

PaperCrafter

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Let's make Cards

213

LAST-MINUTE
FESTIVE
IDEAS



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in seconds



Step-by-
step guide
inside



Foiling with
bubble wrap



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Issue 141
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Hello!

What better way to present our final Christmas makes of the year than with a new-look magazine? That's right – PaperCrafter has undergone a little makeover! We love bringing you the best cardmaking magazine possible, and we hope you'll enjoy your copy even more than usual. Especially as this December issue is bursting with all-new festive ideas and projects that have us saying one word: wow. Apologies for sounding like a circus ringmaster, but prepare to be amazed by Sarah Jackman Read's exploding box cards (p37) and Ingrid Vichova's bubble wrap greetings (p57). And the cards that can be made with this edition's incredible Crafter's Companion Enchanted Christmas Shaker Kit – well, I can only encourage you to check them out on page 13. As always, we're not just about the cards. Throughout the magazine you'll find countless tidbits of papercrafting advice, events, buys, books you'll want to snap up and, most importantly, an abundance of inspiration. We hope you like it.

Never miss
A COPY OF
PAPERCRAFTER
BY SUBSCRIBING
ON P42



*“On page 40,
learn to make
my impactful
star decorations
from paper bags”*
EMMA
SCOTT-CHILD

Rosie

Rosie Savage, Editor

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We celebrate
A YEAR OF PAPERCRFTER ON P31

PaperCrafter

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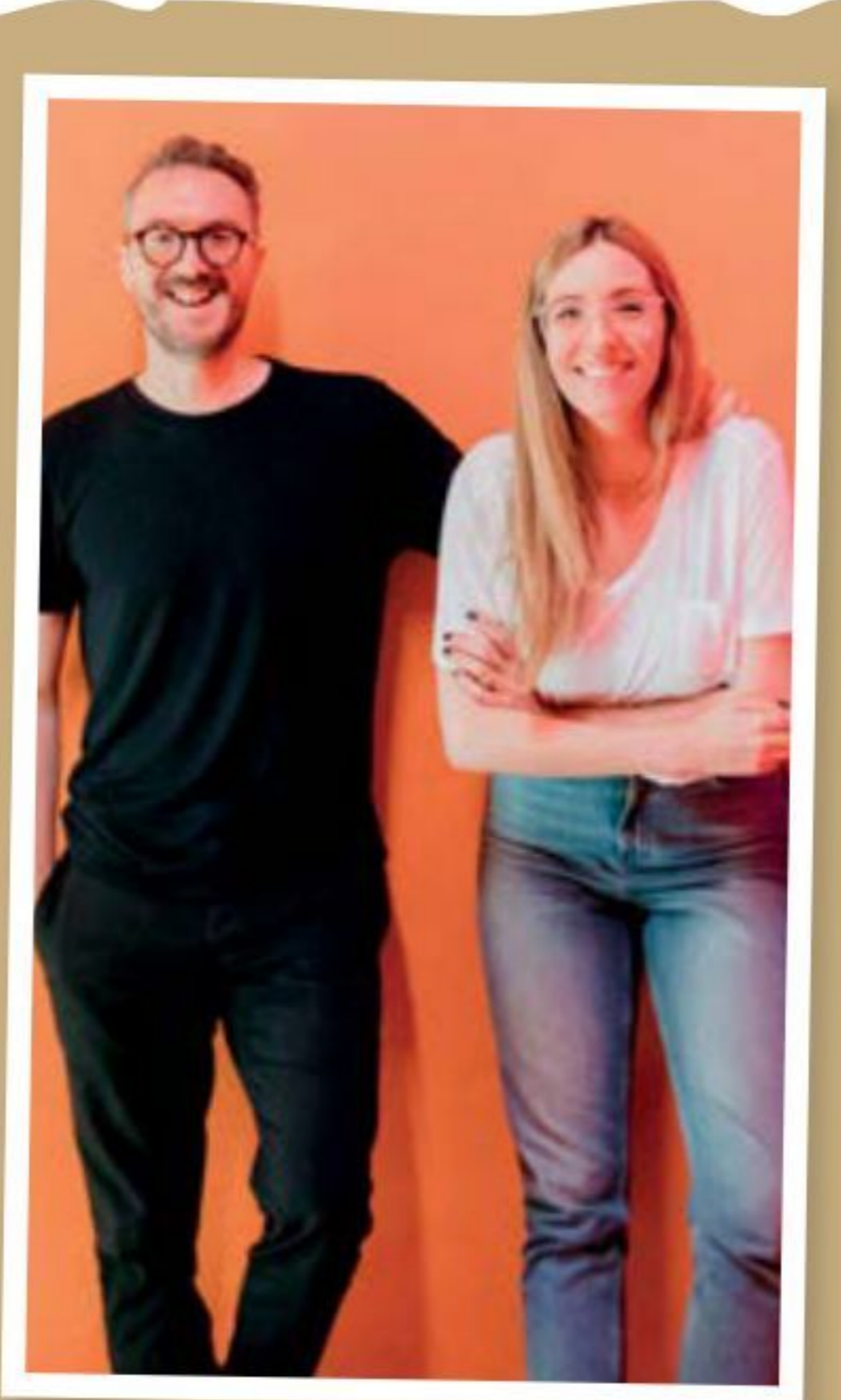
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Your Freebies Just in time for Christmas



85



Jana Pavasovic
from The Completist shares
all on p98



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Your PaperCrafter Gift

No need to deny it – we know you're flicking straight to this page

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Giveaways

Back with another stunning chance to win crafty prizes



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Subscribe Today

Because you'll be on the naughty list if you don't...

45

Your Free Papers

Go full Christmas with Tattered Lace



60 Your Free Digi Stamps

Get merry with these delightful downloads

83

Advent Calendar

You don't want to miss this festive printable



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Reader Offer

Claim your Santa's Workshop stamps and First Edition die worth £18.99!



45

Meet the team



Rosie Savage
EDITOR



Amelia Bolton
DEPUTY EDITOR



Cayle Hotene
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

CAMEO 4

SILHOUETTE CAMEO® 4 -

The Cameo 4 is a 12-inch width desktop cutting machine that lets you make precision cuts in vinyl, cardstock, fabric, and more.

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December days

Waking up to this quirky Advent calendar is bound to make your mornings just that little bit more magical. The individual paper houses, windmills, mountains and hilltops make for an adorable display to count down the days to the moment we're all waiting for. Doesn't suit your colour scheme? Opt for a more traditional palette or go monochrome for a thoroughly modern twist.

Head to papercraftermagazine.co.uk and search for 'pyramid box templates' to recreate your very own



simple vintage
COUNTRY CHRISTMAS



Create a beautiful holiday keepsake!

Rekindle memories from Christmases past or capture traditions of Christmas present with the Simple Vintage Country Christmas collection. Gorgeous holiday botanicals are paired with traditional patterns in red, green, winter white, and icy blue. Don't miss the wide variety of matching embellishments and coordinating 6x8 SN@P! binder!

Simple Stories

www.simplestories.com



Take Note

Hot-off-the-press
news for Noel



Christmas brights

John Lewis' seasonal gift wrap has taken an interesting turn this year and it's right up our street. Expect a punchy picking of colours including neon hues, uplifting brights and bold brush strokes. Of course, colour has never been a challenge for us crafters, so carry on celebrating those eclectic hues.

johnlewis.com

Turn to
p21 to shop
our best
Christmas
brights buys



Let's celebrate

Throwing a celebratory bash during the festive season? These head-turning decorations are the perfect party pleasers you need to spruce up your space – you'll be the hostess with the mostest in no time. Papercut garlands offer a striking display and gold accents create a luxurious yet welcoming feel for your guests. Shop the look at dunelm.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

THE KNITTING &
STITCHING SHOW
**28TH NOVEMBER -
1ST DECEMBER 2019,
HARROGATE**

Taking place in the idyllic town of Harrogate, choose from hundreds of workshops, demonstrations and browse over 200 crafty exhibitors.

CRAFTING LIVE
**25TH - 26TH
JANUARY 2020,
ESHER**

Stephanie Weightman's award-winning show returns to Sandown Park Racecourse, bringing a whole host of celebrity crafters.

Make it a date

Craft your way into the festivities whilst raising funds for a good cause by taking part in Mind's winter Crafternoon event on 30th November. Get your gang together to stick, sew or stitch in support of the one in four of people who experience a mental health problem each year. No matter what you make, by taking part you'll be helping Mind to provide life-saving services and information for those in need. mind.org.uk





Flower power

Hitting our shelves this month, *Paper Flower Art* by Jessie Chui is one of those books you simply can't resist picking up thanks to its bespoke photography and lifelike florals. Step-by-step instructions and clear headshots offer a comprehensive guide to the budding crafter who's keen to give the art of crepe paper flowers a go. gmcbooks.com

Decked out

Layer up your very own motifs with Altenew's latest Christmas stamp set. The Brilliant Baubles range features three or four individual stamps to make up various ornate decorations in different shapes and sizes. This allows you to mix and match colours to make sure that no two baubles are the same – perfect! £18.58, altenew.com



On the edge

We're always looking for more ways to make our cards unique and we think a subtle edging does the trick. Hunkydory's A Sparkling Christmas bundle (£33.33, hunkydorycrafts.co.uk) includes coordinating stamps and dies to take your decorative features one step further. The edge can be cut easily from your card using the detailed Christmas tree, snowflake or poinsettia dies included.



Online shop of the month

Mama Makes is renowned for its beautiful stamps, ideal for both cardmaking, journalling and scrapbooking projects. Featuring a selection of modern and quirky motifs, there's a stamp set suitable for every crafter. Plus, shop a variety of mixed media buys and why not book yourself onto one of their workshops? Head to mamamakesstore.co.uk





Make it personal

If you're taking Christmas gift wrapping down the DIY route this year, be sure to take inspiration from this ultra cute gift box from George at Asda and incorporate customised touches into your own crafting. Carve a bespoke postal-style stamp, personalise with your recipient's name or embellish with toppers that your loved one will adore. direct.asda.com

ALL UNDER

£5!

Pop these budget buys onto your Christmas wishlist



Artist Acrylic paints in Light Grey, Dusty Rose and Sage, £2.25 each, visit docrafts.com for stockists



WOW! SPARKLES Premium glitters in Jade and Prom Queen, £3 each, [wowembossing powder.co.uk](http://wowembossingpowder.co.uk)



Cosmic Shimmer Holographic Glitterbitz in Blush Haze, £3.99, creative-expressions.uk.com



Nuvo Shimmer Powder in Green Parade, £3.49, tonicstudios.co.uk



One to bookmark

Top Designer Die Cuts is the perfect project book for endless papercrafting inspiration. With your exclusive Crafter's Companion paper pack and seven-piece Pretty Petals die set, you can get to work on the ten bonus card projects straight away. Plus, expect to widen your die-cutting credentials with techniques such as partial die cutting, kinetic makes, embossing, shaped blanks and more! Get your copy at magazinestoyou.com



Designer: Debi Adams

Crafty comebacks

We're expecting the retro trend to rocket this season so jump on the craze pronto with Hero Arts' sentiment stamps. The Retro Christmas Messages set will take you back to the good ol' days with nostalgic-style typography and motifs. They're calling out to be paired with vibrant inks, so be brave and why not go beyond the traditional Christmas palette? Visit heroarts.com for stockists.



We have been busy at Wow! HQ creating a whole range of different products for you. You will be blown away by our selection of sparkles this month...

All That Glitters

For added WOW! use Sparkles alone or with your embossing powders.

Comes with a **FREE** carry case.



Everybody needs



Add sparkle to your projects this month with this beautiful range of NEW products from WOW!



New stamps now available

Wow! Card Stock

WOW! Superior Smooth White Card stock is a premium quality card stock especially for embossing. In a bright white, you'll get crisp images. It's also great with alcohol pens for all you colouring enthusiasts.



Melt-it

Melt-it is the fastest melting enamel in craft. Why not add some sparkle to your Melt-it creations.

Visit our blog for more Project ideas



wowembossingpowder.blogspot.com

www.wowembossingpowder.co.uk

Achieve glitz and glamour with the glitter die-cut toppers included

Fuel your love of fairies for the festive season with our...

12 motifs to keep you stamping all season long

ENCHANTED Christmas SHAKER KIT

Wow... we've really pulled out all the stops with this month's showstopping shaker card kit by Crafter's Companion. Bursting at the seams with all of the materials you need to get started, including stamps, an embossing folder, designer papers, sequins and more, expect to create luxury cards Sara Davies would be proud of! Plus, don't forget about the handy templates inside - it's never been easier to create the perfect sized apertures for your shakers.

Extra! Create snowy textures with your bonus snow embossing folder



Exclusive TO PaperCrafter

YOUR EXCLUSIVE 47-PIECE fairy shaker kit

Look at me! STAMPS...

Endless spellbinding projects to make!

...AND EMBOSSING

How to... Shaker element

WITH



Draw a shape in the centre of a card panel and cut out to create an aperture. Add acetate to the back with double-sided tape. Apply 3D foam pads around the shape, ensuring there are no gaps. Pour sequins onto the acetate and mount another piece of card onto the shaker panel to seal the sequins.

Sentiment shaker

Take the purple moonlit background, use the star template to draw a shape in the centre of the card and cut out to create an aperture. Cover the back with acetate, then add 3D foam pads all around the back of the aperture and the edges of the card. Create a slightly larger blank and layer the light pink card onto the centre. Stamp a sentiment in black ink, using the aperture as a guide. Pour sequins onto the pink card, then position the aperture panel on top and adhere. Fix a die-cut tag to the card to complete.

5 SAVVY WAYS WITH YOUR KIT

- ♥ After adding the 3D foam pads around the aperture, treat the edges of the foam with an anti-static tool to avoid the sequins sticking to any exposed adhesive
- ♥ Use up any 'waste' from other cards, particularly shapes cut from apertures
- ♥ A stamping tool is really useful when using solid stamps. The impression is rarely perfect the first time round
- ♥ If you have basic shaped dies in your stash, you could use these to create your apertures instead
 - ♥ Using metallic embossing powders on darker backgrounds is so effective; silver really makes motifs stand out



Wow!

THERE ARE 47
PIECES IN YOUR
LUXURY CARDKIT



Complete your shaker cards with sequins – you'll find these in your kit!

Stars & sequins

Using the blue bokeh background, draw around the star template in the centre, then cut out. Secure acetate to the reverse of the aperture with double-sided tape. Apply 3D foam pads all around the back of the aperture and the edges of the card. Take a white blank and fix snowflake paper to the centre. Add sequins, then layer the aperture panel on top. Cut out a large sentiment and three small ones, layering the larger one onto white card. Attach to the card front. Cut out a fairy from a die-cut topper, then apply glue to the wings. Pour over glitter, shake off the excess and fix to the card.



Embossed accents

Trim snowflake paper to 10cm x 12.5cm, matt onto black, then a white landscape blank. Die cut a circle from blue, treat with an anti-static tool, then stamp the deer in VersaMark ink. Pour over silver embossing powder, remove the excess, then heat-set. Die cut a slightly smaller circle from pink paper, then secure to the bottom-right of the card. Add the blue embossed circle on the left with 3D foam pads. Snip a strip from black card, treat with an anti-static tool, then stamp a sentiment in VersaMark ink. Pour over silver embossing powder, remove the excess, then heat-set. Trim a diagonal edge from one end of the sentiment and attach to the card with 3D foam pads.





Circular frames

Take the purple moonlit background, then cut a circle using the template. Layer acetate behind the shape and add 3D foam pads around the aperture. Mount lilac paper onto a lilac blank. Add sequins into the middle of the lilac panel and matt the aperture panel on top. Cut out a sentiment from a die-cut topper using a circle die and secure to the centre of the acetate.

Attach a smaller sentiment underneath the aperture and embellish with sequins.



Sentiment apertures

Die cut a circle from the bottom-left corner of pink paper, slightly smaller than a circular die-cut sentiment. Stamp a fairy on the left. Adhere the die-cut sentiment to the reverse of the aperture. Mount the panel onto black, then onto a white blank. Finish with a die-cut sentiment.



Stamped silhouettes

Take the blue background and cut a circle from the top-left corner using the templates. Stamp a fairy and toadstool in black on the right. Layer black card onto a white blank and trim a circle from the blue bokeh background, slightly larger than the circular aperture. Adhere onto the black card using the aperture as a guide. Stamp a sentiment in the centre of the blue circle. Cover the back of the aperture with acetate, then add 3D foam pads around the shape on the reverse. Place sequins into the centre of the bokeh circle, then layer the aperture panel on top. Complete with a small die-cut sentiment.

In PaperCrafter next month...



Opt for die-cut sentiments or stamp your own



Deer duo

Trim the blue tree background to 10cm x 13cm and treat with an anti-static tool. Stamp two deer using VersaMark ink, then pour over silver embossing powder. Shake off the excess and heat-set. Mount onto black card, then onto a white blank. Finish with a silver embossed sentiment.

Pair your stamps with black ink for striking silhouettes



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- ♥ Bonus papers, die-cut toppers, bead embellishments and more!



Look!
80+ pieces inside

Don't miss issue 142, on sale 12th December!

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Your time to shine

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 pinterest.co.uk/papercraftermag

 twitter.com/papercraftermag

 youtube.com/thecraftschannel

Or email: cayle.hotene@aceville.co.uk

The Memory Keeper

I needed to lose myself in something that let me forget, just for a little while, the challenges my family and I are going through after losing a loved one this year. And little did I know that this tiny travel notebook could bring so much joy not just to me but to others, too! Tiny TN Tuesday was born and I then started selling them on my Etsy shop so others can have their own little piece of creative heaven.



MAKER OF THE MONTH

CLARE BROWN

has won a crafty goodie bag worth £30!



Over to you

IN ONE SENTENCE OR LESS, DESCRIBE YOUR LOVE OF CRAFTING

Perfection
NIKKI SMITH

Peaceful and relaxing
JOAN CROLL

That sense of fulfillment when an idea comes together
LESLEY PYLE

Regenerating
SHARON HOLT

Essential
DAWN WOODS

Life saving!
EMMA MAIDEN

Peace of mind
DIANA AGNOLIN

An escape from my 9-5
NICKY LEIGHTON

My happy place
MICHELLE MCCARTHY

Escaping into a beautiful world
VANESSA JANE SHANAHAN

Making a beautiful mess to remember life's precious moments
VIRGINIA JANSEN



We asked if there's ever such a thing as too much crafting... a resounding

84%
of you said no!



The Problem Solver

We've all been there – the glue bottle is clogged up and you can't find that pin you had a moment ago. Well, I've solved that problem by making myself a pin case. I used my Fiskars butterfly punch, label and star punches and some scraps from the First Edition Wanderlust paper pad to decorate. I hope PaperCrafter readers like it!

Michelle Gower



Words to craft by

If you don't hear from me for a few days, don't panic – I'm probably just in a crafting hole



The Tag Maker

Both of these tags were created recently for a project involving use of a masterboard, which is a sheet of card created using inks and/or paints. This is then stamped over with a variety of colours, stamps and textures and used as a background for all sorts of creations. The idea came from the lovely Nina Ribena, who posts her creations on YouTube.

May Jones





The Christmas Twister

I was made redundant recently and was very upset, so I decided to treat myself to a set of stamps. I came up with an idea for a Christmas card with a twist. I made and filled a shaker with shiny sequins, stamped a cute yeti on watercolour paper and coloured it with watercolour pens. I cut out the yeti and attached him to the bauble. I stamped the sentiment with a clear embossing pad and sprinkled white embossing powder, and voila – you've got a cute, unusual Christmas card with a detachable decoration.

Anna Howat

Funny on facebook

I have a foolproof plan when I buy lottery tickets – if I win, splurge at the craft store. If I lose, splurge at the craft store.

Win win!

 **Sammie Burgess**



The Birthday Master

A bit about me: I've been crafty for most of my life thanks to my mum. I got into cardmaking about 18 years ago and have been hooked ever since (which I'm sure is a familiar story!). I made this birthday card using Julie Hickey Designs layers, frames square dies and floral sprigs stamps. I love Julie's designs and use them all the time.



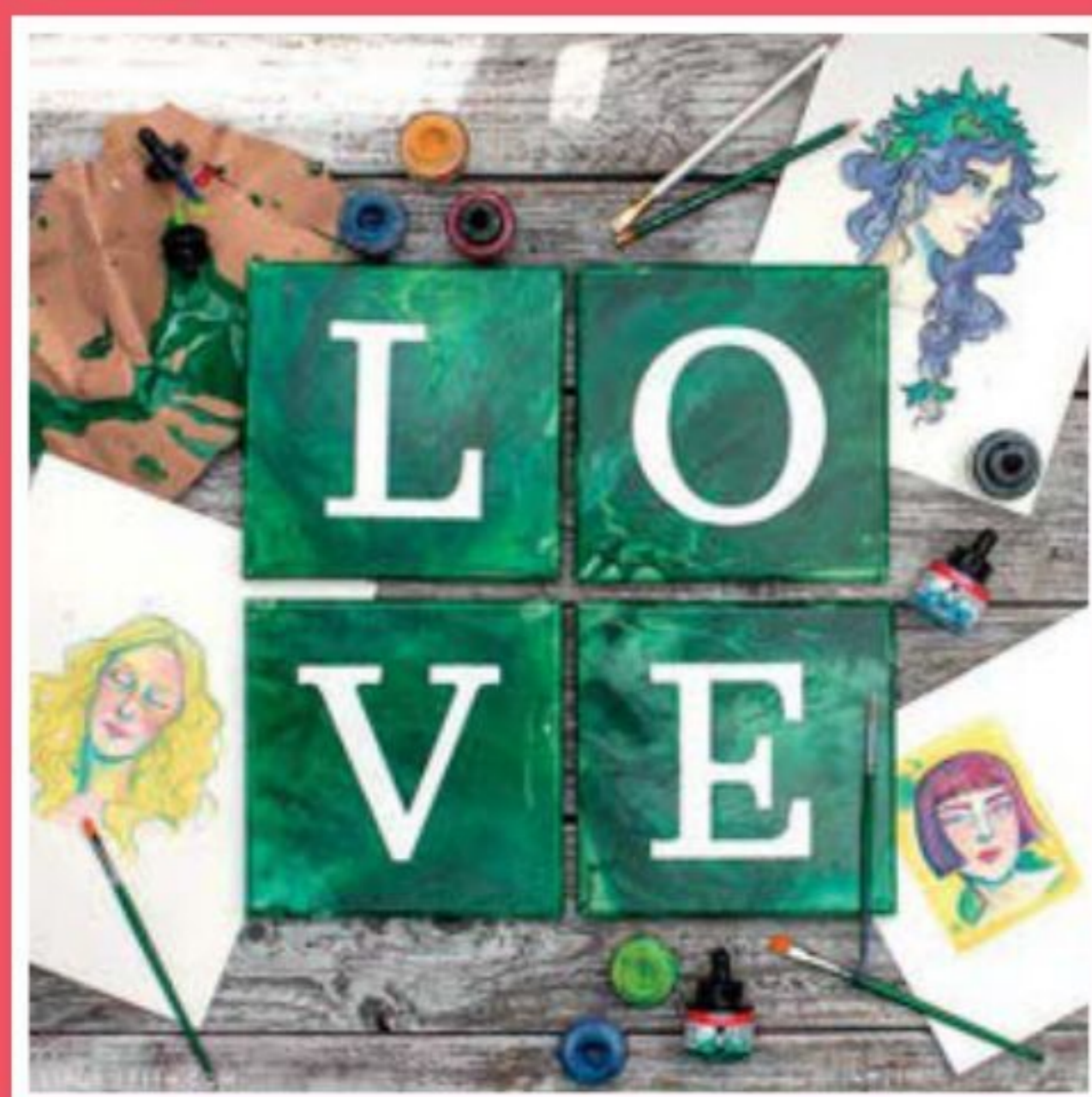
Maxcine Etherington

The Thankful Reader

I don't normally comment on items in magazines but I was drawn to the story in your Christmas Card Special. 'The First Christmas Since' brought tears to my eyes as it is very close to my own situation. I can understand how the woman in the story felt and had to share it with you. Here's a card to say thank you for a great magazine. It's short on embellishments as I've had to pack most of my stuff away in anticipation of a new storage unit. Keep up the good work.

Paulette Foyle

INSTAGLAM



Lia Griffith does paint pouring @liagriffith



Halloween may be over, but @americancrafts' experimentation with pumpkin pouring lingers in the memory



Watch out, kids. We're taking away your acronyms!
@friendlyfirepaper



@gratuitypaperco preaching the importance of creating for yourself

Jump bright in

Energise your creative palette this Christmas with our top bold buys

Win this page!

Visit our Instagram at [@papercraftermag](#) for your chance to win all of these products



- 1 Simply Creative Reindeer stamp, visit [trimcraftdirect.com](#) for stockists
- 2 String Of Lights die, £17, [lawnfawn.com](#)
- 3 Nuvo Embellishment Mousse in Lemon Sorbet, Aloe Vera, Powder Blue, Triple Berry and Fusion Red, £6.49 each, [tonic-studios.co.uk](#)
- 4 Masté Bright Colour Mix A washi tapes, £15.50, [thefoxandstar.co.uk](#)
- 5 Simple Stories Say Cheese Christmas Bits & Pieces, £5.35, [papermaze.co.uk](#)
- 6 Prism Glimmer Mist Ultimate Collection, £49.87, [hunkydorycrafts.co.uk](#)
- 7 Simply Creative Basics Mini Christmas Lights, visit [trimcraftdirect.com](#) for stockists
- 8 Pebeo Matt Acrylic Paints in Lavender Blue, Red Pearl, Chick Yellow and Foliage Green, £2 each, [hobbycraft.co.uk](#)
- 9 Mini String Of Lights die, £14, [lawnfawn.com](#)
- 10 Mama Makes Magical Christmas 8" x 8" paper pad, £12.99, [mamamakesstore.co.uk](#)



Christmas magic

Craft a mix of classic and non-traditional Christmas icons with Paper Addicts

Whisper it: we're winding down our Christmas coverage, so appreciating this card gallery is a must if you're nutty for Noel. We were drawn to this paper collection in part because of the variety of its seasonal iconography.

You've got your usual suspects, nutcrackers, holly, stockings, but with a few left-field options thrown in – ballerinas and fairies aren't something we usually associate with Christmas, but they're a perfect fit here.

SHAKER FAIRYTALE

1 Layer a 10.5cm x 15cm white blank with pink card trimmed slightly smaller. Snip character paper to 9.5cm x 14cm and mount on top. Cut striped paper, 3cm x 10.5cm, matt onto pink, then fix across the centre.

2 Die cut an 8cm oval from pink card and snowflake paper. Die cut a 6.5cm oval through the pink one to create a frame. Fix acetate behind the frame and run foam tape around the edge.

3 Die cut five shooting stars from mirri card and lay them face-down on the acetate. Sprinkle glitter on top, remove the backing from the foam tape, then attach the snowflake oval to the reverse of the pink frame.

4 Adhere the shaker to the card front. Stamp the start of a sentiment onto white card and emboss with silver embossing powder. Cut out a fairy and sentiment, then fix to the oval. Adhere two star trails around the fairy to finish.

YOU WILL NEED:

• Craft essentials • Patterned papers, Paper Addicts Magical Stories 12" x 12" • Embellishments: Simply Creative metallic snowflakes, wooden shapes, wooden pegs, jingle bells, Christmas sentiments, baker's twine • Stamps, Simply Creative Christmas Trees • Dies: Simply Creative Christmas Shooting Star; ovals • Embossing powders: gold, silver • Glitter • Acetate • Die-cutting machine

SNOWFLAKE HEAVEN

1 Matt a 10.5cm x 17cm top-folding white blank with green card. Cut spotty paper to 9.5cm x 16cm, fix gold snowflakes across it, then secure to the blank. Trim square patterned paper to 3cm x 10.5cm and attach at the bottom, wrapping baker's twine around three times.

2 Stamp a sentiment on white card and emboss with gold embossing powder. Die cut it into a 4.5cm oval, then matt onto a slightly larger oval cut from patterned paper. Trim away the outer pieces of a snowflake and shape until it fits at the bottom of the sentiment.

3 Attach the sentiment onto the centre of the border with 3D foam pads. Cut out a Christmas tree and secure it above the oval with 3D foam pads to complete.



I'd love to see any cards you make

from this lovely set

– or any cards at all – email me at

cayle.hotene@aceville.co.uk

with pictures of your creations.

Sharing's caring!

NUTCRACKER TRIO

1 Create a top-folding white blank, 8.5cm x 14cm. Matt it with yellow card, then mount Christmas tree paper on top. Die cut a 7.5cm oval from striped paper. Layer onto a 9cm oval cut from yellow card, then fix to the top of the greeting.

2 Cut out three nutcrackers and attach to the oval with 3D foam pads. Trim striped paper, 2cm x 14cm, then secure to the card front. Wrap baker's twine three times around the strip. Trim a sentiment, layer onto yellow card and attach with 3D foam pads to complete.



TURN OVER FOR MORE CARDS →



ADD TO BASKET

Paper Addicts
Magical Stories
12" x 12" paper pack,
£10.49, amazon.co.uk

BAUBLED APERTURE

1 Snip white card to 16cm x 21cm and score down the long side at 3cm, 6cm, 15cm and 18cm. Mountain fold the outer score lines and valley fold the inner score lines. Cover each panel with yellow card trimmed slightly smaller. Snip four pieces of star

paper, 2cm x 15cm, and secure to the front and inner side panels.

2 Cut patterned paper to 8cm x 15cm and secure onto the middle panel. Trim white card to 3cm x 15cm, layer with yellow paper and square patterned paper, then attach it to the top of the card front. Cut out three hanging bauble shapes and attach to the panel. Snip

white card to 5cm x 15cm, cover with yellow card, then layer with bauble paper.

3 Adhere a strip of star paper across the centre of the bottom panel, then wrap baker's twine around it three times. Glue to the bottom of the card front. Attach a peg sentiment on the left-hand side of the bottom panel, then fix a gold snowflake to it.

CHRISTMAS TREE-O

1 Matt grey card onto a 10.5cm x 15cm top-folding white blank. Layer with spotty paper, then die cut a 7cm oval through the card front.

2 Trim patterned paper to 3cm x 15cm and attach towards the bottom. Stamp three trees on black card, then emboss with silver embossing powder. Cut each one out and secure in the aperture.

3 Snip snowflake paper to 9.5cm x 14.5cm and adhere inside. Wrap baker's twine around the panel three times. Cut out a sentiment, layer on pink spotty paper, then adhere in the centre of the border.



ONLINE ONLY!

Folding Masterclass
papercraftermagazine.co.uk



CONTRASTING PAPERS

1 Trim white card to 15cm x 15.5cm and score down the long side at 5cm. Valley fold the score line, then cover the front and inside panels with grey card trimmed smaller. Snip crown paper to 9.5cm x 14cm and attach to the inside panel.

2 Adhere spotty paper, 4cm x 14cm, to the front panel. Cut out an oval with a stocking in the middle, layer onto grey, then fix to the panel with 3D foam pads. Cut out a stocking and stick to the oval with 3D foam pads.

3 Cut out a sentiment and attach underneath. Stamp a tag on white card, then emboss with gold embossing powder. Trim, punch a hole in the end and thread with baker's twine. Attach to the inside of the card with 3D foam pads to finish.



"We're coming to the end of Christmas crafting

season, and I wanted to go out with a bang – I hope you've enjoyed my seasonal makes as much as I enjoyed making them!"

SARAH JACKMAN READ,
DESIGNER

Fixed flourish

This issue each make is embellished with a lovely bell adornment and gems in silver and gold. To make the bell, thread a jingle bell with twine, tie in a bow, then attach in place.



STANDOUT PANELLING

1 Create a side-folding white blank, 14cm square, and adhere pink card to it. Layer star paper on top. Trim spotty paper, 5cm x 14cm, then attach down the right-hand side. Wrap baker's twine three times down the right-hand side of the pink section.

2 Die cut a 4.5cm oval from ballerina paper, then layer onto a slightly larger oval. Attach centrally to the smaller panel. Snip striped paper to 2cm x 14cm, then secure across the bottom. Attach a trimmed sentiment to the left-hand side of the greeting, then cut out a

ballerina and fix to the oval, both with 3D foam pads.

3 Cut out two Christmas trees and attach to the card front with 3D foam pads, followed by three shooting stars die cut from mirri card. Adhere three mini jingle bells to the baker's twine to complete.



Get the look!

ENCHANT YOUR STASH WITH THESE SIMPLY CREATIVE BITS AND BOBS, FOUND AT

CRAFTERSCOMPANION.CO.UK



Christmas scene stamp, £1



Xmas tag die, £1



Christmas trees card hanging kit, £4.50



Christmas kraft tags, £1.49



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Craft Me Quick

Holly Jolly

Tracey Daykin-Jones celebrates this new (and ever so amazing) collection from Simple Stories





SLICE YOUR CARD TO REVEAL MORE

Stick striped paper to the inside of a 10.5cm x 15cm side-folding blank. Trim a 3cm vertical strip from the outer edge of the front. Fix patterned paper to the remaining section. Adhere a topper to a red tag shape using 3D foam pads, then add an adhesive sentiment to the bottom. Staple green ribbon to the top and secure to the card using 3D foam pads.



BRILLIANT CARD IN BARELY ANY TIME

Die cut two circles, one from blue spotted paper and another from white card. Use a curved die to create the wave effect with the white card and adhere to the blue. Layer onto a white scalloped circle. Create a scene using card toppers. Add three strips of spotty paper to a 10.5cm x 15cm blank and add the topper using 3D foam pads. Finish with a sentiment.



Simple Stories
Holly Jolly
collection,
£14.99, craftie-charlie.co.uk

Top tip

Use a photograph of a loved one to give your snow globe a personal touch

circle and cut a horizontal line across the bottom to make a dome shape. Adhere a snowman topper to a red blank, then a pink panel using 3D foam pads. Stamp a sentiment onto brown card, trim and add to the card to create a snow globe.

ADAPT YOUR DIE-CUTS TO MAKE UNIQUE SHAPES

Create a 10.5cm x 15cm red blank. Trim pink card slightly smaller and die cut a circle above the centre. Trim a short vertical line either side of the

KEEP IT SIMPLE WITH A STAND-OUT TOPPER

Cover a 10.5cm x 15cm blank with dark red patterned paper. Trim a reindeer topper and layer onto green foliage paper, adhering to the card using 3D foam pads. Add a sentiment and embellish the topper with gold gems.

A CONTRAST OF EARTHY AND PASTEL SHADES CAN REALLY MAKE YOUR CARD TOPPERS POP!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



the joy of the season



A Year of PaperCrafter

Here's a snippet of our best crafty highlights from

2019

Words by Amelia Bolton

What a difference a year makes!



Post-itive vibes

You joined us to celebrate Thinking Of You Week 2019 and the power of positive post

Stencilling shortcuts

Jane Davenport showed us the savvy way to succeed with stencils

Quick catch up

Alexander McQueen's apprentice, Zoe Bradley, revealed all to PaperCrafter in issue 136

Licence to quill

61% of our readers said they would like to give quilling a go so we rounded up our top hacks

Shaking things up

You took our masterclass in celebratory shaker cards in issue 137



Multiple embossing

We achieved tantalising textures with Keren Baker's embossing expertise



793 best-ever card projects for every occasion

213 stamps and dies for you!

We reached 3,000 followers on Instagram!

In the life of...

Anne-Marie Catterall revealed the perks of her job as a demonstrator at Hunkydory



Airbrushed effects

You absolutely adored the inky airbrushing technique we showed you in issue 130

One-kit waterfalls

Kinetic greetings with a twist, we put Crafter's Companion's waterfall cards to the test

Queen of crafts

We brought you an exclusive interview with crafting queen turned feisty dragon, Sara Davies

Waste not, want not

We did our bit to help combat waste with our negative die cutting how-to... not so negative after all!

In a hurry?

We introduced our first Craft Me Quick projects in issue 134 to make your life just that little bit easier

Editor Rosie has got through an impressive 1,012 cups of tea



From us to you...

407
FREE
patterned papers

The wow effect

We stepped into the craft room with WOW! Embossing's Creative Consultant, Marion Emberson

In the mix

Our Christmas Mixed Media Special saw a whole host of techniques including ink smooching, embossing, mousse textures and more!

Die-cutting 101

We proved just how versatile your die-cutting gadget can be with 23 techniques from shaker cards to patchwork effects

Cascading amazing

We put a creative twist on die cutting with these staggered sentiments



£23,151
worth of prizes
have been won
this year alone

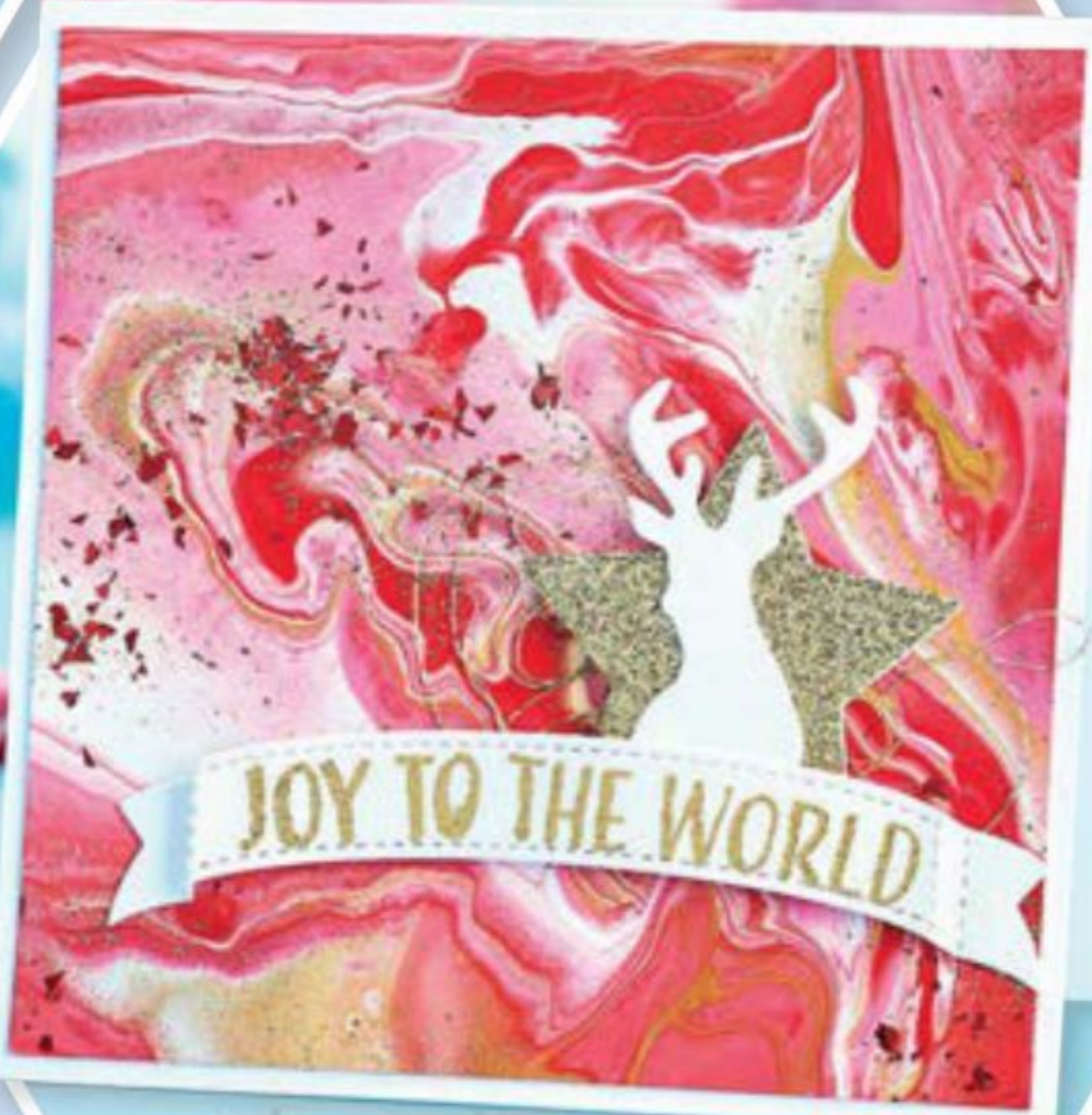
It's a wrap

Lia Griffith revealed her easy DIY gift wrapping solutions for Christmas



Testing the trends

Acrylic paint pouring was on the cards in issue 139 – we love bringing you the next big things in crafts



We've given
you loads of
digi stamps...

394
to be exact



Word up!

We met calligraphy's leading sidekick in our brush lettering 101 with Kirsten Burke among other famous names



Christmas lights

You asked for a tutorial in light-up cards and that's exactly what you got in issue 139

Just add water

We stole Vicki Boutin's hacks to achieving the best effects with watercolour brush markers





CLAIRE SEWELL

When I first set my eyes upon these stunning new ranges, I instantly felt inspired to dream up some beautiful festive cards. The paper pads are full to the brim with elegant and magical illustrations to help fuel your Christmas creativity. Featuring an exciting array of layouts including ditsy patterns, stand-alone illustrations and useful quads, they're perfect for making a range of greetings.

FIRST LOOK

docrafts® Papermania

Enchanted Swan & Merriest Christmas

Try our favourite duo of Christmas paper collections from docrafts Papermania

Use a low-tack tape to adhere the baubles to the card so that your recipient can remove them to hang on their Christmas tree

DETACHABLE DECS

Layer silver glitter card and mint onto a 15cm x 20.5cm blank with Stick It! 3D foam pads. Select an Enchanted Swan paper pad and trim to 14cm x 19cm. Add a sheet of white vellum on top with the Stick It! Permanent adhesive roller. Cut out one large grey feather bauble and two small green ones. Add detail to the feathers by brushing Anita's 3D Clear Gloss over the top, then sprinkle with iridescent glitter. Once dried, attach Create Christmas metallic elastic cord to each of the baubles and embellish with a bow. Adhere to the reverse of the card and secure the baubles with 3D foam pads. Fix to the greeting and finish with a die-cut sentiment.



Wooden embellishments evoke a folksy style

Find the full collections in store at The Range – therange.co.uk

ONLINE ONLY!



Add interest to your designs with shaped sentiments

SHADOW SCENES

Create a 13cm square blank from kraft card. Die cut with the 9cm Xcut Square Parenthesis nesting die. Attach a woodland scene panel behind the aperture. For the middle and top layers, select two designs from the Merriest Christmas paper pad and trim to 13.5cm square. Die cut the centres using the nesting dies in order of size. Stick the top panel onto the middle layer using Stick It! 3D foam squares. Fix acetate, 12cm square, to the back of the window. Place two layers of Stick it! 3D foam tape to each side of the card. Position the panels on top and press down firmly. Add snowy details with a thin brush and Artiste Metallic Acrylic Paint in White.



Mix and match a variety of traditional patterned papers

Why not try...?

- ♥ Use Anita's Vellum to add a frosty feel to your designs
- ♥ Craft punches are a great way to use up small scraps of paper
- ♥ Get to grips with the various mixed media products on offer – the Artiste Metallic Acrylic Paint in White is perfect for adding snowy details
- ♥ Layer up multiple sets of Stick it! 3D foam squares for extra depth

VELLUM ACCENTS

Take a 13cm x 20cm blank and cover the front with white star paper. Add a border across the centre with the Stick It! Permanent adhesive roller. Choose a topper and layer onto red glitter paper using Stick It! 3D foam squares. Place in the centre of the greeting. Adhere patterned vellum along the bottom half of the card. Choose a die-cut sentiment and matt onto red glitter paper. Using the Xcut Star punch and the Xcut Scalloped Border punch, create small stars and a border. Glue these onto the card, then finish with a bow and gems.



PaperCrafter

Giveaways

A whopping £1,051 worth of prizes to be won



PERFECT PAPER BUNDLE

The hardworking elves at Simple Stories (simplestories.com) have been busy designing the warm and whimsical Holly Jolly collection. Christmas cookies, dashing deer, and Santa himself make an appearance in this imaginative collection. Cheerful patterns and joyful designs will add a little spice to your holiday papercrafts and are perfect for capturing memories of the most wonderful time of the year. There's five bundles up for grabs, so get entering.



CRAFTING SHOW TICKETS

Don't miss the chance to win a pair of tickets to The Creative Craft Show (ichfevents.co.uk), taking place at EventCity in Manchester from 30th January to 1st February 2020. It's a wonderful event for hobbyists and crafters to indulge their passion and explore the very best the creative market has to offer. Shop for supplies, take part in workshops and see a host of demonstrations and outstanding features.



QUIRKY STAMP SET

Crafter's Companion (crafterscompanion.co.uk) stamps have a guarantee of great quality; and their latest new and exciting product launch is no different. In collaboration with current Dragon Sara Davies' brand, we're offering three lucky readers the chance to win a complete bundle of the new Quirky Sentiments stamp sets. Good luck!



YEAR'S SUPPLY

Tesa Adhesives (tesa.com) is offering one lucky reader the chance to win a year's supply of their innovative adhesive solutions to make your craft dreams come true! As experts in the 'sticky stuff' for over 125 years, let your imagination run free with their amazing bundle, including eco-friendly glue rollers, a mini tape dispenser and the award-winning Glue Stamp – staples for every crafter's toolkit.



PREMIUM PAPER

The wonderful folks at Lia Griffith (liagriffith.com) believe nobody should be crafting for Christmas without premium tissue paper; this is why they were so excited to offer four lucky readers the chance to stock up their stash. Whether you're low on crepe paper or a total newbie, now's a great time to introduce yourself to Lia Griffith's premium range.



STAMPING MAD

We've teamed up with the wonderful Craftascope (etsy.com/shop/craftascope) to give one lucky reader the chance to win their very own stamping bundle. We're sure your mind is already buzzing with the various different ways you could use these beauties, so we won't take up any more of your time. Enter now!

Entering is easy!

- 1 Visit our website papercraftermagazine.co.uk
- 2 Click on the 'Giveaways' tab
- 3 Select a giveaway and enter details

Closing date:

26TH DECEMBER 2019

MASTERCLASS

TECHNIQUE Exploding box cards:



Stack-in-the-box

Create a world in a box by combining cutesy figures and heartwarming sentiments

YOU WILL NEED:

• Craft essentials • Patterned papers, Pebbles Merry Little Christmas 12" x 12" • Embellishments: Pebbles Merry Little Christmas Accent Stickers, Washi Tape, Icon Ephemera, Stickers and Phrases • Punch, corner rounder

MERRY SCENE

1 Make a box card base as shown in the step-by-step. Cover the base panels, the flaps and the back with floral paper trimmed smaller. Matt spotty paper onto the back and base panels.

2 Layer three 2cm wide strips with spotty paper and secure inside the top of the box. Fix various die-cut shapes and stickers to strips of acetate, then attach to the strips. Wrap washi tape across the flaps and add star stickers. Attach a circular sentiment to the top of the back panel with 3D foam pads.

For more 3D makes turn to p67



LANDSCAPE FANTASY

1 Score down the short side of a 21cm x 30cm piece of white card at 14cm and 28cm, then cut in half and join together. Trim the height down to 12cm, measure 6cm up, score across and assemble into a box. Round off the corners of the back and flaps with a corner punch. Cover the back, sides and flaps with snowflake paper.

2 Snip three pieces of tree paper to 5cm x 13cm and one piece to 11cm x 13cm, then adhere to the sides and back in that order. Layer snowflake paper over three strips, then fix inside the top of the box. Wrap washi tape across the flaps and add stickers.

3 Secure a sentiment to the front with 3D foam pads, then secure a poinsettia sticker underneath. Adhere die-cut characters, a house and tree to the strips across the top of the box. Attach a speech bubble and snowflakes to strips of acetate, then adhere in place.

CHARACTER OVERLOAD

1 Create a box card base as shown in the step-by-step. Matt the sides, flaps and back panel with heart paper. Trim three pieces of striped paper to 6cm square, round off the corners with a punch and fix to the flaps. Snip three sections of patterned paper to 6cm x 7cm and one to 6cm x 14cm, round off the corners, then adhere to the sides and back.

2 Create three strips of card as shown in the step-by-step, cover them with striped paper and secure in the top of the box. Attach a sentiment to a length of acetate and fix it to the back strip. Secure die-cut shapes and stickers to acetate strips and attach inside the box. Adhere three characters towards the

front, wrap washi tape across the flaps, then attach a sentiment to the front flap with 3D foam pads. Adhere sprigs of holly around the sentiment to finish.



ADD TO BASKET

Pebbles Inc. Merry Little Christmas 12" x 12" paper pad, £19.99, heylittlemagpie.co.uk





SARAH JACKMAN READ

Top tips

BOXING BEAUTIFUL

You can really have so much fun creating these exploding box cards – and the best part is you aren't limited, they can be made in all sizes! Just make sure that your front and back panels match in size and the sides match too. That way the card will fold flat. Use a paper creaser to flatten all the score lines for a neat and professional finish. How you decorate your box is totally up to you – they work for all seasons!

SPRING LOADED

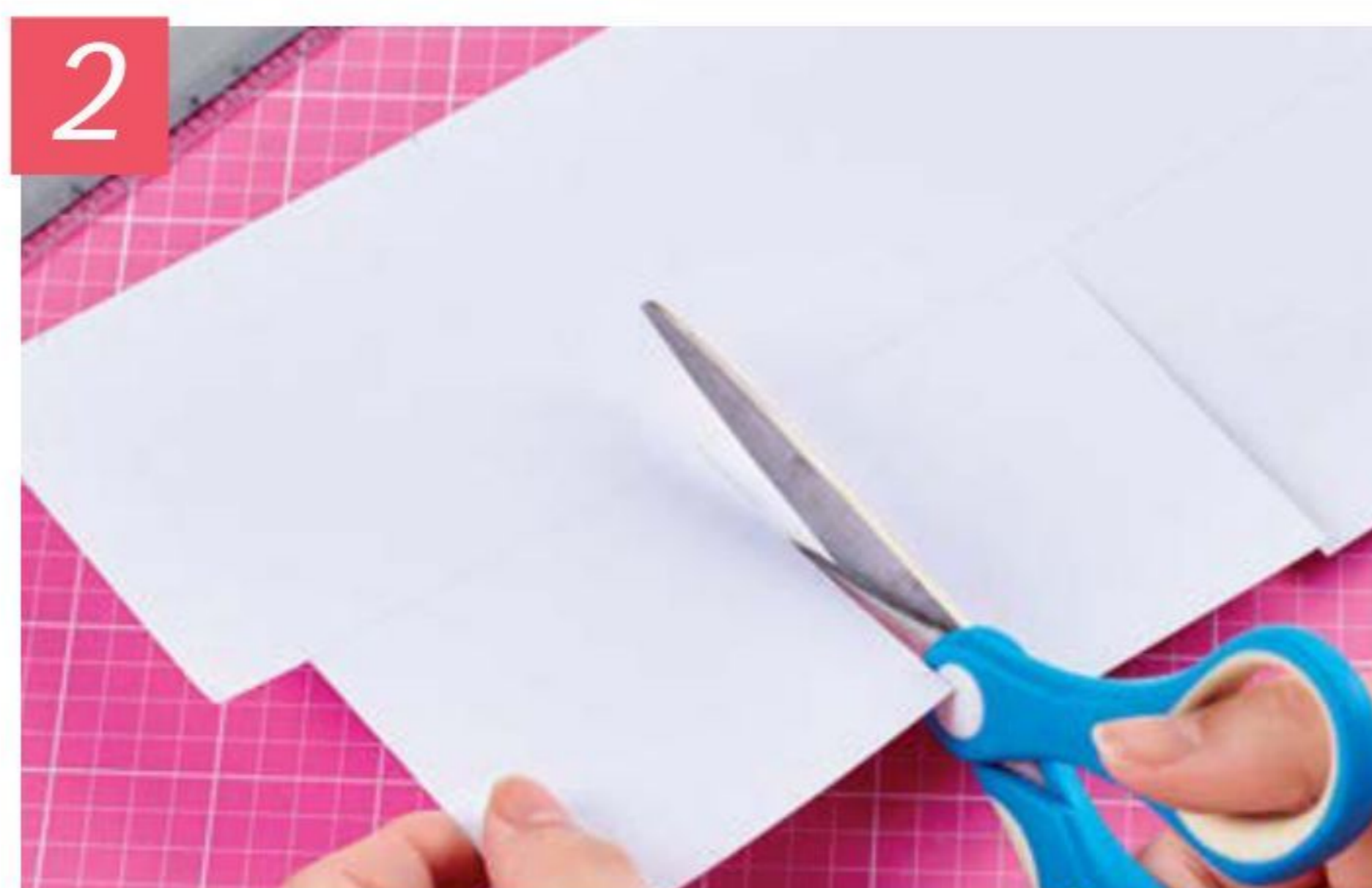
You may wish to decorate all the panels while the card is still flat for ease before adhering it together. As well as adding die-cut shapes to strips of acetate to pop out of the box, you may wish to add small shapes to tiny springs so they will bounce about when the card is opened. Extra little layers and touches can elevate your makes from good to great; experiment to your heart's content!



Step-by-step: Exploding box cards



1 Take card, 21cm x 30cm, and score down the long side at 7cm, 14cm, 21cm and 28cm. Cut the height down to 15cm



2 Measure 8cm up, then score a line across. Cut the flap off on the right-hand side above the 8cm score line, then cut down the other three score lines to the 8cm mark



3 Attach double-sided tape to the flap and fold into a box. Join the edges together. Fold the front and side flaps down, leaving the back upright



4 Take the surplus card and trim down 1cm before the first score line and 1cm after the second score line. Fold the score lines, trim the card into 2cm wide strips, then attach inside the top of the box

Starry starry nights

PAPER BAG STARS

1 Take six paper bags and with the first, glue an upside-down 'T' shape, glueing along the bottom of the bag, then straight up the middle. Make sure you don't glue on the part of the bag that sticks out as shown in step one.

2 Place the next bag directly on top of the first and repeat the upside-down 'T' shape on this one too. Add the next four bags in the same way on top of one another. Cut a large arrow shape into the top edge of the glued-together bags. The closer to the bottom this cut goes, the wider the star will open.

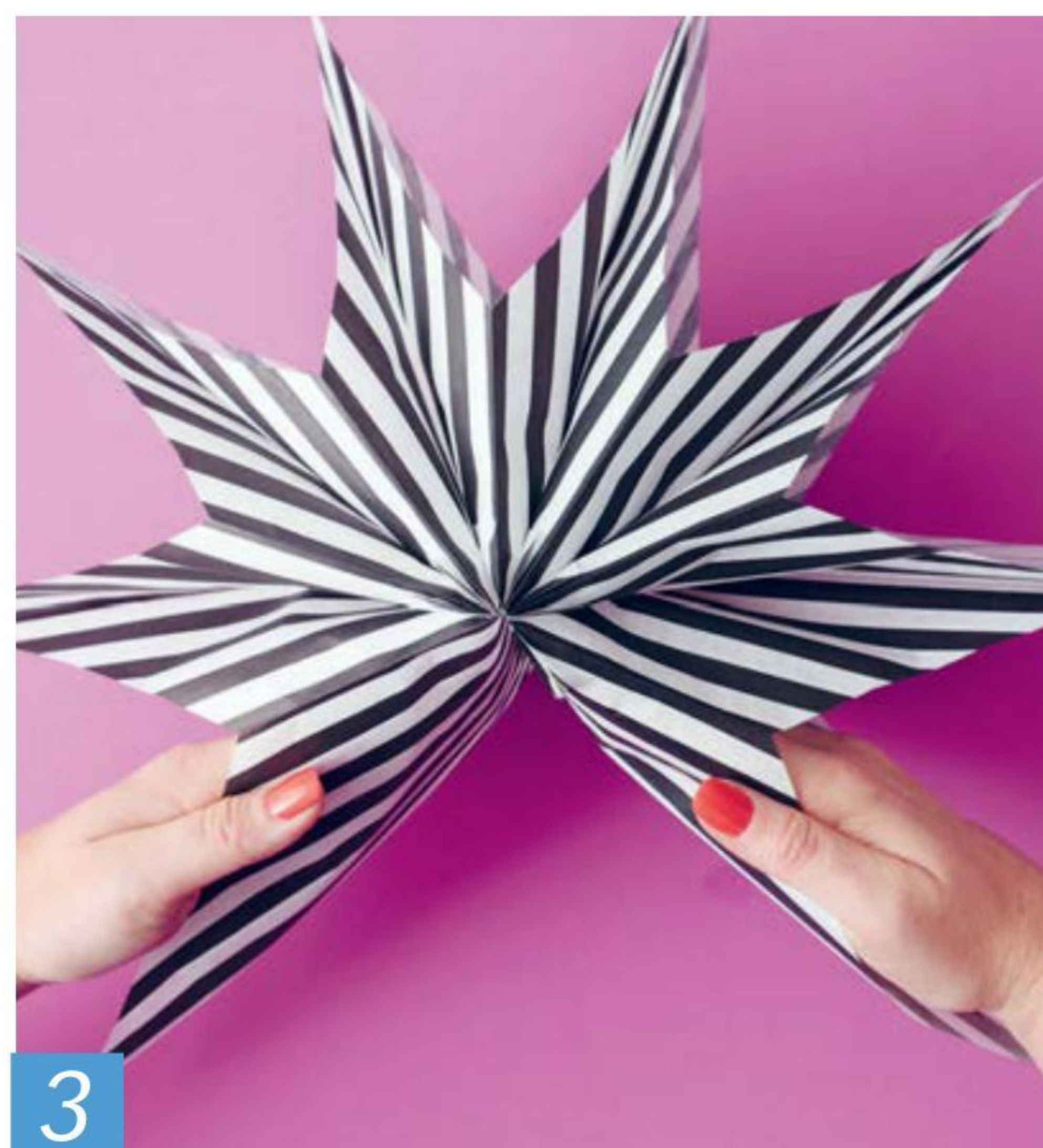
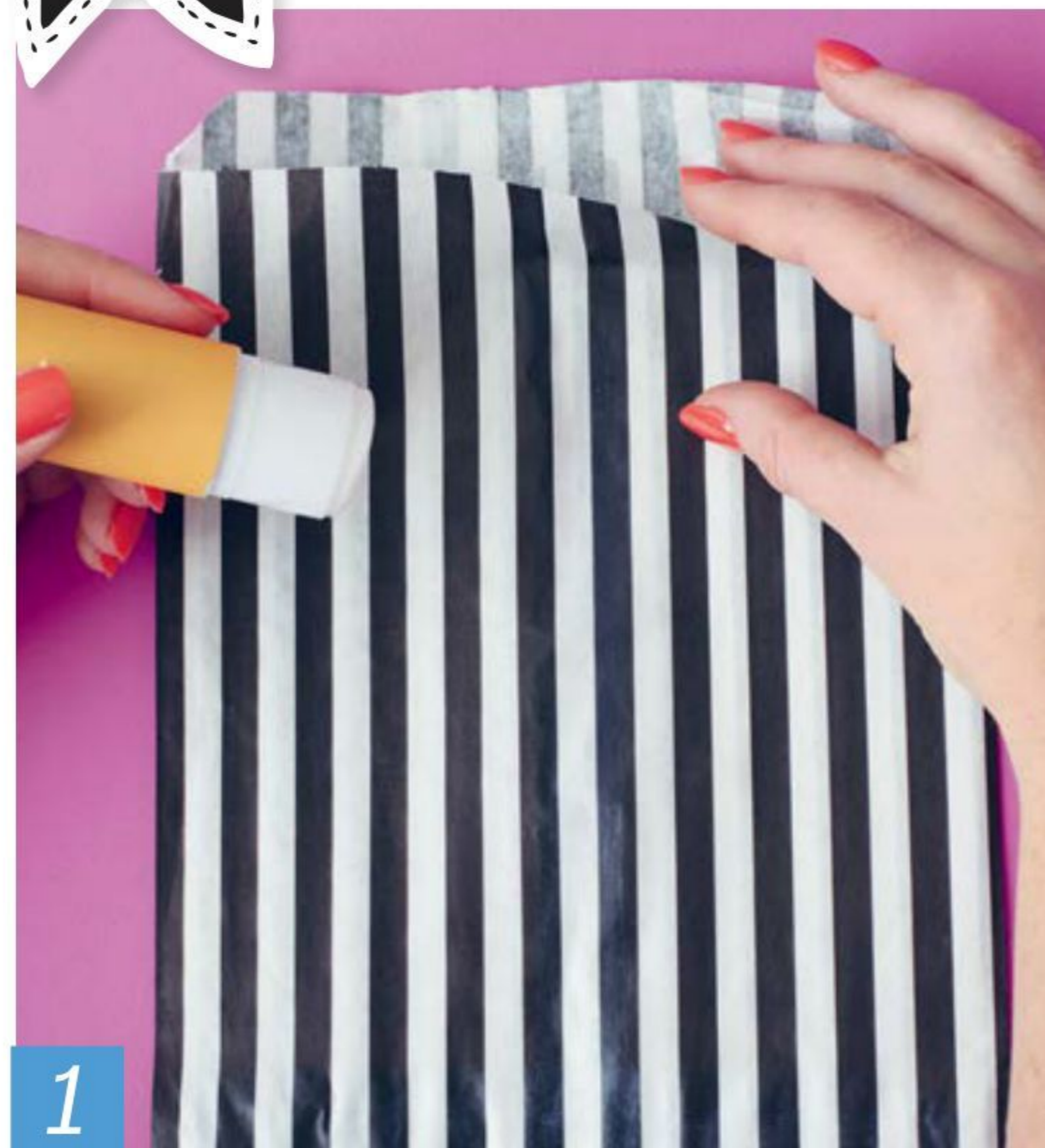
3 Now you can unfurl your star. Make a small loop of masking tape with the sticky side out and join together the last two edges. You could use glue for this, but masking tape is best because it means that you can fold the star up and reuse it for another occasion. Cut a small slit through the masking taped area. Thread some wool or string through and it's ready to hang.

Have your home twinkling with these easy-to-make paper constellations

Planning a party and need some inspiration? Whether it's for a New Year's Eve bash or winter birthday, these fabulous creations will most certainly light up your room and add extra sparkle. The hanging stars crafted from paper bags are brought to you from Emma Scott-Child's *Quick Crafts For Parents Who Think They Hate Craft* and will have you dancing underneath a starlit sky in your own front room.

YOU WILL NEED:

• Paper bags • Glue stick • Masking tape • Wool or string



Top tip

These dazzling star decorations can be made with any type of paper bag with no side walls. Any bag that is essentially made like a pocket is best



“These stars look tricky to make but they are actually super easy. I have used them to decorate all sorts of events”

EMMA SCOTT-CHILD, DESIGNER

Pick ‘n’ mix

OPT FOR A RAINBOW PALETTE WITH THESE STAR BUYS



Retro candy striped paper bags, £1.95, pipii.co.uk



Mix & match treat bags, £4.50, talkingtables.co.uk




This project has been taken from *Quick Crafts For Parents Who Think They Hate Craft* by Emma Scott-Child (£12.99, Vermilion) penguin.co.uk

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141F



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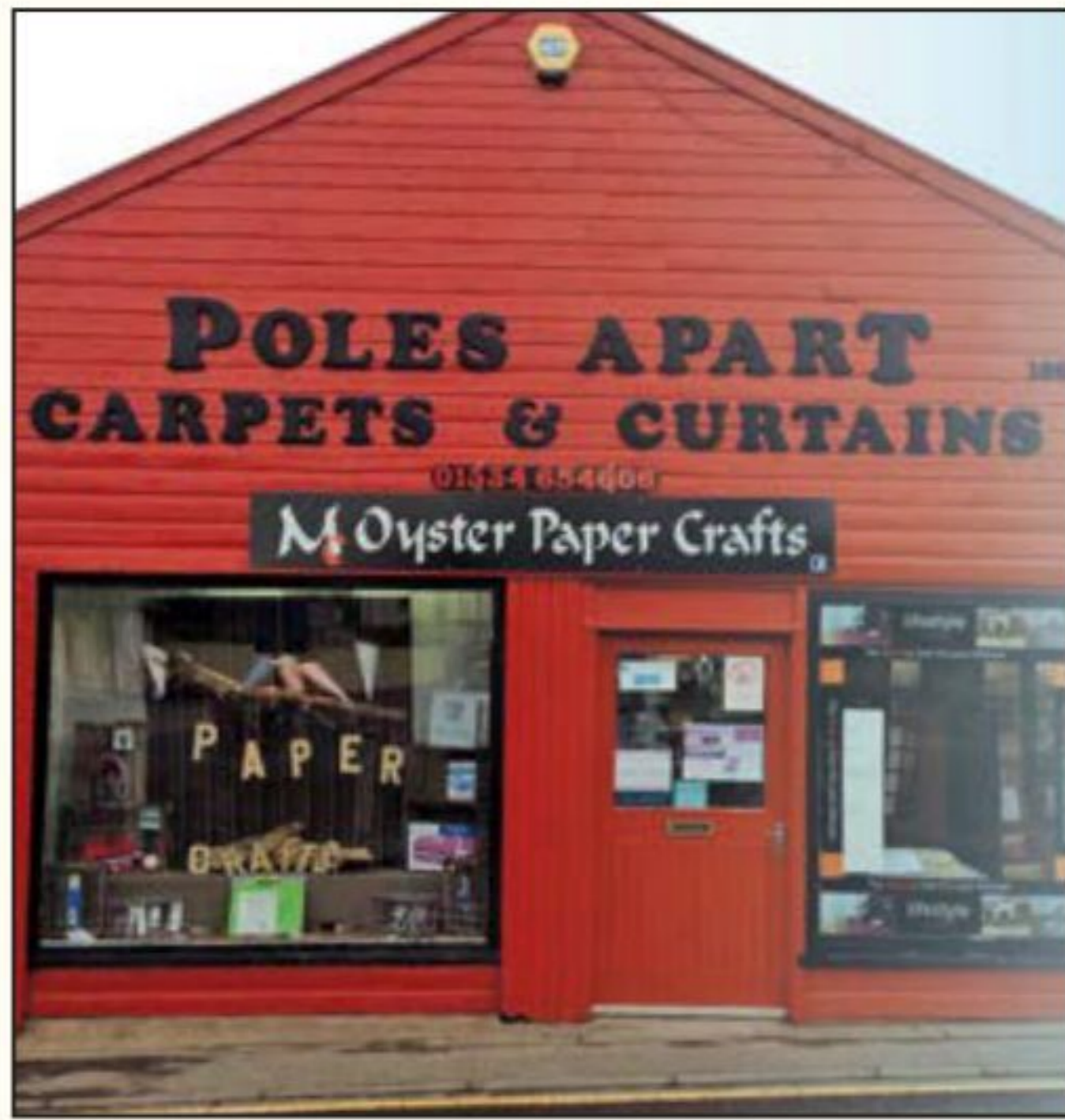
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barking up the wrong xmas tree

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Tattered Lace[®] PAPER COLLECTION

Free prints from one of our favourite brands... Merry Christmas indeed!

Offering a real mix of pattern and colour, these papers from our friends at Tattered Lace (crafting.co.uk) are enough to make anyone swoon. Festive cupcakes, deer, sledging, dried orange slices, firs, over-the-top jumpers...

it's enough to make anyone impatient for this year's festivities. Turn the page and be inspired to utilise the designs in your Christmas crafts – you won't be sorry!





Mix and match your new papers and watch delightful combinations come to life. The navy and pale pink, golden yellow and rich red... no matter the pairing, your makes will hit the spot, as demonstrated beautifully by the-one-and-only Corinne Bradd. Learn to craft pretty cards, gift ideas and decorations with her over the next three pages.

Head to papercraftermagazine.co.uk for lots more from Tattered Lace – including Christmas digi stamps!



YOU WILL NEED:

- Craft essentials • FREE Tattered Lace patterned papers (see p49)
- Dies: sentiment, 9.5cm circle, small scalloped circle • Die-cutting machine

CONCERTINA FOLDING

1 Adhere a 9.5cm x 14cm rectangle of lightly patterned paper to the top-left of a green 10.5cm x 15cm blank. Add green chequered washi tape to the bottom and right sides of the panel. Matt 6cm x 9cm of foliage paper onto red card and place at an angle to the top-left of the greeting.

2 Concertina fold a length of washi tape in a circle to create a small rosette and secure to the bottom-left of the panel. Hand cut motifs from leftover foliage paper and add to the centre of the rosette. Fix a die-cut sentiment further up the panel to finish.



ADD TO BASKET

Hunkydory
The Adorable
Scoreboard Mini,
£19.99, crafting.co.uk



CORINNE BRADD

TIPS FOR BEGINNERS

- ♥ Make sure your craft knife is sharp – you want to create clean lines, not unsightly jagged edges.
- ♥ Trying to get an idea of placement? Weaken sticky tape by placing it on a cloth and ripping it off several times. That way, it won't damage your cardstock when you apply it.
- ♥ Always use a scoring tool. Not only does it provide a neat fold, but natural oils from your hands won't mark the materials.
- ♥ It's good to have a range of different adhesives, but one of my favourites is Cosmic Shimmer because it holds well and dries clear.
- ♥ It's a well-known fact that I hate waste, so make sure you use up every little paper scrap. There's always something you can do with it!



FIND LOTS MORE PROJECT IDEAS FROM CORINNE AT

PAPERCRAFTERMAGAZINE.CO.UK

BOX MAKING

- 1** Cut two panels of card, 10.5cm x 15cm. Trim 3mm off both dimensions from one piece of card. Use a scoreboard to score 2cm in on all sides on both pieces. Clip the intersections and fold in the corners of each panel to make a rectangular tray and lid.
- 2** Cover the outside of the tray with patterned paper, folding the edges

- inside the box. Cut an undersized 10.5cm x 15cm panel of paper, fold in 2cm on all sides, snip away the corners and slip inside the tray.
- 3** Decorate the lid in the same way, cutting out thumb notches from the centre of each long edge. Trim with a band of contrasting paper and add a tiny tag tied with narrow satin ribbon.

STRAW MAKING

- 1** Choose four different prints and cut six panels, 3cm x 10cm, from each. Take a 6mm knitting needle or similar rod and roll each strip around it, glueing to make 24 paper straws.
- 2** Cover a square of card with patterned paper and cut into a 9.5cm circle. Find the centre of the circle and use a protractor to divide it into six, marking the divisions with a pencil. Choose one set of six straws and glue to the disc along the lines so they radiate out from the centre.
- 3** Select another set of straws and glue between the first. Add the remaining straws in the same way, allowing these pieces to extend longer than the first. Cover the centre of the star with a scalloped circle of paper-covered card.



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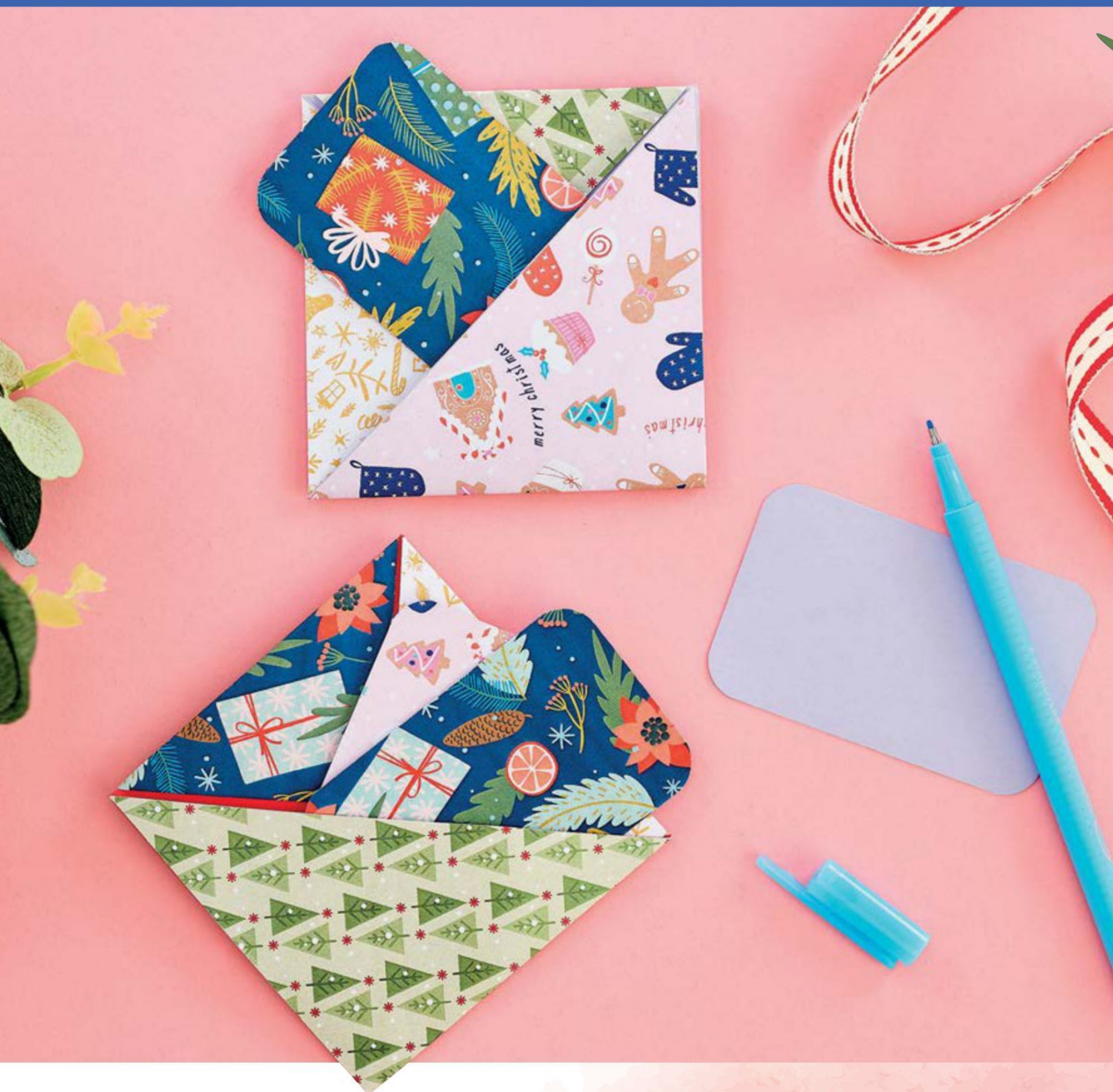
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POCKET CRAFTING

1 Take a 20cm square of thin cardstock and faintly draw a diagonal line across it from corner to corner. Fold one corner in towards the centre so the point is 9.5cm from the opposite point along the line and crease.

2 Fold the other point over to meet the folded edge and trim away the remaining points to make a rectangle. Unfold and cover the two resulting triangular panels with patterned paper. Fold the rectangle in half to create a square folder with slanted pockets on each side.

3 Trim patterned paper to 6.5cm square, fold in half diagonally and glue over the cut ends to keep the folder closed. Insert gift cards and sentiment panels into the slanted pockets.

CHALKBOARD LETTERING

1 Cut dark patterned paper, 9cm x 13cm, and mount onto red card, leaving a 3mm border all around. Fix to the centre of a navy 10.5cm x 15cm landscape blank. Trim a strip of deer print paper and stick across the bottom of the greeting, adding a strip of festive satin ribbon above it with double-sided tape.

2 Make a tag from layered black and red cardstock, then use a soft white pencil to script a sentiment across the centre, adding stars and dots. Punch a hole in the end of the tag and thread with ribbon, before placing onto the left side of the card with 3D foam pads.



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MASTERCLASS

TECHNIQUE
**Bubble wrap
impressions**



Bubble love

Jazz up your crafting by trialling a buzzworthy technique that's about to pop

YOU WILL NEED:

• Craft essentials • Paints: PaperArtsy Fresco Finish Acrylic, London Bus, Mermaid • WOW! Embossing Powder, White Pearl • Ink pads: Tonic Studios Nuvo Sportscar Red; Tsukineko VersaFine Onyx Black, VersaMark • Dies: My Favorite Things Merry Christmas; WPlus9 Stag Trio • Stamps, Lawn Fawn Simply Winter sentiments • Bubble wrap • Embellishments: Lawn Fawn Black Tie cord; red ribbon, pom-pom trim, eyelets • Vellum • Therm O Web Deco Transfer Foil • Music note sheet • Tools: brayer, palette knife, eyelet setter • Zig 2 Way glue pen • Die-cutting machine



STAG DO

1 Brayer blue acrylic paint onto a section of white card, 10cm x 14.5cm. Once dry, apply Nuvo Sportscar Red ink with a palette knife

onto a small section of bubble wrap and press onto the card panel. Leave to dry. Apply Zig 2 Way glue to a large section of bubble wrap and press it onto the card panel. Remove and allow it to get tacky. Press gold foil on top, then pull away.

2 Fix a strip of music note sheet to the right-hand side, punch holes and attach eyelets. Run black baker's twine through the hole and tie into a bow. Secure the vellum banner bottom-right, then add a die-cut stag and a die-cut embossed sentiment on top. Mount onto a blue blank to finish.

TORN EFFECT

Apply VersaMark ink to a small section of bubble wrap. Press down onto blue card, 10.5cm x 15cm, sprinkle with White Pearl embossing powder and heat-set. Adhere a torn piece of music note sheet to the top of the panel and trim to fit. Mount onto a side-folding white blank. Add ribbon and a pom-pom trim, then attach a die-cut sentiment and a stamped sentiment to the card front to finish.

Top tip

Layer different sizes of bubble wrap for a fun effect

CHRISTMAS WISHES

1 Apply Zig 2 Way glue to a large piece of bubble wrap and stamp onto a section of vellum, 10.5cm x 15cm. Allow it to get tacky, press gold foil on top and remove. Trim down by 1cm on each side and add dots of glue to the reverse. Matt the panel onto a blue blank.

2 Punch openings through the vellum and the card behind, fix eyelets on top and thread baker's twine through each hole. Fix a rectangle of music note sheet and a die-cut stag to the card front. Die cut and heat emboss a sentiment, add it to a strip of vellum, then attach to the greeting along with a stamped sentiment below it.



ADD TO BASKET

Deco Foil Transfer Sheets in Gold, visit thermoweonline.com for stockists



INGRID VICHOVA

Top tips

BUBBLE TROUBLE
Bubble wrap is probably something you wouldn't reach for when cardmaking and you're even less likely to reach for it when making Christmas cards. What if I told you that you can create fun festive cards full of glitz and shine using exactly that? On this very page I take you step-by-step through the process, from simple stamping to using scraps of bubble wrap in various sizes.

TECHNICAL VARIETY

I've used this technique in a very specific way here to create three wonderful cards – I hope you'll enjoy recreating them. But this technique is so versatile, so refreshing, that your crafty options are limited only by your imagination! Why not spruce up a Christmas gift tag with this look? Or experiment with different colours on a canvas? It's a perfect way to bring a bit of messy fun and inspiration into your craft room.



Step-by-step: Bubble wrap effect



1 Apply blue acrylic paint onto white card with a brayer



2 Smear red acrylic paint onto bubble wrap with a palette knife, then press onto the card. Leave to dry



3 Add Zig 2 Way glue to a large piece of bubble wrap and immediately press onto the card. Allow it to get tacky



4 Press the foil thoroughly onto the card, rub it and remove

YOUR FREE Tattered Lace®

Classic Christmas DIGI STAMPS

Don't have time to buy new stamps in time for your festive cardmaking? These downloadable motifs and phrases are the answer!

Illustrative? Yep. Classic designs? Oh yes. Free? You bet! There's nothing you won't like about these printables from our friends at Tattered Lace (crafting.co.uk). And there's an incredible 72 of them. Featuring hit-the-spot phrases such as 'It's the most wonderful time of the year' and endearing characters – hello smiley snowmen! – it's a collection worth keeping to hand on your desktop. See how designer Kitty Day has used them and take inspiration this season.

DOWNLOAD AND PRINT THEM

- 1 On your desktop computer, visit papercraftermagazine.co.uk and search 'Tattered Lace Classic Christmas digi stamps'.
- 2 Press 'Click here to download now' then log in – or register if you don't currently have an account with us.
- 3 Click 'Download now' and you'll see the download processing at the bottom of your screen.
- 4 Open the folder, then right-click on the file and select 'Print'.

Download them today!

Find these designs and more at papercraftermagazine.co.uk



SENTIMENTS: SORTED!

How could you not love a digi stamp collection that is the solution to your sentiment woes? Not sure what to say, worried you'll mess up, don't have time for traditional stamping... no problem at all. If you'd like to jazz them up a little once you've printed them, try Kitty's ideas. You can die cut them into the shape of your choice, ink the edges – see the 'Silent night' card – or mount them onto coloured card to make them pop.

COLOURING MADE SIMPLE

Lots of these Tattered Lace digi stamps have a sketchy quality to them, which means one very important thing: less work for you! You can quickly colour in motifs like the fir tree, candles, snowmen and still achieve depth and quality. If you'd like to add a bit of flair (we know you well!) then experiment with two colours. For the candle flame, apply orange at the bottom and yellow towards the top.

INK-REDIBLE BACKGROUNDS

Kitty has displayed numerous background options, from patterned papers matted onto coloured card to embossed panels. Another option is to use Ranger Distress Oxide inks, whether that's for a scene or just a wash of colour. We love the blue sky created for the snowmen – so much better than just cardstock, the slightly mottled effect adds a realistic touch.



Want the full instructions?

Discover the card tutorials at papercraftermagazine.co.uk



75
digi stamps
for you!



PAPERSYNTHESIS



© Kelly Lemon

In the run up to her new book *Uncommon Paper Flowers*, we sat down with the outspoken, outstanding Kate Alarcon. We talked creative philosophy, her newfound love for one Dolly Parton, and why she's putting a spotlight on the extraordinary unknown...

Words by Cayle Hotene



If true beauty lies beneath the surface, it stands to reason that some of nature's most remarkable sights exist at the fringe of our known world. Kate Alarcon's *Uncommon Paper Flowers* is driven by this belief; it's an intoxicating tour through a sequence of lesser-celebrated florals recreated in paper form, accompanied by scintillating descriptions and clear-as-day instructions on how to birth such alien wonders yourself. Flicking through it, I was left with a very potent reminder of the beauty of a world we're all guilty of taking for granted, and I couldn't wait to speak to the author behind the concept and the creations.

"The plants and flowers that seduce me into devoting hours (and sometimes even weeks) to recreating them are often the dark and the unusual, the overlooked and the underused." Cue a visual epic that spans florals like Night Blooming Cereus (favoured by gluttonous bats), Deadly Nightshade (beautiful, but don't eat the berries) and Jack-In-The-Pulpit, which changes sex in anticipation of upcoming lean spells. You might see some familiar floral faces here, but you'll mostly be going in blind to Kate's blooming confectionery, which a) is kind of the point and b) ensures plenty of genuinely jaw-dropping moments.

"I learned so much about plants and flowers I had thought I knew well. The little essays I include with each specimen allowed me a lot of freedom to include botanical, ecological, historical, mythological, and culinary information. It was a fun treasure hunt to dig up all of these interesting tidbits."

Kate was an early bloomer when it came to her love for paper floristry. "When I was five, my parents bought me a huge tissue paper flower from a vendor at the circus. They hung it in my room, and I felt like it was an incredible thing to have all to myself," she says. Her adoration for flowers can be summed up simply: "I think it's just a really visceral reaction to their beauty; everything else follows from there."

"THE PLANTS AND FLOWERS THAT SEDUCE ME INTO DEVOTING HOURS (AND SOMETIMES EVEN WEEKS) TO RECREATING THEM ARE OFTEN THE DARK AND THE UNUSUAL, THE OVERLOOKED AND THE UNDERUSED"

Kate's gift for description begins to make more sense when she discusses the winding path her professional and personal life has taken. "I majored in English and Philosophy at the University of California, then I went to grad school at Cornell, hoping to become an English professor. But I left when I was pregnant with my first child, and the academic job market became more and more bleak. I did various part-time work while I was home with very young kids, and started posting to Instagram just for fun. My account took off, and then it was a great side-job. Now that the kids are in school full time, I'm excited to see what's next!"

Paper flower making is one of the biggest sub-genres of papercrafting – type the term into Instagram and you'll find literally millions of results. It's great to see so many people engaging in the craft, but Kate's account and work does stand out; not only does she have an unrequited love for the lesser known, she's also one of few artists that doesn't always strive for a perfect recreation. Her work in *Uncommon Paper Flowers* is quite often distinguishable

from its original inspiration – and this was a conscious choice, an extension of Kate's paper flower philosophy. "I like the playfulness of a mix of levels of realism," Kate told me. She expands on the point in her book: "Part of the beauty of paper flowers is the painted and unpainted elements working together, complementing one another."

It's no surprise that Kate's workshops are such a hit, more of a community than a class. Nuggets of information are doled out freely, and I imagine a class of Kate's could be a transformative experience for a budding (pun intended) paper flower maker. On inspiration: "Botanical inspiration is everywhere! I live in the Pacific Northwest of America, so I'm surrounded by beautiful, mossy, fern-covered forest. I always cruise the floral department of the grocery store for ideas. My kids bring me interesting leaves and other bits and pieces



The lugubrious Night Blooming Cereus

for reference. I also feel very inspired by the community of paper florists on Instagram.”

For anyone (like me!) that is in awe but slightly intimidated at the prospect of trying some of Kate’s designs out for yourself, she comes bearing words of advice: “I would spend some time in the techniques section, which breaks down many of the skills you’ll need. You don’t have to make a whole flower to practise shaping petals. That can help build confidence before you jump in.”

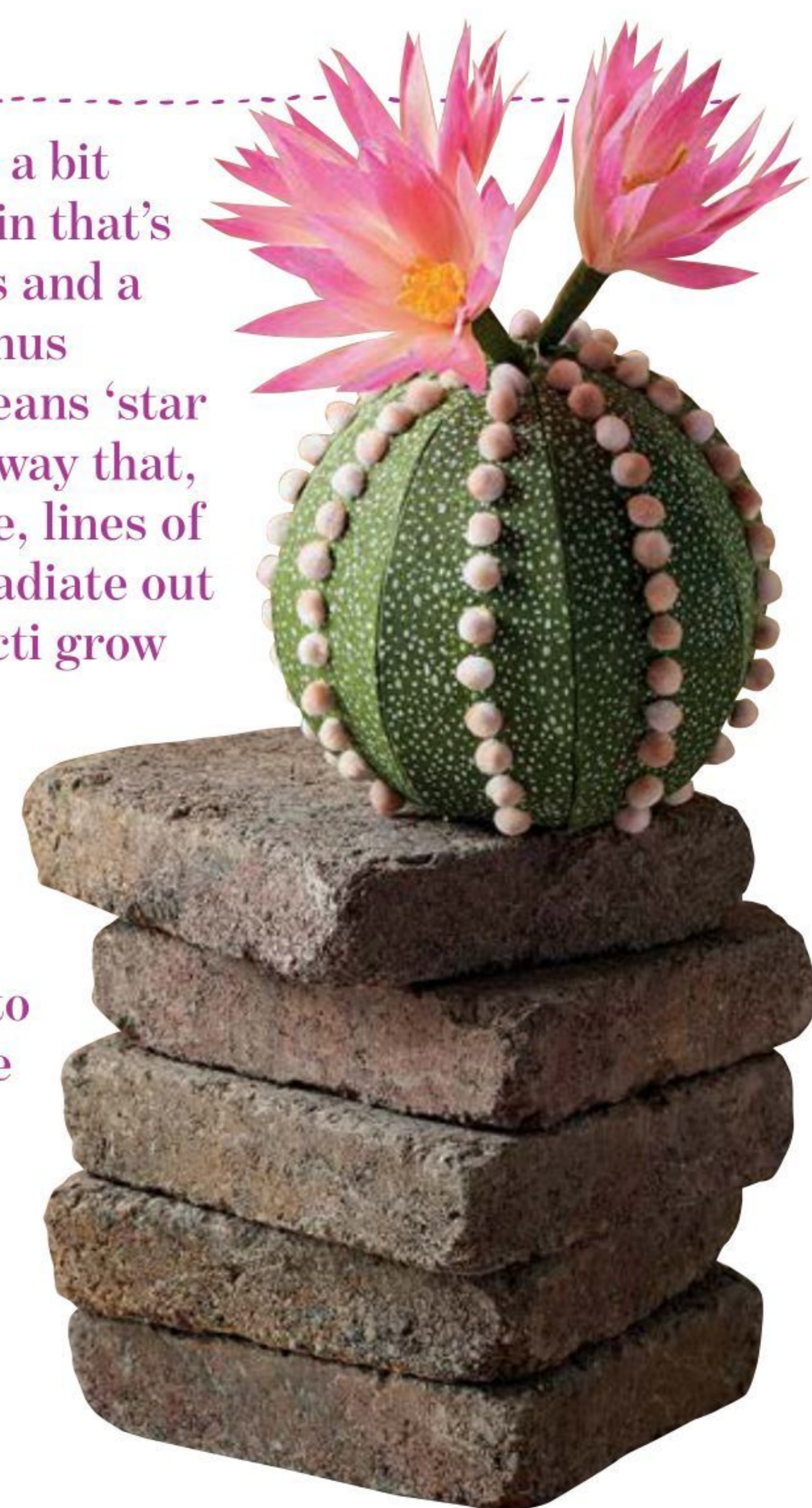
After all, everyone’s a beginner at some point. Kate lists the names that have helped shape her career: “It would be impossible to name a single person, but I will say that a huge number of paper flower makers have been influenced directly or indirectly by Karima Cammell’s store ‘Castle in the Air’, which has been an incubator for paper flower talent and knowledge. Some of my paper flower heroes, Anandamayi Arnold, Lynn Dolan, and Aimee Baldwin, are all Castle alums.” Outside of the art world, Kate’s biggest driver is much closer to home: “My kids allow me to see the world through fresh eyes, and remind me that making stuff is exciting and incredibly fun.”

“DOLLY PARTON WASN’T ON MY RADAR UNTIL RECENTLY. ‘JOLENE’ IS JUST INCREDIBLE”

In the run-up to the imminent release of her book, Kate is (hopefully) taking some time to enjoy a well-earned rest. “I hang out with my kids, play with my dogs, and obsessively follow the news while clenching my teeth.” Well, at least she’s finding time to bask in the finer things: “Dolly Parton wasn’t on my radar until recently. Her song ‘Jolene’ is just incredible.” Kate stumbling upon and finding a deep appreciation for the beauty of something she hadn’t experienced before is a rather neat way to tie up this interview. It’s the exact process each reader wise enough to pick up a copy of *Uncommon Paper Flowers* will go through themselves.

“This little cactus looks a bit like a tiny green pumpkin that’s sprouted a set of tassels and a crown of flowers. Its genus name, *Astrophytum*, means ‘star plant’ and refers to the way that, when viewed from above, lines of woolly tufts appear to radiate out from its centre. Star cacti grow in scrubby areas of southern Texas and northeastern Mexico. Small and squat, they’re easy to miss when they’re nestled into the gravel. But when the cacti burst into bloom in late spring, their flowers dazzle.”

Kate Alarcon on the Star Cactus



ADD TO BASKET

Uncommon Paper Flowers
by Kate Alarcon, £17.99,
waterstones.co.uk
Photography by Alice Gao

Hunkydory

Moonstone

CUTTING DIES

Our award-winning Moonstone Cutting Dies are a great addition to your crafty stash!

Each set includes 1 large sentiment die and a variety of smaller stamps which complement the die!

Get creative with these new sets and make eye-catching, feature sentiments for cards that really stand out!

www.hunkydorycrafts.co.uk | Connect with us    

PaperCrafter

Check out the *PaperCrafter* website where you will find free downloads each month!

www.papercraftermagazine.co.uk

We stock a great selection of crafting products from top manufacturers.

We run a variety of classes and all-day workshops, if you are interested please look at our events page on Facebook – where you will also see our recent list of Christmas crafting events.



Shop Hours

Monday
9.30am - 5.00pm

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9.30am - 6.30pm

Wednesday - Friday
9.30am - 5.00pm

Saturday
9.00am - 5.00pm

Sunday
Closed

Demo Day

Last Saturday of month.

106 Milton Street, Northampton NN2 7JF

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Home sweet home

Invite the festive spirit of the streets into your abode with these striking home accessories

Winter village scenes are a surefire way to create a sense of togetherness... surely that's what Christmas is all about, right? With the help of PaperCrafter's Corinne Bradd, these darling designs are super easy to make with only basic craft materials needed. Download the template from our website and cut it out on your digital die-cutting machine for speed, or take your time by cutting the shapes out with your trusty craft knife.

**YOU
WILL
NEED:**

- Craft essentials • Templates from papercraftermagazine.co.uk
- Die-cutting machine • Digital die-cutting machine (optional)
- Die, foliage • Vellum



“Haven’t got a digital die-cutting machine? Resize the templates using the printer settings on your computer”

CORINNE BRADD, DESIGNER

FESTIVE FOCAL

1 Arrange the house, windows and door templates on the layout screen of your digital die-cutting machine. Select all of the elements and unify them so they can be easily reduced by approximately 50%.

2 Cut out the shapes from several colours of pastel cardstock. Alternatively, re-size, print and cut out the shapes using a craft knife. Trim down the main house shapes to create facades and glue contrasting coloured windows and doors over the apertures.

3 Snip a curve into the top of a 6cm x 13cm piece of cream card and glue two wooden coffee stirrers to the back. Arrange the houses along the curve of the card, overlapping every other one with 3D foam pads.

Top tip

It’s easier to glue the windows and door to the house when the shape is still flat



ADD TO BASKET

Diamond Sparkles
Gemstones in
Pretty Pinks, £1.99,
[hunkydory
crafts.co.uk](http://hunkydorycrafts.co.uk)



SWITCHED ON

1 Cut the house template from cream card, decide which facade you prefer and cut away the other piece. Score and fold, then back the front panel of the house with vellum.

2 Glue the narrow tab to the back panel to form a rectangle. Make four more houses in the same way and slip the house over a battery-operated LED light.

3D DECORATION

1 Cut the house template from cream card and the windows and doors from yellow. Score the house and cover the side and back panels with glitter paper. Fix the windows and door, then glue vellum to the reverse before layering it onto beige card.

2 Trim pink card to 4cm x 14cm and fold in half. Pierce a hole in the centre of the fold and feed embroidery thread through it. Apply glue to the longest edges of the card and glue between the facades to create a roof.

3 Die cut foliage shapes from pink card. Glue these over the surface of the house in a symmetrical pattern. Add bronze gems to the front of the house to complete.



Go big or go home...

If you've enjoyed crafting these projects, we think you'll absolutely love our doll's house duo. Give them a go for FREE on our website at

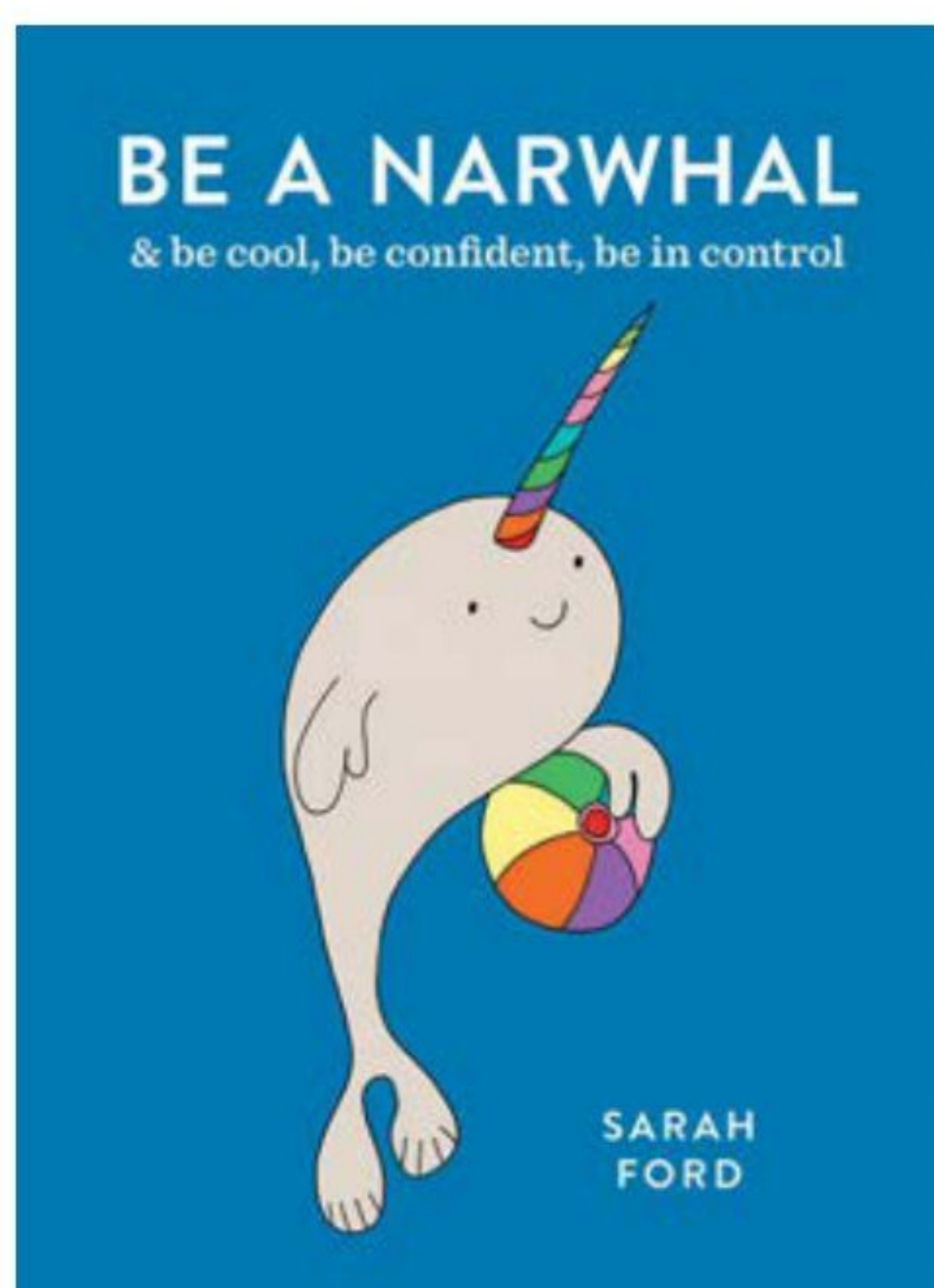
PAPERCRAFTERMAGAZINE.CO.UK



Reading Corner

Unicorns, new florals, narwhals

Visit papercraftermagazine.co.uk to download your free printable from *Be A Narwhal*



Role play

If you could be any animal, what would you choose? *Be A Narwhal* makes a compelling case for considering one fairly overlooked sea mammal. The overall air of quirky fun is balanced out by prescient nuggets of advice – Sarah Ford's words promote confidence and recovery, while Anita Mangan's illustrations are heartfelt fun. (£6.99, Octopus Books)

octopusbooks.co.uk



Life, organised

Plots and Plans has a simple hook: the organisational planner is split into two halves, the first for to-do list items, the second for scheduling those items. It's a deceptively simple idea that genuinely makes daily life easier – and it's a happy (but not at all unintentional) coincidence that it looks, for lack of more appropriate wording, bloody beautiful. Seriously worth picking up if you're a busy crafter. (£13.99, Chronicle Books)

abramsandchronicle.co.uk



Horn fawn

If unicorns aren't real (the PaperCrafter position is that they're out there, somewhere...) then at least the craft collective's love for them is. There's something about their shape, their magic, that makes them perfect for projects – *The Unicorn Craft Book* champions this idea, offering up myriad ideas for gifts, occasion markers, or personal decorations. Ideal for anyone that needs a bit of added sparkle over Christmas. (£10.99, Summersdale Publishers)

summersdale.com



Right spectrum

Colour: A Visual History knows that to genuinely cover the entire story of such a topic would span dozens, if not hundreds, of books. So the decision to focus on everything 18th century and onwards is a shrewd one – it enables Alexandra Loske to dive deep in a way rarely seen. You learn about Isaac Newton's seminal ode to colour, the effects of industrialisation on hue, and much more. (£30, Octopus Books)

octopusbooks.co.uk



Head to p62 for our interview with Kate

Extraordinary unknown

Kate Alarcon has a talent: paper flower art. She also has a book coming out with a killer angle. *Uncommon Paper Flowers* celebrates lesser-known florals that are as worthy of attention as the most mesmerising rose. Each stunningly recreated plant is accompanied by a consummately well-written blurb; it's a visceral journey discovering this litany of overlooked florals, and an unmissable pleasure to consume Kate's version of them. (£17.99, Chronicle Books)

abramsandchronicle.co.uk



New smells

While not strictly papercraft, everyone in the office fell in love with this book, and we're sure a healthy selection of our readers will, too. *The Scented Candle Workshop* is the perfect chance to get in on the crafty craze, offering clear yet detailed how-tos, helpful terms and explanations, all topped off by gorgeous photography and a general 'arm-round-the-shoulder' feel. A great chance to expand your gift-giving ability. (£20, Octopus Books)

octopusbooks.co.uk

Tried & Tested: brother ScanNCut

Achieve whimsical shapes for winter at the click of a button

Mix up
your festive
motifs

Make your cards stand
out more than ever

Build up your
jumpers, element
by element

Jump into Christmas with these adorable pullovers and see what variations you can come up with. Making your own motifs may seem like a tricky task, but it's easy peasy with the Brother ScanNCut and the free templates available on our website. Corinne Bradd has also made use of the machine's image library to add small extras to her jumpers – did you know that there's a total of 1,002 built-in designs and 15 fonts to play around with?

**adds Brother ScanNCut to Christmas wish list immediately... we don't blame you.*

GET STARTED WITH...



CORINNE BRADD

- ♥ Download or scan the jumper template from papercraftermagazine.co.uk and arrange them onto the layout screen on the ScanNCut CM900.
- ♥ Fill in any gaps with scalloped circles and snowflake designs from the machine's library.
- ♥ Cut squares from card of equal size in several colours. Place them onto the sticky mat in turn and cut out all the shapes.
- ♥ Mix up the pieces and adhere them together to make multicoloured jumpers, ensuring to keep the cuff, scarf and jumper rim elements in the same colour.

ALLOW THE JUMPERS TO EXTEND THE SIDES OF YOUR CARD FOR ADDED IMPACT



Complete each jumper with a scalloped circle and snowflake in the centre

Gift tags

Create two multicoloured jumpers and punch a small hole in the top. Thread with a loop of baker's twine and write your message on the back.





On a string

Create multiple multicoloured jumpers, making each pair of mittens and scarves extend the jumpers in different directions. Cut a length of baker's twine and knot each end to prevent fraying. Use small pegs to clip the jumpers along the twine at regular intervals.

Jumper duo

Adhere foiled patterned paper onto a 10.5cm x 15cm landscape blank. Select two contrasting jumper arrangements and layer together. Use 3D foam pads to fix the jumpers to the card, ensuring the mittens join in the centre.

At an angle

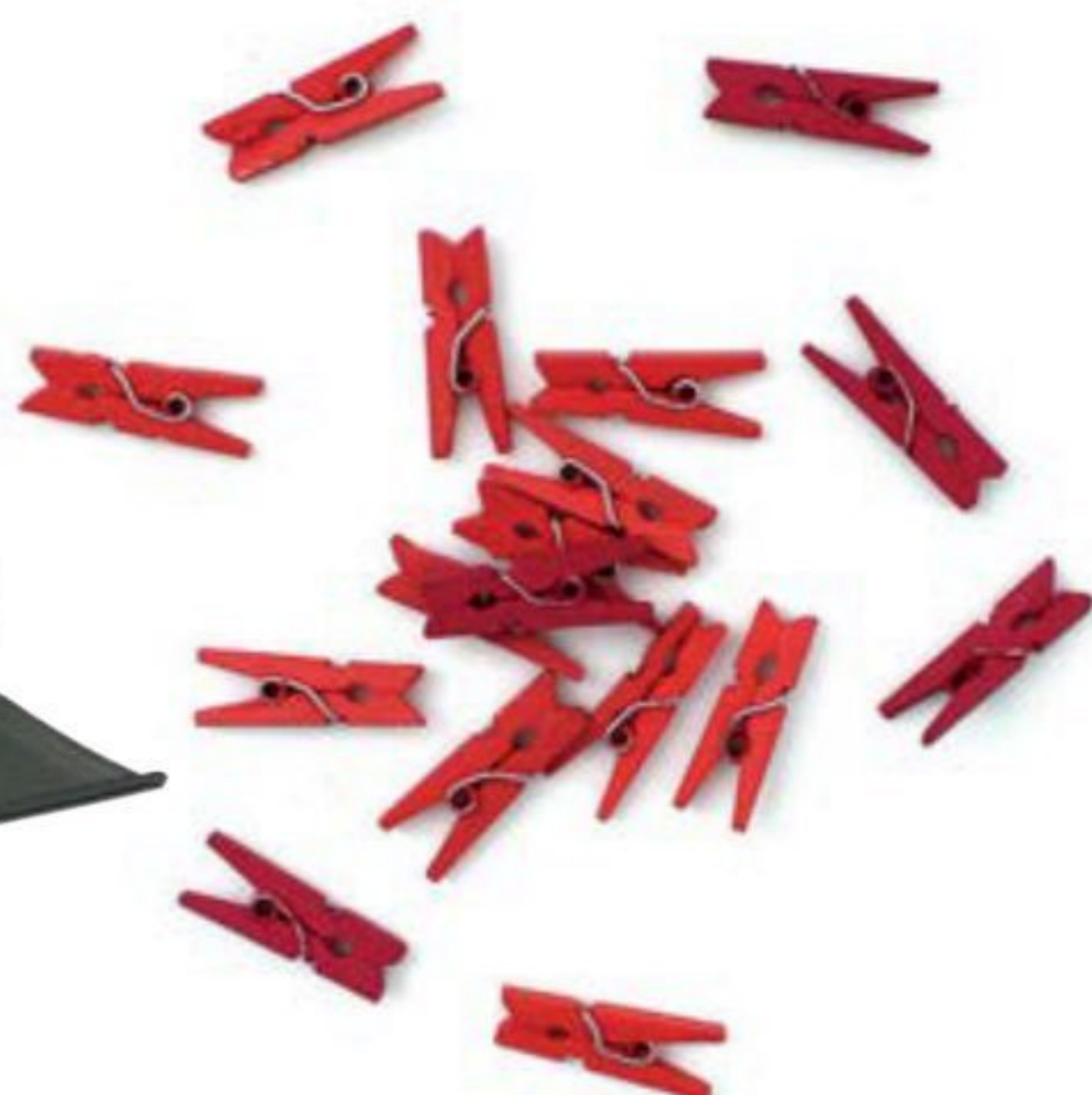
Matt foiled patterned paper onto a 10.5cm x 15cm portrait blank. Layer up a jumper arrangement in contrasting colours. Fix to the centre of the card at an angle with 3D foam pads. Tuck a mitten below each sleeve and use a 3D foam pad to lift one end of the scarf.

Get the look!

BAG THESE ESSENTIAL BUYS TO GET YOU STARTED



Brother ScanNCut CM900 machine, £499, brotherscanncut.co.uk



Red wooden pegs, £2, hobbycraft.co.uk



Marvellous Mirri Fabulous Florals pad, £11.99, hunkydorycrafts.co.uk



Textured Brights 8" x 8" cardstock, £14.99, crafterscompanion.co.uk

A LAST-MINUTE Christmas

If you're reading this, you're probably a self-professed culprit of the last-minute Christmas shopping species that live amongst us. Don't be ashamed to step forward and confess. An anomaly in the heavily-planned and forward-scheduled crafting world, you hate to admit the slight buzz you feel from your ill preparation for the big day. So, if you haven't made it to the shops yet, failed to surf online or were just biding your time for whatever reason, why not end the denial here and acknowledge you need saving? Here are some last-minute present hacks you will undoubtedly find yourself utilising on Christmas Eve.

Words by Amy Arfi

NO-PREP-NECESSARY PRESENTS

YOUNGSTERS

To keep the little ones quiet around the table, why not make the kitchen utensils a little more interesting by turning wooden spoons into puppet characters? All you need for this speedy gift hack is to draw onto spoon faces using felt tip pens. Create princesses or even superhero figures by glueing on hair or mini capes and going the extra mile.

PARENTS

The first hurdle in this brilliant yet effortless make is tracking down a frame. Any size fits the bill but ensure to remove photos, backing or cardboard from the frame so it is completely hollow. Glue on three lengths of string horizontally at the back. Print off some cute family photos and trim into funky shapes, then attach onto the string using mini pegs or paperclips for a budget option. This makes for a nice wall hanging or mantelpiece addition that can be switched up with old and new photographs.

GOLDEN OLDIES

Everyone loves a personal, unique present that is designed just for them. Try making coffee, tea, sugar or hot chocolate containers by emptying and washing old jam jars and covering them with some fabric and string. With your trusty felt pens, you can write in your best handwriting onto the fabric toppers what each pot is for, and with a quick nip to the shops have them filled up in no time. Add marshmallows and biscuits into the mix for extra brownie points.



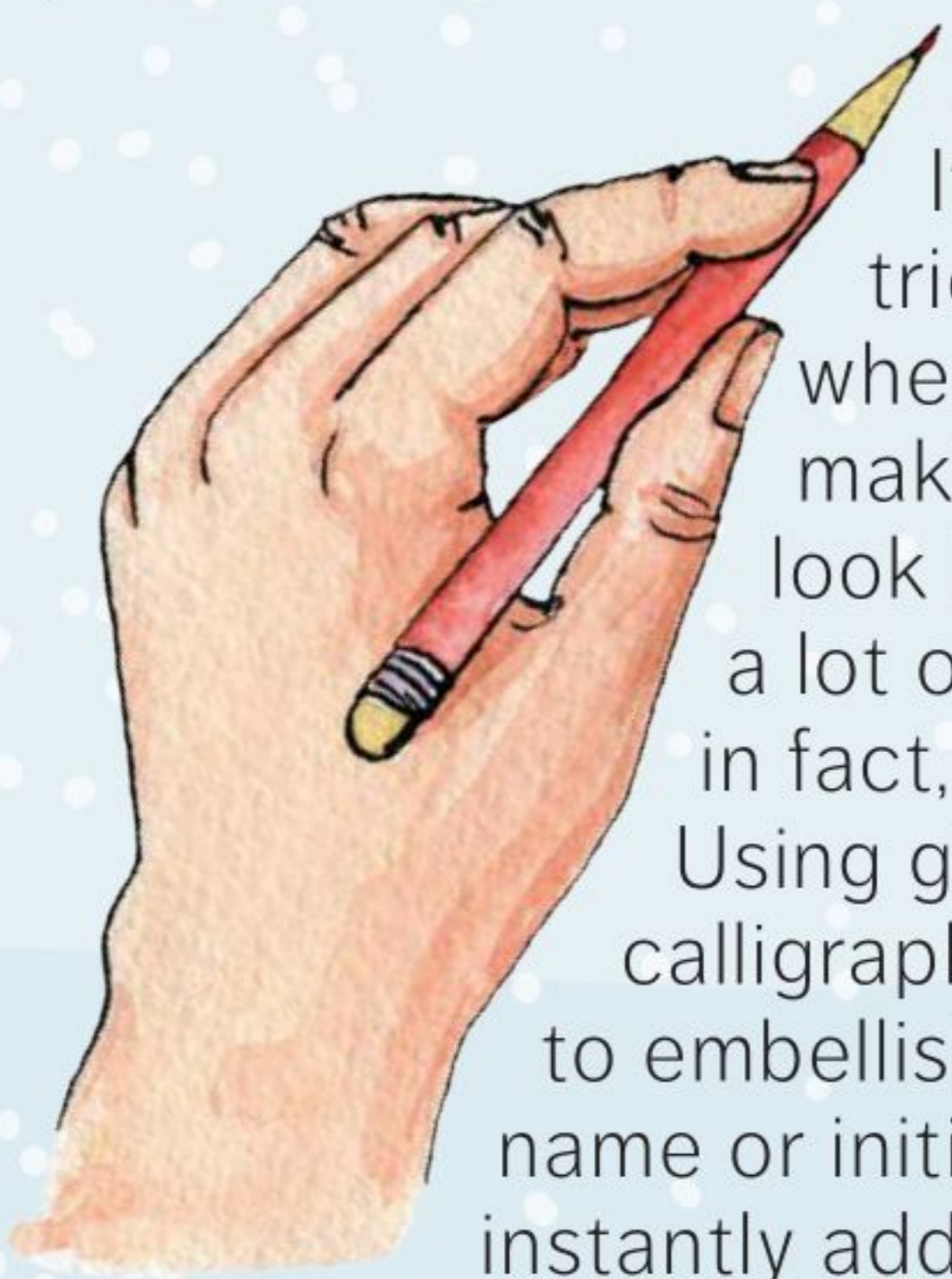
DIY PRESENT TAGS

Source any old Christmas cards you're happy to depart with and have your scissors at the ready. The best way to reuse these once-loved gems is to make them into present tags, simply by trimming them into shape and attaching ribbon or string. The best type of Christmas cards for the job are the ones with mounted motifs or a bit of shimmer and sparkle!

WORRIED ABOUT WRAPPING?

DIY wrapping paper has really taken off over the last few years, which means you're in luck if you're a last-minute Larry and haven't had time to purchase your own. Fish out some brown paper and string to create the basic replacements for wrapping paper and ribbon. Whilst stamping using ink pads is a more polished method when creating a repetitive pattern, felt pens work just the same. It helps to keep your motif simple, such as a Christmas tree or star shape, as you will be repeating it multiple times. Prepare for lots of brown paper packages tied up in string – these are a few of our favourite things!

The Power of Personalisation



It's the oldest trick in the book when it comes to making something look like it's taken a lot of effort but is, in fact, effortless. Using glitter pens, calligraphy or stamps to embellish a person's name or initials will instantly add value to your gift because it is unique.

If you didn't want to place your customised name of a loved one on the wrapping or tag, you can always decorate their Christmas card envelope instead.



5 MINUTE Card Cure

MAKE THIS STRIKING CARD IN JUST THREE STEPS:

- ♥ Adhere three die-cut baubles to a 13cm white blank with 3D foam pads.
- ♥ Draw a line with black pen from the top of the baubles to the edge of the card.
- ♥ Stamp 'Have a holly jolly Christmas' in black ink in the centre of the design.



FIND MORE QUICK CARD IDEAS ONLINE AT

PAPERCRAFTERMAGAZINE.CO.UK

FINISHING TOUCHES

It's nearly time to give yourself a pat on the back and crown yourself with your very own halo. Fond of this wonderfully-easy tree topper? Visit papercraftermagazine.co.uk and find four simple steps to make this paper angel, using only an old book, bauble, glue and glitter.

Step-By-Step

A cosy cuppa

Use basic paper piecing techniques to create this stunning showstopper

YOU WILL NEED:

• Craft essentials • Templates from papercraftermagazine.co.uk • Ink pad, VersaMagic Jumbo Java • Stamp, sentiment • Pen, white gel • Pencil, brown



1 Download, print and carefully cut out the templates



2 Draw around each template and cut out each piece in your chosen colours



3 Edge the pieces in brown ink



4 Attach the cream layers to the main mug



5 Insert the marshmallows through little slits. Secure them at the back with a dab of glue or tape



6 Assemble the candy cane and attach it to the mug, repeating the same process as the marshmallows



7 Draw faux stitching onto the heart with a white gel pen and stick to the mug



8 Cut a 5mm strip of brown card into small pieces and add to the cream. Cover the top 15cm of a 12.5cm x 18cm blank with cream card



9 Cut a 3cm strip of pink card, ink along one edge and adhere. Stamp a sentiment, then attach the mug and handle. Finish with a gem

Template
Visit our website for your project template



ADD TO BASKET

Faber-Castell
Polychromos Coloured
Pencil Set of 12, £17.49,
cultpens.com



*Add details to the
marshmallows with a brown
pencil and white gel pen*

Designer for the day

Samantha Dawkins



We love having our readers as PaperCrafter designers because it means you get to share your passion with us and craft-lovers alike, as well as telling us your secrets or what you're loving. This issue's designer Samantha Dawkins has stunned us with her traditional Christmas card, which oozes class and opulence.

How does it feel to be our Designer for the Day?

I was very surprised at first but then, after I got over the initial shock, I was very excited and looking forward to seeing my card in PaperCrafter!

What are your favourite crafty brands and products to work with?

It would have to be Collall All Purpose Glue because it takes a while to grab, which gives you plenty of wiggle room to ensure you are happy with placement. It also dries nice and flat and does not warp your paper too much. As for my favourite brand, it would have to be Trimcraft. I love their paper collections with all their matching elements like paper flowers, bows, toppers and so on. I find it helps to have coordinating bits and pieces when you are creating a project.

How often do you craft?

I try and craft at least once or twice a week but I'd ideally like to craft more often than that. My craft supplies take up a corner of my bedroom so everything has to be put away after every session otherwise I wouldn't be able to see the bed! I would love my own craft room but that's not possible... yet.

What is your favourite technique?

It has to be heat embossing because it enables you to stamp on light or dark cardstock. You also get raised edges to

your image which makes it easier to watercolour with inks. I also love dry embossing as an embossed card gives a lovely texture as a result, subsequently adding interest to your makes.

How did you get into crafting?

By accident really. About three or four years ago my daughter wanted to make some Christmas cards. I had a look on Pinterest for some ideas and we ended up creating very simple cards using patterned background paper, felt triangles for trees and buttons for decorations. I absolutely loved it and I was soon watching YouTube videos and shopping for pretty paper and stamps. Once I bought my die-cutting machine there was no stopping me!



SHOW OFF YOUR SKILLS IN A FUTURE ISSUE

If you'd like to see your paper project printed in PaperCrafter, email or write to us with your contact details to be entered into our random draw. If picked, you'll have a photo of your make published in the magazine and instructions on our website. Find our contact information on page 3. Good luck! For terms and conditions please visit papercraftermagazine.co.uk/designer-for-the-day

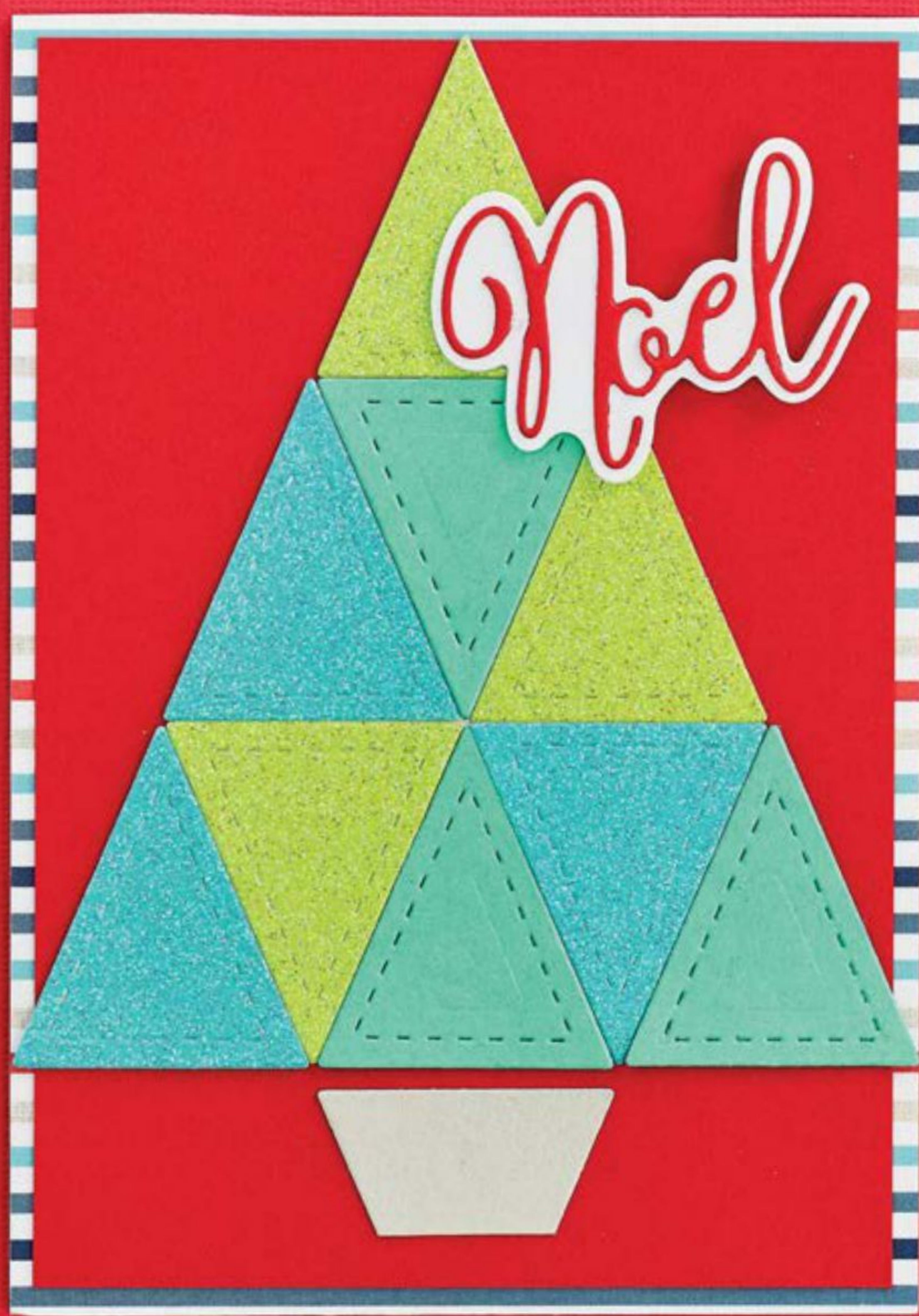
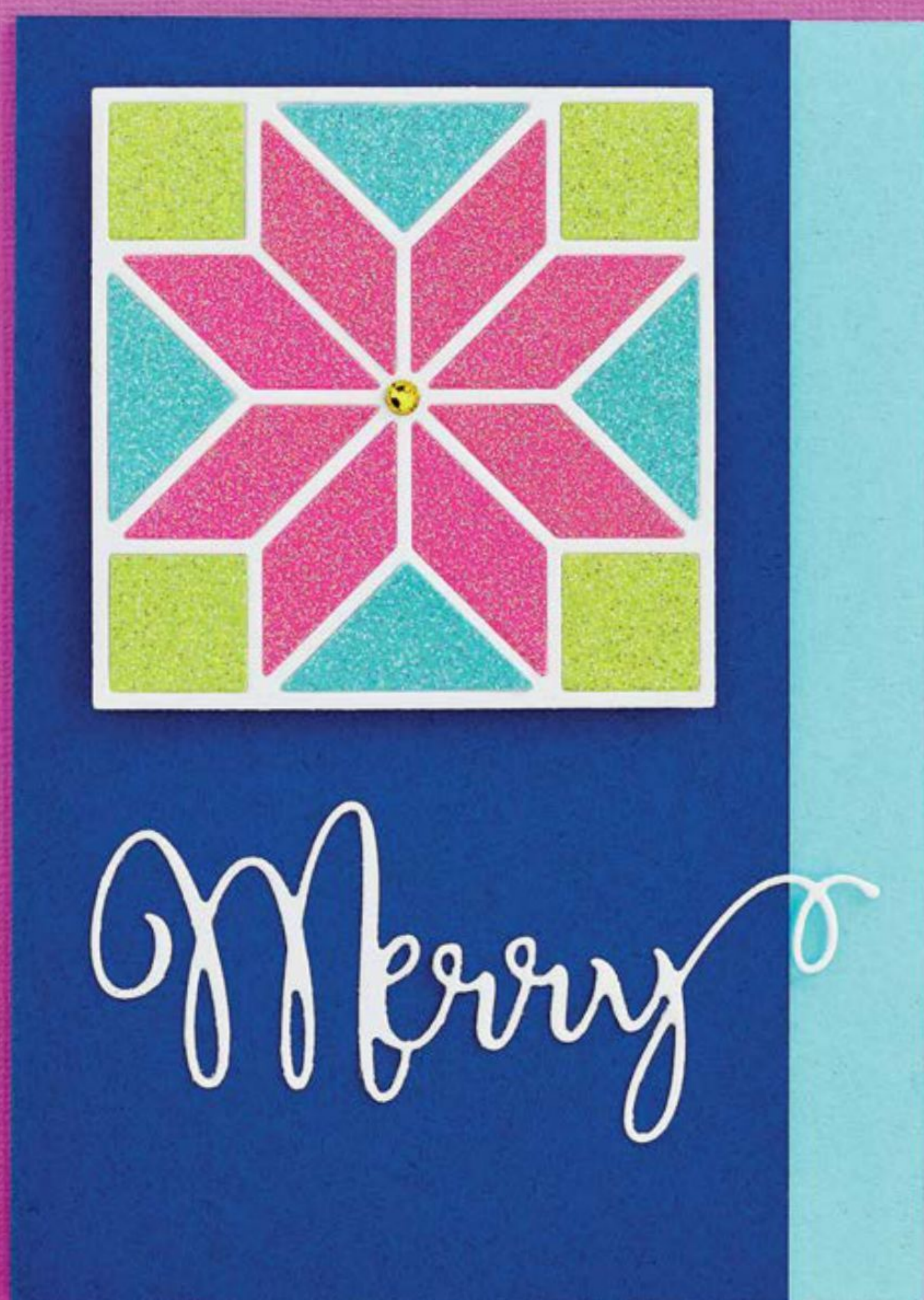
FIND OUT HOW TO CRAFT SAMANTHA'S DESIGN AT PAPERCRAFTERMAGAZINE.CO.UK



Craft Me Quick

Patchwork assembly

Combine stunning patterns with punchy sentiments to create shelf-dwellers that will last



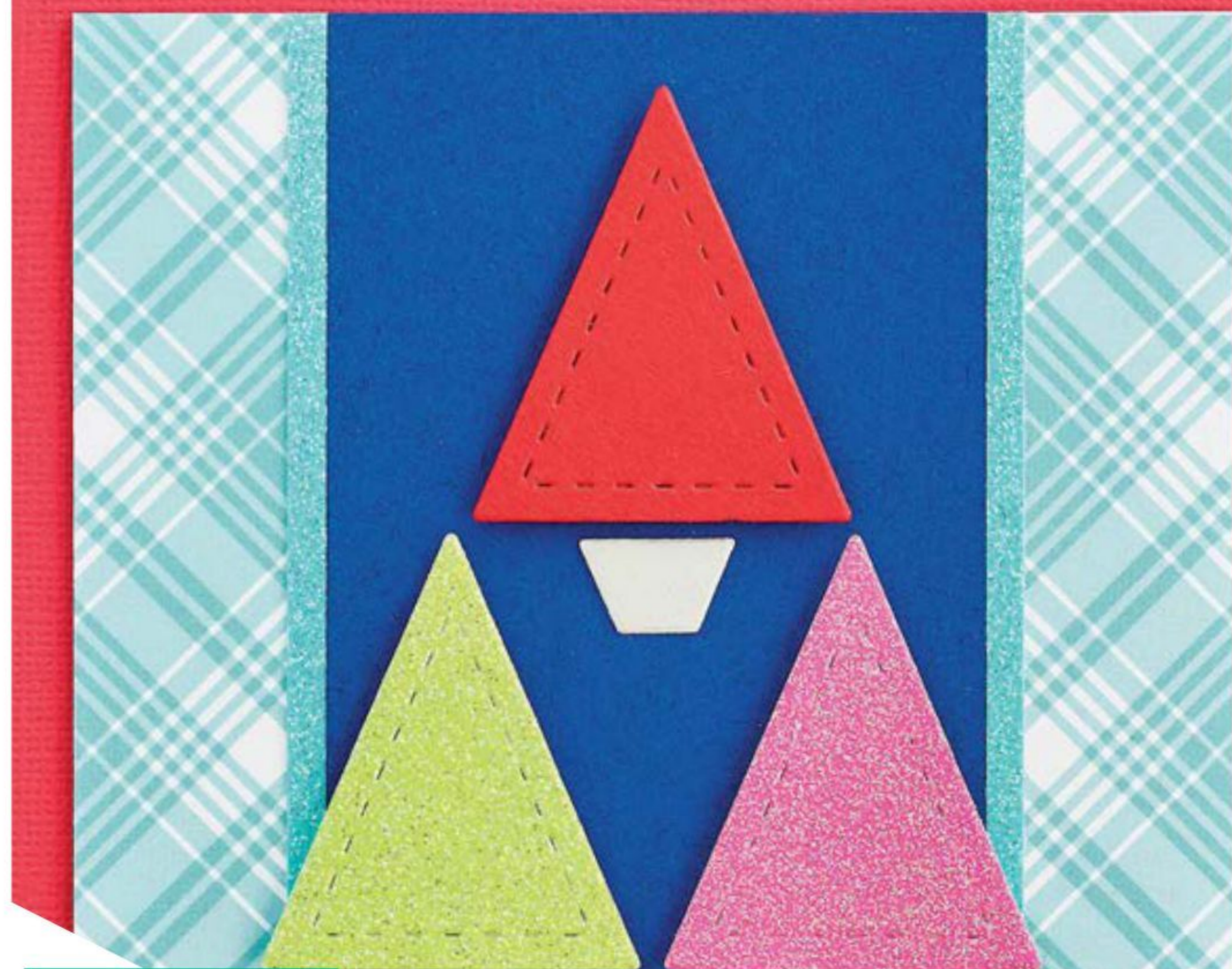


Christmas

LAYER STARS TO MAKE THEM POP

Create a top-folding blank, 10.5cm x 15cm, from red card. Round the corners of a white panel cut slightly smaller, and matt onto the greeting. Die cut a star outline from white and adhere to a star cut from white card. Make segments of glitter card and fix to the empty spaces, then attach to a red star and secure onto the card front. To finish, die cut a sentiment from blue and add a gem to the centre of the star.

WE'VE USED THE STAMPIN' UP! CHRISTMAS QUILT DIES, BUT YOU CAN MAKE YOUR STASH WORK



DYNAMIC PAPERS MAKE FOR A STUNNING CONTRAST

Layer checked paper onto a 10.5cm x 15cm blank, then fix a section of blue down the middle. Add narrow strips of glitter card down either side. Adhere four triangles to the greeting with 3D foam pads, and four silver pot shapes underneath them to finish.

Top tip

Careful placement is key – keep those hands steady!

CHRISTMAS TREE CONSTRUCTION

Adhere striped paper to a 10.5cm x 15cm blank. Matt with red. Die cut nine triangles from various types of green card, then assemble to create a tree. Die cut a sentiment, adhere to a white outline and add to the card front using 3D foam pads. Trim the top off a silver triangle to create a pot and stick it underneath the tree to finish.



“Experimentation is encouraged – why not swap the embellishments on two of these makes to add your own twist?”

TRACEY DAYKIN-JONES,
DESIGNER

Merry

PRECISE DIE CUTTING TO WOW RECIPIENTS

Create a 10.5cm x 15cm blank, then trim 2cm in from the right-hand side. Cover the inside and outer panels with different shades of blue. Die cut the outline of a star from white card, fix to a box shape the same size, then add segments of glitter card to the empty spaces. Secure to the top of the greeting, add a die-cut sentiment below, and a gem in the centre of the star to complete.



ADD TO BASKET

Enchanted Christmas luxury glitter card, £9.99, crafters companion.co.uk



Merry

Eyes On:

Polka Dots

This month's MO: take a familiar pattern and use it to tell new and exciting stories



Shopping for craft supplies can take it out of a girl, so treating yourself to a nifty, stylish (and cheerfully cheap!) craft bag seems only fair...

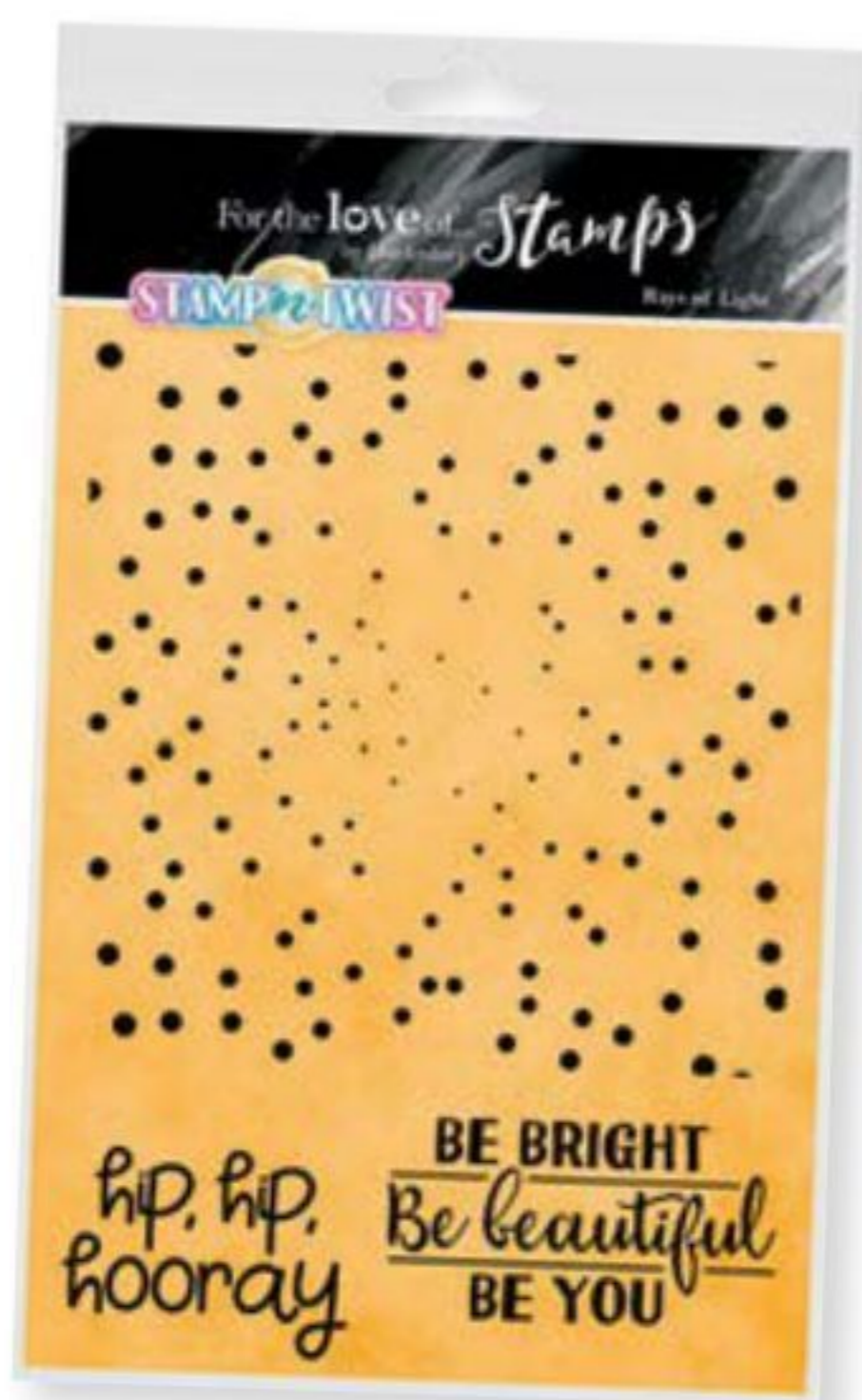
Accessorise your accessories

Stamping ground



Creative Expressions clear polka dot stamp, £6.99, creative-expressions.uk.com

Rays of Light stamp, £10, hunkydorycrafts.co.uk



Perfect Backgrounds stamping pad, £9.99, hunkydorycrafts.co.uk



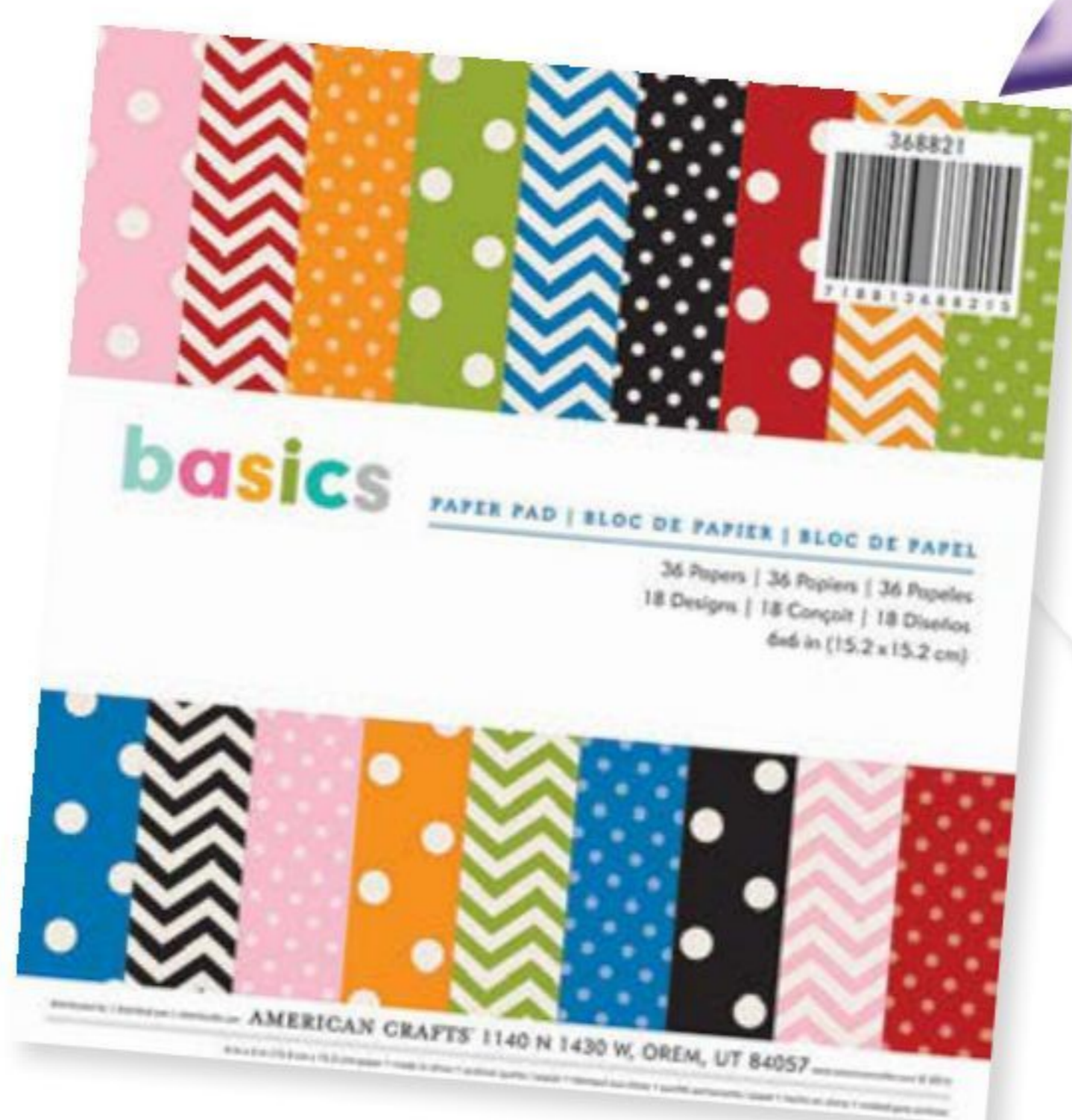
Polka dot craft bag, £21, hobbycraft.co.uk

Dot-to-dot



American Crafts Dots, Dots & More Dots paper pad, visit americancrafts.com for stockists

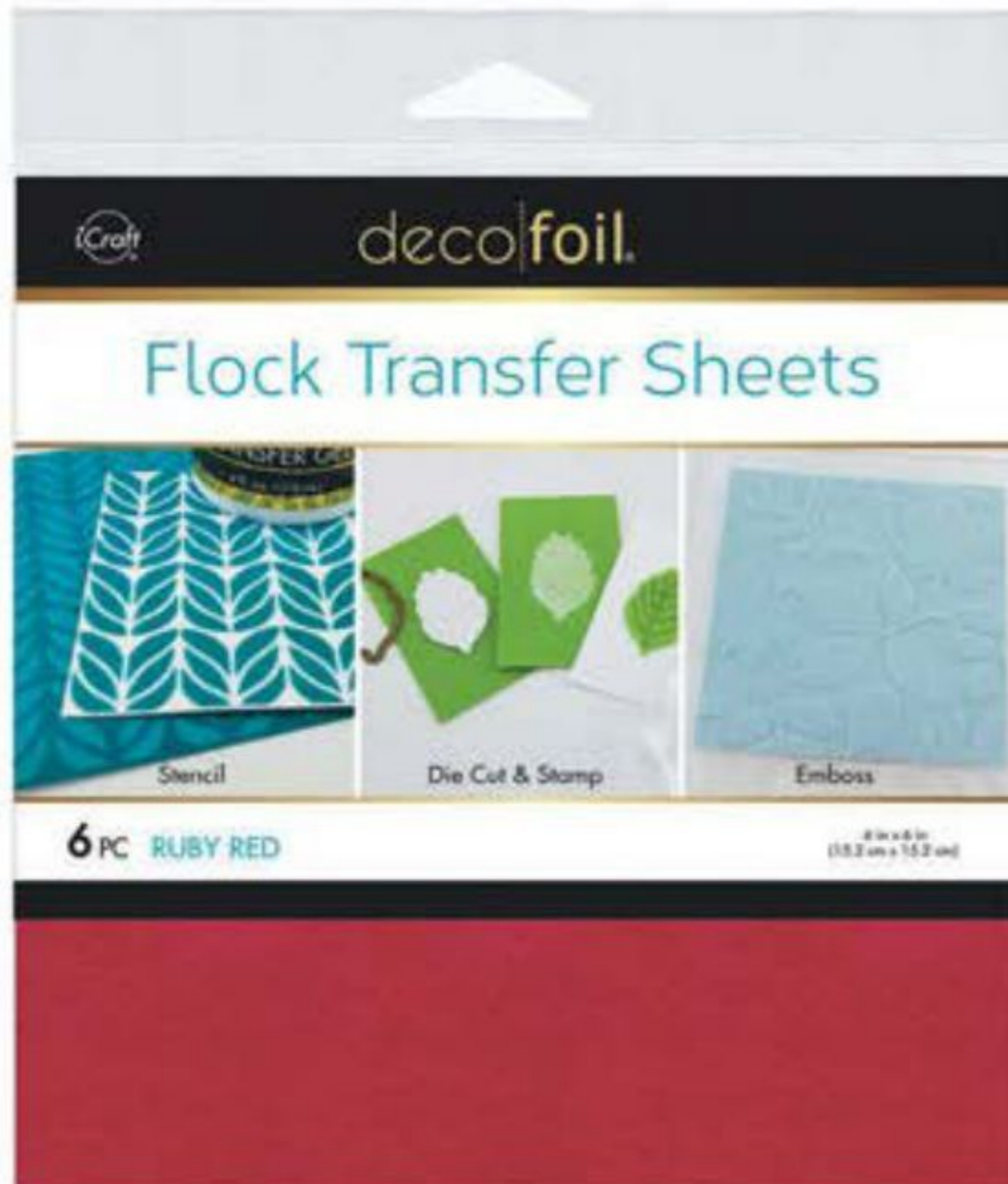
American Crafts Basics paper pad, visit americancrafts.com for stockists



Polka dot satin ribbon in purple and purple and red, £3 each, hobbycraft.co.uk

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Card designed by Dawn Gehring



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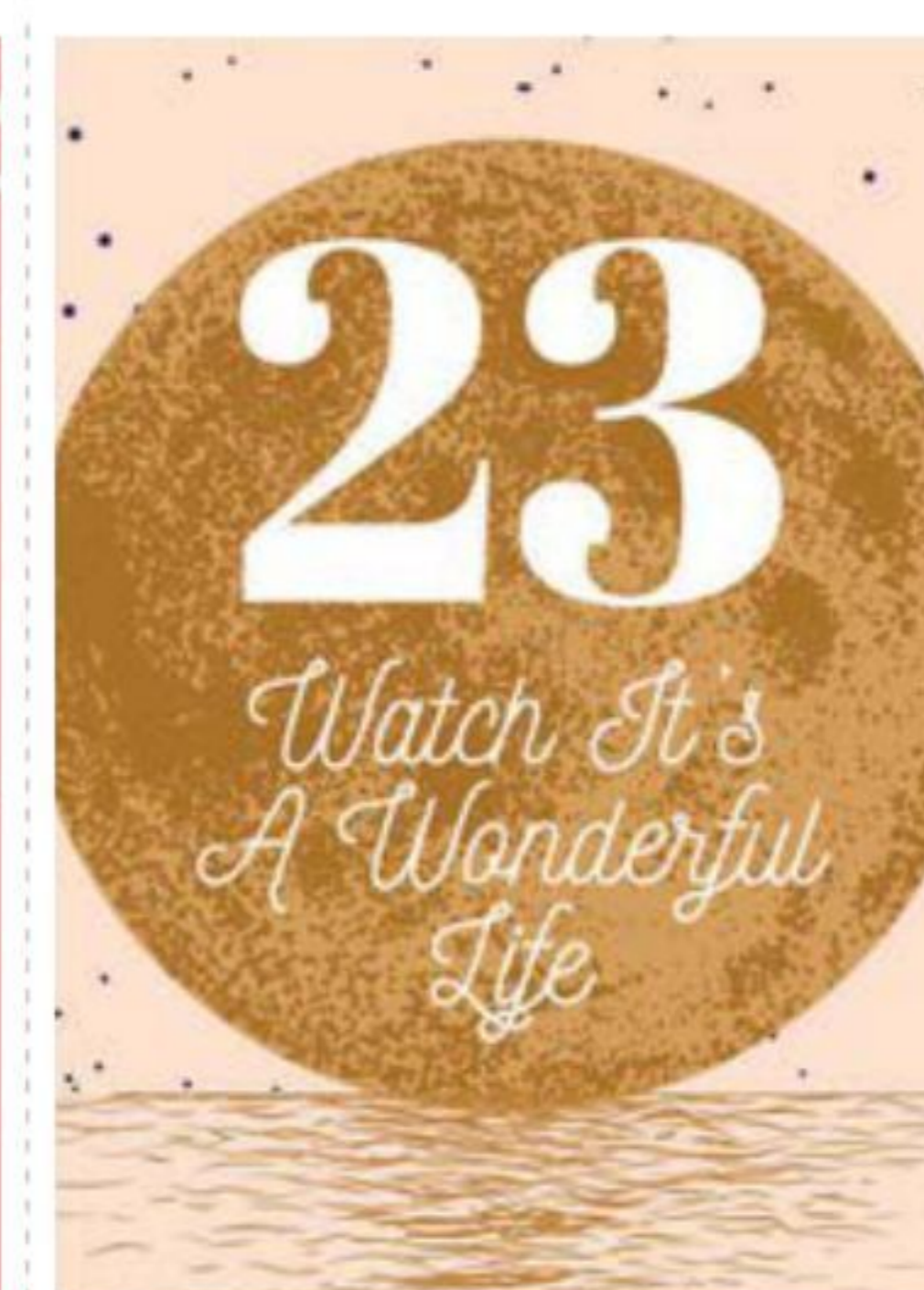
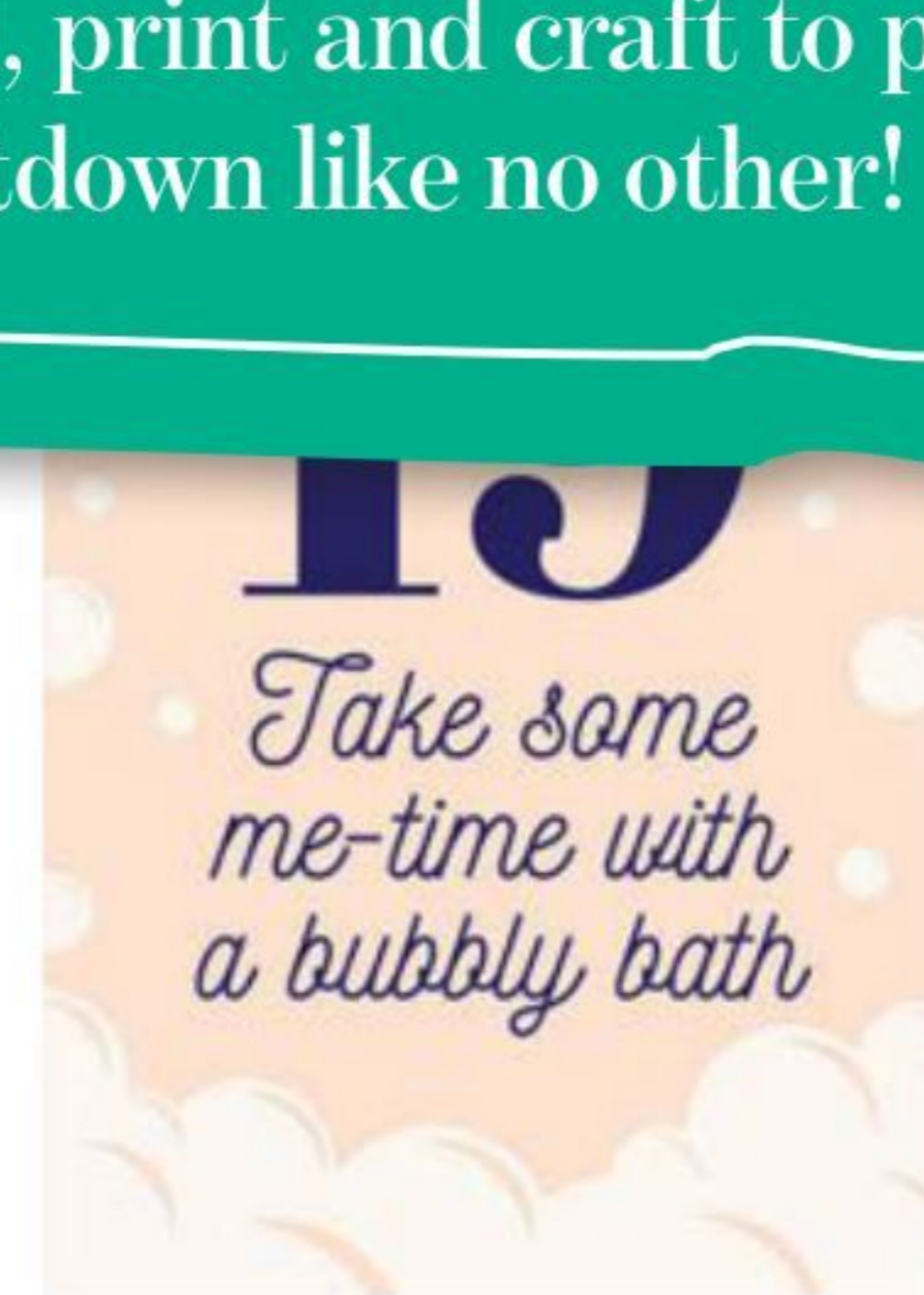


FREE PaperCrafter printable

Advent Calendar

Let us help you count down in style

Handmade Advent calendars are huge right now; you can adapt them to suit your Christmas décor, fill them with the treat of your choice and bring them out year after year. Featuring adorable festive prompts, enjoy our Advent calendar printable for free... yes, you heard that right. Simply download, print and craft to prep yourself for a countdown like no other!



♥ Visit papercraftermagazine.co.uk on your computer ♥ Register an account with us or log in if you already have one ♥ Hover over the 'Free Downloads' tab and click 'Printables' ♥ Select 'Free Advent Calendar Printable', download and print – simple!

Three Step Card

What's better than one Christmas tree? Three, of course

Last-minute makes don't have to look rushed – take this cute little arrangement. Bursting with pep and brimming with pizzazz, it doesn't half look professional. Added bonus – you can use the time saved on this nifty number to get started on a different project, maybe having a play on your new die-cutting machine. Or alternatively, to buy a well-earned bottle of vino. We won't tell.

YOU WILL NEED:

- Craft essentials
- Dies: Christmas tree, star
- Pens: alcohol markers, fineliners



STEP ONE

Create a top-folding blank from white card. Die cut three Christmas trees in red, green and blue, then fix to the card front.

STEP TWO

Die cut three small stars in different colours and secure them to the top of each tree.

STEP THREE

Cut a strip of white card and colour stripes in various colours using alcohol markers. Write a sentiment in black, then secure the panel to the card front to complete.

Top tip

Whenever you letter, have a few practice runs on scrap bits of paper

Sentiment ready

Be equipped for any type of sentiment you'll ever need to write with these Pilot picks, available at cultpens.co.uk



Pilot Frixion Erasable Fineliner set, £14

Pilot Pintor Extra Fine marker pen, £2.99



Pilot Pintor Chisel Tip marker pen, £2.99



MASTERCLASS

TECHNIQUE Shaped cards



Better shape up!

Try something a little less traditional with these full-of-fun cards by Claire Richards

YOU WILL NEED:

- Craft essentials • Dies: Lawn Fawn Stitched Christmas Tree Frames, Presscut Circles; Mama Elephant Dainty Bow • Stamps: Avery Elle Christmas Magic, Starry Scene • Ink pads: black, red, green, blue; Ranger Distress Oxide Antique Linen, Squeezed Lemonade • Embossing folder, Darice Knit Sweater • Tim Holtz Mini Blending Tool
- Punches: corner rounder, 2.5cm circle • Glossy Accents • Nuvo Aqua Shimmer Pen, clear glitter • Brad, yellow
- Vellum • Die-cutting machine



FROSTY FOREST

1 Die cut a large tree frame from green patterned paper. Trim vellum to 3cm x 8.5cm, then cut a curve to one edge. Adhere behind the bottom of the frame. Cut a snowy piece of patterned paper to fit behind the tree frame, then adhere.

2 Die cut a large tree frame from red patterned paper. Cut white card to fit behind the frame, then adhere. Use a scoring board to mark 1.5cm from the top edge, then fold back. Die cut a yellow star, then place over the top of both frames and punch a hole. Attach the three pieces together with a yellow brad.

3 Trim white card to 1.5cm x 5.5cm, then cut an inverted 'v' in one end. Stamp a sentiment in red ink, then adhere near the top of the card front. Stamp a snowman, tree, lamp post, star and holly, then colour with marker pens. Cut out, then adhere to the greeting, using a 3D foam pad for the snowman. Apply Glossy Accents to the holly berries, star and snowman's nose.

BOBBLE-HAT BRILLIANCE

1 Trim white card to 10cm x 13.5cm. Emboss with a Darice Knit Sweater embossing folder. Trim off 3cm from the bottom edge to use as the fold of the hat, then round the corners. Trim the remainder to 9.5cm wide. Draw around a circle shape to create a curved edge, then cut out. Ink around the edges with Antique Linen distress ink.

2 Create a 9.5cm x 10.5cm blank. Draw around the hat, then neatly cut out to fit. Adhere the hat to the blank. Adhere the bottom fold of the hat using 3D foam pads, and with the embossing running in the opposite direction.

3 Punch a 2.5cm circle from red patterned paper. Adhere centrally to the top of the hat using a 3D foam pad. Stamp a Starry Scene in blue ink, then cut in half. Adhere to the card front. Trim white card to 2cm x 6cm, then snip an inverted 'v' in one end. Stamp a sentiment in blue ink, then adhere to the bottom-right. Stamp a snowman, two trees and holly, then colour with marker pens. Cut out, then adhere to the greeting.

MESSAGE IN A BAUBLE

1 Draw around a 10cm circle on blue card twice, then neatly cut out. Use a scoring board to mark 1cm from the edge of one circle, then fold back and adhere to the front circle to create a blank. Trim off the bottom edge slightly to create a flat edge, to keep the card steady.

2 Stamp a starry scene onto white card with blue ink. Apply yellow distress ink to the top-left, where the light from the lamp post will be. Stamp on a sentiment in black ink, then adhere the panel centrally. Trim gold card to 2cm x 2.5cm. Fix to the inside top of the card. Die cut and assemble a small bow from red patterned paper, then secure at the top.

3 Stamp a unicorn and lamp post, then colour with marker pens. Cut out and fix in place using 3D foam pads for the unicorn. Stamp two stars, cut out, then adhere. Apply glitter using a shimmer pen to the sentiment, stars, unicorn and lamp. Fix a small silver gem to the unicorn's flower.



ADD TO BASKET

Avery Elle Starry Scene die, £14.50, sevenhillscrafts.co.uk



CLAIRE RICHARDS

Top tips

THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX

Pretty much any shape could be turned into a card with a bit of creativity. And what better time of year to have fun with this idea than Christmas? Certain shapes just instantly evoke the festive season and those wintry feelings – trees, baubles, snowflakes, mittens, holly and snowmen... there are so many possibilities.

Use a scoreboard to achieve a nice, crisp fold when you are working with shaped cards.

CHANGE UP YOUR TECHNIQUE

If your Christmas cardmaking has stalled, it's time to change it up and make something really fun. A knitted winter hat actually provides a great shape to create a little scene in. And baubles are always so festive! It might help to create a template with pencil and paper first, to make sure you get the perfect shape. If you don't want to create your own shapes, there are loads of dies available that make it so easy, like a Christmas tree which is just asking to be decorated. These Christmas cards are definitely going to stand out from the crowd!

Step-by-step: Hat-shaped card



1 Trim a white blank to 10cm x 13.5cm. Emboss with a knitted pattern embossing folder



2 Snip off 3cm from the bottom of the card and round the corners. Draw around a circle shape on the remaining piece to create the top of the hat



3 Cut out and ink the edges



4 Create a matching blank. Assemble the card with stamped images to create a scene. Punch out a red circle to use as the bobble

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Ask the Experts



KATE DEWMARTIN



LIA GRIFFITH



TRACEY DUTTON

Here to answer your crafty queries



Help! I need a quick last-minute card for Christmas

TRACEY DAYKIN-JONES SAYS:

Die cutting is by far the easiest and quickest way to craft seasonal greetings in a rush. Simply raid your stash of dies and create speedy toppers in an instant – even basic shaped dies can be transformed into fun, festive cards. For this simple yet striking make, start by covering a top-folding blank with blue card, then layer light blue on top. Trim a rectangle from red and matt a pink glitter panel on top. Die cut two snowflake borders from white and stick to the card. Secure the pink panel to the centre, then layer snowflake die-cuts to complete.

In a hurry? Tracey Daykin-Jones is here to take the stress out of your Christmas crafting



Top tip

For an added glitzy finish, die cut your snowflakes from white glitter card or use Ranger Glossy Accents for dewy details



What effects can I achieve with Brusho paints and how do I use them?

TRACEY DUTTON SAYS:

Brushos are intense watercolour paints in the form of powder crystals. These paints are highly pigmented and are such

a versatile medium, perfect for achieving vivid results. My favourite way of working with these paints is on the Gel Press. Using a brayer roller and a Colorbox ink pad, transfer the colour onto the Gel Press. Mix a very small amount of Brusho with water and use a fan brush to pick up the pigment. Tap it over the Gel Press, repeat two to three times using different

colours, then place card over the top of the Gel Press. Press down and carefully pull the card away. No background is ever the same, so you can reach unique results in an instant.

Want to give Brusho paints a try? Shop them at laviniastamps.com



How can I take heat embossing to the next level?

SARA NAUMANN SAYS:

Cardmakers love to use embossing powder to add colour, texture and shine to makes. Normally, it's used to create a raised, dimensional card focal and often we stick with basic black and gold. But pair brightly coloured powder with stencils and you have a fabulous background technique! For this card, I've used a simple all-over dot stencil from PaperArtsy. Because the stencilling is done with embossing powder, the result is a raised, tactile effect that's perfect for adding colour and style to the card layout.

Combine two mixed media techniques in one with Sara Naumann

Top tip

When heat embossing large areas of the background, be sure to let the piece cool before handling it

Step-by-step: Stencil heat embossing



Secure the stencil to your cardstock



Press embossing ink through the stencil



Remove the stencil and sprinkle with embossing powder



Tap off excess powder and heat-set. Mount onto red and black, then onto a white blank. Finish with a stamped sentiment panel and sequins

Quickfire Question

What have you crafted for the home this Christmas?



"I've been busy making a Christmas wreath and carousel from old books – recycling at its best!"

Michelle Sullivan, Reader



"Using the Forever Flowers Pretty Poinsettias collection from Craft Buddy, I have made a spectacular wreath"

Sharon Holden, Reader



"I've decorated MDF baubles using papers and stamps from Mama Makes"

Lore Green, Reader



"I recently made a shadow box crafted with products from Pretty Gets Gritty"

Naomi Hanlon, Reader



"My origami baubles will be going on my Christmas tree this year"

Lauren John, Reader

Next month's question:

What cardmaking technique would you like to master in 2020?

Share your answer by tagging us on Facebook @papercraftermag or emailing amelia.bolton@aceville.co.uk



I'd like to give lino printing a go for Christmas. Have you got any top tips for beginners?

KATE DEWMARTIN

SAYS: Practise and develop your drawing on paper first, the simpler the better. Remember that whatever you draw will be printed in reverse, so it's a good idea to avoid lettering and numerics if you are completely new to the craft. Once you are happy with your design, re-draw it onto your chosen piece of lino (blue polymer sheets work well) and begin removing the lino where you want it to be white on the printed piece. Don't apply too much pressure or you may gouge pieces out, and always work



away from your body and from the corners to avoid any accidents. My number one tip? Joining a course to get familiar and build confidence

is probably the best way to get into lino printing. **Book your space onto a variety of craft workshops now at craftcourses.com**



I want to try creating paper flowers for everlasting gifts. What are your top tips?

LIA GRIFFITH SAYS:

I love to make potted paper flowers as gifts. Pick something simple like paperwhites or poinsettias, then decide how big you want your gift to be. Find a suitable pot and fill it with a foam ball from your local craft store or florist. Once you've made your paper flowers, slide the wire stems into the foam ball, then cover

with moss for a finished look. If you're sending your paper flowers in the post, glue a sheet of foam into the bottom of a box and slide the wire stems into the foam. The flowers should have enough air around them to not get

crushed. I've shipped hundreds of flowers for events and it has worked really well for me! **Queen of paper flowers Lia Griffith takes on your crafty questions for Christmas**



Get in touch!

EMAIL: amelia.bolton@aceville.co.uk

POST: PaperCrafter, 1 Phoenix Court, Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JY

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Lavinia Stamps

Tracey Dutton: "I love creating layers of colour and texture is a great way to achieve fabulous backgrounds, which is why I love working with the Gel Press, Colorbox and Brushos. So simple easy and effective."

laviniaestamps.com



Check out our recommended selection of mixed media products for your cardmaking



Ecoline Brush Pens

Ecoline Brush Pens make an excellent choice for artistic impressions such as product design, illustrations, fashion design, calligraphy or children's drawings. The brilliance of these colours bring every piece of art to life. These handy brush pens are available for immediate use and in 59 colours in sets of 5, 10, 15, 20, 30. In addition to our sets we have Ecoline paper blocks that work well with our **Ecoline Brush Pens**. Please visit royaltalens.com to search for your local stockist.

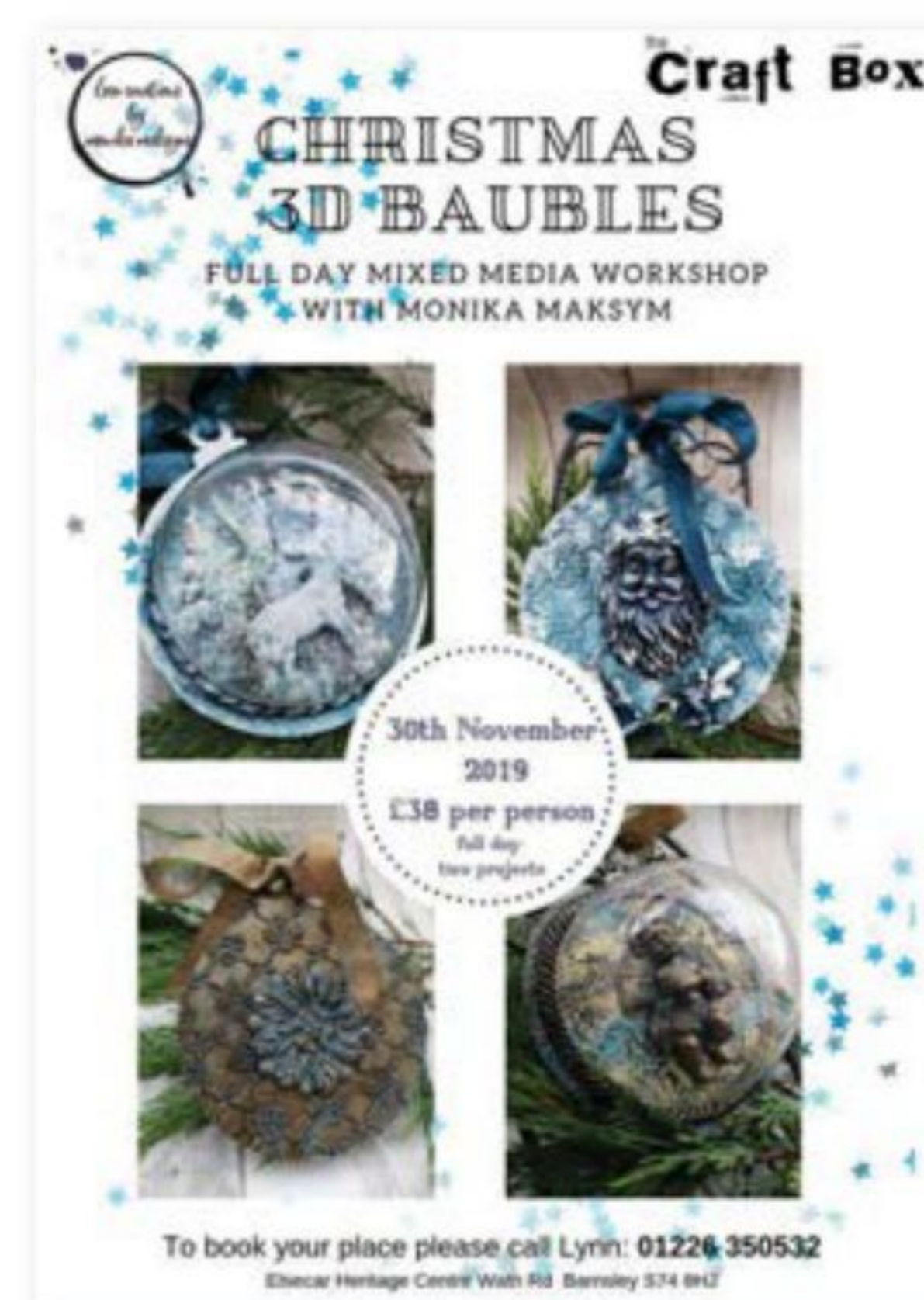
royaltalens.com



Butterflies & More...

Have you checked out **Artisan Designs'** latest rubber stamps? Here are just two of many designs for you to add to your craft stash this month.

artisandesigngroupuk.com



Christmas Baubles

The Craft Box is holding a Christmas Bauble event with Monika Maksym. This will run on 30th November for the full day where you can make two projects. To book please contact **The Craft Box**.

Tel: 01226 350532



Mandala Colouring

Learn to **create your own mandala** sketch and colour in with your favourite pens. Corinne Bradd shows you how on The Crafts Channel!

YouTube thecraftschannel

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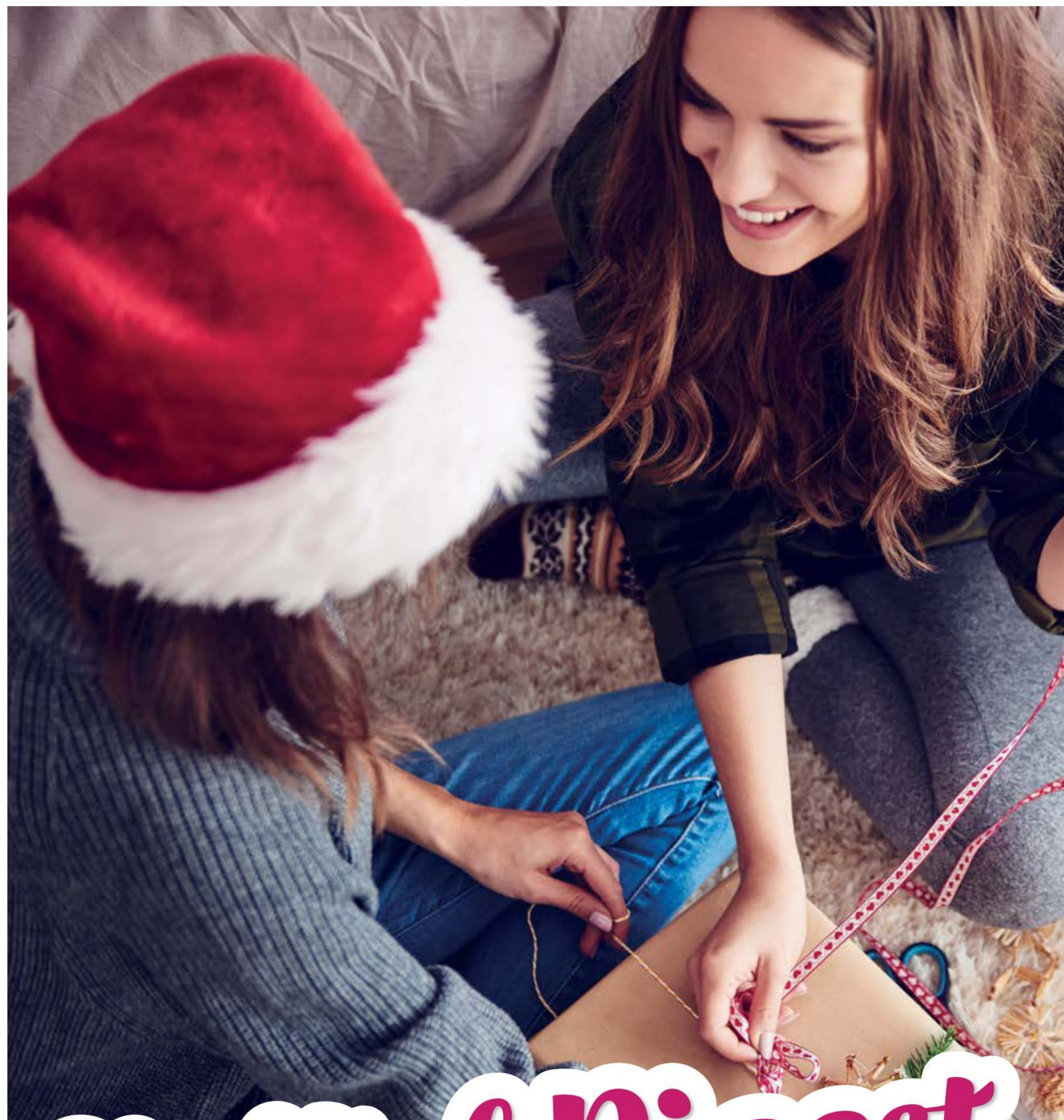
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Published by Aceville Publications Ltd.
21/23 Phoenix Court, Hawkins Road,
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Digital Digest

What I'm going to download this month...

PaperCrafter is so much more than a magazine – check out papercraftermagazine.co.uk for a wealth of printables and inspiration

Limitless papers



Bright and fun... just as Santa's headquarters should be! These papers by Alice Potter are ready and waiting on our website – download all eight A4 designs, print them as much as you like, then use them again and again in your Christmas crafting. Why not create a folder on your desktop for PaperCrafter papers so you can easily access them?

Search: Santa's workshop papers

Emboss LIKE A BOSS

All wrapped up

Learn to craft your own gift boxes and wrapping paper with our bonus projects – we've got top tips from expert Jane Means, personalisation ideas for the Brother ScanNCut die-cutting machine, and more!

Search: gift wrap

Did you know you can trace the outline of your digi stamp artwork with an embossing ink pen and emboss like normal? Find these supplies at

WOWEMBOSSINGPOWDER.CO.UK

FREE! Gingerbread Village Digi Stamps

Digi Stamps of the month

Lots of you have been downloading these sentiment digi stamps from our pals at Mama Makes but if you're not getting involved, why ever not? If you aren't keen on your handwriting or your stamp collection just isn't cutting it, these printables are the answer – offering phrases from 'let it snow' to 'have a treerific Christmas' and more.

Search: Mama Makes digi stamps



Trending: Gingerbread

Is there anything better than the smell of gingerbread baking at Christmas? Surely not! And we're not the only ones who think so. Gingerbread houses – in fact, full-on villages – are all the rage right now, and we've got lots on our site to celebrate. Papers, digi stamps, projects, and even a video demonstration... you're welcome.

Search: gingerbread or Hansel and Gretel



WOW! Clear Embossing Pen Tool, £2.15



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Get To Know...

The Completist

We talk to Jana Pavasovic about company genesis, brand goals and celebrity admirers

Roots up

"We make bold, print-tastic stationery that's sustainably made in the UK." That's The Completist philosophy as dictated by Jana Pavasovic, who forms a two-person dream-team with her husband, Marko. While most of what Jana says in context of their company has astonishing clarity (they know exactly what they are, and where they want to go) things weren't always so crystal clear.

"We started The Completist properly in January 2018. Originally it started out as a fashion illustration blog. It took us a while to focus the brand and work out exactly what we wanted it to be, but once we did, it really took off. There's always the inevitable issues with production and development along the way, but it helps to be flexible and creative when looking for solutions."

Inspired by

The Completist aesthetic really stands out against the standard, borderline indistinguishable range you'll find in your local supermarket – their style has influenced some makes we've crafted here in the office. "We're loving simpler, 1960s movie poster inspired graphics at the moment. We don't necessarily

follow trends – we just design whatever feels exciting to us." Where do they find inspiration? "Everywhere! Fashion runways, 1930s design and textiles, mid-century modern design, the Memphis movement. In terms of design idols, it changes all the time. At the moment it's Dries van Noten, Ettore Sottsass, Saul Bass, Paul Rand, Andy Warhol and Anni Albers. I also really admire women who are speaking up for what they believe in – Gina Martin, Gina Miller, Jess Phillips, Stella Creasy and Elizabeth Warren."

"We set out to start our own business with sustainable practices in place. We all need to do our bit to make a difference"

A key piece of The Completist identity is practising sustainability. "Coming from the fashion industry where there is so much waste, we set out to start our own business with sustainable practices in place. We're actually really concerned about the current state of the world, so we figure that even though The Completist is a small brand, we all need to do our bit to make a difference." This desire to be eco-friendly is extremely welcome, and

may be part of the reason they can count a few well-known names among their buyers: "We've sold to writer and model Liv Purvis, our favourite creative Emma Jane Palin, and we've even heard a rumour that Benedict Cumberbatch bought one of our planners too... but that's unconfirmed!"

Jana and Marko cycle between classic songs while working, and seemingly unwind by watching one of the most terrifying films of the year. "We love anything that gets us moving around the studio, so a classic like 'Ain't Nothin' Goin' On But The Rent' by Gwen Guthrie is always a favourite. We loved Midsommar – perfect visuals, full of suspense but surprisingly funny as well."

As far as their overall dreams, Jana has a characteristically focused vision: "We'd love to have bricks and mortar stores! We want it to eventually be a stationery and lifestyle brand." In the immediate future, it sounds like a busy Christmas period for The Completist – and a busy 2020, too: "We have a pop-up at West Elm on December 7th-8th, and a new collection being released in January. Plus, lots of new stationery categories planned for next year!" One thing's for sure – just like Benedict, we'll be keeping our eyes on whatever the two-person Peckham team do next.

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