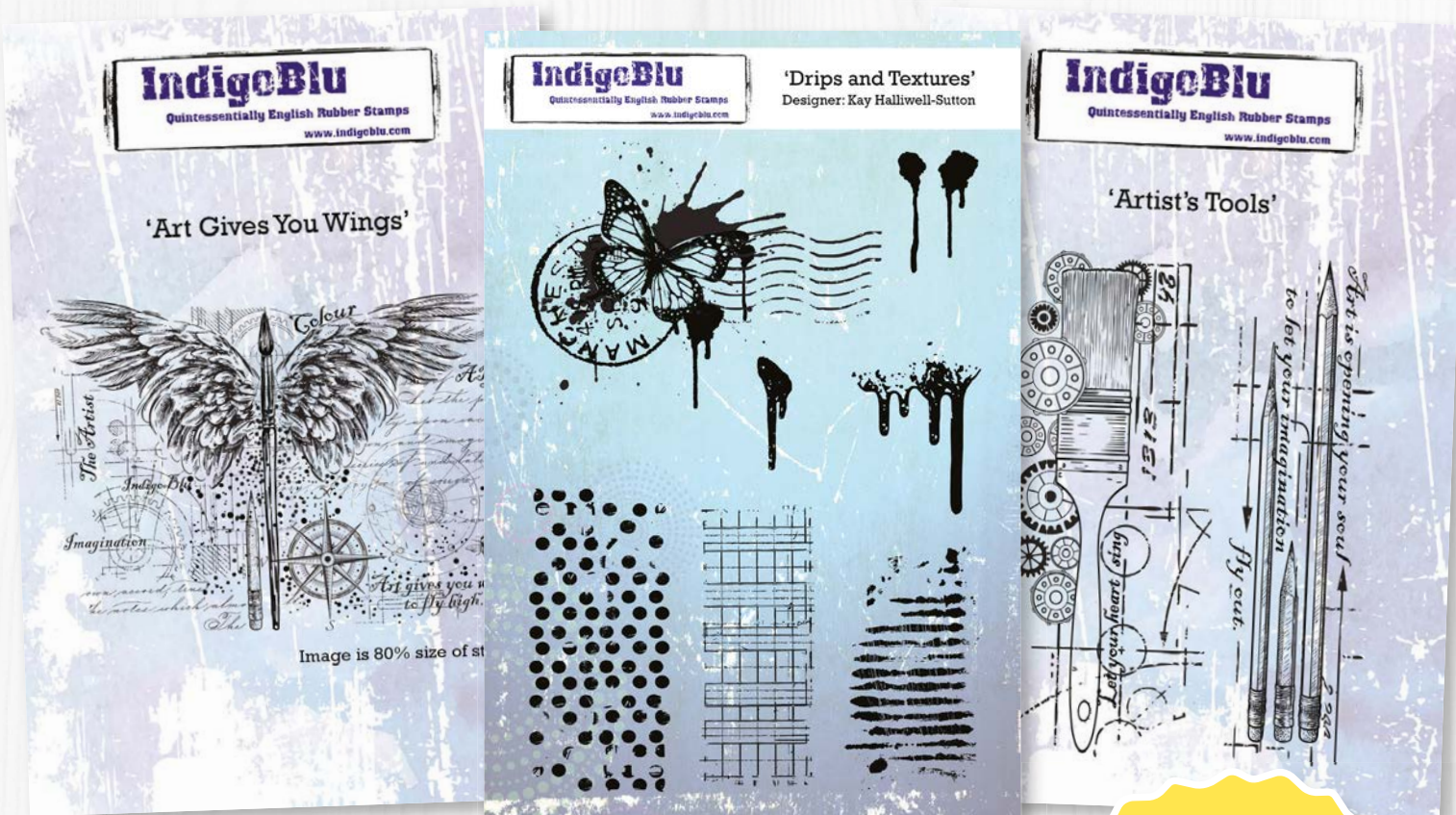
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To round-off this package there's a pair of stencils of a starburst, perfect for adding a focal point to the centre, and a series of drips which is echoed with the stamps in one of the sets.

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The card expert



Hunkydory's Ruth Mackie-McCartan is on hand to answer all your crafting queries

Cost-effective crafting

I love to make really personal cards for my friends and family, but I am finding it very expensive as I have to buy something new for every occasion. Is there a more cost-effective way to create personalised cards?

Anne Horton, Southampton

Ruth says: We have the perfect solution – our Little Book of Blossoming Blue has all the letters of the alphabet, each one repeated four times, plus some

lovely sentiments. The gorgeous blues and luxurious finish would be perfect for those personal cards, with very little outlay!

You'll need:

- ▶ white A5 card blank
- ▶ blue Adorable Scorable cardstock
- ▶ Silver Mirri Card
- ▶ Hunkydory The Little Book of Blossoming Blues
- ▶ navy gems
- ▶ navy ribbon
- ▶ 3D foam pads



Colour crisis

I run a small business selling the cards I make, and baby cards are a particular favourite! I find though, if I have a lot of pink ones everyone wants blue ones and vice versa. Do you have any ideas how I can overcome this?

Emma Owen, Wokingham

Ruth says: I know just how you feel – this happens in my stash too! I am now using our brand new Cute and Cuddly Whopper Topper pad for my baby cards, and it's ideal. There are some specific to boys and girls, but

there's also generic colours – both pastel and vibrant, which are perfect for baby cards. They are also a little different so will be a good selling point!

You'll need:

- ▶ white 7"-square Ink Me! card blank
- ▶ Gold Mirri Card
- ▶ Hunkydory Garden Treasures Matt-tastic card
- ▶ Hunkydory Cute & Cuddly Whopper Topper Pad
- ▶ acetate
- ▶ 3D foam pads

Get in touch!

If you have any questions or queries for Ruth please email them to victoria.clare@practicalpublishing.co.uk, putting **CRAFT EXPERT** in the subject bar

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- The latest ranges from Spellbinders, Tonic Studios & StickerKitten
- Learn the watercolour block stamping technique with our step-by-step guide
- Travel-inspired makes for men using the brand-new collection from Kaisercraft
- Get ahead for Valentine's Day with our selection of love-themed designs
- Unmissable CraftStash discount codes

