



Creative Living with Sheryl Borden  
6100 Series



Crafts - Section I



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**Due to the size of this section, it has been separated into three sections in order for it to be downloaded more quickly. For instance, “Fantasy Candy” is in Section I on page 3, “Elegant Knotted Jewelry” is in Section II on page 11 and “Bow-Tied Button Brooch” is in Section III on page 17.**

# Fantasy Candy

## Fantasy Candy Garland



### WHO DOESN'T LOVE SWEETS?

This is a project to enjoy candy without making bathing suit season a traumatic event. Here's a "recipe" for Fantasy Candy!

#### Materials:

- Art Glitter's Fantasy Film in a variety of colors ([www.artglitter.com](http://www.artglitter.com))
- Scissors
- 1" Styrofoam balls or 1" wood beads
- Tweezers or pliers
- Heat Gun

#### Instructions:

Cut a 4" square of Fantasy Film. Take a Styrofoam ball or wood bead and place it in the center of the film. Roll film around ball and secure by twisting ends of film on either side of the ball. If you are using wood beads, make sure the holes in the beads do not face the wrapped ends. You will need to access the holes later in the project.

Pick up the "candy" with a pair of tweezers or pliers. Using your heat gun, blow some hot air onto the candy. Still holding the candy with the tweezers, turn it so that all surface areas are exposed to heat. **ONLY** expose the candy to the heat gun for 1-2 seconds! Any longer and you could damage the film and lose the definition of the design. **CAUTION:** If you are using Styrofoam balls, they will melt if held under the heat too long. It's very important to only expose your candy to the heat 1-2 seconds and to use tweezers to hold the candy when it is under the heat in order to prevent burns or fire. Wood beads can handle the heat better, but in order to get the look of the candy you want, keep the heat exposure to a minimum. Your wrapped candy will look almost like the expensive glass candies in the stores.

*Once you have made about a dozen candies, you can create a whimsical garland with them.*

#### Materials:

- Needle
- Embroidery Thread
- Candy necklace or candy colored beads

#### Instructions:

Decide on a length for the garland and cut embroidery thread to that length. Be sure to account for extra thread on each end to use for hanging the garland. Knot one end.

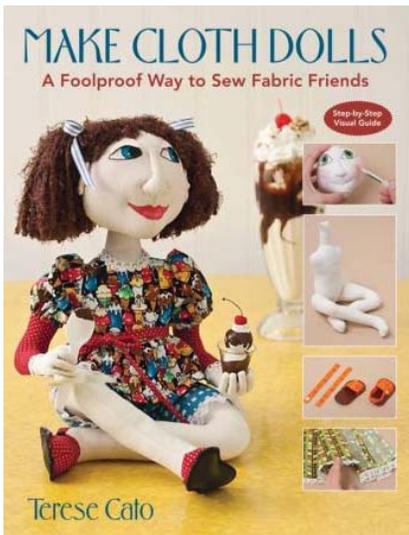
Thread a needle with your cut embroidery thread. Take candy necklace and break it apart if using. If you want the garland to last, or have concerns about edible elements, use candy colored beads on the garland instead. The necklace candy can also be coated with shellac to extend its shelf life.

Take a Fantasy Candy and string it onto the embroidery thread by carefully pushing your threaded needle through the middle of the candy. If you used wood beads for the project, poke the needle through the holes in the bead. Push the candy to the knot at the end of the thread. Take candies from the necklace or beads and thread four or more onto the garland. Alternately thread Fantasy Candy and beads or candies onto the garland until the garland length is reached. It's best to end the garland with a Fantasy Candy. Knot the end of the garland. It's ready to hang!

*\*Fantasy Candy and Fantasy Garland ARE NOT edible! These projects are for decoration only. They should be kept out of reach of children, pets, or anyone else who might try to take a taste!*



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# Making Cloth Dolls

All of the doll bodies in my book are made with Kona Cotton fabric. You can find it at most fabric and quilt shops. It comes in many solid colors suitable for bodies ranging from white to dark browns. I suggest that you

- Begin with a print fabric that includes 2 or more colors. Try grouping fabrics that have at least one color in common.
- Vary the density and the size of each print. Choose a small, medium, and large-scale print (in scale or proportion with the size of the doll) in the fabric grouping.
- Then finally, mix the color value. Color value is the relative lightness or darkness of a color. Several fabrics with the same color value will blend together as one. The contrast of a light, medium, and dark will help to separate the fabrics.

start with the Kona Cotton and then once you are comfortable with the techniques, you can experiment with other fabrics. You can find other fabrics of a similar weight and thread count that will also work well. Muslin and broadcloth are not stable enough because of their light weight and lower thread count. Polyester knits are so much fun because they have so much stretch in them offering so many sculpting possibilities. However, if you've never worked with polyester before, it can be slippery and frustrating. So try the cotton first and get the process down, and then try some other fabrics.

All of these things will come together to create a



grouping that is pleasing to the eye. When choosing a white or off-white for pantaloons and underwear, choose a white on white print for more interest. If white is too stark for the grouping, choose an off white or beige that is a tone on tone print.

When it comes to dressing your doll, there are endless possibilities for fabric. If you are a beginner, you will find that cotton fabrics are easy to work with. Most of the clothing items are small and don't require much fabric. If you sew and have a fabric stash, you can search there first. Another really great place to find fabric is the discount bin at the fabric store. Often, you will find odd fabrics that no one wants and they will be just the thing you're searching for. One important thing to keep in mind when choosing a print fabric is the scale of the print. Smaller prints will help keep things in proportion and the end result will be more pleasing.

If you choose too many solid colors you may find that your end result seems flat so let's not choose any solid color fabrics in our grouping. **You** may not wear a flowered

blouse with striped pants, but it might just be the thing that pulls your doll's outfit together.

**Let's Choose Our Fabric.** When I make a doll, I choose fabrics for the clothes much the same way as a quilter choosing fabrics for a quilt. I decide what my color palette is and then I stack coordinating fabrics until I'm happy with the selection. Several print fabrics will look great together if they have something in common, like color, to pull them together. As you try grouping different fabrics, keep a few things in mind.

1. color
2. density and scale of the print
3. the color value

Keep arranging the stack until you get just the right mix of fabrics. Once you have your fabric grouping together, you can decide which fabric to use for each article of clothing.

## Making Fingers and Toes

There are many ways to wire the fingers of a doll. This is my favorite technique to wire the fingers.

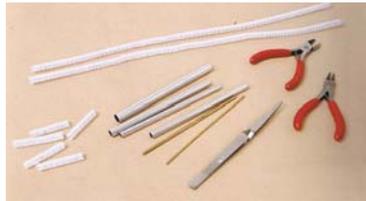


I can't stress enough how important it is to take your time with the details. It is the attention to detail that will make your doll truly special.

The question I get asked the most is "How do you get your fingers so perfect?" When I teach a doll workshop and take everyone through the steps, they are surprisingly pleased with their *perfect fingers*.

### Tools For Wiring Fingers

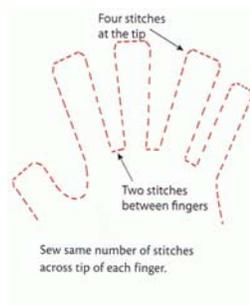
It doesn't matter if you are making just the hands, or the arms and hands in one piece, the steps are the same. The materials needed are white pipe cleaners and stuffing.



Use only white pipe cleaners because colored ones may show through the fabric. Use wire cutters or old scissors to cut the pipe cleaners, not your sharp fabric scissors. The tools needed are turning tubes and reverse action tweezers (they open when you squeeze them) or hemostats.

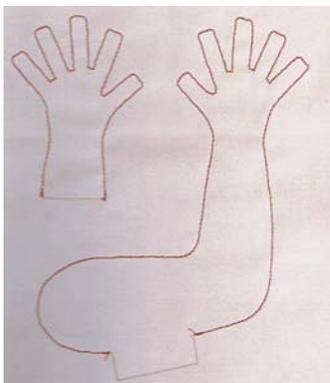
### Sewing The Arm/Hand Pieces

I use the technique of tracing the templates, sewing on the traced lines, then cutting out. If you cut out the hands and then tried to sew them together it would be nearly impossible because they are so small.



1. Set your sewing machine to the smallest stitch length.
2. Sew on the dotted seam line. Slow down when you come to the fingers. Use the wheel on your sewing machine to hand sew one stitch at a time around the tip of each finger. As you sew around the first fingertip count your stitches. If you have 4 stitches across the fingertip, then sew 4 stitches across the other fingertips.

This will give you more uniform fingers; otherwise they may all have a different shape.



If you can fit 2 stitches between each finger then your stitch is small enough. If you take it slow you will be able to stay on the stitched line. If you are having trouble seeing the needle, then try

a clear or open presser foot on your machine. If you can't stay on the line then you are sewing too fast. If you wander off the line, stop and go back. If you don't fix it now, it will only look worse when you turn the fingers right side out.

### Cutting Out the Arm/Hand Pieces

Cut out the arms/hands with a 1/8" seam allowance. Cut straight down between each finger being careful not to cut the stitches between the fingers. Using a fabric like Kona Cotton for the body is important because it has a high thread count and is much thicker than a fabric like muslin. The more threads your tiny stitches have to hold on to, the lesser the chance the seam will rip out.

### Turning the Arm/Hand Pieces Right Side Out

Once you try using the turning tubes you'll be hooked because they make quick work of turning fingers, as well as other body parts and small clothing items like belts and hair ties. Turning tiny fingers without turning tubes can be a slow and frustrating process that may leave you with disappointing results. This tool is a must have for perfect fingers every time.



Turning tubes come in a set that will have several sizes. The set will include an open pipe and a solid rod. The open pipe slides inside the hand and up into the finger all the way to the tip.

1. Choose a pipe size that fits snugly into the finger without putting too much stress on the seams. Choose the solid rod that fits best into the pipe.

The solid rod is pushed into the pipe while the other end of the pipe is on the table to give a solid footing to push against.

2. Fold over the seam allowance at the fingertip so the rod is pushing on more than one thickness of fabric. Push the finger into the pipe. Pull the pipe out. The finger will be turned and inside the palm of the hand.

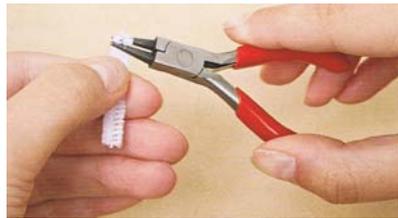
If you are having trouble pushing the rod into the pipe you may need to try a larger pipe.

3. Repeat with all the fingers. The fingers will all be turned inside the palm of the hand.

4. Turn the arm right side out and reach into the palm of the hand with tweezers or hemostats and gently pull the fingers right side out.

### Wiring the Fingers

1. Cut the white pipe cleaners to a length that will go from the fingertip to the middle of the palm of the hand (about 1 1/2" for a 22" doll and 1 1/4" for a 16" doll).



2. Fold over the wire at each end of the pipe cleaner with pliers, so the sharp ends don't poke through the fabric. Run your finger

across the ends to check for sharp edges.

3. Guide a prepared pipe cleaner into a finger pushing it all the way to the fingertip.

4. Grab a very small bit of stuffing with the reverse action tweezers and guide it to the opening of the finger in the palm of the hand. Use the solid rod from the set of turning tubes to push the stuffing all the way to the tip of the finger. Take another small bit of stuffing and guide it to the opening of the finger on the backside of the hand, then use the solid rod to push the stuffing to the fingertip. Continue stuffing the finger alternating back and forth on both sides of the pipe cleaner gently packing the stuffing each time, so the finger is firm.



When you are done the pipe cleaner will be in the center of the finger with stuffing on both sides. This will create nicely rounded fingers. If you only stuff on one side of the pipe cleaner, the fingers will be flat on one side. Stuff all 5 fingers this way before stuffing the palm of the hand. Resist the urge to bend the fingers until the entire hand and arm are stuffed.

### Stuffing the Hands and Arms

Once all of the fingers are wired and stuffed, the ends of the pipe cleaners will be sticking out into the palm of the hand.

1. In much the same way you encircled the pipe cleaners with stuffing in the fingers, stuff the hand. Make sure the opening of each finger has enough stuffing in it so it is not flat. Use the tweezers to guide stuffing on the palm side of the hand and on the back side of the hand, so the pipe cleaners are sandwiched in the middle. Once you stuff past the pipe cleaners you can add larger bits of stuffing and use your stuffing tool of choice.

2. Stuff the rest of the arm firmly. The wrists tend to get a wrinkle and bend in them if they are not stuffed firmly enough. Once the arm is stuffed, it is very difficult to fix this problem, so pay attention to this area as you stuff. I often wait until the doll is complete before bending the fingers. Once I've decided if it will be holding anything and its position, I wrap the fingers around a pencil for a nice curve. Wire can easily get a kink in it, so try not to manipulate them too much.



### Sculpting the Toes

Sculpting and painting is done before the limbs are attached.

1. Insert 4 pins in the tip of the toes to use as a guide. The big toe should be larger than the rest of the toes. The pins mark the separation between the toes and will help hold the thread in place as you sculpt. Use a strong quilting thread in a color that closely matches the body fabric.



2. Anchor the thread at the seam on the underside of the foot. Sew 3 or 4 small stitches between each toe. The needle goes straight in the top of the foot and out the bottom of the foot. Take a small stitch and come back out the top so there are stitches on both sides of the foot.

Try and keep your stitches about the same size and in straight lines on the top and bottom of the foot for a neat appearance. End the thread where you began at the seam on the underside of the foot. The shoes will hide the knot.

### Painting the Toenails and Fingernails

Paint the toes and fingers the same color with a small paintbrush. You have a few options for the paint choice.

1. The easiest is to use a fabric paint. It is ready to use on the fabric with nothing to add. If you use a paint like Liquitex, it will leave the fabric soft to the touch, and it won't crack.

2. You can also use acrylic paint. Add a textile medium to the paint to make it permanent. Mix the medium with the paint according to the directions on the bottle, which is usually 2 parts medium to 1 part paint. It takes very little paint for both the fingers and the toes. A dot of paint about the size of a dime is more than you need to paint both the hands and feet. If the directions say to heat set, you can use a hairdryer.

3. The watercolor pencils that are used to paint the face are a third option. The pencils will glide easier on damp fabric so you will need to wet the feet before you begin. Use a paintbrush to wet the toe area before you begin. Outline the nails with a sharp pencil and then fill in the center. This is my least favorite way. I prefer the crisp look of the paint.

Both of the paints work equally well. If you already have acrylic paints on hand then you just need to get the textile medium. If you don't have anything, then choose a fabric paint. You can use a red or pink on almost anything.

Paint the fingers and toes before you attach the limbs to the body. Before the fingers are bent, they are outstretched and ready for a manicure. Use a small paint brush and let the nails dry completely before attaching the limbs to the body.

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## Simplicity Bias Tape Maker

Create customized single fold bias tape with the push of a button with the Simplicity Bias Tape Marker!  
Includes 1" tip.

Suggested Retail Price:  
\$99.99

- Bias Tape Maker will fold and press flat bias strips into single fold bias tape in the push of a button.
- No more burning fingers pulling fabric through manual tips.
- Machine comes with tip to make 1" single fold bias tape.
- Suitable for cotton, silk, light weight wool, light-weight home dec fabrics and more.
- Great for sewers – match bias to fabric of a garment; finish the edges of garments for a professional look.
- Great for crafters – add bias edges to fun craft and home dec projects.
- Iron settings similar to a regular iron.
- Automatically shuts off after 10 minutes of non-use.
- Box doubles as a carrying case with a handle on the lid.
- Portable and lightweight enough to carry to classes.
- Tips are easy to change – just snap them into place.
- Additional tips available include:
  - 3/8" Single fold tip
  - 1/2" Single fold tip
  - 3/4" Single fold tip
- Not intended for professional use.
- Suitable for use in Continental U.S. only.



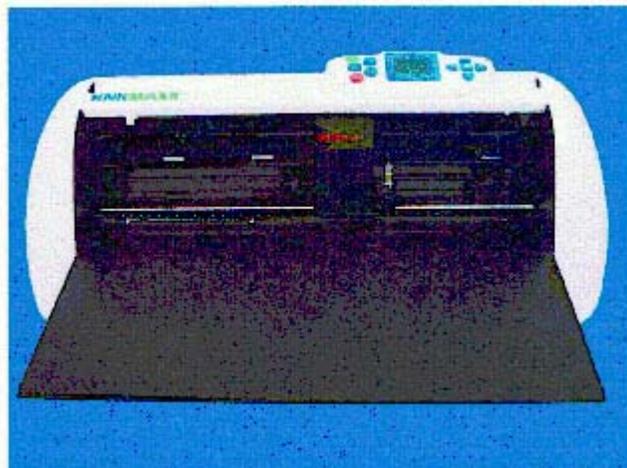
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[www.simplicity.com](http://www.simplicity.com)

# 101 Uses for a Klic-N-Kut Digital Die Cutter

The Klic-N-Kut Digital Die Cutter has opened up a world of possibilities, not only for those who do scrapbooking and card making, but also for hobbyists interested in building models, cutting vinyl, or anyone who wants to create unique decorations and gifts. The Klic-N-Kut will cut a wide range of materials from paper to chipboard, from fabric to balsa wood, from vinyl to styrene. The list below presents 101 ideas for using the Klic-N-Kut, but owners are only limited by the number of hours in a day and their own imagination!

## Cut shapes and letters from any of the following materials:

- 1 Paper
- 2 Cardstock
- 3 Chipboard
- 4 Vellum
- 5 Poster Board
- 6 Craft Foam
- 7 Styrene
- 8 Balsa Wood
- 9 Birch Wood
- 10 Fabric
- 11 Felt
- 12 Magic Mesh
- 13 Shrinky Dink Plastic
- 14 Flexible Acrylic
- 15 Clear Rubber for stamps
- 16 Embossing Rubber
- 17 Cling Vinyl for Children's Crafts
- 18 Vinyl for Signs or Etching
- 19 Non-Permanent Wall Vinyl
- 20 T-Shirt Transfer Vinyl
- 21 Aluminum Foil and Copper Foil
- 22 Tin Coated Pewter
- 23 Grungeboard
- 24 Double-Sided Adhesive Sheets
- 25 Thin Magnetic Sheets
- 26 Tissue Paper from Gift Bags
- 27 Mylar for Stencils
- 28 Transparency Plastic



## Hobbyists use the Klic-N-Kut for the following applications:

- 29 3-D Shadowing on Shapes and Titles
- 30 Blocking Templates for Layouts and Cards
- 31 Borders for Scrapbook Pages
- 32 Dashed Lines Inside the Edges of Die Cuts
- 33 Die Cuts from Dingbat Fonts
- 34 Dry Embossing on Paper, Vellum, Cardstock
- 35 Embellishments for Mini-Albums
- 36 Engraving on Acrylic Albums
- 37 Faux Decorative-Edged Scissors
- 38 Inserts for Nameplates and Other Frames
- 39 Library Pockets
- 40 Models of Buildings
- 41 Models of Planes, Cars, etc.
- 42 Openings for Iris Folding Cards
- 43 Overlays for Scrapbook Pages
- 44 Paper Piecing Die Cuts
- 45 Perfect-Sized Mats for Photos and Journaling
- 46 Pop-up Album Pages
- 47 Pop-up cards
- 48 Print and Cut Clipart
- 49 Punching Holes for Dutch Paper Crafting
- 50 Punching Holes for Paper Embroidery
- 51 Railroad Modeling
- 52 Scalloped Shapes
- 53 Scan, Trace, and Cut Rubber Stamp Designs
- 54 Sewing/Quilting Templates
- 55 Shaker Boxes in Any Shape

- 56 Shaped Greeting Cards
- 57 Shaped Mini-Albums
- 58 Silhouettes from Photos
- 59 Simulated Lace
- 60 Tags
- 61 Titles for Scrapbook Pages with Outline Mats
- 62 Titles Written with Gel Pens
- 63 Trace-Your-Own Punches
- 64 Window Cards
- 65 Word Books

**The Klic-N-Kut provides many gift-giving and entertainment applications:**

- 66 Cupcake Wrappers
- 67 Custom Shaped Confetti
- 68 Holiday Decorations
- 69 Invitations for Weddings, Birthdays, etc.
- 70 Large Letters/  
Numbers for  
Party Deco-  
rations
- 71 Linked  
Shapes to  
Make a  
Banner
- 72 Centerpieces for Tables
- 73 Party Favor Boxes
- 74 Party Hats
- 75 Stencils for the Tops of Baked Goods
- 76 Altered Paint Can Templates
- 77 Bookmarks
- 78 Customized Labels for Jars
- 79 Cutting Vinyl for Etching Glass, Crystal,  
Mirrors, etc.
- 80 Custom-Sized Envelopes
- 81 Fold-up Boxes
- 82 Fold-up Gift Bags
- 83 Fold-up Money Cards
- 84 Personalized Name Tags
- 85 Placecards for Dinner Parties
- 86 Vinyl for Decorating Dishes and Cups
- 87 Frames for Photos
- 88 Gift Tags
- 89 Items for Shadowboxes



**And, finally, some great ideas for kids and teenagers:**

- 90 Engraving on Trophy Plates
- 91 Monograms or Other Personalization
- 92 Stencils for Painting
- 93 Custom Stickers
- 94 Cut Outs for School Projects
- 95 Paper Dolls and Clothes
- 96 Jigsaw Puzzles from Photos
- 97 Tangrams
- 98 T-Shirt Transfer Vinyl for Decorating  
Clothes
- 99 Vinyl for Suntan Tattoos
- 100 Vinyl for Decorating Flip-Flops, Sun  
Visors, etc.
- 101 Door Hangers

**COURTESY: Sandy McCauley  
Accugraphic Sales, Inc.  
[www.iloveknk.com](http://www.iloveknk.com)**

**Pretty in Pink Frame**

Use vintage papers, paints, stamps, crystal and button accents to alter an inexpensive wooden frame. Begin with a layer of decoupage vintage paper. Then paint and stamp. Drill holes in the left side and wire on vintage German glass buttons and Crystallized Swarovski elements. Voila! A one-of-a-kind frame.



**COURTESY: Margo Potter  
Author, Designer, TV Host  
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