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PaperCrafter

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219
CHRISTMAS
TRICKS

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Cards

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Issue 139



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WITH YOUR DIES



Shaker card secrets
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CHRISTMAS DIGI
STAMPS FROM

Mama
Makes



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LIKE A PRO



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April - November 2020

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August & September 2020

Staterooms from **£1,870** pp
Balcony Suites from **£2,520** pp



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call **0808 163 4411** or visit **emeraldwaterways.co.uk**



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Terms and conditions: All of our holidays are subject to availability. Prices shown are correct at the time of going to print (30th August 2019) and are per person based on two people sharing our lowest priced available Emerald Stateroom or Emerald Panorama Balcony Suite, in low season and includes all relevant discounts. Supplements apply for single travellers, upgraded cabins and other departure dates. All offers are valid for new 2020 European river cruise bookings only, made between 19th September and 31st October 2019. *Savings of up to £1,150 are per couple and includes £250 Early Payment Discount. Early Payment Discount of £250 per couple is valid when the balance is paid in full by 31st December 2019. ^Free Premium Drinks Package excludes Champagne, wine by the bottle and cabin mini-bar. *€150 on board spend is per cabin and will be deducted from your final bill upon departure. Our offers are not combinable and we reserve the right to withdraw our offers at any time. Our itineraries, hotels, dates and inclusions are subject to change. We recommend you seek independent advice regarding visas and vaccinations. For full booking conditions visit emeraldwaterways.co.uk. E&OE.



Hello!

We all have fond memories of playing in the snow. Mine has to be sledging down a scarily steep hill with my Grandpa Tom, Amelia's is zooming down the slopes in Val d'Isère and Cayle enjoyed epic snowball fights in the front garden with his brother. So it's no wonder snowy scenes are stealing the show in this bustling **Christmas Card Special**.

There are so many ways to fake icy flurries on your crafts, much to our delight. Use iridescent glitter to make a **snow-filled shaker card** (p22), apply white paint through a spotty stencil (p37) or faux it further with the papers in your **Tattered Lace paper collection** - it'll save you bags of time!

Speaking of gifts, we're also giving you **exclusive Snowglobe Dies** (p13) complete with 23 multi-purpose designs. Prepare to be amazed! And the freebies don't stop there - we also share our collection of **Christmas digi stamps** (p60) and offer SVG digital cutting files on page 70 that expertly merge flamingos with festiveness. Plus, you have the chance to **win a crafting day with Stephanie Weightman** over on page 57. Woah!

If that weren't enough, you'll be treated to techniques, techniques... followed by some more techniques. **Light-up cards**, offset die-cuts, papercutting and **paint pouring** await, as does a multitude of mix-it-up card folds from u-fold to neverending.

What are you waiting for? Turn the page and enjoy our most festive issue of the year!

Rosie

Rosie Savage, Editor



Subscribe TODAY!

Turn to PAGE 42 for details

Inside...



MEET THIS MONTH'S PaperCrafter DESIGNERS



"Learn to use your snowglobe dies with me"

LAURA BRADLEY



"I encourage you to paint pour this Christmas"

INGRID VICHOVA



"I've loved using this issue's digi stamps"

KEREN BAKER



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Christmas Wishes Decoupage Kit

ON P92

* Just pay P&P, UK only

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PaperCrafter

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Your Freebies

WE LOVE TO SPOIL YOU...

AN EARLY CHRISTMAS PRESENT

22



28




Sara Davies
PAST AND FUTURE ON P98

13 YOUR PaperCrafter GIFTS
Snowglobe dies and a Tattered Lace paper book



SUBSCRIBE TODAY

Cheaper, easier, and you get your copy early!

42



45

YOUR FREE PAPERS

Witness hardworking elves in full flow with these papers

57

HUGE PRIZE

Win a crafting day with the wonderful Stephanie Weightman



Celebrate magic this christmas!

58

YOUR FREE DIGI STAMPS

Get your Christmas digi stamp fix right here

64

BUMPER GIVEAWAYS

So many prizes to be won... this one's amazing!



92

READER OFFER

FREE* Christmas Wishes Decoupage Kit worth £10

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

Tuesday

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

Phone No: **01604 717922**



Boxofdelights.shop



[Boxofdelightscrafts](https://www.facebook.com/Boxofdelightscrafts)

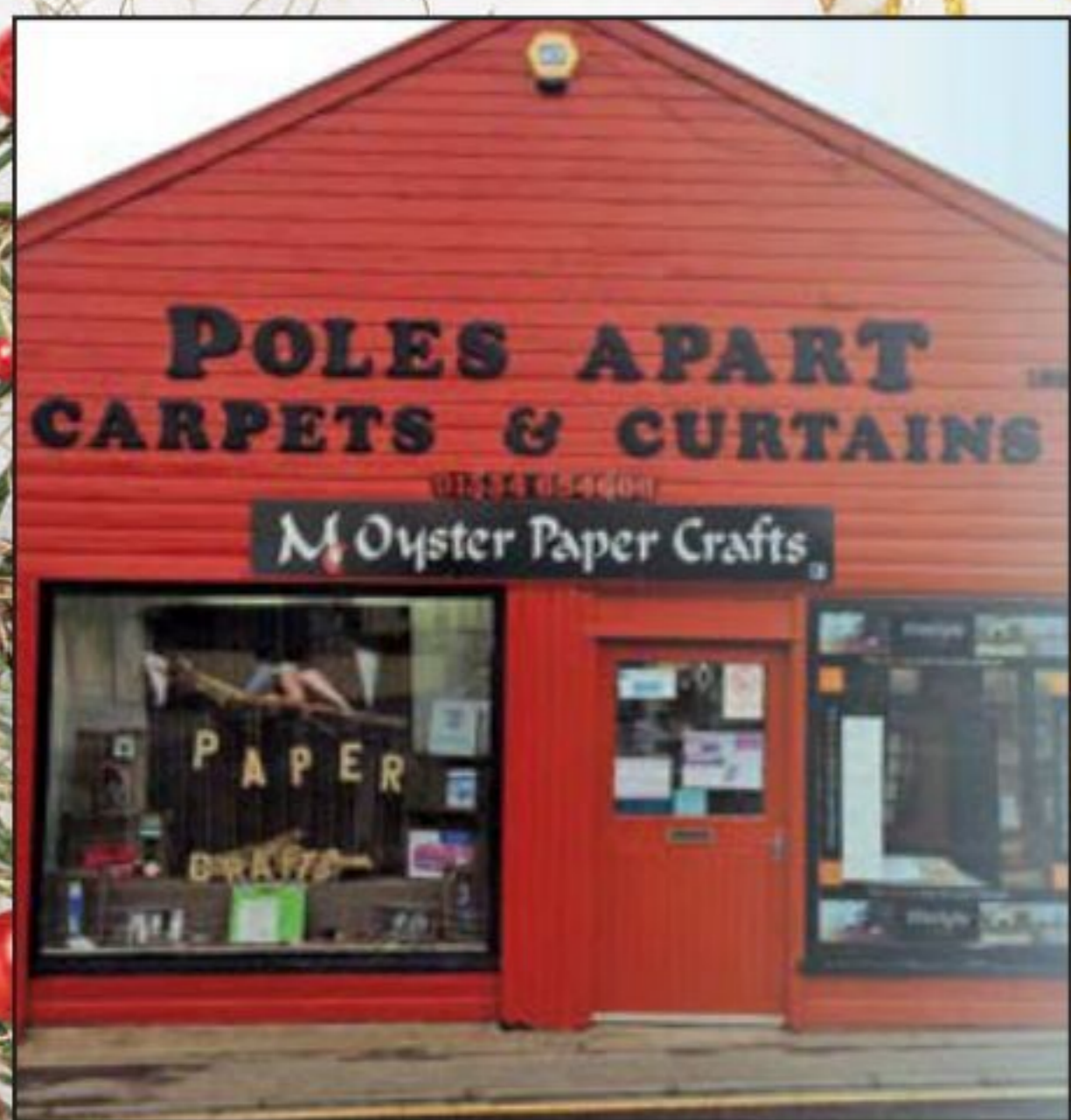


HOME FOR Christmas

Take one look at this traditional motif and instantly feel the festive spirit come alive – no humbugs allowed, please! The iconic image of a retro car loaded with a Nordic fir is a surefire way to get the whole family excited for Yuletide celebrations... yes, that includes you grandpa! Be sure to add a crafty angle to it and incorporate the trend into your gift wrapping, cardmaking and even home décor. Speed to it!

Craft this Christmas icon with Keren Baker in issue 140!





Mc Oyster Paper Crafts at Poles Apart

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 Brand NEW Paper Rose Designs.

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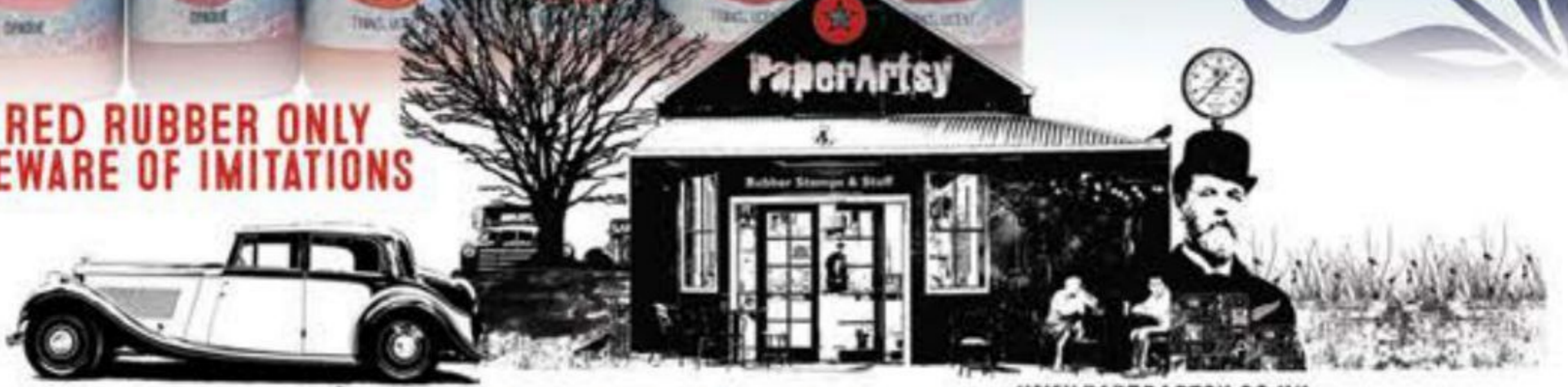
Find us on Facebook: 'Mc Oyster Paper crafts at Poles Apart' don't forget to like our page!

- Gift vouchers available
- Free car parking available

Monday - Wednesday & Friday 9am-4.30pm
 Thursday 9am-12pm, Saturday 9am-4.00pm

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Take Note!

The new season's trends to craft this Christmas

COOL KIDS

This has got to be the most elegant festive workspace we've ever set our eyes upon. Why not let the kids write out their Christmas wishlists in style with Dunelm's latest seasonal range? Think unicorns, iridescent accents and rose gold decs to surround your little'un's space with all the imagination and magic they need to release their inner creative. The unicorn pen holder alone gets a thumbs up from us! dunelm.com



WIN BIG!

All of your nominations have been totted up, and we're delighted to announce that the moment has arrived to vote for your favourites in the Best Of Craft Awards. Take part and you'll automatically be entered into a phenomenal prize draw to win a once-in-a-lifetime trip for two cruising around the Norwegian Fjords, courtesy of Cruise & Maritime Voyages. Experience a delightful mix of Norway's prettiest towns and villages, nestled in spectacular scenery. Vote now at craftawards.com



Dates for your Diary

THE KNITTING & STITCHING SHOW
10th-13th October 2019,
London

Alexandra Palace will be home to the biggest show yet where you can master a new skill, shop the newest products and get inspired.

CRAFTS FOR CHRISTMAS
24th-27th October 2019,
Glasgow

Lose yourself in a Christmas shopping extravaganza with over 150 stalls packed with new products, gifts, festive food and more!

CREPE EFFECTS

Take your papercrafting to the next level with *The Fine Art of Paper Flowers*. Featuring 30 projects with clear step-by-step instructions inside, learn Tiffanie Turner's secrets to paper treating, candy striping and colour experimentation. Once you've grasped the basics, learn how to transform your paper scraps into gorgeous garlands, bouquets and more! Get your copy at gmcbooks.com

Take Note!

CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP

This season, we're taking inspiration from this Sophie Allport (sophieallport.com) festive set-up for some seriously smart Christmas wrapping sessions. For extra pizzazz, use candy canes, pine cones, dried citrus slices, or whatever embellishment takes your fancy to top off your gift wrap. Hunt around your craft stash and see what odds and ends you can find. Oh, and don't forget to keep a hot chocolate nearby with extra marshmallows on top as an added treat.

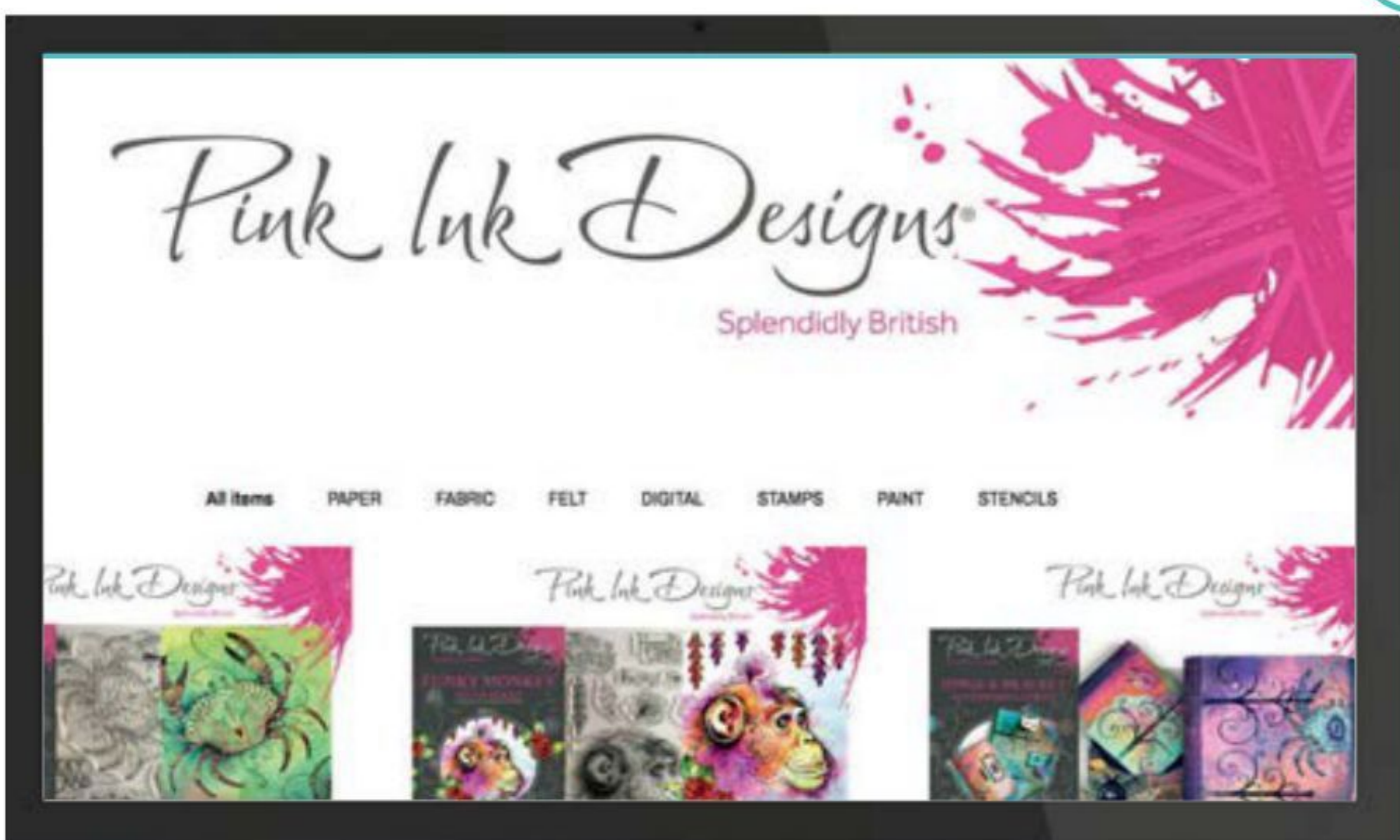
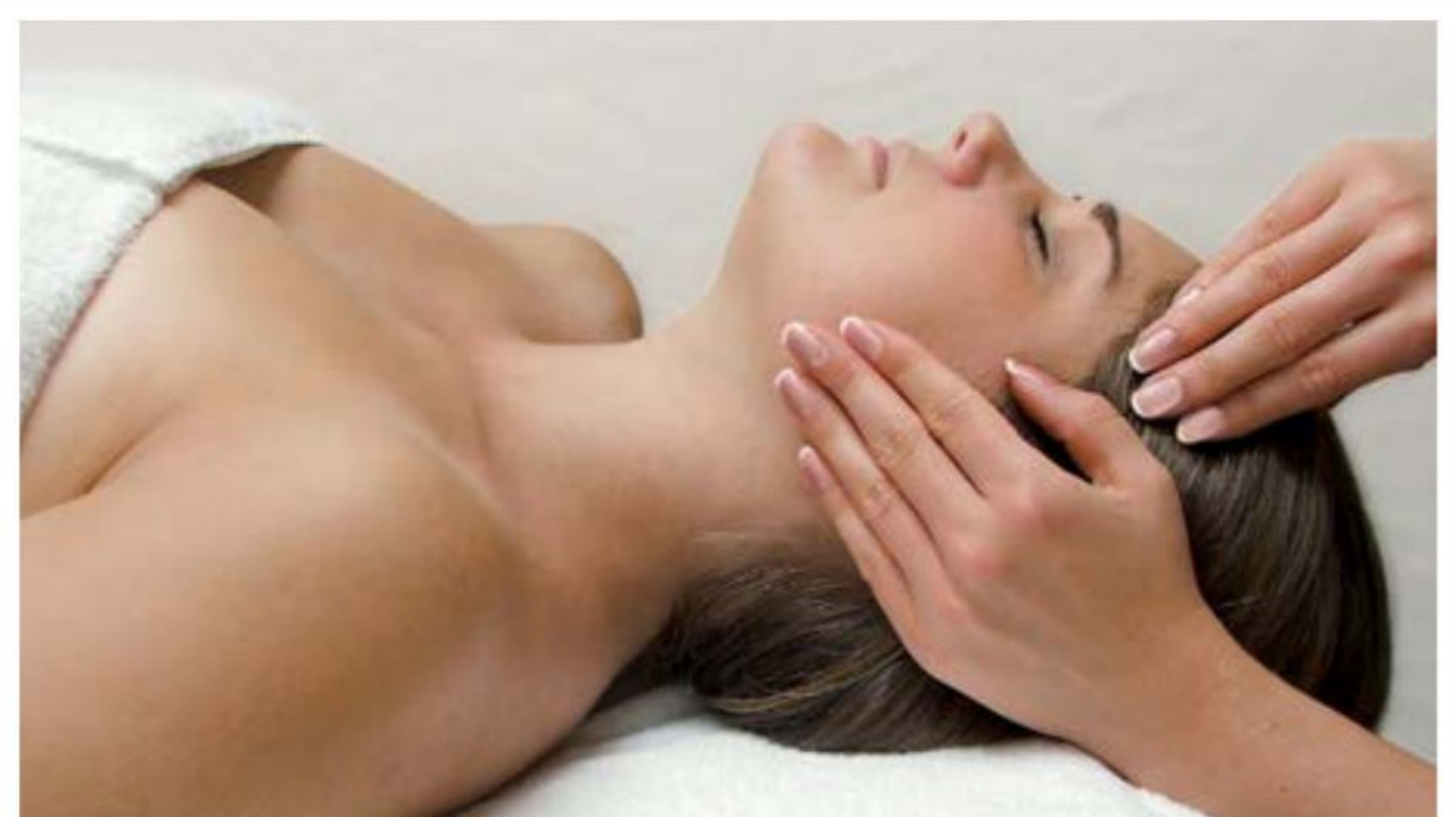
OUT AND ABOUT

Head to Create It North East, held on 27th October 2019 at Gateshead International Stadium. Run in partnership with Create and Craft TV, you can expect to meet some of your favourite crafty celebs including Dawn Bibby, Debbie Moore and more. Enjoy shopping and demos for a range of interests from papercrafting to soft crafts and jewellery making. Advanced tickets are now available at createitvents.com and the first 500 customers will receive a limited edition enamel badge.



TAKE A BREAK

In need of a festive getaway? The Manor House Hotel is our top destination for a superb staycation in the beautiful surroundings of Devon. Learn a new technique with over 20 tutored crafts including cardmaking, embroidery, pyrography, sketching and more! Plus, after a busy day's crafting, why not unwind in the spa and relax among the grounds of this stunning hotel? manorhousehotel.co.uk



ONLINE SHOP OF THE MONTH

Get creative with Pink Ink Designs' extensive collection of stamps, stencils and patterns. Your go-to destination for all things mixed media, stock up your stash with paints, paper and some of the most beautiful illustrated stamps you've ever seen! pinkinkpatterns.patternbyetsy.com



SANTA, STOP HERE!

Create a dreamy space for the children with this enchanting mural using Annie Sloan chalk paints. Bound to spark off the little ones' imaginations, pull out all the stops this Christmas and get arty with paints to give your home a lovely handmade touch. Easy to use and quick to dry, these paints can be used for a number of different techniques. anniesloan.com



IT'S SHOWTIME

Get ready for the Craft4Crafters show (craft4crafters.co.uk) which is returning to the south west on 17th-19th October 2019. The Royal Bath and West Showground will host crafty demonstrations, over 100 exhibitors and lots of workshops for a fun-filled weekend. You're sure to find exciting products, learn about new techniques and watch some fabulous demonstrations.

IT'S A WRAP

Displaying your neatly-wrapped gifts upon the mantelpiece is a surefire way of spreading excitement and joy around your home. If you fancy opting for a classic Christmas colour scheme this year, then peruse John Lewis' (johnlewis.com) gift wrap range, boasting rich berry hues and traditional illustrations. As for the final finishing touches, use luxury velvet ribbon and coordinating gift tags, then complete with your recipient's name in your best calligraphy handwriting. Santa's elves would be proud!



Berry good

SHOP THIS SEASON'S
MUST-HAVE COLOUR
PALETTE



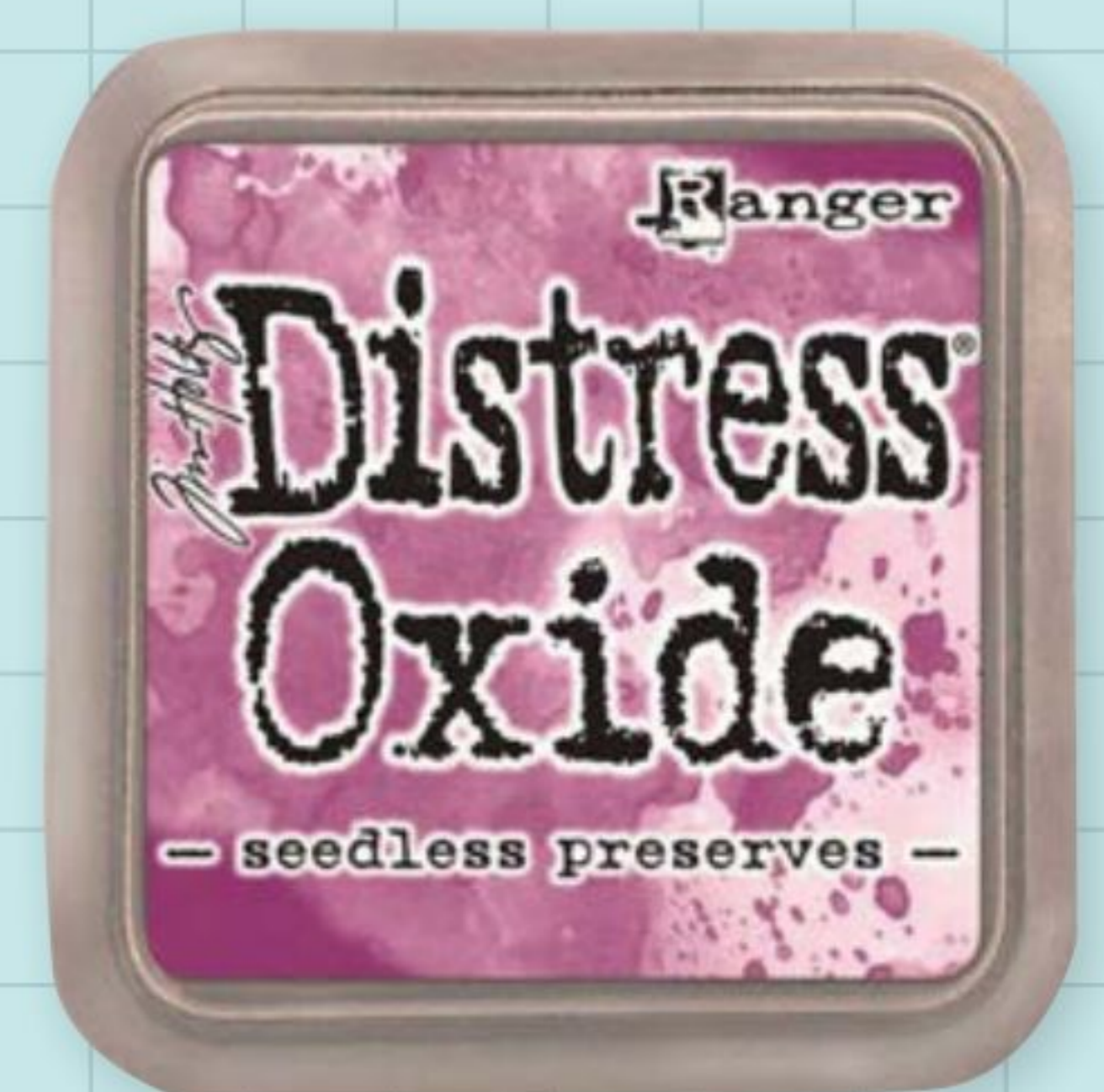
Liberty Print Wooden Stag
Heads, £2.75, artcuts.co.uk



SPARKLES Premium Glitter
in Oh Dorothy!, £3,
wowembossingpowder.co.uk



Spectrum Noir Colouring System
in Vintage, £34.99,
crafterscompanion.co.uk



Ranger Distress Ink in
Seedless Preserves, £4.96,
craftelier.com

Add the

WOW!

Factor

ADVERTISING FEATURE

to your projects this month!



We have been busy at Wow! HQ creating a whole range of different products for you. You will be blown away by our beautiful three colour blend confetti trios and our new selection of stamps....

New stamps now available



Brand new Trios created by Marion Emberson!



WOW! Riviera

A beautiful themed collection of 3 Beautiful Embossing Glitters. With a mix of different grade powders, every stamped image will be different. This set consists of the following colours: Provencal, Genteel and Serene.



WOW! Embossing inkpad refill

Our embossing pad for ultra slow drying is highly rated by our customers as the best product in the embossing world! The Refill Tool is also a a freestyle tool, allowing you to create hand drawn designs. Our inkpad refill is the perfect product for bringing your current ink back to life. You will not be disappointed.



WOW! Heat Tool

This heat tool has two different heat speeds perfect for melting and drying!

Visit our blog for more Project ideas

wowembossingpowder.blogspot.com

www.wowembossingpowder.co.uk

Mini motif dies to complete the scene

EXCLUSIVE TO PaperCrafter EXCLUSIVE

ADD WINTER CHARM TO YOUR MAKES WITH OUR...

Christmas SNOWGLOBE DIE SET

Want to warm up your loved ones' hearts this Yuletide? This issue's exclusive 29-piece snowglobe die set will certainly do the trick. Create any scene you wish with tons of mini motifs; opt for a cute Christmas village, a winter wonderland or starry sky. As for the basic snowglobe shape, we've equipped you with all of the essential dies you need to build your very own in minutes.

Build a die-cut snowglobe

Christmas sentiment die to use again and again

MULTI-SCENE DIE SET

Snowglobe Dies

23 DIES

WORTH £29.99!

OVER 125 Christmas IDEAS INSIDE!



How to... Snowglobe shaker

WITH LAURA BRADLEY

For my shaker card opposite, cut white card to 12cm square. Die cut snowflakes from scrap card to make a stencil. Apply distress ink through the stencil to create a background. Die cut a circle from the top. Trim a slightly larger circle of acetate, add to the back and apply 3D foam pads around the edge of the acetate. Cut a circle from white, 2cm larger than the die-cut circle and colour with Tumbled Glass distress ink. Fix three white snowflake die-cuts to the blue circle. Die cut and colour in a snowman, then fix to the back of the acetate. Fill the acetate with sequins, secure the blue inked circle on top, then fix to a white blank. Stamp a sentiment onto blue card in black and attach to the greeting.

5 SAVVY WAYS WITH YOUR KIT

- 1 This die set is perfect for making shaker cards – all you need is acetate and trusty 3D foam pads
- 2 Distress inks are great for creating winter skies. Play around with different shades for a variety of effects
- 3 You can use the mini motif dies in multiple ways – create stencils, shaker elements, toppers and more!
- 4 For statement Christmas greetings, frame the sentiment die with the snowglobe elements
- 5 When using distress inks, be sure to use a blending tool for seamless inking

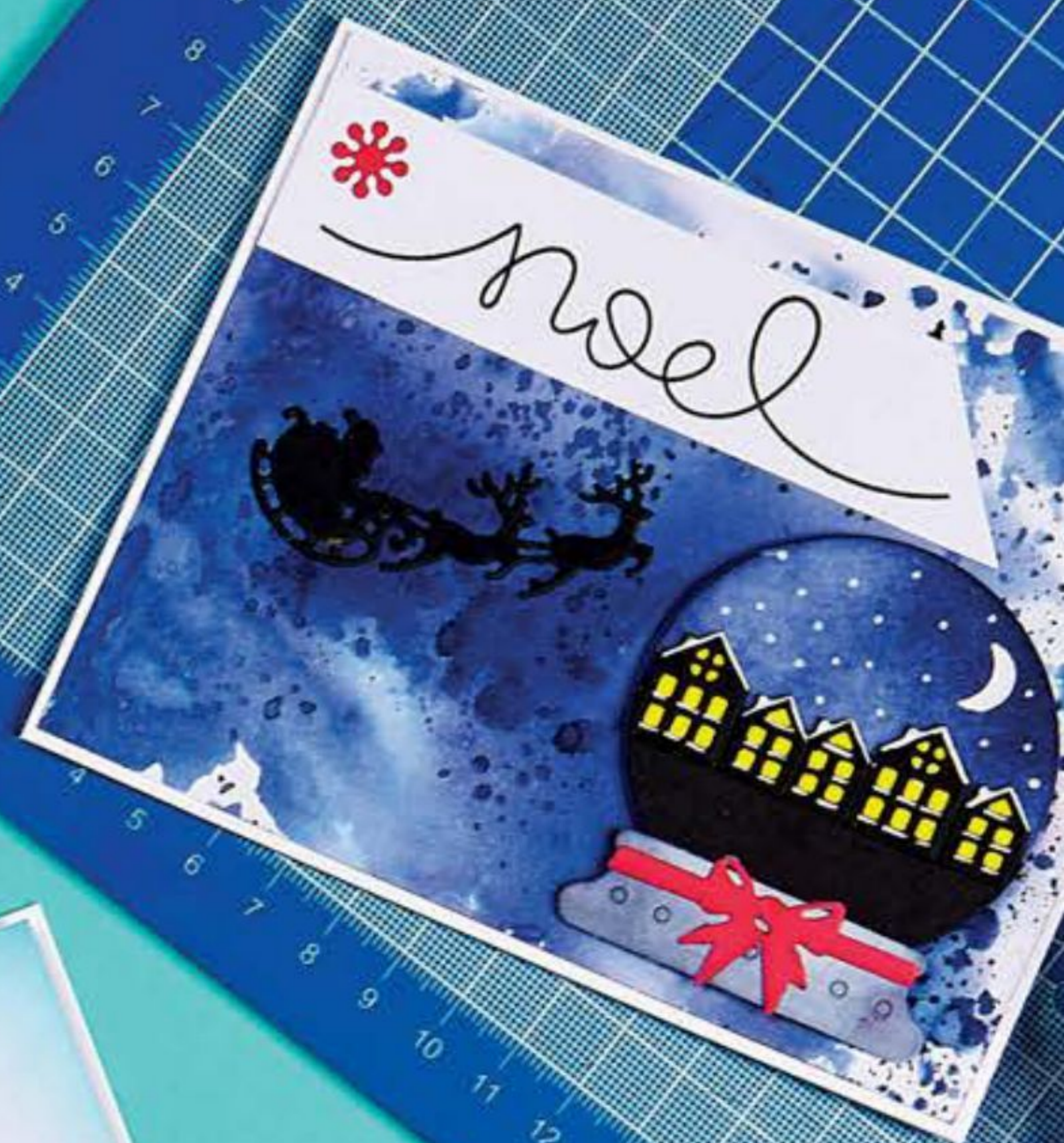


Complement your snowglobe die kit with your *Tattered Lace* paper pad!



Simple silhouette

Die cut multiple mini stars from white card, 10cm square. Cover a slightly larger white blank with Festive Berries distress ink and layer the star panel on top. Die cut the elements for the snowglobe scene from white card and colour in with alcohol markers. Assemble the elements together, then add the snowglobe to the card front with 3D foam pads. Die cut the 'Be merry' sentiment and secure to the centre.



Night sky scenes

Trim white card to 10cm x 13.5cm. Apply Chipped Sapphire distress ink to a piece of acetate and spritz with water. Apply the wet ink directly to the card, then heat-set. Fix the inked panel onto the centre of a slightly larger blank. Die cut the elements for the snowglobe from white and the outline of the houses from black. Blend Chipped Sapphire distress ink over the circle. Colour the white elements with alcohol markers, then assemble. Secure the snowglobe to the card with 3D foam pads. Die cut a Santa and sleigh from black and fix to the card. Finish with a sentiment.

Snowglobe topper

Trim white card to 9cm x 15cm and dry emboss with a snowflake embossing folder. Blend Twisted Citron distress ink over the embossed piece. Stamp a sentiment along the bottom in black ink, then matt the panel onto a white blank. Die cut the snowglobe elements from white and colour in with alcohol markers. Assemble the snowglobe and secure to the top of the card front with 3D foam pads.



Homemade stencil

Trim white card to 10cm x 13.5cm, then blend Twisted Citron distress ink on top. Die cut the largest tree from scrap card, 5cm square, to make a stencil. Using Mowed Lawn distress ink, apply through the tree onto the background, leaving enough space inbetween. Repeat using Twisted Citron distress ink. Mount onto a white blank. Die cut the snowglobe elements from white, then colour in with alcohol markers. Assemble and fix to the front of the card with 3D foam pads. Finish with a sentiment.



Smart blending

Cut white card to 10cm x 15cm. Blend Stormy Sky distress ink two thirds of the way up, applying Chipped Sapphire distress ink to the top. Treat with an anti-static tool and stamp a sentiment in VersaMark ink. Pour white embossing powder on top, heat-set, then matt onto a white blank. Die cut snowflakes and a circle from white card, then the sleigh from black. Colour the circle with Hickory Smoke distress ink, spritz with water, then fix to the card. Secure the sleigh and snowflakes to finish.



IN PaperCrafter
NEXT MONTH...

Carnation
Crafts™

DECOUPAGE
DIE SET

Worth
£14.99



- ★ Decoupage layering guide to get you started
- ★ Bonus sentiment die for the perfect finishing touch
- ★ Take your die cutting 3D this Christmas

Plus!

64-page Carnation Crafts paper book



Don't miss *issue 140*,
on sale 17th October!

The Santa sleigh die is perfect for magical night sky scenes

Die-cut toppers

Take white card, 10cm x 13.5cm, then blend Tumbled Glass distress ink all over. Stamp a sentiment three times down the centre of the panel in black ink. Layer onto a slightly larger card blank. Die cut various elements from white card, then colour them in with alcohol markers, leaving some of them white. Add the motifs to the card front to complete.

For extra embellishment, complete your snowglobe shape with the bow die





Your time to shine

Get in touch...



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[pinterest.co.uk/papercraftermag](https://www.pinterest.co.uk/papercraftermag)



[youtube.com/thecraftschannel](https://www.youtube.com/thecraftschannel)



The Paper Florist

I made this card for my youngest niece Rosa's 14th birthday – she's a very special girl. It's inspired by the beautiful botanical prints of Mary Delany. It consists of pink flowers, small buds and lots of gorgeous green leaves. Almost everything is cut by hand – apart from some shapes where I cheated a bit and used a paper punch. Thanks for sharing my work with fellow Club PaperCrafters!



Denise has won a digi crafting pack



Over to you

WHEN DID YOU FIRST START CRAFTING?

Must be getting on for 70 years now...

Natalie Cooper

I found the craft bug at 29!

Miriam Grazier

Just after my sixth birthday if memory serves. Thanks mum!

Julia Hirsch

Probably in the womb - making a bow with my umbilical cord!

Kéze Jean

55. Late starter!

Gill Hargrove

Three years old

Lauren Hatwell

52

Sylvia Ryan

I was nine when I first embroidered

Claudia Flores

Very young, about 18 months old

Ann Rogers

I've been crafting as long as I can remember

Judith Ellis Vidourek

Brownies... so way back in the 50s. Now I feel old!

Hilda Doute

The Cornish Coastline

I love papercutting by hand. I'm mostly inspired by the coast and holidays by the sea. I like to use lots of colour in my work so I decided to create some bright papercuts of my favourite stretches of coastline. I've gone on to create custom coastlines from around the world for customers, and I really enjoy hearing the special stories behind them. From clifftop wedding venues to rock pooling adventures, and memories of time spent with grandparents by the sea.

Sarah King



74%

of you said your favourite crafting season is Christmas... sorry, summer!



WORDS TO CRAFT BY

Weekend plans:
crafting
Potential obstacles:
life



The Iron Giant

I created this five years ago for an Iron Giant tribute art show. I decided to try doing everything in white and it worked so well. I used white Mi-Teintes paper (it has this subtle texture I love) and glue. Each rivet was punched out of paper and applied with a toothpick - the cat ate so many of the tiny dots! When the project was finished, I saw how much of a difference lighting makes in the mood of the piece. It was something different for me and I was exceptionally happy with it. It remains one of the pieces I've made that I'm most proud of.

Aron Jean

Follow Aron at [@arondraws](https://www.instagram.com/arondraws) for more arty excellence!

More makes by you...



The Definition of Love

These are the first stamps I've used that I've actually had a hand in designing. I made the frame for the two launch shows I did on Create and Craft earlier this month. It's been so exciting to see my ideas and sketches turned into products that other crafters can use, and I can't wait to see what people do with them.

Naomi Hanlon



Funny
on Facebook

"I just don't have time to finish all of my projects. I'm too busy starting new ones!"

f MAY DONNELLY

The Hottest Christmas

I was asked for a New Zealand-inspired Christmas on the beach theme... so I set to it. It was great to work on, so different to the usual Santa on a sleigh! I love box cards. Friends and family all say it's the equivalent of an actual gift. I've been making cards for about three years now; it's such a relaxing hobby.

Emma Maiden

Head to page 69 for products that can help you start your very own tropical Christmas....

The Spook-In-The-Box

For this make I used black and white card, purple and orange glitter card and some scraps in grey. I used my Silhouette Portrait, but it's easy enough to replicate with punches or dies. A little about me: I am a veterinarian and I love to papercraft, I have four cats and live in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Thanks for giving me the chance to appear in PaperCrafter!

Virginia Jansen



Instagram



We might need to start getting stables for our rotary stamps...
@tanaka_tatsuya



Pushing the limits of paper with
@guardabosques



One of the many practical uses of hand lettering from the wonderful
@lovelettering_doriswai



Yep.
@americancrafts

Reading Corner

Paper never ceases to amaze us



MARBLE-OUS

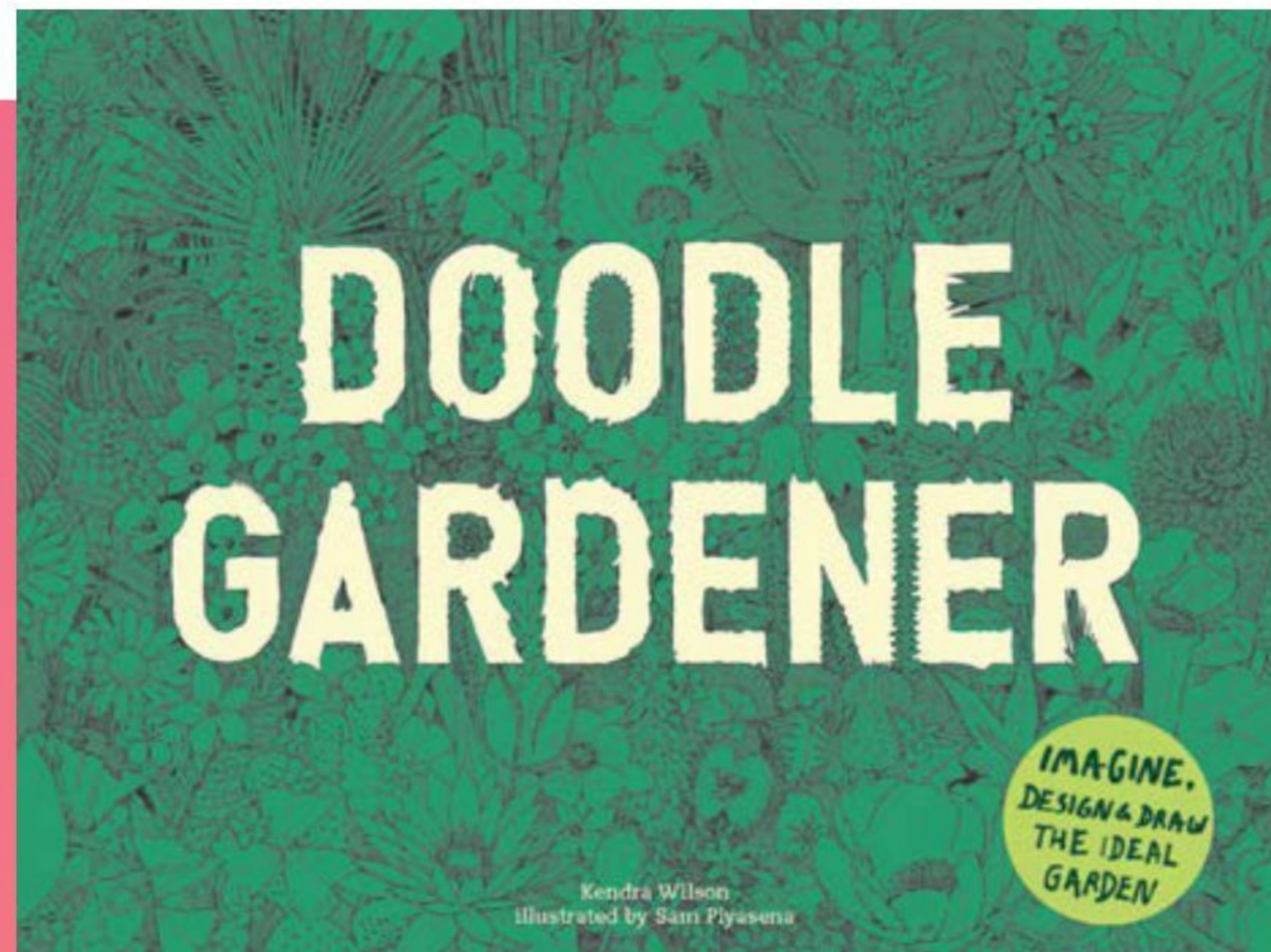
Paper marbling, we think, is about to go big; a few minutes with Lucy McGrath's *Contemporary Paper Marbling* will convince you just how momentous that jump may be. Pitch-perfect photography, cogent breakdowns of complex techniques and neat little facts on the origins of each marble flourish, Lucy's love for a burgeoning artform is irresistibly infectious, and best described using her own words: "The beauty of marbling is in the chaos of it."

(£20, Batsford Publishing)
pavilionbooks.com

SKETCHY GARDENING

Are you a garden aficionado, sketch-mad or a fan of the whimsical things in life? Ticking any of these boxes will probably mean you'll get a kick out of *Doodle Gardener* – if you said yes to all of them, then you've just found your book-soulmate. Pairing imaginative illustrative exercises with whip smart observations and historical tidbits makes for a read that has just the right amount of education sprinkled in amongst the overgrowth of fun.

(£14.99, Laurence King Publishing)
laurenceking.com



PAPER PAINTING

We see papercrafts every day, and sometimes we think we've lost the ability to be shocked. Then someone like Yulia Brodskaya comes along to remind us of how silly that outlook can be.

Painting With Paper is the rare instance of a master at work – one that manipulates strips of paper into expressive portrait masterpieces – but it's also replete with clear instructions so you can start 'painting' almost immediately. (£22.88, Schiffer Publishing)

searchpress.com

SIMPLY OUTSTANDING

Papercutting seems to be growing in popularity by the day, and there are a lot of books and artists operating at the grandest, most complex end of the scale. So it's nice to see Maki Matsubara focus on slightly more practical, beginner pieces that have immediate uses. *Papercutting For Flower And Animal Motifs* showers you with frame adornments, plate decorations, dream catchers and much more, ensuring you'll have ample gifts to give come Christmas time.

(£9.99, Tuva Publishing)
gmcbooks.com

Head to papercraftermagazine.co.uk to download your free projects from *Paper Cutting*

FLOWER POWER

A recent scientific study concluded that 99% of makes can be improved by a flower. Ok, we made that up, but we're pretty sure it's true. While there's an abundance of wonderful pre-made pieces out there, getting confident with painting your own botanicals can be a transformative experience; *New Botanical Painting* offers over 30 step-by-step projects to turn you from floral novice to green-stem pro.

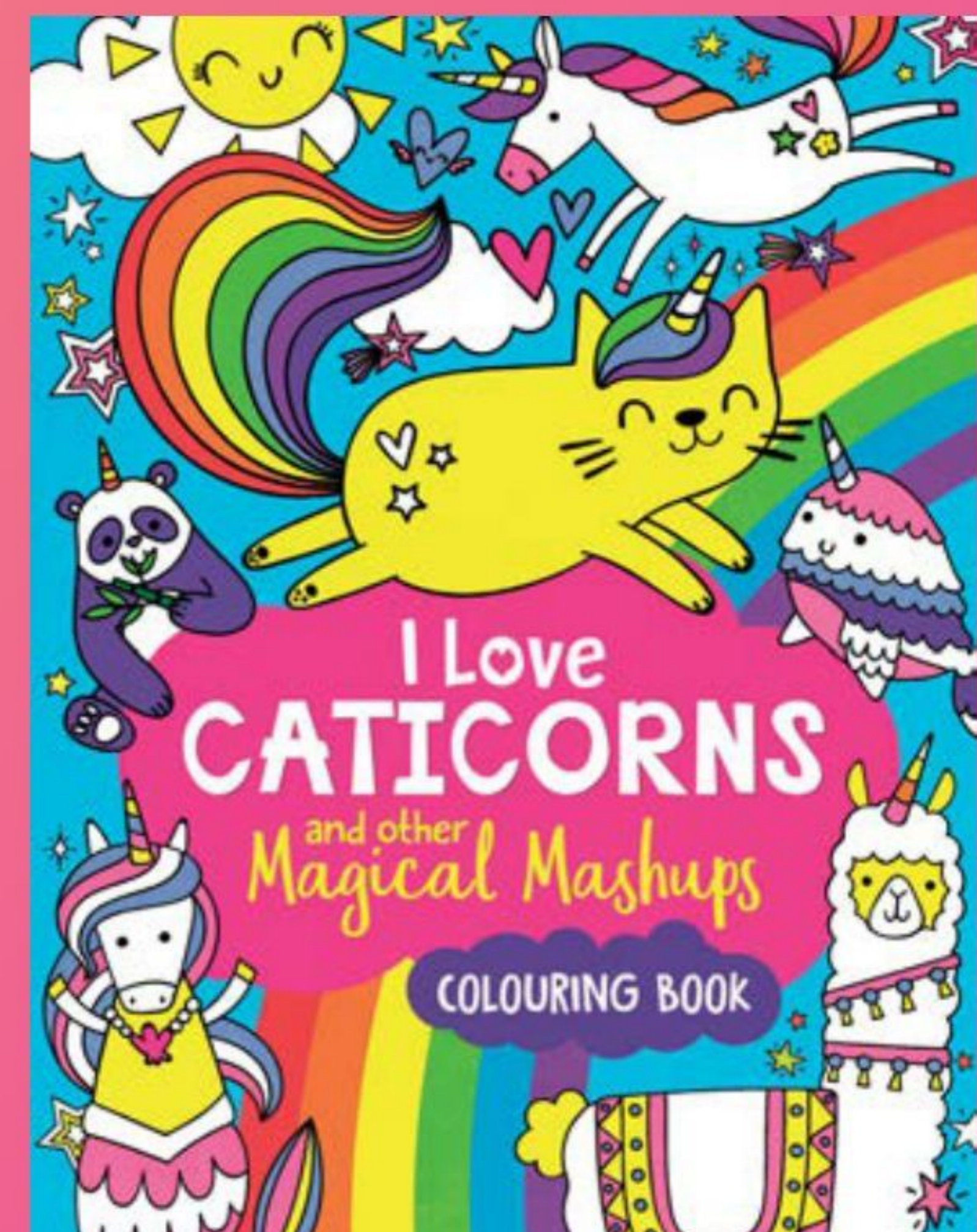
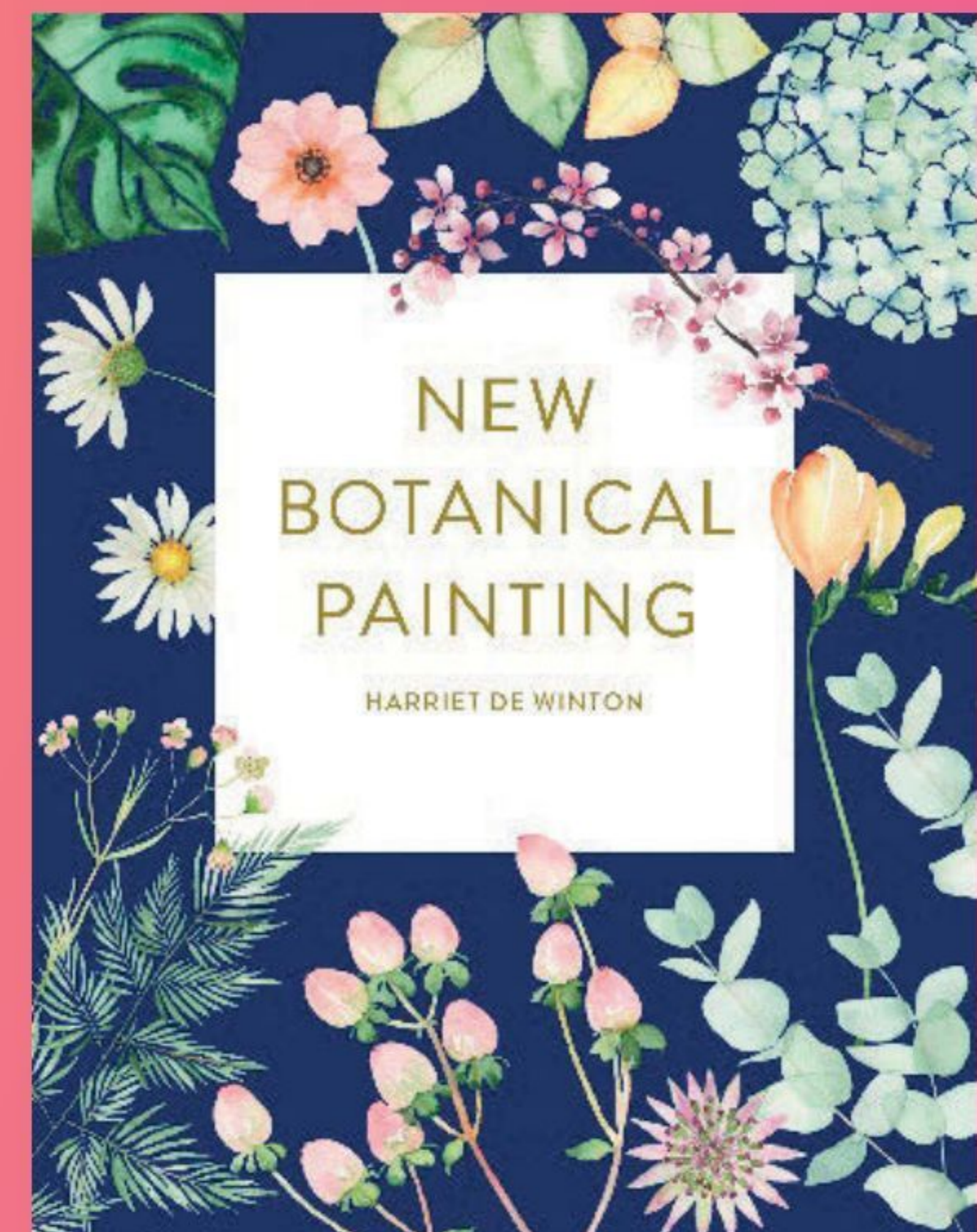
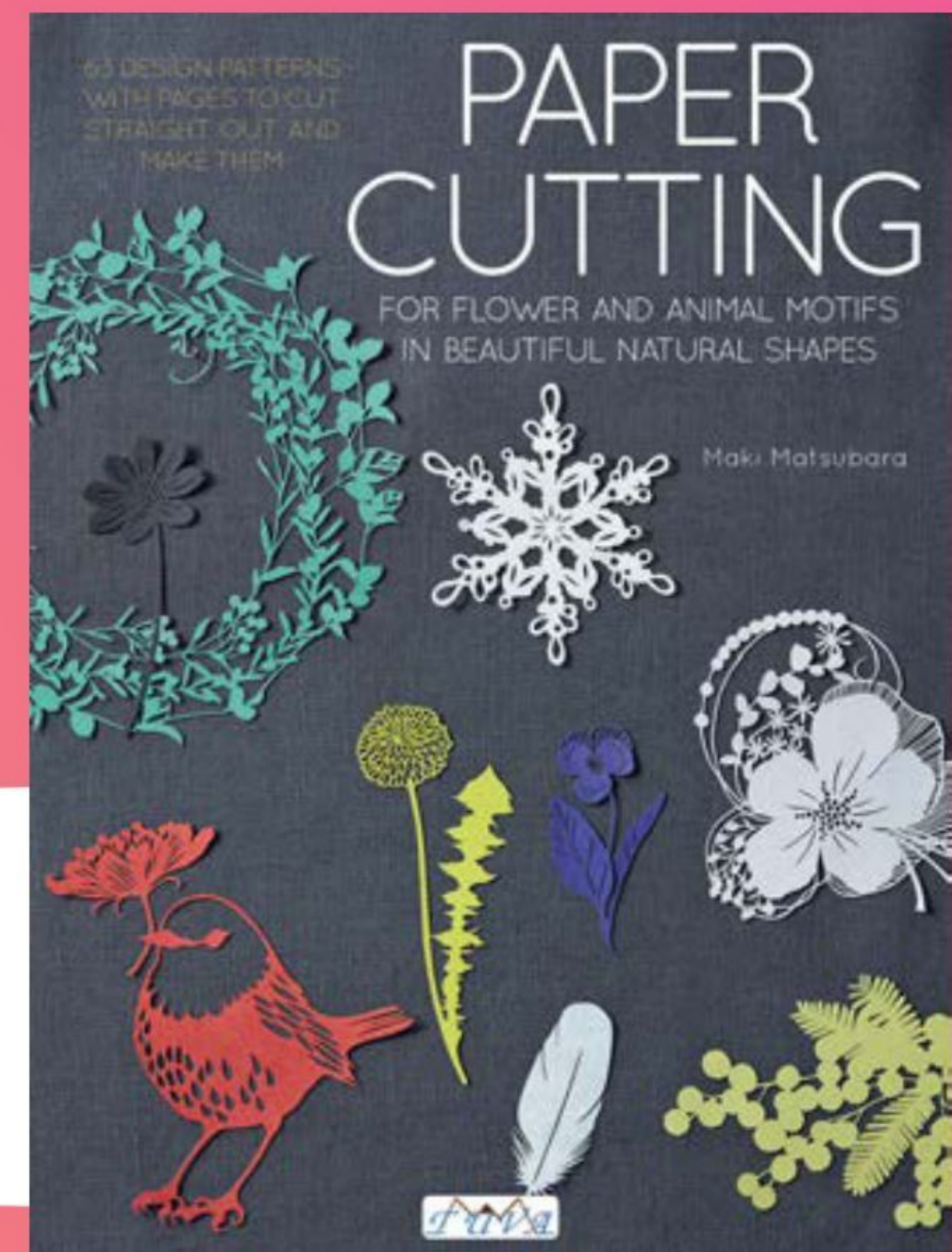
(£12.99, Ilex Publishing)

octopusbooks.co.uk

SILLY THERAPY

In the mood for something silly? Look no further than Sarah Wade's *I Love Caticorns*. Combining the general unencumbered freedom of a colouring book with imaginative creature mash-ups (caticorns, unicorns, llama-corns, panda-corns, pug-icorns – everything's better with a horn!) this book acts as the perfect tool to whip out when you're feeling a bit stressed.

(£5.99, Buster Books)
mombooks.com



Snome takeover

3D decoupage, valley-folds, triple-framing – it's just not Christmas without new techniques

You will need

- › Craft essentials (see p94)
- › Patterned papers, Craft Consortium It's Snome Time 12" x 12"
- › Stamps: Craft Consortium It's Snome Time; My Favourite Things Dashing Deer
- › Dies: circle, stitched circle
- › Toppers, It's Snome Time Decoupage toppers set
- › Punches, corner: 5mm, 10mm
- › Embellishments: It's Snome Time enamel dots, metal charms
- › Acetate

Unusual mash-ups are all the rage in paper collections at the moment, and we at PaperCrafter HQ couldn't be happier – so when the opportunity came to commission this quirky gnome-centric set of Christmas cards came along, we couldn't say no. Couple this with a bundle of challenging techniques, eye-catching embellishments and on-point seasonal sentiments, and you've got yourself a winning collection. Go and get stuck in!

EASEL'S GREETINGS

1 Create a 13cm square top-folding blank from kraft card. Score across the centre of one side, then mountain fold to create an easel blank. Cover the front and back panels with red patterned paper trimmed slightly smaller. Cut kraft card to 6cm x 13cm and cover with red patterned paper. Snip snowflake paper to 5cm x 12cm, round off the corners with a punch and fix on top.

2 Adhere a patterned strip across the centre, stamp a sentiment onto kraft card, then attach it to the middle. Secure to the base panel with 3D foam pads. Trim two pieces of robin paper to 5.5cm x 12cm. Round off the corners, then adhere to the front and back panels.

3 Cut kraft card to 10.5cm square. Snip red patterned paper slightly smaller and round the corners. Cover with a decoupage image, again rounding the corners. Add the decoupage layers with 3D foam pads, then attach to the front panel with 3D foam pads. Secure a snowflake charm threaded with baker's twine in the top-left corner and finish with enamel dots.



8

stand-out
cards



ADD TO BASKET

It's Snome Time 12" x 12" paper pad, £15.99, craftconsortium.com/shop

PORTHOLE PRESENT

- 1 Make a 13.5cm square top-folding kraft blank. Cover with patterned paper. Trim toadstool paper to 12cm square and round off the corners with a punch, layer onto red paper, then attach on top.
- 2 Trim striped paper to 4cm x 13.5cm. Adhere down the right-hand side. Die cut a 9cm stitched circle in kraft card, then die cut a 7cm circle through it to create a frame. Fix acetate behind the frame and run foam tape around the edge.
- 3 Die cut a 9cm circle from patterned paper. Sprinkle glitter in the middle. Remove the foam tape backing from the kraft frame and attach on top. Adhere to the card front, then add a robin topper to it with 3D foam pads.
- 4 Stamp a sentiment on kraft card. Cut out and round the corners with a punch. Attach it to the left of the frame with 3D foam pads. Add a toadstool charm threaded with baker's twine under the sentiment, then finish with enamel dots.

TRI-FRAME TRICK

- 1 Create a 10cm x 18cm white blank, then adhere with patterned paper on top. Trim heart paper to 8.5cm x 16.5cm and round off the corners. Layer on red paper, then fix on top. Trim pine cone paper to 5cm x 10cm and matt onto white card. Secure a strip of green paper across the middle, then attach it to the centre.
- 2 Die cut a 6cm stitched circle in white card then attach on top of the middle section with 3D foam pads. Die cut two smaller circles in red and blue and secure on top. Attach a sentiment with 3D foam pads.
- 3 Cut two 6cm stitched circles in white card, then a 4cm circle through them to create frames. Attach snowflake paper behind the frames with 3D foam pads. Glue to the bottom and top of the card front with 3D foam pads.
- 4 Stamp two toadstool images, colour in, then cut out and attach in the frames with 3D foam pads. Add a toadstool charm threaded with baker's twine next to the sentiment. Finish with enamel dots.



Five more CARDS to come

DEER FRIEND

1 Trim kraft card to 15cm x 22cm, then score down from the long side at 3cm, 7cm, 15cm and 19cm. Mountain fold the outer score lines, then valley fold the inner score lines to create a u-fold blank. Cover the front and back panels with blue patterned paper.

2 Cut red patterned paper to 7cm x 14cm, round off the corners and adhere to the back panel. Snip two pieces of red diamond paper, 2cm x 14cm, round off the corners, then adhere to the front panels.

3 Trim kraft card to 4cm x 14cm. Cover with

snowflake paper slightly smaller, then matt robin paper on top and adhere. Die cut a 9cm stitched circle in kraft card, then die cut a 7cm circle through it. Attach patterned paper to the reverse of the frame with 3D foam pads and adhere to the card front.

4 Stamp and colour a deer embellishment, cut out and attach to the circular frame with 3D foam pads. Stamp a sentiment on kraft card, cut out, then attach underneath. Add a snowflake charm threaded with baker's twine and gems.

PICTURE PERFECT

Die cutting a frame is simple (once you've done one you can do them all) and the effects it can have on a card can be transformative! Apart from being able to add a whole new scene to your makes, they can double as great toppers, or an opportunity to showcase some favourite papers.



TOADSTOOL MAGIC

- 1 Create a 9cm x 11cm top-folding white blank. Matt with patterned paper. Trim toadstool paper to 8cm x 10cm, round off the corners, then attach on top.
- 2 Die cut a 9cm stitched circle in white card, then a 7cm circle through it to create a frame. Attach green diamond paper behind with 3D foam pads, then adhere to the top of the card.
- 3 Stamp a gnome and robin on white card, colour in and cut out. Fix the gnome in the frame with 3D foam pads, then attach the stamped robin to the top-right with 3D foam pads. Add a robin topper to the left-hand side.
- 4 Make a strip of green diamond paper, 2cm x 11cm. Glue it near the bottom of the card. Stamp and colour a sentiment, die cut into a 4cm stitched circle, then attach on top with 3D foam pads. Add a toadstool charm threaded with baker's twine to the circular frame, then finish with enamel dots.



Sarah Jackman Read says...

“There are many ways to add depth to your makes – but maybe none more effective than 3D decoupage”



IN-DEPTH LAYERING

- 1 Create a 14.5cm square white blank. Matt with red paper. Trim striped paper to 13.5cm square, round off the corners, then attach on top.
- 2 Cut red diamond paper to 6cm x 14.5cm. Matt onto white card, then fix the panel down the centre. Snip white card to 11cm square and matt with red paper. Layer up a decoupage image with 3D foam pads, round off the corners, then attach using 3D foam pads.
- 3 Stamp a sentiment on white card, cut out and round the corners. Fix in the top-left corner of the decoupage with 3D foam pads. Add a snowflake charm threaded with baker's twine under the sentiment, then finish with enamel dots.



CHOICE DECOUPAGE

- 1 Create a 12cm x 17cm top-folding white blank. Matt with snowflake paper, followed by red. Trim patterned paper to 10.5cm x 15.5cm and round off the corners. Attach to the greeting.
- 2 Layer up a decoupage image with 3D foam pads. Attach to the card front.

Stamp a sentiment on white card, cut out, then round off the right-hand corners. Attach in the top-left corner with 3D foam pads. Thread baker's twine through a snowflake charm and secure, then add enamel dots to complete.

FOR MORE
Layering ideas
TURN TO
P35

Get the look!

Stock your craft stash with these helpful goodies from hobbycraft.co.uk



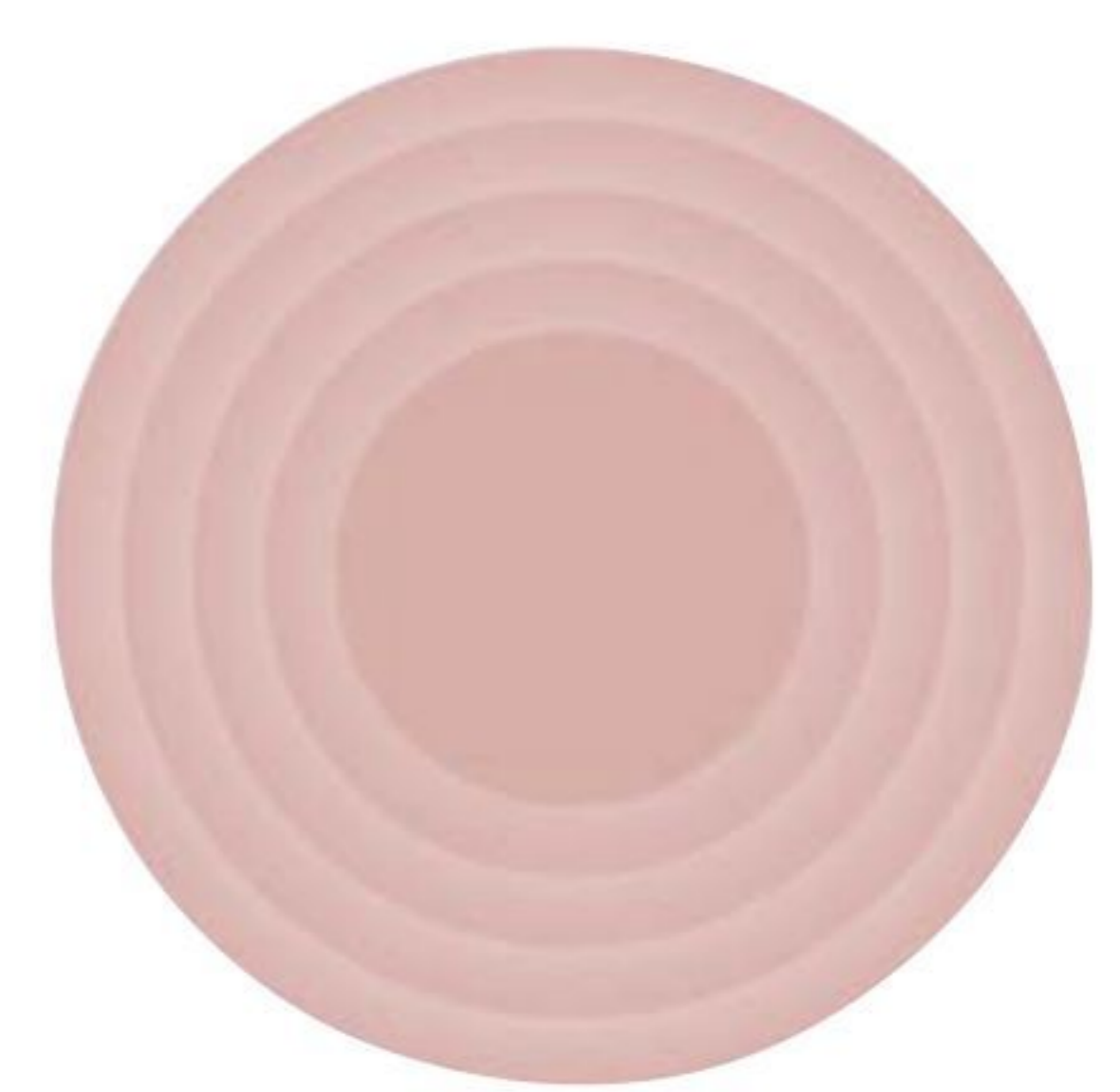
20 glitter shakers, £10



Metallic baker's twine, £4



Round up corner punch, £4.50



Nesting dies, £3

ON THE WONK

1 Trim kraft card to 16.5cm x 17cm. Score down from the long side at 5.5cm, then valley fold. Cover the front and inside panels with red paper cut slightly smaller.

2 Cut spotted paper to 10cm x 16cm and round off the corners. Fix to the inside panel. Snip

present paper, 4.5cm x 16cm, round off the corners, then adhere to the front panel.

3 Trim kraft card to 10.5cm square, then cover with red paper, rounding all corners. Layer up a decoupage image with 3D foam pads and attach that to the panel. Fix to the card front at an angle with 3D foam pads.

4 Stamp 'A holiday hi' onto kraft card, cut out, then secure in the top-right corner of the decoupage. Thread baker's twine through the top of a toadstool charm and fix under the sentiment. Embellish with enamel dots to finish.





Make it personal

If there's one trend to try this Christmas, let it be customisation

WORDS BY AMELIA BOLTON



HOME FROM HOME

Inviting personalisation into interiors promises to pack any home with warmth and comfort. It's vital to make a space your sanctuary, and giving your décor the crafty touch is just what your abode may be crying out for. Subtle, handmade accents here and there are sure to welcome you in from those cold winter nights and for a truly unique festive display that you can deck your home with year after year, we recommend giving Lia Griffith's paper flower monograms a go. These gold initials certainly deserve pride of place, so why not prop them atop a mantelpiece? Find the full instructions at liagriffith.com

Go, gadget go!



With the festive season on the horizon, now is the time to start preparing for the busiest time of the year in the crafting calendar. One of our favourite machines for speedy personalisation is the Cricut Explore Air 2. Boasting built-in Bluetooth for wireless crafting, a set dial for easy material settings and nifty storage compartments, prep yourself for some smart crafting this Christmas. Plus, Cricut's Design Space has over 100,000 images, fonts and ready-to-make projects so you can personalise whatever you want for whoever you want! uk.cricut.com

“Personalisation shows that you've gone the extra mile and proves how much thought and love you've put into creating your gifts and greetings. Adding wow to the overall gifting experience will make your loved ones feel extra special”

AIMEE RICHARDS, THE LETTER ROOM

CRAFT THE TREND

CUSTOMISE YOUR CHRISTMAS POST WITH THESE FREE PROJECTS AND MORE AT PAPERCRAFTERMAGAZINE.CO.UK



BESPOKE BOXES

For quick and easy personalisation, opt for digital die cutting! These gift boxes are to die for and make for the perfect Christmas wrapping solution.



CUSTOM COLOURING

Craft Helen Fitzjohn's delicate and detailed personalised gift tags for a special surprise. Keep it simple and enjoy a touch of colouring therapy with your favourite coloured pencils.



EMBELLISHED ENVELOPES

Don't just stop at cardmaking... embellish your envelopes too with Hannah Read-Baldrey. Simply use your stash of letter stamps or an embossing pen to add your recipient's initial.



TOP IT OFF

Consider customisation for your Christmas wrapping this year and give your parcels the playful finishing touch they deserve. Gone are the days of a simple bow – extravagant present toppers are quickly becoming the go-to gift wrap accessory. Not only do they make for real head-turning results, personalised ones like The Letter Room's giant gold alphabet stickers (notonthehighstreet.com) make it easy to know whose present is whose under the tree. Want to make your own? The We R Memory Keepers Alphabet Punch board from americancrafts.com allows you to punch any letter and number from the paper of your choice.

GAME-CHANGING GIZMO

If there's one gadget to put on your wishlist this season, let it be the Screen Sensation from crafting.co.uk. You can personalise just about anything with screen printing and the creative possibilities have just got even easier with Stephanie Weightman's new brainchild. The Screen Sensation MYOS280 machine enables you to design your very own artwork in minutes. Putting customisation right at your fingertips, be sure to put your stamp on just about any surface including card, fabric, wood and more!



PUT YOUR STAMP ON IT

If stamping is more your thing, then why not carve your own? Opt for an all-complete starter pack like the Speedball Speedy-Carve Stamp Making Kit (amazon.co.uk) or Essdee's Carve A Stamp Kit from notonthehighstreet.com. On the other hand, if you want all the hard work taken out for you, then head to The English Stamp Company (englishstamp.com) or Little Stamp Store (littlestampstore.com) to create and order your bespoke stamp online.



"I love the newfound appreciation for personalisation in the crafting community and it's now easier than ever with gadgets like the Screen Sensation"

STEPHANIE WEIGHTMAN, TATTERED LACE

A helping hand

GIVE YOUR CHRISTMAS CRAFTS A QUICK FLOURISH WITH OUR FAVOURITE LETTERING BUYS



As part of the new Foil Quill range, the Kelly Creates Foil Quill USB includes 200 calligraphy designs created by Kelly Klapstein. Achieve a variation of personalised designs in an elegant foil finish (£10.99, createandcraft.com).

Boasting a fine nib and chiselled tip, the Callicreative Duotip markers are available in a rainbow of colours (£9.49, calligraphy.co.uk).



It can be confusing to know where to start with calligraphy and the tools you need to succeed. Take the guesswork out of the craft with Speedball's Complete Calligraphy Kit (£36.79, saa.co.uk).



Buy *The Gift Of Calligraphy* by Maybelle Imasa-Stukuls at penguinrandomhouse.com



SMART SENTIMENTS

Let your die-cuts do the talking with Crafter's Companion's Cascading dies. Without the need for craft knives or any fiddly cutting, incorporate the personalisation trend into your die cutting. These alphabet dies with a difference will help you to create letters, names or meaningful messages of your choice. crafterscompanion.co.uk



"There is something so beautiful about crafts allowing you to add a bit of your personality into each project. Making things with your hands will enable you to connect with your heart, and when you gift your handmade treasures, you pass that connection on to another"

LIA GRIFFITH, FOUNDER OF LIAGRIFFITH.COM

ON A ROLL

Never miss an important date with the Pebbles From Me To You rotary stamp (americancrafts.com). Including letters, numbers and punctuation marks, make personalised messages with ease. Ideal for scrapbooking and embellishing photographs or memorabilia, choose your sentiment, pick out your ink colours and roll away!



Get your mixed media fix!

Pair contrasting stripes together with washi tapes

THESE POLKA DOT PAPERS MAKE FOR QUICK AND EASY BACKGROUNDS

1

2

3

4

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9



WIN THIS PAGE!

VISIT OUR INSTAGRAM AT @PAPERCRAFTERMAG FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN ALL OF THESE PRODUCTS



THERE'S ALWAYS SPACE FOR A SEQUIN OR TWO OR THREE...

Peppermint Swirl

You and these craft buys are mint to be together

- 1 Pebbles Merry Little Christmas Washi Tapes, £8.99, heylittlemagpie.com ■ 2 Foil Washi Tape in Mint Green, £4.50, thefoxandstar.co.uk ■ 3 Simple Stories Country Christmas 12" x 12" Simple Basic kit, visit simplestories.com for stockists ■ 4 WOW! Embossing Glitter in Salsa, Carousel and Vintage Jade, £2.75 each, wowembossingpowder.co.uk ■ 5 WOW! Embossing Colour Blend in Mint Macaroon, £2.75, wowembossingpowder.co.uk ■ 6 Hunkydory Perfect Backgrounds Splendid Stripes Stamping pad, £9.99, hunkydorycrafts.co.uk ■ 7 PaperArtsy Fresco Finish Acrylic paint in Bora Bora, Mermaid and London Bus, £3.62 each, shop.paperartsy.co.uk ■ 8 Pebbles Merry Little Christmas Mini Stickers, £4.99, craftie-charlie.co.uk ■ 9 Sweet Season Stamp set, visit altenew.com for stockists ■ 10 Pebbles Merry Little Christmas Icon Ephemera, £4.99, craftie-charlie.co.uk ■ 11 Pebbles Merry Little Christmas Phrase Ephemera, £4.99, craftie-charlie.co.uk ■ 12 Nuvo Sequins in Tropical Oasis, £3.49, tonic-studios.co.uk ■ 13 Pebbles Merry Little Christmas 6" x 6" paper pad, £6.99, craftie-charlie.co.uk

Personalise this Christmas



Personalising your gifts and Christmas décor couldn't be easier when you have your Cricut Maker or Cricut Explore Air 2

CRICUT HAS THESE TOP TIPS FOR YOUR PERSONALISATION PROJECTS

Choose the right font – monograms can be bold and striking or ornate and intricate. Browse the hundreds of fonts and thousands of images to choose the right style for your project.

To get all of the letters in a name to join up 'ungroup to letters' first, manually move each one so that it touches the next letter and then 'weld' to create an individual image that will cut in one piece. Babette is a great cursive font for projects like this.

Remember to mirror your image when using Iron On.

For best Iron On results use a Cricut Easy Press – available in three sizes - which offers even and consistent heat distribution allowing you to set an exact temperature and also includes a timer and automatic switch off after a period of inactivity.

Refer to the Cricut Easy Press Heat Transfer Guide and choose your iron on material and base material from a drop down list to ensure you apply the right temperature for the appropriate time to get the best results - https://cricut.com/en_us/heatguide

Use a Cricut Bright Pad to help with weeding. Your design will be beautifully illuminated for quick and easy work.

Choose the right material to suit the recipient. From everyday iron in a wide range of colours to foil and holographic, from glitter and sparkle to mesh and Sportflex (designed specifically for stretchy fabrics), there's a material to suit every taste.

Create your own Christmas gifts and decor this Christmas with the **Cricut® Maker™**



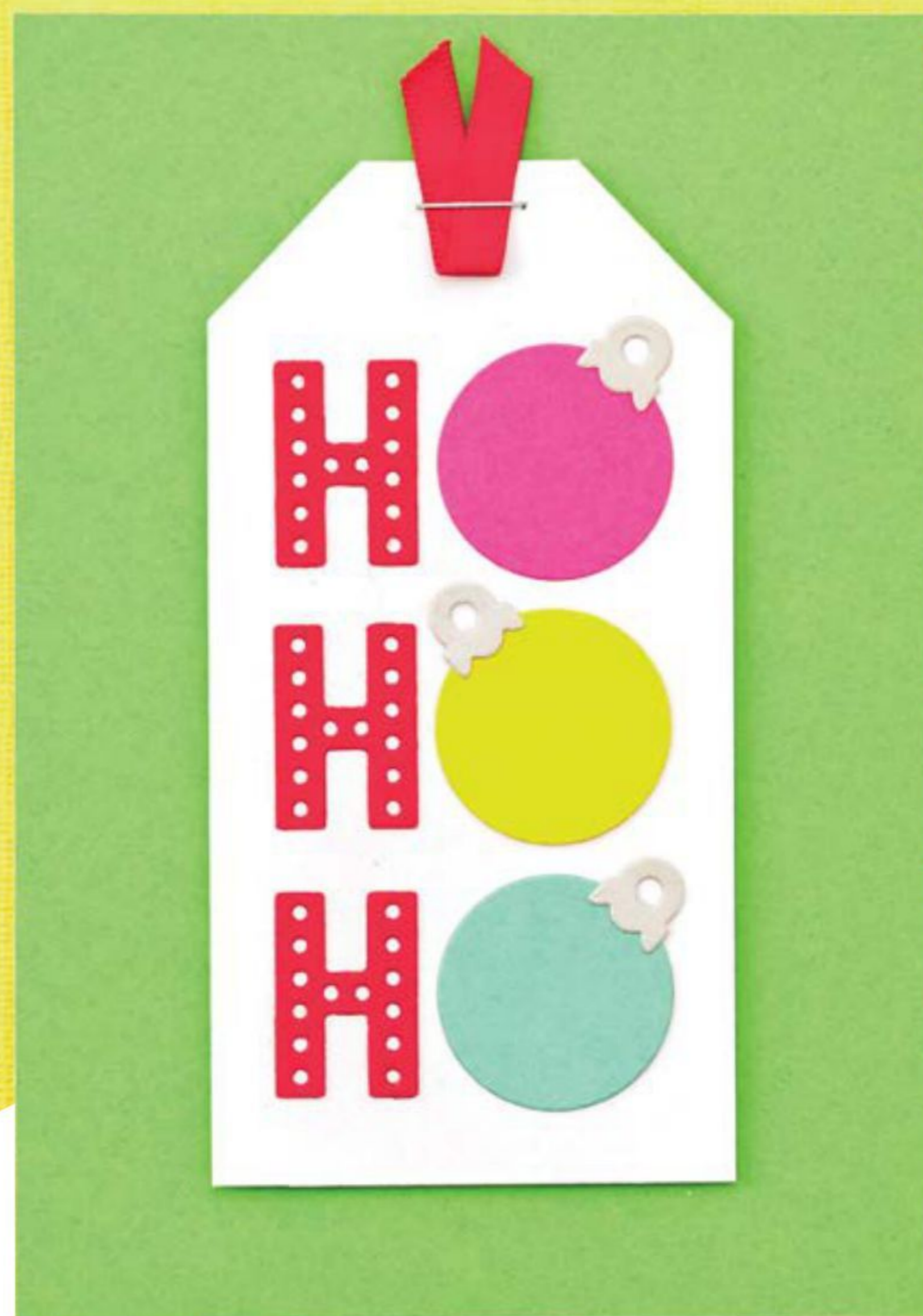
Whether it's a tote bag, water bottle, T shirt or personalised Christmas decoration, the only limit is your imagination. There are over 100,000 images and thousands of ready-to-make projects in Cricut Design Space to get you on your way.

IDEAS FOR PERSONALISED GIFTS USING CRICUT IRON ON OR VINYL

- Baby's first Christmas T shirt or babygrow
- A bespoke Christmas decoration with a name or initial on
- A bag, purse or wallet with initials or a monogram
- Batch make Christmas cards and add the recipient's name on each one
- A personalised stocking for each child with their name on
- A custom-made Christmas Eve box
- Personalised gift tags
- After the festivities are over, label each box with the contents so you can find what you're looking for next year!

Available from Hobbycraft, Amazon and some other independent retailers

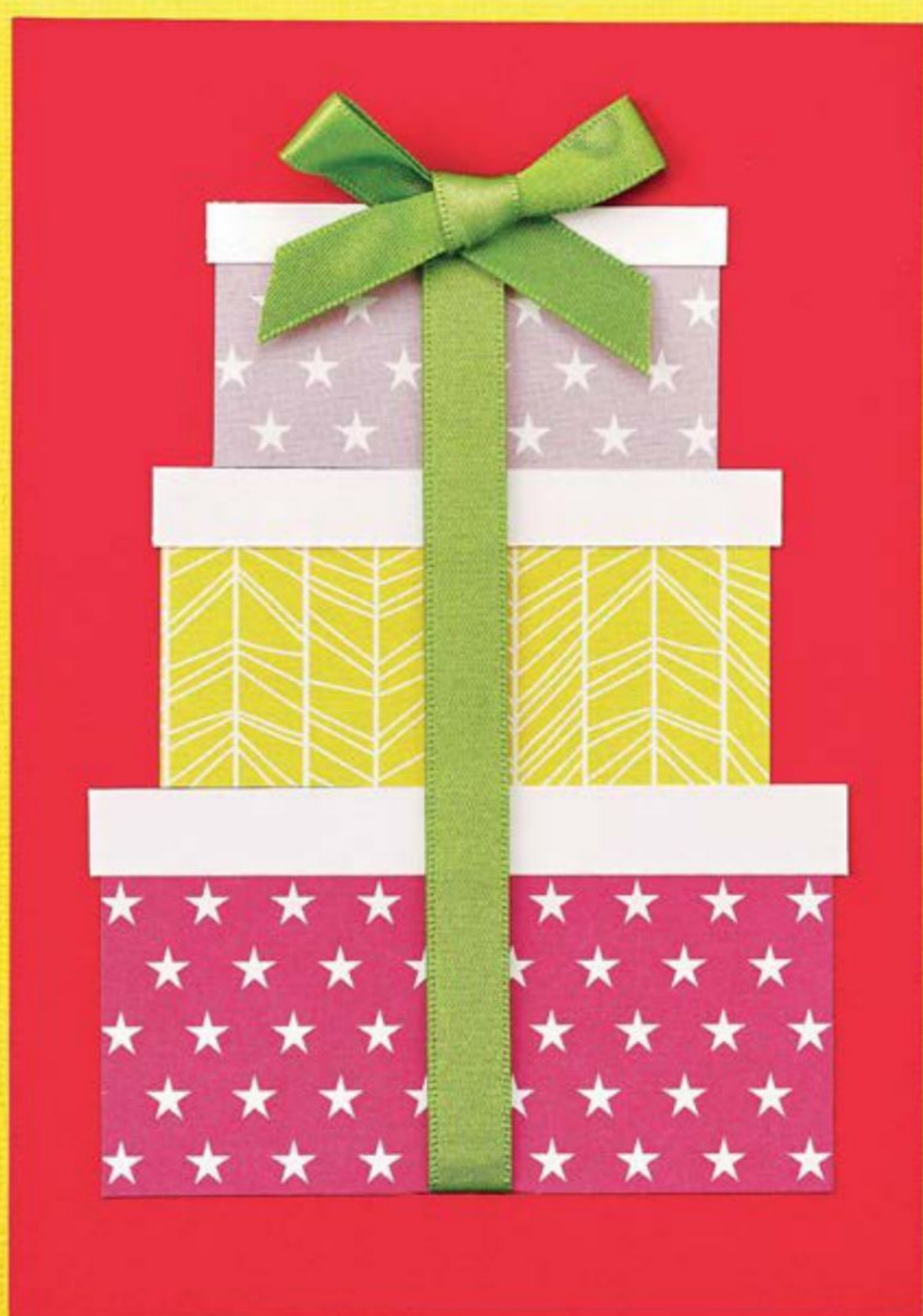
cricut.com



CRAFT
ME QUICK!

Santa's coming to town

Hurry... he's on his way! Craft Tracey Daykin-Jones' festive cards pronto



RECYCLE LAST YEAR'S GIFT TAGS

Die cut the letter 'H' from red three times and adhere down the left of a white tag. Die cut three circles from coloured card and three silver bauble tops, then assemble onto the tag. Staple red ribbon to the top and secure the tag onto a green blank using 3D foam pads.

Instead of creating a brand new tag, why not recycle your old ones?



WHY NOT ADD GLITTER TO THE BEARD?

Create a red blank and matt an oval of light pink on top. Place a white arc shape above the pink. Take white card, cut an oval shape from the top and adhere to the greeting. Die cut two paisley shapes and add to create a moustache. Embellish with two black dots, a red circle and holly to finish.



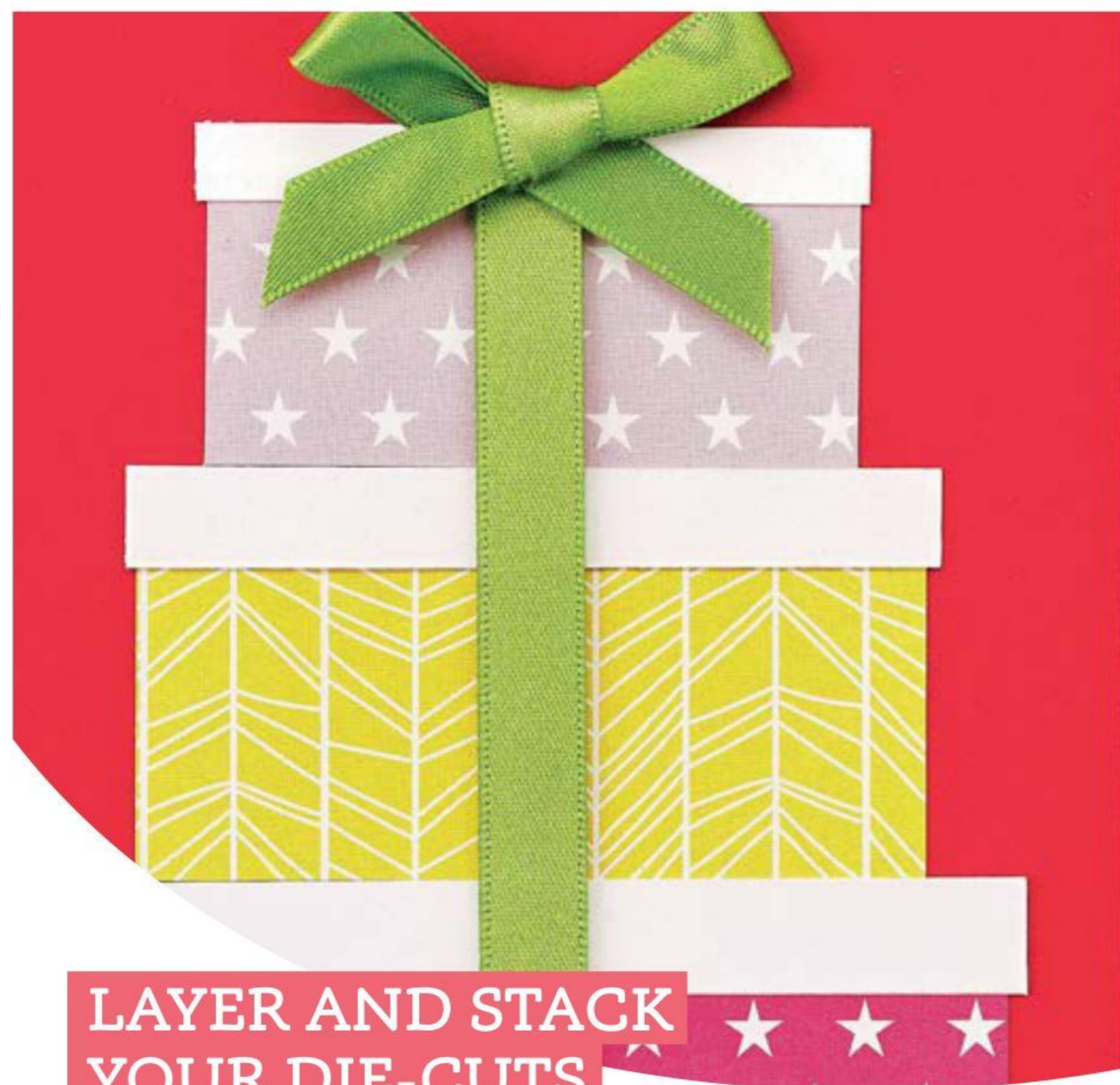
American Crafts Glitter paper pad, £7, hobbycraft.co.uk



INCORPORATE STITCHY ACCENTS INTO YOUR CARDMAKING

Take a 10.5cm x 15cm red blank and adhere a white scalloped circle to the top. Add a white scalloped strip along the bottom. Secure a black panel along the centre and a silver square frame on top. Glue a narrow silver strip to create a buckle and sew a silver button in place.

Team plain card with basic shaped metal dies to create simple yet effective greetings



LAYER AND STACK YOUR DIE-CUTS

Cut out three rectangles from different patterned papers and adhere on a red blank. Cut out three narrow strips from white and add above the rectangles. Trim a narrow slit centrally above and below the top and bottom rectangle, then feed green ribbon through, securing on the reverse. Add a green bow to complete.

Use different textured papers for a fun effect!

Christmas lights

Brighten up the winter season with Claire Richards' incredible illuminating makes

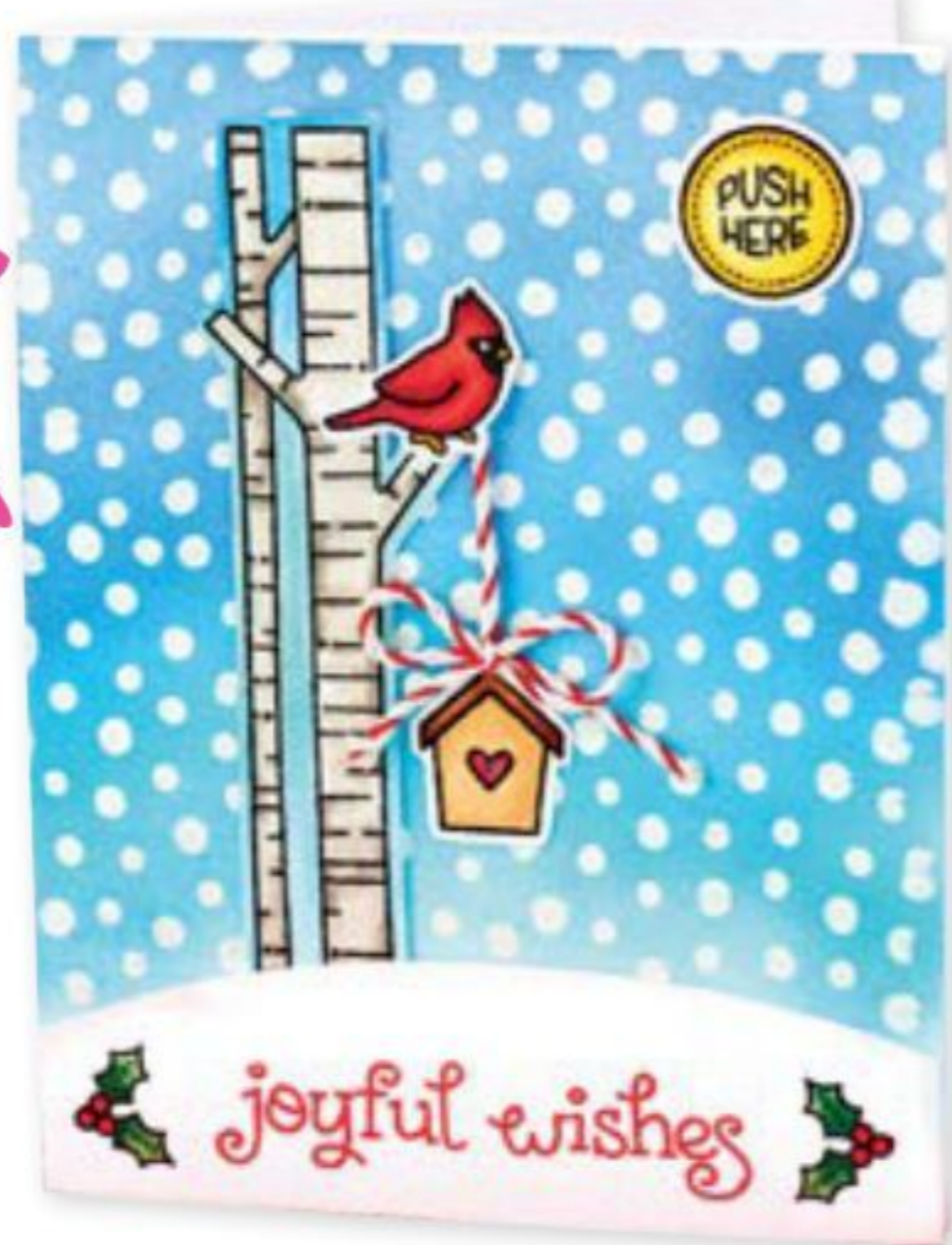


Light-up
cards: we
show you
how!

FOREST FROLICS

You will need

- › Craft essentials (see p94)
- › Lawn Fawn Chibitronics
- › Stamps: Lawn Fawn Joy To The Woods, Winter Big Scripty Words, Push Here
- › Stencil, My Favorite Things Snow Flurry
- › Ink pads: Ranger Distress Oxide Faded Jeans, Blueprint Sketch, Broken China, Tumbled Glass, Peacock Feathers, Abandoned Coral, Crushed Olive; Versamark watermark
- › Embossing powder, white
- › Pens, alcohol markers
- › Tool, blending
- › Vellum



HANGING LIGHTS

- 1 Create an 11cm x 14cm blank. Trim white card to the same size, then blend together Faded Jeans and Blueprint Sketch distress inks. Apply white paint through the snow stencil, and leave to dry.
- 2 Stamp trees, a bird, birdhouse and 'push here' circle onto white card, then colour with marker pens. Die cut a small hole through the birdhouse, marking through to the same spot on the

background panel, and pierce a hole.

3 Adhere the stamped images in place. Cut a curved panel from white card and snip to 11cm wide. Stamp a sentiment in red ink, two holly sprigs in black, then colour. Adhere the curved section to the bottom of the card front. Fix baker's twine between the birdhouse and the branch, then vellum to the reverse of the card front, behind the hole.

4 Place the inked panel over the blank, then mark through where the light will sit. Make an LED light as shown in the step-by-step. Adhere to the top-right corner of the blank, behind the 'push here' circle.

5 Use three layers of foam tape around the sides of the battery holder to hold it in place, then around the entire card. Attach the inked panel onto the blank.

1 Trim white card to 11cm x 14cm and blend together blue distress inks. Stamp 'Noel' in green ink across the card. Flick with water, then leave to dry. Snip white card to 1.5cm x 14cm and adhere along the bottom of the panel.

2 Stamp small diamonds in black ink, and one large diamond towards the right of the sentiment. Colour with a yellow marker pen. Die cut a small hole in the centre of the large diamond. Stamp trees, a fox, squirrel, log, holly and acorns, cut out, then colour with marker pens. Adhere the stamped images in place. Stamp footprints in grey, then a 'Push me' sentiment and an arrow in purple.

3 Create an 11cm x 14cm white blank. Place the inked panel over the blank, then mark through where the light will be placed. Make an LED light and adhere it to the bottom-left corner, behind the squirrel.

4 Use three layers of foam tape around the sides of the battery holder and around the entire card. Secure the inked panel onto the blank.

CHRISTMAS COLOURS

- 1 Make an 11cm x 14cm blank. Trim white card to 10cm x 13cm and blend distress inks in Abandoned Coral and Crushed Olive in the centre. Stamp 'Be merry' in VersaMark ink, then heat emboss with white embossing powder. Mount onto a panel of green card.
- 2 Stamp five baubles, holly leaves and a 'Push here' sentiment onto white card, cut out, then colour in. Die cut a small hole through three of the baubles, mark where they will sit on the panel, and pierce small holes. Adhere the stamped images in place.
- 3 Stamp small snowflakes in green and red ink, then stamp dotted lines to hang the baubles from the sentiment. Attach a strip of vellum to the reverse of the card, then place onto the

blank to mark through where the LED lights will sit.

4 Make a battery holder using our step-by-step. Adhere this to the top of the card, behind the 'Push here' sentiment. Fix three LED

lights over the marks to complete the circuit.

5 Use three layers of foam tape around the sides of the battery holder and around the entire card. Attach the panel to finish.





CLAIRE'S
TOP TIPS

Lighting up

Here's a way to make a fun card that's completely unique and unexpected. Why not brighten up someone's day with a card that, quite literally, lights up? This is a technique that will brighten your recipient's day over and over! LED lights work perfectly for cardmakers, as they are small and durable. While I've used them in a specific way here, the possibilities are endless – experiment! Christmas is definitely the one time of year where the more lights there are, the better.

Combo kit

Lawn Fawn and Chibitronics have joined forces to put together a great kit that takes the hard work out of making your very own light-up cards, including LED sticker lights, copper tape and button cell batteries, as well as some beginner circuit layouts to follow.

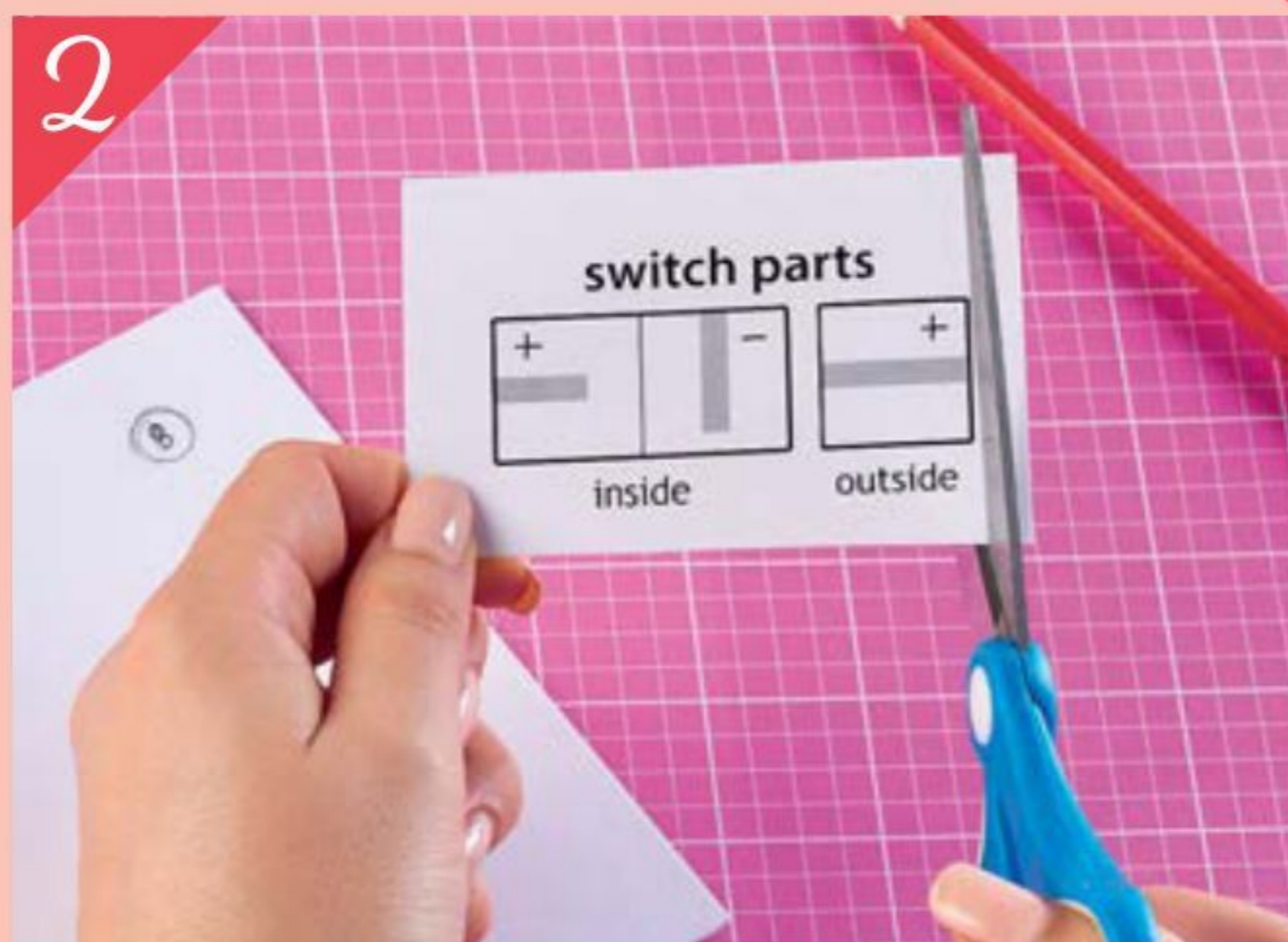
My step-by-step instructions show you the inner workings of the card that are hidden from the outside, and you'll see that light-up cards are really a lot easier than it first might appear.



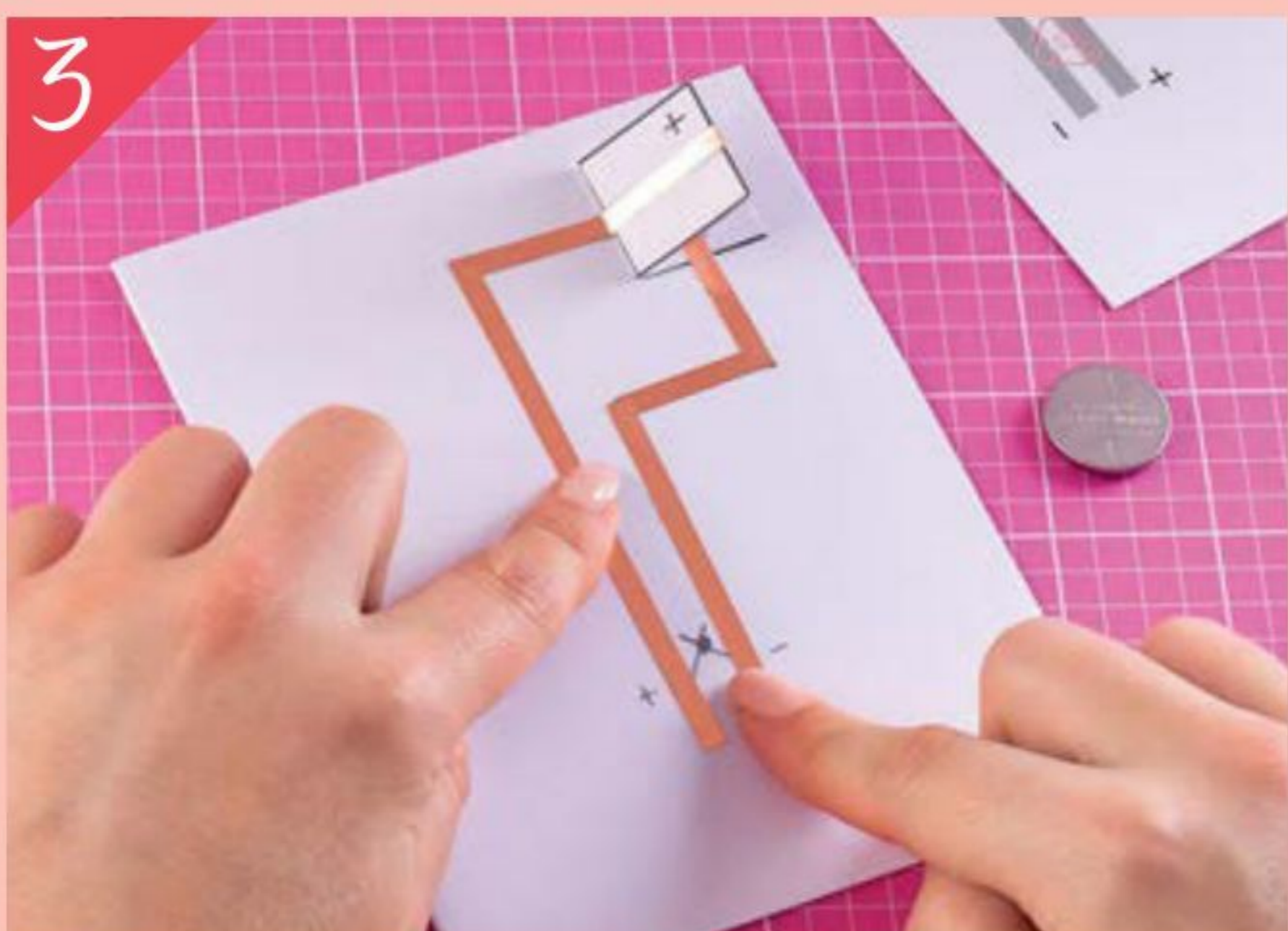
STEP-BY-STEP *Light mechanism*



1 Die cut a hole for the LED light, then use a pencil to mark through it onto the card. Make a note of where you want your battery to be



2 Construct a battery holder and adhere it onto the blank



3 Use copper tape to lay a circuit leading from the battery, noting the +ve and -ve paths



4 Stick the LED light over the mark. Apply three layers of foam tape around the battery to hold it in place



If you're anything like me and mixed media mad, then I can guarantee that you'll adore Therm O Web's huge range of innovative products. Perfect for the upcoming festive celebrations, experiment with foil and glitter effects like never before. Pair your foils with the Deco Foil Transfer Gel, give stencilling a go with the Gina K. Designs Glitz Glitter Gel and apply flock to your makes for luxurious tactile effects.

FIRST LOOK

* therm·o·web

adhesives, interfacing and more...

Deco Foil

Delve into Therm O Web's mixed media assortment with Corinne Bradd

TEXTURED SENTIMENT

Spread an even layer of Deco Foil Transfer Gel through the Gina K. Designs Crazy Daisy stencil onto red card. Lift the stencil and allow the gel to dry completely. Cut Gina K. Designs Fancy Foil in Glimmering Gold slightly larger than the design, slip the layers into a folded paper sleeve and run through a laminator. Peel away the foil backing to reveal the shiny design. Trim to cover one half of a 15cm square blank. Layer pink patterned paper onto the remaining section. Add foil to a Foil Mates Sentiments Tag Tidings and die cut into a circle. Mount onto a larger scalloped circle of pink flock and secure.

GOLD BLENDS

Spread Gina K. Designs Glitz Glitter Gel in Velvet Red and Gold through the Gina K. Designs Petals & Wings stencil onto red card, blending the two coloured gels together. Lift away the stencil and leave to dry. Fix Gina K. Designs Fancy Foil in Glimmering Gold to the Gina K. Designs Foil-Mates Holiday Flora sheet with a laminator, then use the same method to create a sentiment panel. Trim the panels into wide strips and fix to the front of a landscape blank. Mount the sentiment onto red card and secure to the left, adding a section of the foiled background to the top-left.

Explore more Therm O Web products at

thermoweboonline.com

Why not try...?

- ★ Invest in good quality card to ensure the gel doesn't seep through
- ★ Use a palette knife to spread the gel over the stencil for an even coverage
- ★ Make quick toppers by die cutting shapes from your foiled panels
- ★ Ensure your laminator is hot enough for the Foil-Mate sheets to transfer onto the foil

Blend two coloured gels together for interesting effects



Stencils are a quick and easy way to add detail to your makes

GEL EFFECTS

Stencil the Gina K. Designs Petals & Wings onto green card using Deco Foil Metallix Gel in Pure Gold. Leave to dry, then trim to 9.5cm x 14cm. Create more leaf designs on green card in the same way but this time using Gina K. Designs Glitz Glitter Gel in Gold. Trim into a narrow strip, add a strip of pink flock and fix to the left before placing in the centre of a 10.5cm x 15cm green blank. Add a foiled sentiment panel to the top of the card. Snip leftover glittered leaves and arrange these below the sentiment.



Achieve texture with flocked accents



FLOCK FOLIAGE

Spread Deco Foil Transfer Gel through the Gina K. Designs Petals & Wings stencil onto black card, then leave to dry. Cut Deco Foil Flock Transfer Sheets in Green Envy slightly larger than the panel and feed through a hot laminator twice

with the flock at the bottom. Leave to cool before peeling away the backing sheet. Team the flocked panel with a green foiled Gina K. Designs Foil-Mates Background sheet, adding a length of contrasting ribbon down the left. Matt onto a 10.5cm x 15cm teal blank. Create a foiled sentiment panel, mount onto red and secure.

For extra shimmer, mix and match your foils



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ROSIE SAVAGE, EDITOR

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SANTA'S WORKSHOP

PAPER COLLECTION

Be inspired by the North Pole and all its toymaking goodness with these prints



“The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear... and by downloading this issue's FREE Christmas papers.” That's the full quote by Will Ferrell's Buddy the Elf, isn't it? Bursting with classic festive motifs, these papers by Alice Potter can't wait to be introduced to your craft stash... they're guaranteed to add plenty of cheer to your Christmas cards this year.





These vibrant, ultra-festive papers will work for any and all of your Christmas cards, and Corinne Bradd is here to show you how. Whip up ten-minute greetings or opt for the super impressive neverending card. Plus, turn the page to discover a tutorial for Danish – also known as Froebel – stars. They're lovely decorations!

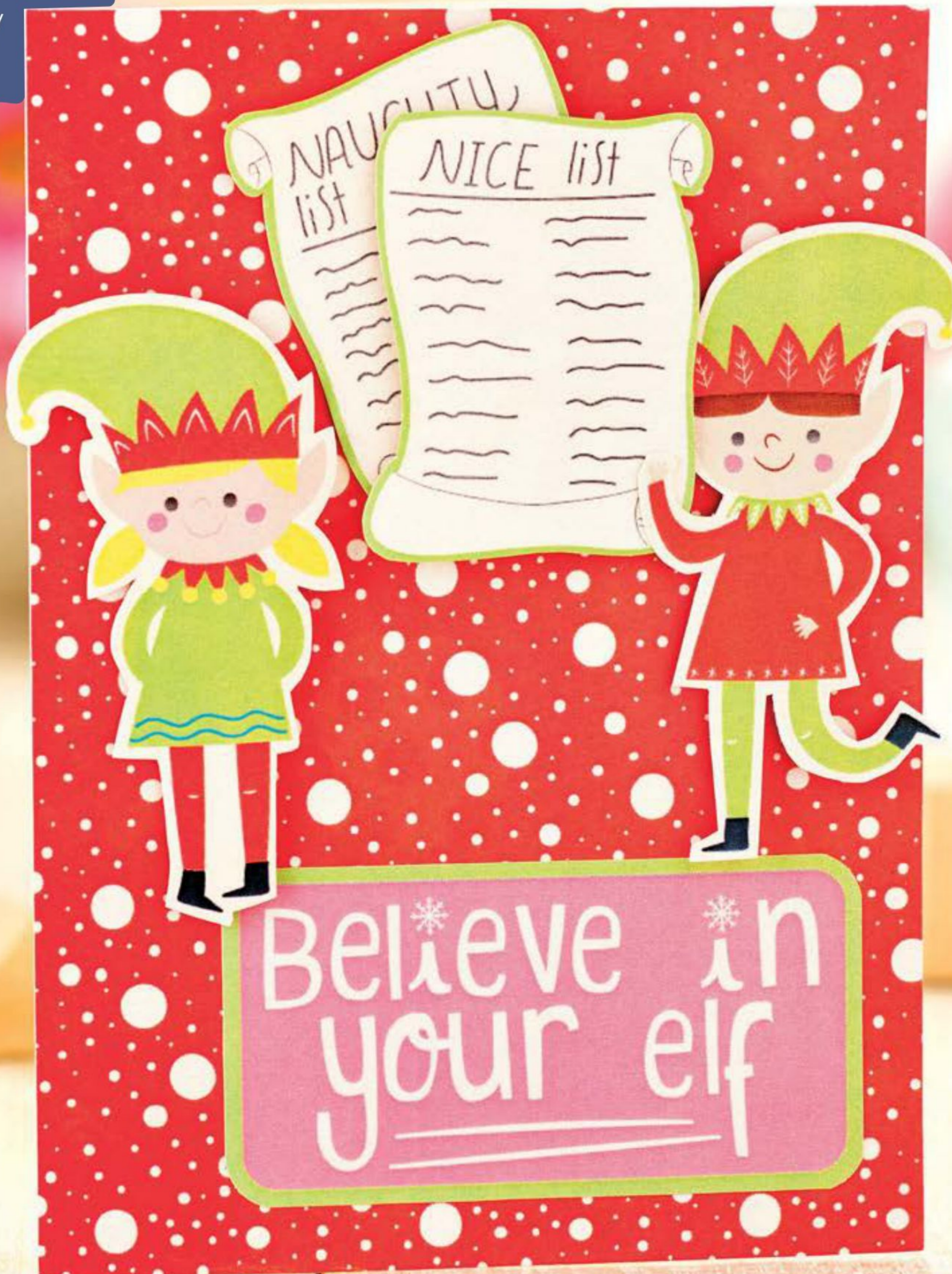
We hope you enjoy crafting with our latest free papers, designed exclusively for you lovely PaperCrafter readers

You will need

- › Craft essentials (see p94)
- › FREE PaperCrafter patterned papers (see p49)

TOPPERS FOR YOU

- 1 Cover a 10.5cm x 15cm blank with our red spotty paper and fix an elf sentiment panel at the bottom. Glue elf motifs onto thin card and cut out, leaving a narrow border.
- 2 Place them above the sentiment with 3D foam pads. Mount and cut out naughty and nice lists. Layer them behind the hand of one of the elves to complete.



ADD TO BASKET

For a range of 3D foam pads, visit hunkydorycrafts.co.uk





SIMPLY NEVERENDING

- 1 Cut four pieces of coloured card, 10cm x 20cm, and score each one at 5cm in from both short ends. Place two pieces of card together to make a square. Apply glue to the corners only and fit the remaining pieces over the top in the other direction to create another square.
- 2 Let the glue dry completely before testing the mechanism by folding each piece of card out. Snip the edges if necessary. Trim panels of patterned paper slightly smaller than the areas between the folds and glue in place. Cut out motifs and sentiment panels and arrange these over the various faces of the card to give a different appearance with each fold.



Corinne Bradd says...

“Head to [youtube.com/thecraftschannel](https://www.youtube.com/thecraftschannel) and search ‘neverending card’ to see my video demonstration”

STAND-OUT MOTIFS

Cover a 10.5cm x 15cm blank with reindeer paper. Glue more reindeers and a sentiment onto thin card and cut out to leave a small border. Use 3D foam pads to fix the motifs onto the card so they extend the edges.

TOP TIP

Download the papers from our website and try a spot of 3D decoupage with the characters!





DANISH STARS

- 1 Cut four strips of double-sided paper, 2cm x 21cm, and fold each one 12.5cm from one end. Interlock the folded strips by slipping them through the loops formed by the fold of the next one, making sure the longer end is at the bottom each time, to form a cross shape.
- 2 Turn the cross over and fold the longer ends back on themselves in turn,

slipping the end of the last strip through the loop of the first one. The ends of the strips should be approximately the same length.

- 3 Fold each end at 45°, fold again at 45°, then fold in half to make a point. Tuck the excess end of paper into the pocket below it. Repeat for all eight points to make a star.

CLASSIC CHARACTERS

Cover a 10.5cm x 15cm landscape blank with snowflake paper and add a 2cm wide band of red spotty paper across the bottom. Mount Santa motifs, a sentiment and holly onto thin card and trim to leave a narrow border. Fix to the card with 3D foam pads. Place the sentiment at the top so it extends the fold and position the holly top-right.



Prefer to learn visually? See our Danish star video at [youtube.com/thecraftschannel](https://www.youtube.com/thecraftschannel)



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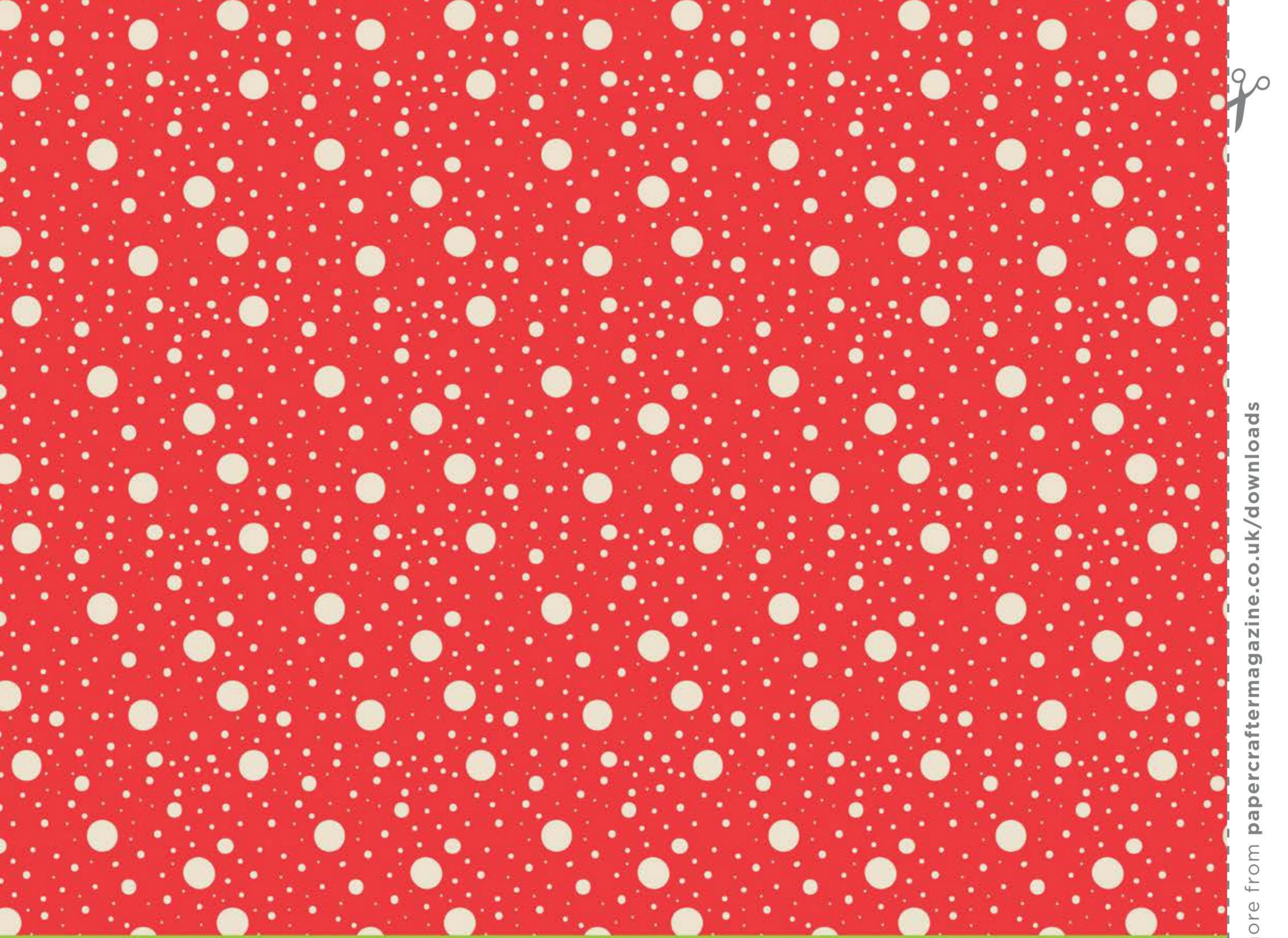












HAPPY
Christmas

Believe in
your elf

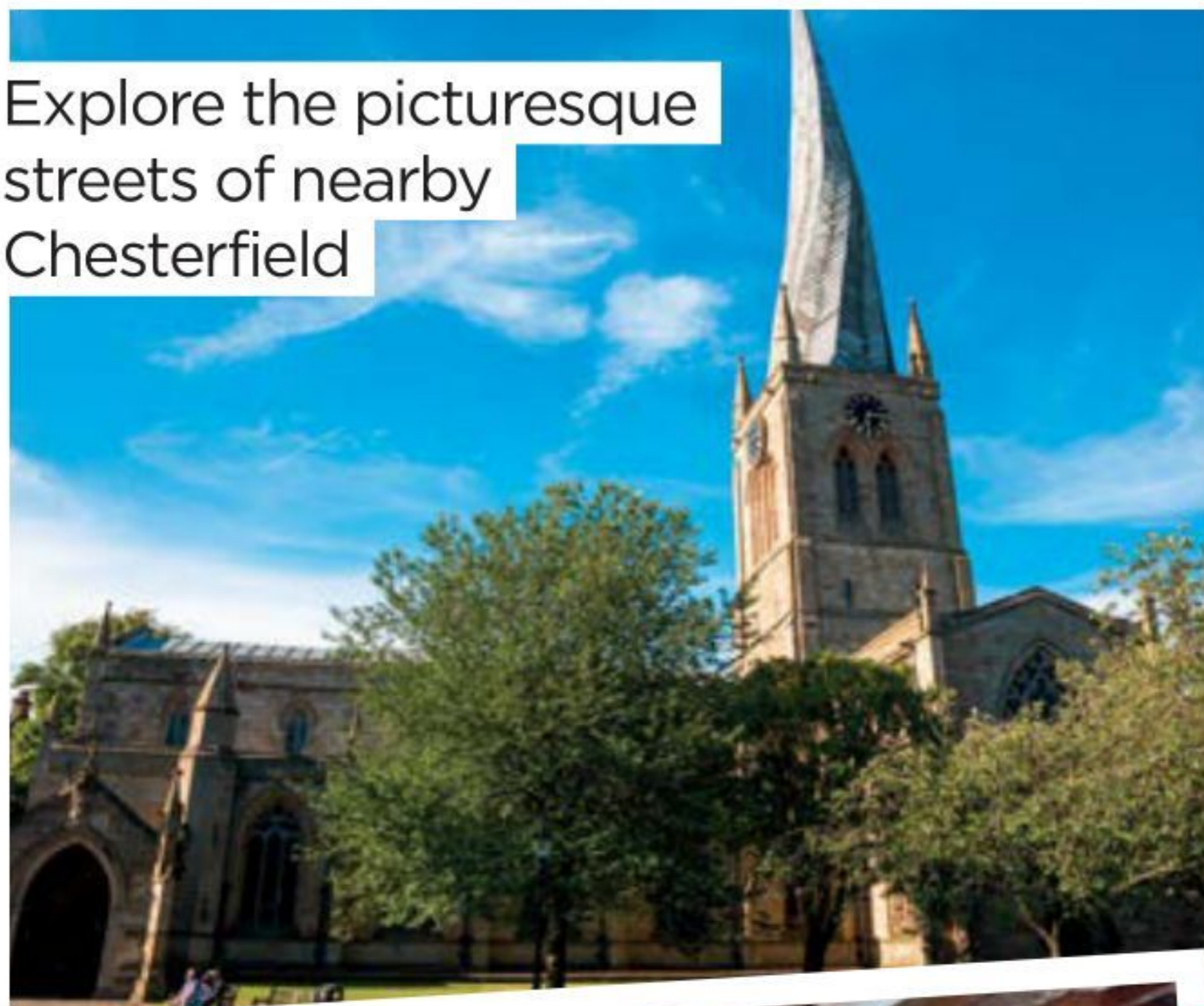


HAVE
YOURS-ELF
A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS

HOLLY
JOLLY



Explore the picturesque streets of nearby Chesterfield



Relax in the cosy Bateman's Mill Hotel



Total worth £3,500!



Enjoy a day of crafting with Stephanie Weightman and Nancy Watt

We're giving five lucky winners the chance to spend a day of fun and crafting with Stephanie Weightman and Nancy Watt, worth £700 each! Not only will all tools and equipment be supplied for you, but you'll also have your accommodation and meals paid for at the Bateman's Mill Hotel in Clay Cross, Chesterfield, receive a bag of goodies worth around £200, AND witness an exclusive product launch! Amongst the items in the goody bags will be a Screen Sensation Starter Kit, which makes screen printing at home a breeze! Worth £99.99, this clever gadget allows you to build up layers of prints to create your own unique designs, and can be used

WIN THE ULTIMATE ★ Craft Day! ★

Enter our giveaway at papercraftermagazine.co.uk for your chance to spend the day crafting with Stephanie Weightman and Nancy Watt

for papercrafting, scrapbooking, textiles and home décor. The kit has everything you need, including a Screen Sensation screen printing system, frame, squeegee, palette knife, ten wooden mixing tools and mixing bowl. The Innovation Hub in Derbyshire is where Stephanie and her team work tirelessly to design, reinvent, and produce amazing products and concepts that take the crafting world by storm. This picturesque area of the UK also has many lovely places to visit, including the nearby market town of Chesterfield with its beautiful Tudor buildings, plus the Church of St Mary and All Saints with its distinctive twisted spire. It's the perfect opportunity to combine sightseeing with crafting, so make sure you don't miss out on this chance to see where it all happens and meet some of the team. The day will take place on 31st January 2020 - it'll be the perfect New Year pick-me-up!



Win a fabulous Screen Sensation



★ The Screen Sensation can be used on paper, fabric, and more!

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The prize covers one single night accommodation for each winner only at the Bateman's Mill Hotel, Clay Cross, including an evening meal and breakfast for the following morning. Accommodation costs for anyone accompanying the winners, plus travel costs for the winners, will not be included. CLOSING DATE: **30th November 2019** Entrants

should enter by completing the entry form on our website at papercraftermagazine.co.uk. Entries received after the closing date of the promotion will not be considered. The Promoter will use entrants' personal details in accordance with the Aceville Privacy Policy. This is a limited offer and may be withdrawn at any time and subject to change.

YOUR FREE

Mama Makes

Festive sentiment DIGI STAMPS

Lost for words? Find your way with these Christmas phrase printables

‘Celebrate magic this Christmas’ and ‘Wishing you a Christmas full of love and laughter’ are just some of the messages you’ll find in this issue’s digi stamp download pack, courtesy of our friends at Mama Makes (mamamakesstore.co.uk). Sometimes the sentiment is the hardest part of cardmaking, so we love keeping these to hand on our desktop for speedy sayings. Let Keren Baker’s cards opposite inspire you to use these powerhouse printables this season...

DOWNLOAD AND PRINT THEM

- 1 On your desktop computer, visit papercraftermagazine.co.uk and search ‘Festive sentiment 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’.

CHOOSE YOUR HUES

Keren’s colour palette offers a fresh take on tradition. Bold red and forest green keep things classic, while the pops of mint, white and pale blue propel these makes into modernity. It’s a fantastic example of when a focused selection of colour works, but don’t be afraid to add in some brights – the fairy lights simply had to be multicoloured!

LET THE DESIGNS INSPIRE

We all face ‘cardmaker’s block’ from time to time, so why not take inspiration from these sentiments? For Keren’s ‘Let it snow’ greeting, she used Avery Elle’s Falling Snow die on blue snowflake patterned paper, matting it onto white paper so it shows through the gaps – perfect! For the ‘I hope your Christmas is full of sparkle’ card, sequins were a natural choice.

USE YOUR STASH

What have you got in your multitude of crafty supplies that would work well? That’s the best bit when starting a new project – though it is normal to get utterly distracted of course. We love Keren’s use of simple striped paper for a peppermint effect, plus the aforementioned sequins feature on most cards for a touch of shimmer. The folded mint ribbon on her ‘Winter wishes’ greeting adds a tactile feel, which we’re all for too.

Download them today!

Have a Treerific Christmas!

JOY

PEACE

happy christmas

LOVE

I HOPE YOUR CHRISTMAS IS FULL OF SPARKLE!

FIND THESE DESIGNS AND MORE AT PAPERCRAFTERMAGAZINE.CO.UK



Want the full instructions?
VISIT PAPERCRAFTERMAGAZINE.CO.UK TO DISCOVER THE CARD TUTORIALS



WE WISH YOU A

Merry Christmas



Festive Greetings From Our House To Your House



261

free Christmas digi stamps

Free and fabulously festive printables... where do we sign up?

We've got digi stamps coming out of our ears at papercraftermagazine.co.uk and lots of them are for this season's crafting. Snow-topped houses, festooned jumpers, elves, bunnies having a snowball fight, Father Christmas himself... we could go on, but we won't! Instead, we encourage you to discover the wealth of designs for yourself and cut the cost this Christmas. It couldn't be easier to download them – simply follow our step-by-step guide below.

- 1 Visit papercraftermagazine.co.uk on your computer
- 2 Register an account with us or log in if you already have one
- 3 Hover over our 'Free Downloads' tab and click 'Digi stamps'
- 4 Choose the digi stamps that take your fancy, download and print – hey presto!



Masterclass

TECHNIQUE
Quilled
toppers

Flourishing firs

Spruce up your crafting with Elizabeth Moad's quilled Christmas trees



You will need

- › Craft essentials (see p94)
- › Quilling papers, 3mm wide: green, red, pink, orange, yellow, purple
- › Needle tool

RED SPRUCE

- 1 Create a tree from red quilling papers and stick to white card. Add tight and open coils of various colours to the branches.
- 2 Mount the panel onto green and pink card. Fix pink gems to each corner and a 'Happy Christmas' sentiment at the bottom. Add to a blank to finish.

TOP TIP

Coil together two, three or even four strips of paper in different hues to create an ombré effect

OMBRÉ FOLIAGE

- 1 Quill a Christmas tree and adhere to white card. Create tight coils, small open shapes and pinched circles from various coloured paper strips and secure between the branches.
- 2 Print a 'Merry Christmas' sentiment onto green card and glue to the centre of the tree. Mount the panel onto green and pink card, then attach pearls to each corner before adhering onto a blank.



NORDIC GREETING

Quill open coils from green to create the tree and adhere to white card. For the baubles, add orange, red and pink shapes to the tree. Mount onto orange and red spotty card, then secure to a white blank and decorate with pearls.



ADD TO BASKET

3mm quilling strips in Mid Green, Cerise and Begonia, £1.85 each, jjquilling.co.uk





ELIZABETH'S
TOP TIPS

Festive icons

What's Christmas without a fir festooned with flickering lights and bright baubles? We simply couldn't imagine! These firm Nordic favourites are a seasonal staple and a surefire way to invite the festive spirit into your home. Available in a range of colours and types, have a go at the quilled variety with a simple roll, pinch and twist. I've opted for traditional hues, but why not go for the monochrome look by using ultra modern colours such as black and white or even metallic-edged paper strips?

Easy does it

These intricate designs may look complicated and fiddly, but I have actually used very basic quilling methods. The best way to work is by building up your tree gradually, bit by bit. Start off with a single branch by simply quilling a loose coil. Repeat in this way and build up your tree. Just be sure to change up the length of your branches to get the desired shape, opting for smaller coils at the top and larger ones towards the bottom.



STEP-BY-STEP Quilled trees



1 Quill a loose coil from two strips of green and fix to a panel of white card



2 Continue adding coils of various sizes to complete the tree. Opt for smaller coils at the top and larger ones at the bottom



3 Using short lengths of red paper strips, quill tight coils and nestle between the branches



4 Create a blank from your chosen coloured card and adhere the quilled panel to the front

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Prizes worth £7,000+
up for grabs!



FIVE STIX2 CALENDAR ASSORTMENTS

worth £50 each

Get ready for 2020 and customise your own mini calendar thanks to Stix2 (stix2.co.uk). Included in this selection is biodegradable glitter, a Hot Melt glue gun, the all-important glue sticks, and a calendar. Fill up your decorated diary with birthdays and events so you'll never be making a last-minute project again!

FOUR CRAFTER'S COMPANION KITS

worth £155 each

Take the hassle out of cardmaking and get your hands on the new Gemini Cut & Emboss folders from Crafter's Companion (crafterscompanion.co.uk). Simply pass through your die-cutting machine once for embossed card and an aperture, all in one single product.



ONE TWO-DAY COURSE WITH ACCOMMODATION

worth £500

Have you ever wanted to learn a new skill from an expert? This is the perfect opportunity to indulge that desire and master a fresh craft. West Dean College (westdean.org.uk) is giving one lucky reader the chance to take part in a weekend or two-day short course and stay at the onsite accommodation.



FIVE JEJE PRODUKT ADHESIVE SETS

worth £100 each

JEJE Produkt (jejeprodukt.com) is offering five people the chance to win enough adhesives to complete their stash, with 24 products in each bundle. Perfect for every crafter, there's foam tape, adhesive cut 'n' stick sheets to use alongside dies, cardmaking packs and not forgetting, peel-off stickers to complete your projects with a jazzy touch!

ONE MAKEBOX + CO. SUBSCRIPTION BOX

worth £250

Have handpicked crafts delivered straight to your door when you enter to win a year's subscription to MakeBox + Co (makebox.co). Created by crafter extraordinaire Hannah Read-Baldrey, the boxes are collaborated on by fellow crafters and designers to deliver the most on-trend projects.



THREE LAWN FAWN PAPERCRAFTING SELECTIONS

worth £157 each

Create extra cute cards when you win one of three bundles from Lawn Fawn (lawnfawn.com). Inks, dies, stamps and glue are included for each winner, making for a crafty prize you wouldn't want to miss! Use the stamps on their own, or co-ordinate them with the dies for a complete set.



FOUR WINSOR & NEWTON PROMARKER SETS

worth £130 each

Alcohol markers are a must-have for every crafter – the crisp colour and translucent ink in Promarkers make for smooth application, and each pen is dual-tipped. Get your hands on one of four packs on offer to have every shade in the Winsor & Newton (winsornewton.com) Promarker collection.



FIVE MAMA MAKES MAGICAL CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS

worth £112 each

Prepare for a truly wonderful Christmas, courtesy of Mama Makes (mamamakesstore.co.uk). The beautiful papers, washi tapes and stamps complement each other for a stylish set, or use them separately for colourful greetings.

ONE 12-MONTH STRAND AND DELIVER EMBROIDERY SUBSCRIPTION

worth £540

Make the most of your downtime and get this Strand and Deliver (strandanddeliver.com) subscription box sent straight to your door, courtesy of Dizzy & Creative. The innovative embroidery subscription service brings your hobby to you, so you can relax, unwind and create from the comfort of your own home, minus the hassle of having to go to the shops.



TURN OVER FOR MORE!



THREE SPA DAYS FOR TWO

worth £200 each

If you're feeling in need of a little me-time, one of these spa days for two has your name on it! Take a friend or loved one with you to a participating top UK spa on Buyagift (buyagift.co.uk) for this relaxing day with a treatment, full use of the spa facilities and afternoon tea or lunch at your chosen location.

11 CRAFTASCOPE SETS

worth £66 each

Fancy getting your hands on some new dies to liven up your papercrafts? Craftascope (etsy.com/shop/craftascope) is presenting 11 people with the opportunity to add to their collection by giving away six of its Retro Collections and five of the Triskaidecagon nesting and layering die sets. Plus, receive 25% off orders over £50 until 12th December using the code 'CBPC19' at the checkout.



FOUR MAGNOLIA CARDMAKING COLLECTIONS

worth £100 each

Magnolia flowers are beautiful, so why not adorn your papercrafts with them? Stampin' Up! (stampinup.com) is giving away five sets of the collection, worth an amazing £100 each. If a new stamp set and dies, ribbon and plenty of card packs are on your crafty shopping list, then be sure to enter this giveaway pronto!



ONE TRIMCRAFT BUMPER PRIZE

worth £500

Trimcraft (thecraftblog.com) is giving one lucky winner the chance to get a whopping craft bundle with 40 items inside! This insane collection of goodness includes die packs, paper pads, washi tapes, glue pens, and stickers, to name but a few of the amazing items included.



FIVE AMERICAN CRAFTS BUNDLES

worth £100 each

Revamp your stash with the ultimate collection from American Crafts (americancrafts.com). Showcasing some of its most-loved brands, get your hands on a We R Memory Keepers cutting mat, American Crafts card pack, Moxy glitter, a handy Bloom Pouch to keep your tools safe, and there's a selection of crafty accessories thrown in too.

ENTERING IS EASY

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

CLOSING DATE: 28th November 2019



CRAFT
ME QUICK!

Cute as a button

Stop here if you're on the prowl for speedy makes with a long shelf-life





LAYER BUTTONS FOR DRAMATIC EFFECT

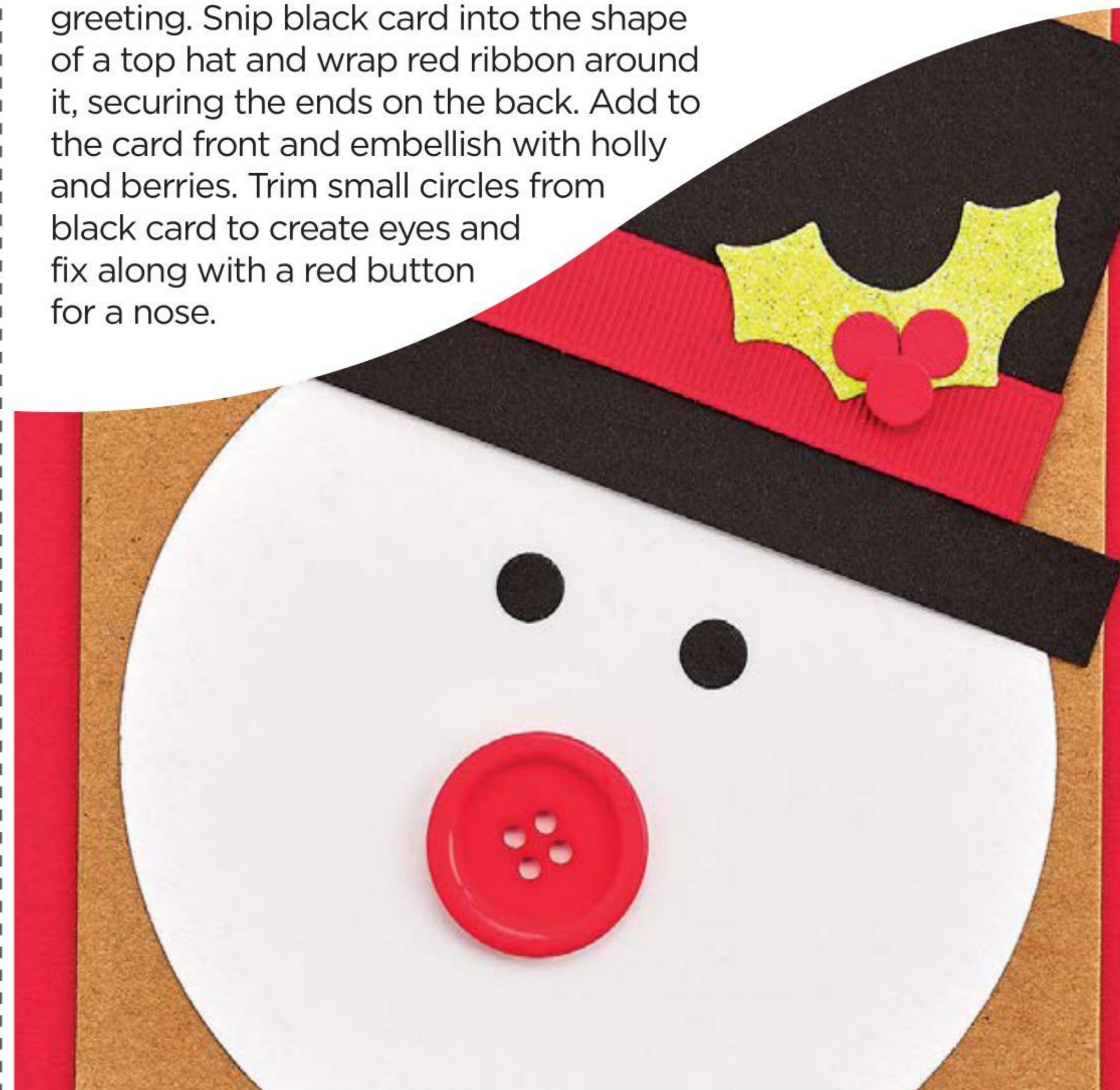
Create a burgundy blank and cover with pink card cut in half diagonally. Trim white card slightly smaller and round opposing corners. Layer buttons onto three coloured circles and adhere the white panel. Pierce a hole directly above each bauble, then three smaller ones near the top of the card. Thread silver cotton through the holes and adhere to the blank to finish.

These cards pop so much that we've used them as decoration – why not put a row of them on a shelf to jazz up your living room?

AN OVERSIZED CENTREPIECE THAT REALLY STANDS OUT

Create a blank from brown card. Cut a circle from white, 9.5cm wide, trim the excess at the bottom and attach to the greeting. Snip black card into the shape of a top hat and wrap red ribbon around it, securing the ends on the back. Add to the card front and embellish with holly and berries. Trim small circles from black card to create eyes and fix along with a red button for a nose.

For a multitude of coloured buttons, head to therange.co.uk



TAKE IT SNOW, MAN

Create a top-folding blank from dark blue card, 10.5cm x 15cm. Snip a section of light blue card to the same size, then cut diagonally down the middle and layer on top. Trim a tag, fix two white buttons on top and adhere a red bow to the larger button. Cut a hat from black card, add a green strip and attach to the top button with 3D foam pads. Tie white ribbon through the tag hole and secure to the greeting to finish.

Don't be scared to mix up your colour choices – papers and buttons!

O' CHRISTMAS TREE, THY BUTTONS ARE SO AMAZING

Create a top-folding pink blank. Layer a diagonal piece of red card on top. Trim white card to 9.5cm x 14cm, round the bottom-left and top-right corners and draw a light triangle in the centre. Use this outline to arrange green buttons and hearts within the shape. Add a star and tree base, then embellish with green gems to complete.



Tracey Daykin-Jones says...

“Take a picture of the button layout so you can refer back to it later!”



• BUY IT •

Winter washi,
TROPICAL TAPE

Simple Vintage Christmas
washi tape pack, £4.95,
sevenhillscrafts.co.uk

Flamingo washi tape,
£4.50, thefoxandstar.co.uk



TROPICAL Christmas

Introduce some seasonal
fusion to your craft room

Papers
HOT & COLD

Wonderful Time of the Year
6" x 6" paper pad, £4,
hobbycraft.co.uk

Sizzix tropical
bird die, £9.99,
hunkydorycrafts.co.uk



MERRY
Christmas
THE FIRST
Noel



First Edition Botanical
Beauty 6" x 6"
paper pad, £8,
hobbycraft.co.uk

Gemini Expressions foil stamp
dies, 'Merry Christmas' and
'The first Noel', from £7.99,
crafterscompanion.co.uk

DIE-CUT
season

Sparkling extras

Diamond sparkles
gemstones, £2.49,
hunkydorycrafts.co.uk

Paper house tropical
sticker flakes, £2.50,
hobbycraft.co.uk

Cosmic Shimmer gilding flakes,
£2.50, hobbycraft.co.uk



Festive fiesta

Embrace the tropical craze this Christmas with the Brother ScanNCut

You will need

- › Craft essentials (see p94)
- › Templates from **paper craftermagazine.co.uk**
- › Brother ScanNCut CM900 machine
- › Paper straws

Forgo the traditional look and embrace the trend that's warming up your cockles this winter! We may have waved goodbye to summer, but we're not giving up on the flamboyant flamingo just yet. Corinne Bradd gets busy crafting with the Brother ScanNCut and your free templates to achieve two whimsical makes, a wreath for the home and a fun flamingo greeting your loved ones will adore.

FLAMINGO CARD

1 Create a square blank from blue card. Download the flamingo templates from our website. Assemble the elements together using the display on your ScanNCut machine to make a flamingo with an outstretched wing, then fix to the centre of the card. Use leftover shapes to add foliage either side.

2 Draw a sentiment onto turquoise card and trim into a rectangle. Glue half a paper straw to the back of the sentiment and secure to the flamingo's wing so that it extends above the top of the card.



ADD TO BASKET

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



FESTIVE WREATH

- 1 Download the templates from our website. Print them out and scan them into your Brother ScanNCut machine, then unify any parts of the same image if necessary.
- 2 Enlarge or reduce, ensuring the flamingo elements are at the same percentage. Arrange the images on the layout screen, positioning elements of the same colour together in different corners of the mat.
- 3 Flip over half of the images so you can cut symmetrical designs. Trim pieces of coloured card and fix them to the cutting mat in the corresponding

areas, before cutting out all the shapes.

- 4 Using the built-in image library, cut a 20cm scalloped circle from green. Snip a 17cm scalloped heart from blue and place in the centre of the circle with 3D foam pads.

- 5 Arrange the various pieces of foliage around the circle so that the leaves extend from the centre. Use 3D foam pads to add layers and top each section with coloured berries.

- 6 Take the flamingo elements and assemble, checking the flipped pieces

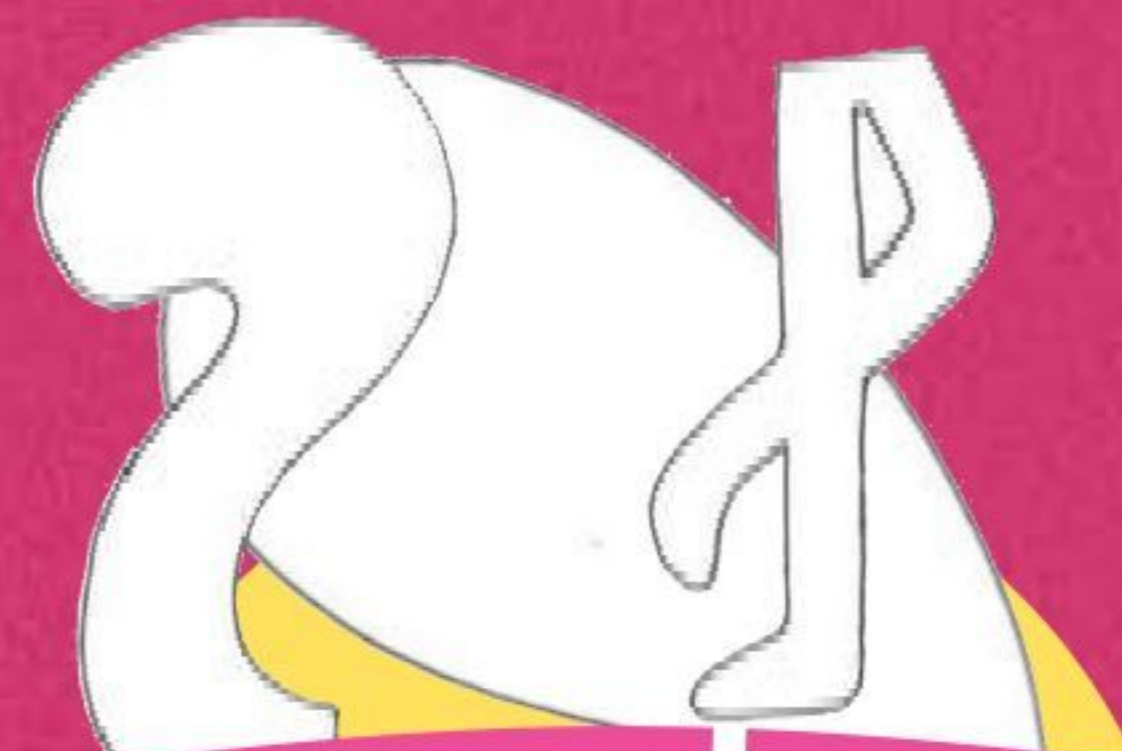
are all together. Use a 3D foam pad to add height to the wings and hat. Make a second flamingo, flipping the elements to create a mirror image.

- 7 Fix the flamingos to face each other in the middle of the heart. Select a script typeface from the machine's library, type out a greeting and resize to 7cm wide.

- 8 Change the blade to the pen holder with a colour nib and draw the sentiment onto pink card. Trim into a rectangle and place between the two flamingos.

TOP TIP

For a complete gift set, resize the templates to make a gift tag to match



template

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR YOUR FREE TEMPLATES AND DIGITAL CUTTING FILES

STEP-BY-STEP

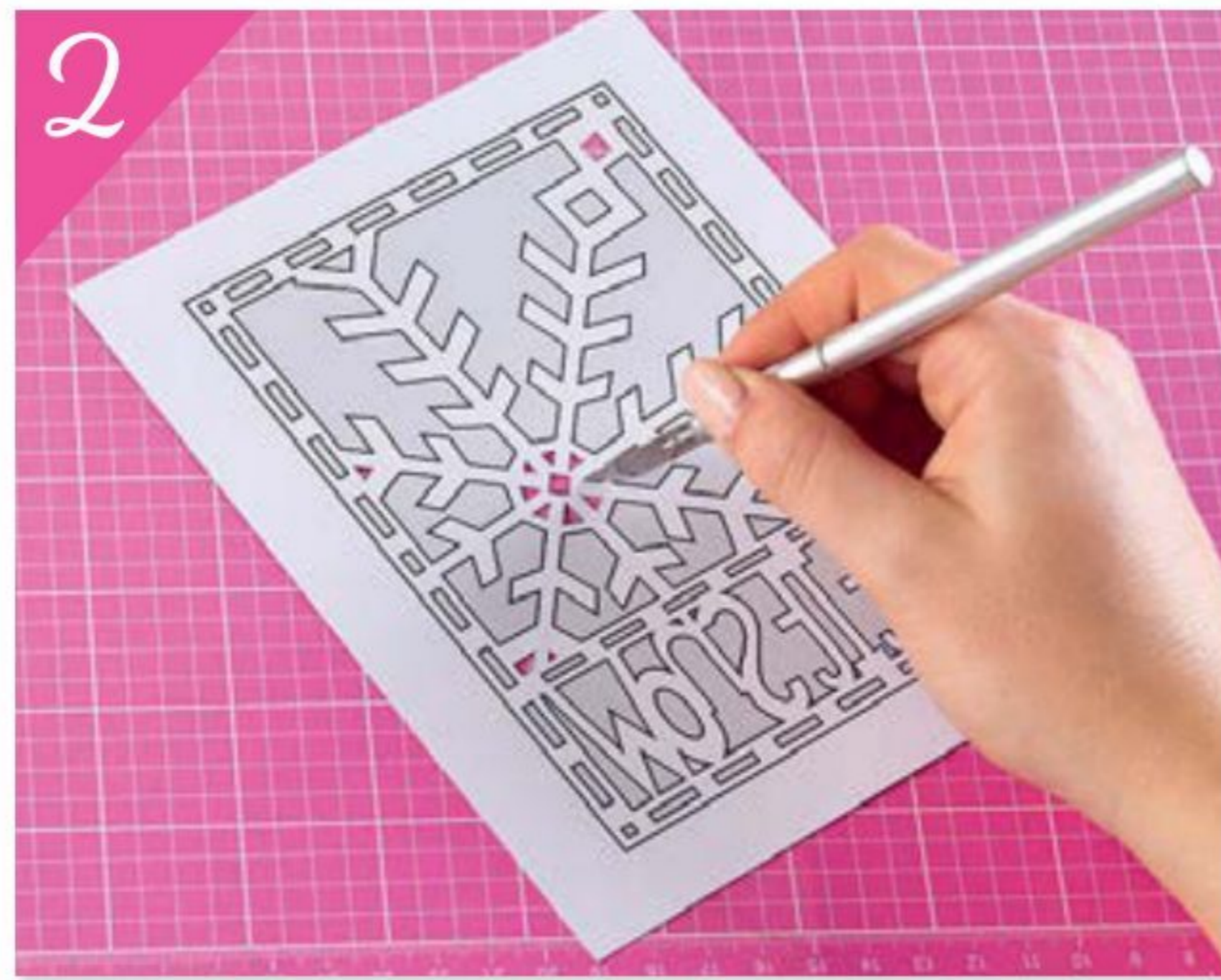
Silhouette snowflake

Papercut an effective festive greeting in nine simple steps

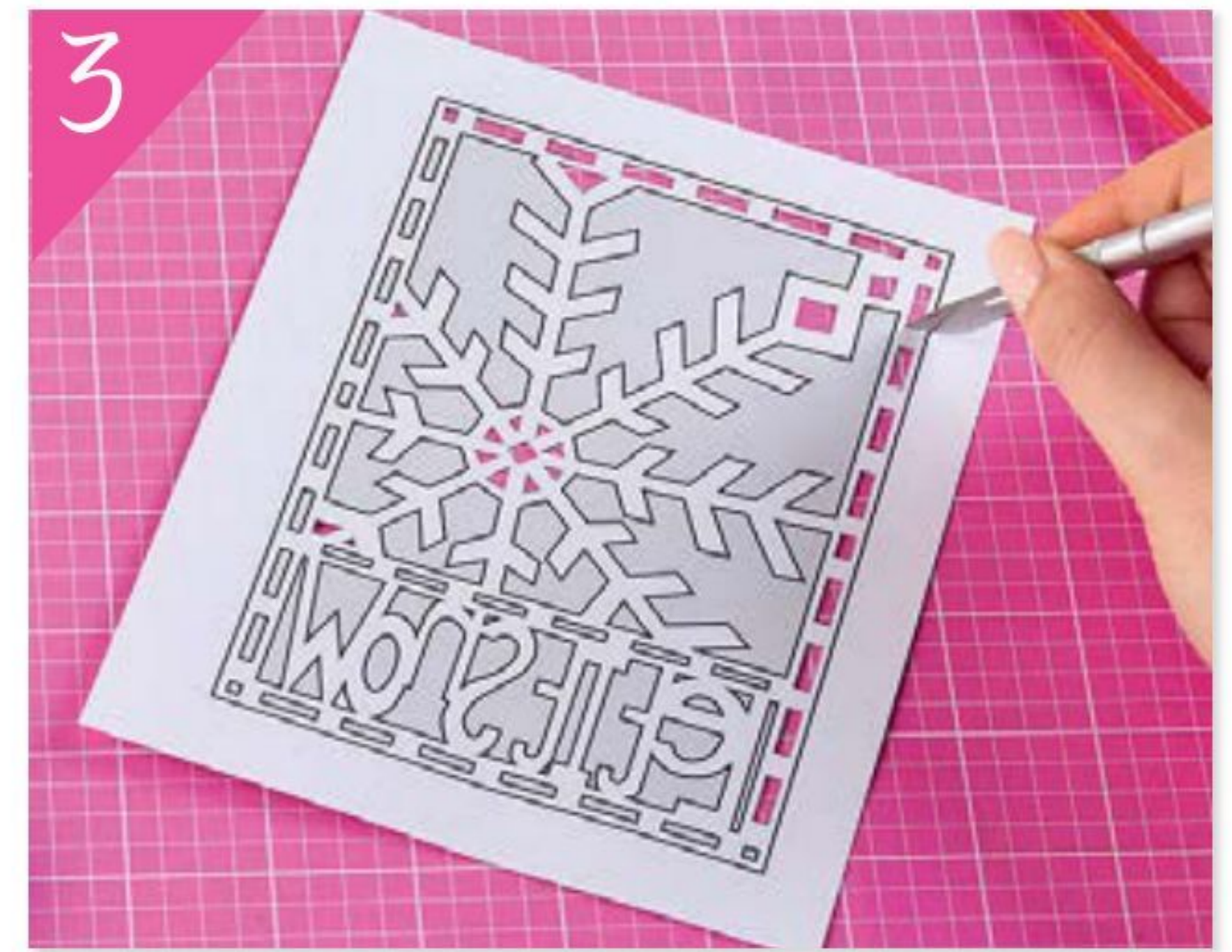
Papercutting is such a wonderful technique that gives jaw-dropping results. There are many unique patterns that can be created and effects that can be produced. This project is perfect for a beginner, but will still be fun for the more experienced cutter. This make requires precision and patience, so just remember to relax and take your time. But, most important of all, have fun and enjoy the process.



1 Download and print the snowflake template, then trim to a manageable size



2 Use a sharp, pointed craft knife to cut out the small sections within the snowflake



3 Move onto the smaller sections within the borders



4 Cut out the sentiment at the bottom of the template



5 Move onto the larger sections around the snowflake



6 Carefully trim the papercut image to 10.5cm x 14.5cm



7 Cover a 10.5cm x 14.5cm blank with teal patterned paper



8 Gently apply adhesive to the back of the papercut image



9 Attach to the blank and add clear gems to finish

You will need

- › Craft essentials (see p94)
- › Templates from **paper craftermagazine.co.uk**



TOP TIP

Don't worry if your lines aren't perfectly straight, it all adds to the quirkiness of the design



ADD TO BASKET

Xcut No.1 craft knife, £2.99, therange.co.uk

WHAT IS AVAXHOME?

AVAXHOME-

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AvaxHome - Your End Place

We have everything for all of your needs. Just open <https://avxlive.icu>

Designer for the day

Sabera Lee



Cardmaking is personal and a handmade greeting can really make a friend or family member feel extra special. That is what Sabera Lee wanted to do – create something memorable

with botanical accents. After finding a stamp set perfect for getting her creative juices flowing, this floral masterpiece came together. We're sure that you'll blooming love Sabera's floral birthday card, so head to our website at papercraftermagazine.co.uk for the how-to!

HOW DID YOU GET INTO CRAFTING?

I've been creative from an early age and over the years I have tried a lot of other crafts, but the one I always come back to is cardmaking. I'm always trying out new techniques and products. I create cards for all my family and friends for their birthdays and special occasions. The only problem is, they always expect one now!

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE CRAFTY PRODUCT TO WORK WITH?

Trimcraft paper pads – I just can't resist them! You can use them for cards, scrapbooking, gift boxes, gift tags, rosettes and many more fun endeavours. They are so versatile and jazz up any project.

HOW OFTEN DO YOU CRAFT?

Every day, I am always doing something crafty. If I'm not making a card, then I will be thinking about new ideas for my next project – I just can't help myself!

WHAT WAS THE INSPIRATION BEHIND YOUR DESIGN?

I wanted to make a special card for a friend's big birthday, something pretty with

flowers. Once I got stamping, ideas started to flow and the card slowly came together. I was so pleased with the way the design turned out and feel I achieved what I had in mind.

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT BEING CHOSEN AS DESIGNER FOR THE DAY?

I feel excited and honoured. I am passionate about what I do, and enjoy being able to share something I've made with other crafters. I love thinking someone else has looked at my project and thought I could do this with it, or add that to it. That's what crafting is all about. To inspire and to be inspired!



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 SABERA'S DESIGN AT PAPERCRAFTERMAGAZINE.CO.UK



The First Christmas Since



We bring you a tale of a busy Christmas morning that spans roast potatoes, paper decorations, and the bond between a mother and daughter...

WORDS BY CAYLE HOTENE



ix hours. You have six hours.

Six hours to Hoover the house, gut the gutters, decorate the Christmas tree, make sure there's ample

mulled wine, slow-roast the meat, prepare the vegan alternatives, cheese the cauliflower, mash the mash and add the secret ingredient (shh), light the candles, cut the garden, lay out the crackers, align and tag the presents, text to remind the guests of where you live (for the third time in three years), compose the Christmas playlist, get someone (anyone!) to set up the speakers and tinsel the front door. Not much, then.

Oh. You forgot about the paper decorations.

It's fine, you say to yourself. No one's going to notice a lack of garland when they step inside. They'll be too busy (hopefully) salivating over the smell.

Focus up! The potatoes need peeling, the bathroom needs cleaning, the table needs clearing – you're so stressed you've started to organise in rhyme. It's nine in the morning so probably too early for vino – but it's definitely not too early to try (try being the key word) and get one of the kids on cutting duty. One thing that's certain – no time for decorations. There's just no time.

You bravely step into the living room; it's a wrapping paper massacre. Supposed to have been cleaned by the kids that were very excited to rip the presents open, you bundle everything into your arms, stepping on toys, refusing to cry from the pain on the basis that crying takes time. Time that you don't have.

Especially now that you need to put a sofa bed in the loft. Where else would it go? The hallway? The dining room? Then people would think that the house is a constant mess... which it is, but they don't

need to know that. You take mental stock of the dozen plates you have spinning in your mind... the dogs still need to be walked, the oven cleaned, the spare room sorted, the paper decorations hung – no, you're not doing those this year. Remember this time.

"Can someone open the loft?" You shout, aware that you're screaming into a void from which cries of help echo into eternity. Holding the sofa bed in one hand, you jump up, pull the dangly thing, and voila, the stairs emerge. "Thanks!" You shout huffily. A confused "Did you call me?" comes back over the sound of video game gunfire.

The loft is messy, and you have to forcefully stop yourself from entertaining the idea of rearranging the damn thing. Put the sofa bed down and run before you change your mind, you say to yourself. Those boxes of snorkelling gear will have to be tackled another time. You move some stuff around, thinking you've found a perfect spot... until you see a box you'd sort of, but not really, forgotten about.

A box filled with paper Christmas decorations. Ivy garlands hand-crafted, papercut stars. They look like decorations,

You can still remember her warm, twinkling laugh, the way she ordered grandpa around, the hugs that you could sink into and never want to leave.

but they're more than that. They're the result of many happy hours spent with someone that isn't here anymore. You didn't see each other as often as you'd like, so the time you had was precious. You can still remember her warm, twinkling laugh, the way she ordered grandpa around, the hugs that you could

sink into and never want to leave. You remember, vividly, making each one by hand, together, and then hanging them in the hallway when the time came. It's the first year that she... won't be around to help put them up, as she always used to do. Now there's a legitimate reason as to why you can't hang them up. You've never done them on your own. You're not sure you can.

"Do you need some help?" your daughter's voice shouts from downstairs.

**You remember, vividly,
making each one by hand,
together, and then hanging
them in the hallway when
the time came.**

You take a minute to compose yourself. "Are you feeling OK?"

"Well, do you?"

"No honey, it's fine thanks. Thank you."

You realise you're brushing tears from your eyes. Come on now, you say to yourself. Remember. There's no time to cry.

Back downstairs, you feel frazzled – seeing that box has knocked the energy out of you. You feel alone against a tide of impending Christmas. You're distracted by the commotion coming from the kitchen; your mind conjures up images of entire dishes tumbling to the ground, favourite plates shattering into a million pieces. But you're shocked at what you see: the kids are zooming around in aprons, transferring pots of steaming potatoes into trays, grating cheese onto cauliflower, dipping a finger into sauce and shouting 'more pepper!', while your other half stands in the middle barking orders, keeping up

spirits, a general-cum-conductor in boxer shorts and a stained T-shirt. He smiles in that warm, cheeky way, and nods to a glass of wine poured sitting on the windowsill. But something else is afoot, because whenever you go to kiss or hug them, they brush you off and tell you to go into the hallway.

So you do, and... there she is. With that box of decorations, looking slightly uneasy, standing away from them as if they're sacred artifacts.

"They have to go up." She says resolutely.

You run up to her and give her a squeeze, this one's not getting away.

It takes 20 minutes to hang them, to adorn the walls, but it feels much longer. You go off a picture taken last year – you want it to be exactly right – a picture of you and your mum in the hallway. Intricately-cut stars that you made all those years ago hang from door handles and points on the wall; near the Christmas lights they genuinely sparkle. Those wonderful paper garlands stretch all the way round the top of the hallway, slightly battered, ripped in places, bearing the hallmarks of having been unceremoniously stuffed into the storage box. It's far from perfect.

"It's perfect," your daughter says, beaming, and you can see she's crying, shuddering almost, and you remember it's not just you struggling. You squeeze your daughter's hand tightly, viciously proud, and you finally allow yourself to cry as you realise just how proud your mum must be of you – has always been of you.

"Yeah," you say, looking at your family who are now in the hallway, wailing and hugging each other under the decorations more important than any present you'll ever receive. "It is."

**Begin your own Christmas traditions with decoration projects
from our website at papercraftermagazine.co.uk**

Adorable Advent

Count down the days to Christmas with a calendar to admire

There's nothing better than waking up in December knowing you've got a sugary delicacy waiting for you downstairs. This shabby chic and full-of-sweet-treats Advent calendar is a perfect gift to create for the whole family. Round up your dies, dust off your stamps and get ready to bring this loveable triangular calendar to life.

You will need

- › Craft essentials (see p94)
- › Patterned paper, Pebbles Merry Merry
- › Stamps, number
- › Die, small heart

STACK AN ADVENT

- 1 Cut 25 strips of card, 6cm x 15cm. Score each piece at 4.5cm intervals, leaving a small tab at the end. Fold each strip along the score lines and glue the tabs down to create hollow triangles.
- 2 Cut 25 pieces from patterned papers into 4.5cm wide equilateral triangles, each with a 5mm

wide tab on one side. Score down the tabbed side, 5mm from the edge and fold. Glue the tab to one side of a hollow triangle to make a door. Repeat for the remaining shapes.

- 3 Arrange the triangles into a pyramid, ensuring the doors all open in the same direction. Fix the triangles together using paper clips to hold them in place as the glue dries. Continue in this way until the pyramid is complete.

- 4 Cover the back with white card. Cut three strips of green card to 6cm x 24cm and glue these to the sides of the pyramid, trimming away any excess at the ends.

- 5 Stamp numbers onto cream card, leaving a gap between each one. Let the ink dry before using a heart shaped die to cut out each number. Adhere each heart to the doors at random with 3D foam pads.



Use glitter card to make your Advent calendar shimmer

TOP TIP

Make sure your folds are accurate and sharp to retain the perfect equilateral triangle



ADD TO BASKET

Xcut heart nesting dies, £10.99, visit docrafts.com for stockists

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POPPY Wishes

LUXURY TOPPER COLLECTION

The Poppy Wishes Collection is the gorgeous brand new, papercraft range from Hunkydory!


This stunning kit includes a range of Luxury Topper Sets, a Papercraft Pad, Printed Parchment, Stamp Sets & more!
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PAPERCRAFTER MAGAZINE.CO.UK



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TRIED & TESTED

Color
POUR

Pouring Paints

Have a go at the mixed media trend that every crafter is talking about



Paint pouring can seem intimidating at first, but once you brave it and give it a go, you'll be hooked! The Color Pour range from American Crafts takes the guesswork out of the process and Ingrid Vichova is on hand to show us how it's done. You no longer need to purchase a pouring medium as the paints contain some already and with one complete kit, you'll be able to achieve effortless effects in minutes without any mess... thank goodness! There are plenty of colours to choose from and extra embellishments to add a festive flair to your Christmas cards.

Sprinkle over
glitter flakes
for added
texture



**GET CRAFT
CONFIDENT
WITH... INGRID
VICHOVA**

- 1 Keeping another piece of card underneath will catch any excess paint for another project
- 2 A few drops of silicone gel slowly mixed into your paint will create cells for a different effect
- 3 Be careful not to mix the paints and silicone gel too vigorously to avoid creating air bubbles
- 4 Heat-set or spritz your painted card panel with rubbing alcohol to reveal the cells

Festive blends

Alternating the paints as you go, pour red, pink, white and gold paint onto white card, 15cm x 21cm. Lift the card and tilt to get the paint moving and blending. Sprinkle red and gold glitter flakes on top. Once dry, trim the panel to 12cm square and mount onto a white blank. Adhere gold glitter paper onto white foam and die cut a star, then a deer and banner from white. Stamp a sentiment onto the banner and heat emboss. Fix the die-cuts to the card front and finish with gold thread.



For best results, use a good quality cardstock that will tolerate heavy mediums

Blue fusion

Apply aqua, white and gold paint onto white card, 15cm x 21cm, alternating the colours as you pour. Lift and tilt the card to get the paint moving, then sprinkle gold glitter on top. Leave to dry. Trim the panel to 10cm x 15cm and die cut 'Happy' from the centre, then fix onto a white blank. Heat emboss 'Christmas' onto vellum and cut out. Secure across the bottom of the die-cut sentiment, then embellish with gold stars.



Subtle accents

Using red, pink and gold paints, take three cups and pour in a little of each colour. Add a couple of drops of silicone gel into each cup and combine. Use stirring sticks to drip the paint onto white card, 10.5cm x 15cm. Repeat with each colour. Apply white paint along one side of the card and drag downwards using a palette knife. Lightly heat-set or mist with rubbing alcohol to reveal the cells. Sprinkle red and gold glitter on top and leave to dry. Die cut three stars from the painted panel. Dry emboss a white blank, 10.5cm x 15cm, poke holes through the front, thread with gold string, then attach the stars on top. Die cut and heat emboss a sentiment, then fix to the card.



Get the look!

FILL UP YOUR STASH WITH INGRID'S PAINT POURING STAPLES



Color Pour Starter Kit, visit americancrafts.com for stockists



WOW! Embossing powder in Metallic Gold Rich, £2.75, wowembossingpowder.co.uk



Sweet Dixie Nesting Star die set, £6.99, crafting.co.uk



Color Pour Glitter Mix in Amber, for stockists visit americancrafts.com

3 step card

Create a beautiful die-cut scene to get your nearest and dearest in the Christmas spirit

There's something captivating about a whimsical scene of townhouses decorated for the festive season. Peek into the window of Tracey Daykin-Jones' die-cut and craft this simple greeting, guaranteed to leave your loved ones feeling all warm and fuzzy inside.

You will need

- › Craft essentials (see p94)
- › Dies: Crafter's Companion Gemini Create-a-Card Christmas Dimensionals Sleigh Accessories Pack, Sara Signature Winter Wonderland Festive Wishes; circle, oval
- › Stamp, sentiment
- › Ink pad, black

STEP ONE

Take a 10.5cm x 15cm top-folding blank and cover with teal card. Trim patterned paper slightly smaller than the blank, round the corners and secure. Cut a rectangle from light pink, then use a circle die to create a rounded top. Punch a hole in the top and tie white ribbon through.

STEP TWO

Build up layers of white card with a wavy edge at the top, starting just above the centre. Add additional layers in front of the first section using 3D foam pads. Stamp a sentiment in black and secure.

STEP THREE

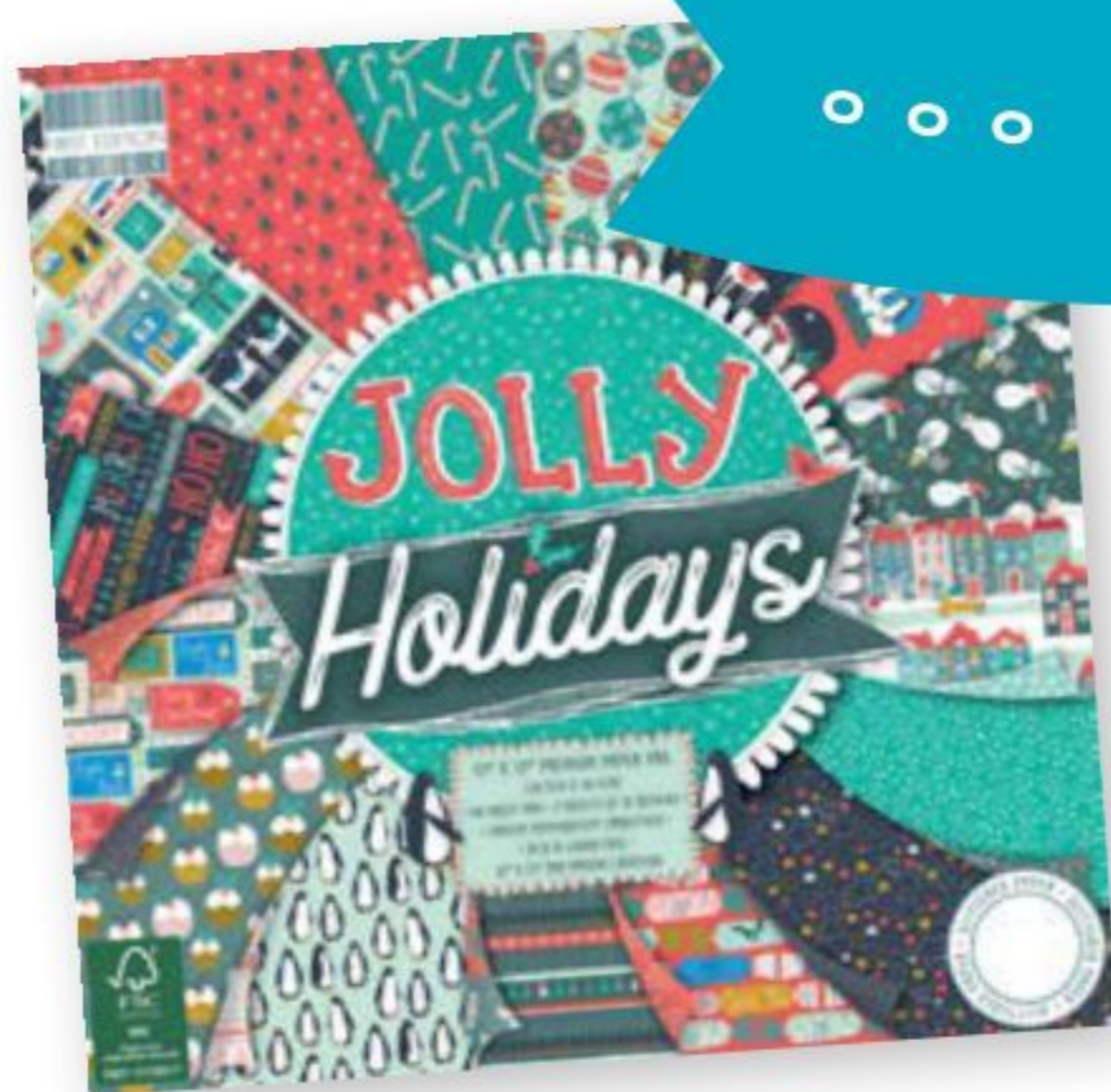
Die cut houses from white, aqua and red, add light pink and white behind, and secure to the tag. Stick a green glitter tree to the front and adhere to the blank using 3D foam pads.



ADD TO BASKET

Crafter's Companion Gemini Create-a-Card dies, boxofdelights.shop

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT



First Edition Jolly Holidays 12" x 12" paper pad, £8, theworks.co.uk

Just what you need to get your festive creative juices flowing



Lawn Fawn ink pad in Black Licorice, visit lawnfawn.com for stockists



Red glitter wooden buttons, £1, hobbycraft.co.uk

Statement wishes

Kitty Frampton's latest crafting bonanza celebrates the holidays in some style



You will need

- › Craft essentials (see p94)
- › Dies: Crafter's Companion Gemini Edge'able Stamp and Die, Peace, Santa, Noel; Die-Namics Stitched Rectangle Frames; Marianne Designs Creatables Poinsettia
- › Ink pad, Memento Tuxedo Black



FRAMING SENTIMENTS

- 1 Create a top-folding white blank, 13cm x 14cm, and matt with burgundy paper. Trim holly paper to 10cm x 12.5cm, then mount onto white card and glue to the card front.
- 2 Die cut a stitched rectangular frame from beige card. Snip burgundy card to 5.5cm x 11cm and die cut 'Noel' at the top, then attach behind the frame. Secure onto green card using 3D foam pads. Fix ribbon across the bottom of the frame and secure to the card front.
- 3 Tie a ribbon bow, add a pearl to the centre and glue to the bottom of the frame. Stamp two sentiments onto white card, cut and mount onto beige, then attach to the top and bottom of the frame with 3D foam pads. Finish with pearls.

TOP TIP

Using 3D foam pads behind the words adds some dimension to your card and lifts the design



ADD TO BASKET

Crafter's Companion Gemini Edge-able dies, £4.99 each, crafterscompanion.co.uk

POINSETTIA PERFECTION

- 1 Make a top-folding blank from white card, 12cm x 14.5cm. Snip leaf paper to 11cm x 13.5cm and die cut through the middle with the shaped part of the 'Peace' die.
- 2 Die cut 'Peace' from 5cm x 11.5cm silver mirri card. Attach glitter card to the bottom, then fix to the back of the panel. Secure the entire section onto dark green card with 3D foam pads and glue onto the blank.
- 3 Die cut poinsettias from glitter card and white. Assemble and fix to the top-left corner of the frame. Stamp a sentiment onto white and attach to the card front. Add gems to finish.

DIE-CUT DEPTH

- 1 Create a blank from white card, 10.5cm x 14.5cm. Mark 6.5cm down the front panel and cut across. Trim holly paper to 10cm x 14cm and fix to the back panel. Mount red snow paper, 10cm x 12cm, onto white card and glue onto the holly paper section.
- 2 Snip candy cane paper to 7.5cm x 10cm and attach to the front panel. Cut white and silver glitter card to 10.5cm x 11cm, then die cut 'Santa' at the top through both pieces. Layer the sentiments together.
- 3 Stamp a sentiment onto a strip of white card and fix in place with 3D foam pads. Tie a ribbon bow, add a gem to the centre and glue onto the card.



TECHNIQUE

Die-cut sentiments



KITTY'S TOP TIPS

Many options

The Crafter's Companion stamp and die sets are very affordable and perfect for creating Christmas cards. Shaped designs are always an option, and you can add sentiment panels or keep it simple by just die cutting the word to use in any way on your own makes. Why not pair these together with the Gemini Window Dies (crafterscompanion.co.uk) to create a die-cut pop up panel? And don't forget, adding some glitter to your makes is perfect for Christmas. The only limit is your imagination!

Die-cut reminders

When creating the word panel, make sure you die cut the top from the section of the card. Always attach your die onto your card or paper with masking tape to prevent it moving when it runs through your die-cutting machine – this has saved many makes various times for me! These dies are wafer thin and therefore will work in most leading die-cutting machines. However, if you're die cutting glitter card, remember to run it through several times to ensure it cuts through the card fully.



STEP-BY-STEP Edged die-cuts



1 Create a top-folding blank and cut the front panel down by 6.5cm



2 Die cut 'Santa' from glitter and white card, then glue behind the front panel



3 Add patterned papers to the front and back



4 Fix a stamped sentiment to the front and embellish with a bow

PaperCrafter recommends

Our selection of must-have
papercrafting products just for you



Stamping

Introducing the NEW *Wishing You Joy* Stamp n Stencil™ Collection by Gina K. Designs for Therm O Web. Stamp n Stencil is a unique system of Clear Stamp Set, coordinating Detail Stencil and matching Craft Dies that work beautifully with inks and any of Therm O Web's amazing gel mediums - Gina K.'s Glitz Glitter Gel, Deco Foil Metallix Gel and Deco Foil Transfer Gel - to add sparkle, shimmer and shine to the holidays. Deco Foil Transfer Gel can be used with Gina K. Designs Fancy Foils, Deco Foil Transfer Sheets or Deco Foil Flock Transfer Sheets.

thermowebonline.com



The Soap Kitchen

Why not try soap making for Christmas gifts this year or treat yourself? Our white Nutmeg, Cinnamon & Cranberry Soap is a beautiful, wintery and warm bar. We sell everything you need to make soaps, toiletries and candles, with free recipes and more.

thesoapkitchen.co.uk



Butterflies and more.....

The latest stamp release from Artisan Design UK. Top quality unmounted grey rubber, perfect for cards, mixed media and home decor. Visit the website for more

artisandesigngroupuk.com



DecoArt Media Crackle Paint

Create stunning crackle effects that can be painted over with this paint. This gives a different crackle to the crackle paste.

ilovemixedmedia.co.uk



Joanna Sheen

This fabulous card uses Joanna Sheen's Signature Dies "Bringing the Tree" SD696 and "Fir Tree" SD689 on a watercolour washed background. Joanna's dies are great quality and make cardmaking even easier. Made in the USA.

joannasheen.co.uk



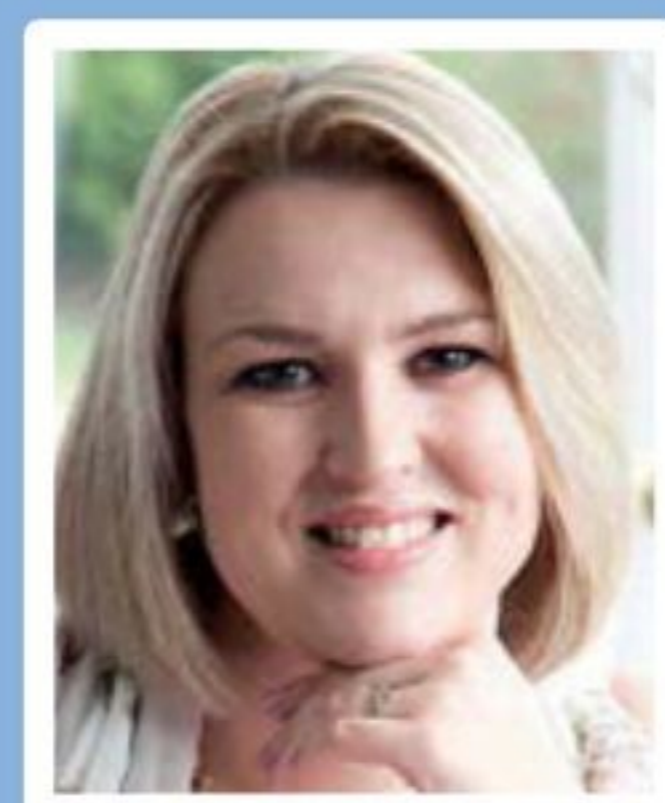
Origami

JAPANESE ORIGAMI is the new book and paper pack from Mari Ono. It is made up of a 64 page instruction book plus 250 sheets of origami paper. Projects include a water lily, rabbit, decorative spheres and more.

makeetc.com

ASK THE Experts

Here to answer your crafty queries



SARA DAVIES



LOTI FUSTER-BRADLEY



KIRSTEN BURKE



How can I make my die-cuts stand out more?

KEREN BAKER SAYS:

Why not let your motifs be the star of the show by allowing your die-cuts to protrude from the edges of your card? For this mistletoe make, take a white tent-fold blank, 10.5cm x 14.5cm, and layer light blue card on top. Cut the Spellbinders Mistletoe Gatefold die from green and white. Trim the berries off the green piece and stick together. Mark a grey dot on the berries, then matt a red panel onto the blue card. Adhere the mistletoe on top of the greeting, then die cut a sentiment from white and fix to the red panel. Die cut holly and berries, then add to the greeting. Trim a small strip of green and fix to the bottom. Tie white ribbon around the greeting and finish with a bow.

PaperCrafter designer Keren Baker has lots of die-cutting secrets for you to steal this season



TOP TIP

Use dies that have an inner and outer die, then you can cut the shape without the outer – these create a beautiful background to add your focal point to



What mediums can I use to add texture to my Christmas cards?

LOTI FUSTER-BRADLEY SAYS:

One of my favourite mediums to use for texture, especially snow on Christmas cards, is That's Crafty Texture Paste. It can be used on all sorts of materials because it is so light, therefore you don't need to use a heavyweight cardstock to make sure your project doesn't topple over.

It's also water-based so you can add colour to coordinate with your project. When applied on thick, the paste dries matt and gives great height to your cards. It looks fab through stencils and can be sanded back too. A snowy scene essential for your Christmas makes! I also really recommend That's Crafty 3D Gloss Gel if you'd rather achieve that glossy frosty look.

Shop Loti's mixed media recommendations at mamamakes.co.uk

I'm new to foiling, what's your favourite technique?



COLETTE SMITH SAYS:

Foiling is a big thing in the crafting world and there are different ways of applying it. The method I'm using in this project is toner activated foil. It's placed over a toner printed design sheet, then slotted between parchment and rolled through a laminator. As most households have one of these handy tools, this is an economical way to foil with professional results. Not all laminators are the same, so I'd advise doing a test before creating your final project. I set mine to a medium thickness of 125 microns.

Colette Smith gives her top advice on how to succeed at foiling for Christmas

TOP TIP

Stabilise small projects with a sheet of card inbetween the parchment

... STEP-BY-STEP Festive foiling ...



1 Trim foliage from a Foil-Mates background. Cover with red foil, coloured side up, and place between the folded parchment



2 Run it through the laminator, folded side first. Remove from the parchment and peel away the foil to leave the design



3 Die cut a sentiment using a large tag die. Foil the tag with the green foil



4 Matt the foliage panel onto a red blank, 10.5cm x 14.5cm. Add the tag and a large bow made with green organza ribbon

QUICKFIRE question

What choice of colour scheme are you opting for this Christmas?



"I like to make Christmas cards using a variety of colours, not just the standard red and green"

MAEGAN PARENT, READER



"My home decorations are all copper, but crafting wise I'm enjoying teal, pink, green and white"

TRACIE BARNES, READER



"I love non-traditional hues and have my eye on a brand new collection from Trimcraft featuring an opulent purple palette"

ANGELA DODSON, READER



"I never stick to one, but red and blue is my favourite combo"

MARIANNE FISHER, READER



"Green and black or red and black"

CHRISTINE GRAHAM, READER

Next month's question:

Who influenced you to get into cardmaking?

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

Help! How can I stop my ink pads from drying out?



SARA DAVIES SAYS:

This is a tricky problem, especially when you have a large collection! It goes without saying that you should always make sure the lids are securely closed when you've finished using them, but there are also ways of storing your inks to prevent them from drying out. Some people believe that it helps to store them upside down so the ink gathers towards the top of the pad, while others find that keeping them flat helps to keep the ink fresh, so find what works for you. Either



way, making sure your inks are protected from any direct heat or light source will help to prolong the life of the pigment. If your ink pads begin to dry out

slightly, invest in an ink pad refresher to bring them back to life.

Crafter's Companion founder Sara Davies shares her nifty tool-saving tricks

Does my handwriting need to be good to succeed at calligraphy?



KIRSTEN BURKE SAYS:

No, it doesn't make any difference at all. You shouldn't think of calligraphy as writing, it has more in common with drawing. It's best to go twice as slow than when writing, so you are creating beautiful shapes which will just happen to form letters. Regardless of your handwriting, you need to give it a try, as that's the only way to tell if you'll be good at it! With brush lettering, you will also be working in much bigger movements than with handwriting as most brush pens are quite large in comparison to nib calligraphy which is much smaller. Brush lettering is a lot more creative and expressive, being free flowing and full of personality!

Author and master calligrapher Kirsten Burke encourages everyone to give hand lettering a whirl



Get in touch with your questions!

EMAIL: amelia.bolton@aceville.co.uk
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YOUR PaperCrafter BASKET

Quick jargon buster

- › **BRADS:** paper fasteners with split pins that pierce paper then pull apart to secure on the reverse
- › **DECOUPAGE:** strips of paper are pasted to cover an object, or creating a 3D image by layering paper, where the smaller parts of a repeated image are cut out and added to the original image for a raised effect
- › **DIE-CUTTING:** a die-cutting machine cuts out shapes from paper, card and other materials. Sandwich a metal die over your material then feed it through the machine. The pressure on the die creates the cut
- › **MATTING:** the method of layering different sizes of paper or card pieces together
- › **ORIGAMI:** the traditional Japanese art of folding paper to create 3D shapes
- › **SANDING:** using a sanding block to create a rough texture on the face or edges of a piece of card
- › **SCORING:** the method of running a scoring tool over a piece of card to create a straight line that can then be folded

Measuring, folding and cutting tools

- › Bone folder
- › Craft knife
- › Cutting mat
- › Decorative-edged scissors
- › Die-cutting machine
- › Scissors
- › Scoring board
- › Steel ruler

Craft essentials

- › Adhesives
- › Card blanks
- › Cardstock, different colours
- › Eraser
- › Gems
- › Patterned papers
- › Pen and pencils
- › Ribbons
- › Twine



Top tips for... **HANDMADE GIFT TAGS**

- › If you find it hard to combine colours, look for a piece of patterned paper that you love, and match the shades to the card in your stash for the perfect colour scheme
- › When you're giving a special Christmas gift, a simple tag just doesn't hit the mark. Create a beautifully crafted dimensional tag full of winter cheer using 3D foam pads
- › When adhering card over acetate panels, using wet glue carefully is a great option. Just make sure you remove any stray adhesive before it dries!



HOW TO... **QUICK CHRISTMAS CARD**

- 1 Glue red spotted paper onto brown card, then matt onto a top-folding blank. Fix a strip of green onto brown and attach to the card front.
- 2 Secure ribbon to the right, then make a bow and fix it to the strip. Round the bottom two corners of snowflake

- 3 paper and mount onto brown paper.
- 3 Create two white domes and round the corners. Add glitter, then glue to the panel. Stamp and colour a fox, fix it to the domes, then attach the panel to the greeting. Embellish to finish.

STEP-BY-STEP

STAMP MASKING



Stamp an image using black ink onto white stamping card, 11cm square



Stamp the same image onto masking paper, carefully cut out and secure over the top of the previous image



Gently blend ink across the whole panel to create a background. Remove the masking piece from the image



Colour in the image using alcohol markers and assemble the card

Gadget **CHRISTMAS**

Make sure you're tooled up for the upcoming festivities



Premier Craft Tools 3-in-1 Die Brush, £9.99, hunkydorycrafts.co.uk



Fiskars 3-in-1 tag maker, £28.40, cc-craft.co.uk



Lou Collins Lettering Kit, £60.96, createandcraft.com



Mint Studio, £50, hobbycraft.co.uk

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GET TO KNOW...

Sara Davies

THE CRAFTING QUEEN TURNED
FEISTY DRAGON TALKS HER
INCREDIBLE CAREER



"I started Crafter's Companion back in 2005 from my university bedroom, when I was undertaking a Business Management degree at York University," Sara Davies recalls. "I had an idea for a tool that would allow crafters to create their own envelopes. After collaborating with my father, who's an engineer, I pitched it to a TV shopping channel and the rest, as they say, is history!"

While Sara's story is familiar to most of us, the level of success she enjoyed is beyond even her wildest dreams. "I certainly had no idea that it would grow quite as big as it has! But I had conviction in my Enveloper tool and knew that it could be a useful and popular product. It took hard work and determination to get the tool out there and start up the company, and in the beginning I roped in my university housemates and little sister to help package up orders!" Sara says. "When the time came to employ someone, it was my friend's mum who came on board. It's always been a family venture, and we've worked hard right from the start to make the business as big as it is."

Sara feels it's important to point out the people that help make dreams a reality.

"I work with a very talented in-house product development team to devise new concepts and we also have a lot of very creative, crafty people on board. We've cultivated an open and collaborative environment since day one here at Crafter's Companion, where everyone within the business is able to pitch their ideas for new products." That's not to mention the healthy home life she

"We've worked hard right from the start to make the business as big as it is"

cherishes: "I'm so lucky that I have an amazing support network around me. Because my husband, Simon, also works for the company, we're able to take it in turns and split our time to have the boys. My parents and in-laws also play an active role in the boys' lives, helping with school and nursery runs!"

CHRISTMAS PREP

Like most crafters, Sara believes it's never too early to think about Christmas. "The new range that's got me particularly excited is the Flower Forming Foam, tools and dies we've just launched – I think they're going to be hugely popular with PaperCrafter readers! We've developed foam that, once it has been heated, stretched and manipulated, will keep its



shape – ensuring perfect results every time. It can be cut with our flower dies, inked, stamped and distressed using our unique Petal Distressing Tool kit for realistic results, which make beautiful embellishments for your projects." And Christmas itself sounds heartwarmingly normal: "I love hosting Christmas round at my house, and I've cooked a mean Christmas dinner for the last few years, if I do say so myself! That's the kind of Christmas Day that's perfect to me – surrounded by friends and family, all having a great time."

In terms of the rest of the year, unsurprisingly, Sara Davies won't be slowing down – on top of her Dragon's Den tenure (which she's technically not allowed to talk about) she has a full plate and then some. "It certainly has been an amazing year – I've worked on so many exciting projects, the team has expanded to a milestone 200 employees and I even became an auntie, too! I can't share too much about what we have coming up just yet, but with Birthday Week approaching fast, which always means some amazing new launches and lots of special deals, make sure you watch this space!"

YOU CAN FIND ALL THE LATEST EXCITING PRODUCTS SARA HAS OVERSEEN AT CRAFTERSCOMPANION.CO.UK

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