

Creative Living

with Sheryl Borden



#6400 Series

Crafts - Section III

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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, “Wearable Waves” is in Section I on page 3, whereas “Art Glitter Frame-Able Fabric Panel” is in Section II on page 9, and “To Dye or Not To Dye” is in Section III on page 17.

To Dye or Not To Dye

Tulip® Permanent Fabric Dye is easy to use for one-color dyeing and re-dyeing!



Each pack of Tulip® Permanent Fabric Dye is bursting with a whole spectrum of ideas and with Tulip® you have all the colors of the rainbow to choose from. Wake up

your wardrobe, revive a faded top or brighten some cushion covers with color, ease and permanent results you'll be proud of!

Tulip® Permanent Fabric Dye is suitable for all 100% natural fabrics, including cotton, linen, ramie and rayon. Wool, silk and polyester/cotton mixes will dye to lighter shades depending on the percentage of natural fibers. Pure polyester, acrylic, nylon and special finish fabrics are not recommended for dyeing.

A dye junkie loves to try new things. As always,



Tulip® makes it EASY for you with this creative bundle that includes everything you need for your fashion dyeing habit.

The Tulip® Dye Techniques Kit™ includes:

- Three 4 oz. bottles of Tulip® Permanent Fabric Dye™ (fuchsia, lime and turquoise),
- One 2 oz. bottle of Tulip® Resist™
- Three Tulip® Multi-Surface Stencils™
- Two sponge brushes
- Reusable spray nozzle
- Bottle
- 4 pairs of gloves
- Rubber bands
- Instruction guide that includes five outrageous techniques: Shibori, Spray, Batik, Brush and Urbanesque.

Keep your look fresh and bold with Tulip® One-Step Fashion Dyes™! Whether you're looking to liven up a faded favorite or create a fantastically fun tie-dye design, your search stops with Tulip®.



Tulip® One-Step Fashion Dyes™ come in an easy applicator bottle so all you have to do is add cold water! Ideal for large or multiple projects, these permanent dyes are available in 10 vibrant colors; can't find the exact color you're looking for?

Tulip® One-Step Fashion Dyes™ are mixable so you can create your own custom colors.



Even the most extreme color enthusiast will be blown away by the 150 color combinations that the Tulip® Custom Dye Color Kit™ makes possible!

Beginning with just four base permanent fabric dye colors, any color-loving consumer can follow the easy-to-read recipe guide to mix 150 custom dye colors, including Sprout, Fish Bowl, Pixie and Happy Hour, just to name a few. The fun doesn't end when the base colors are gone...the dye storage containers can be refilled with Tulip® Permanent Fabric Dye™ and the custom creation can begin again.

The kit includes four base color permanent fabric dyes (black, yellow, turquoise and fuchsia), how-to color recipe guide, storage containers and measuring tools.

**COURTESY: Jann Johnson
Artist & Designer**

Stitching memories!

CUSTOM NEEDLEPOINT

What would you like us to put on canvas?



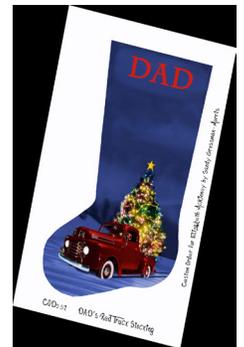
Combining your artwork or photographs with the talents of our design staff, we create custom giclee printed needlepoint designs on Zweigart Deluxe Canvas. o.k., let's get started...

1. Eeny, meeny, miney, moe...be art smart! [when choosing images] **Size really does matter!**

- *Copies or scans* of regular photos that are increased in size will generally get “fuzzy.” Try scanning at a higher resolution.
- *Measure* key areas in your image. One Inch = 13, 14 or 18 stitches (depending on your choice of canvas).
- I can *decrease* the size of your image and stay in proportion. Also I can usually crop to make a weird size manageable for framing, depending on if you are willing to “let go” of a portion of the image. And, I can remove an unwanted background and make it a solid color.
- *Choose photos* that are lighter and have good contrast. A photo that is all dark with little or no contrast is not a good choice to place on canvas.

2. Shutterbugging....be art smart! [when creating images] **Size still matters!**

- *Digital* is really great, just be sure to set your camera to a high resolution. Each camera is different, so check out the booklet it came with.
- *Save* the image as a jpeg or tiff. Send it to me as a full size attachment. Do not embed into the email.
- *Before* you take the photo, take a moment to think about what it is you want to capture for your project. If you are focusing on a pet, for example, get close-up shots. Make sure that the kitty is the largest object in the photo!
- *Plan ahead!*
- *Example:* Planning a holiday stocking featuring a beloved old pick-up truck? Think about how you'd like that truck to be placed on the stocking, perhaps at the angle of the heel with the front of the truck facing the toe of the sock. Take your photo at an angle from the headlight closest to you. Keep in mind which way you want the toe to face.
- *More is better!*
- *Take a few* shots at slightly different angles and, if possible, at different times of the day, as the lighting changes.



3. A Bit of Inspiration....be art smart! [when planning your project] **Decisions, Decisions!**

- *ART...*drawings, paintings...children's art is especially endearing in a gift project.
- *Ranch* brands, business logos
- Most *military* emblems
- *Photos* of people, pets, homes, buildings, flowers, cars, pick-ups & other modes of transportation

4. Take it beyond the frame....be art smart! [when creating a fab project] **What Can I Make?** Here are a few ideas:

- *Pillows...*ring bearer, new baby, home decor
- *Holiday* Stockings or Ornaments
- *Tote Bag* or Purse inserts
- *3 Dimensional* Figures or Dolls
- *Purses, iPad Cases, Eyeglass Cases*



5. Before I Forget to Tell You....be art smart! [with your design] **Important Information. Put it on canvas.**
- *Contact* your local needlepoint shop and have them place your order with me. If you do not have a local shop that can assist you, you may contact me directly.
 - *I cannot* accept copyrighted images, unless you hold the copyright or have permission to use it. It's the law.
 - *You will receive* an e-mail of the design for art approval. Be aware that all computer screens will show colors a little differently. Once I have your final approval, along with your payment, your canvas will go into production.
 - *All sales* are final. There are no returns, unless we print someone else's image and send it to you.



Hardware Embellishments for
NEEDLEPOINT
 Take a trip to the hardware store!

A trip to the local hardware store can yield some interesting embellishments. Using such things as washers and hex nut covers add visual interest to a needlepoint project.

Working with Metal Washers....be art smart! [when preparing metal for your project] Corroding metal will damage the fibers used in your needlepoint. It is important to seal most metal pieces, such as washers, BEFORE using them in your project. Chromed pieces will not need to be lacquered.

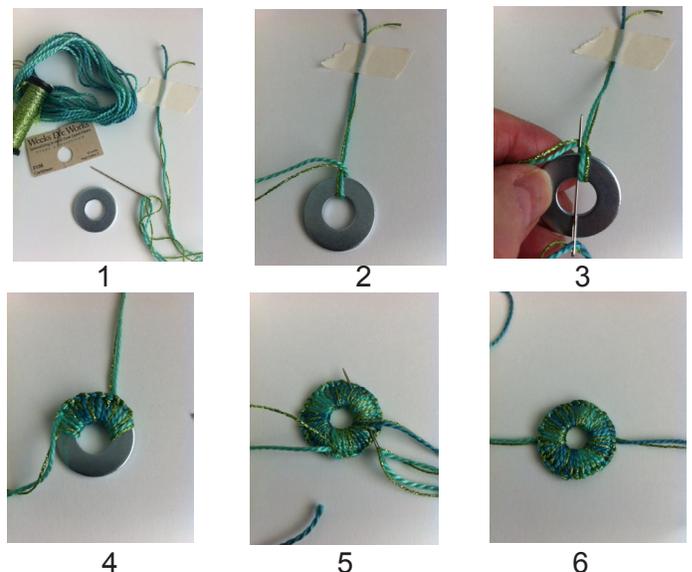
How to seal metal with lacquer coating!

- *Clean* the surface of the metal really well. Use your favorite metal cleaner to polish the metal to the desired finish.
- *Remove* all residue by wiping the metal with solvent, such as zylene (available at paint stores or hardware stores) and denatured alcohol to make sure that the metal is completely clean. (Do not use isopropyl alcohol). Always follow the manufacturers' directions and safety precautions.
- *Make sure* that the metal is completely dry before spraying with a sealant.
- *Seal* your metal pieces with clear acrylic lacquer spray. Following the directions, and again, the safety precautions of the manufacturer, spray it over your pieces in a well-ventilated area, allowing them to dry before turning to seal the other side. Allow plenty of dry time (a day or two is great) before using them in your project.

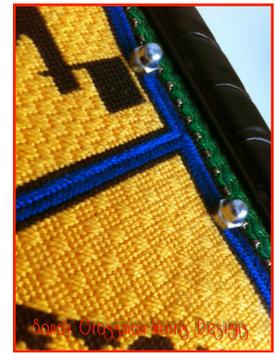
Hint: I use a large cardboard box as a "paint booth". I place 3-4 straight pins into the cardboard (depending on the size of the washers) under each washer as a base to keep the washers up in the air, while spraying. You'll get a good edge coating, and they won't stick to the surface!

Stitching on Metal Washers.... be art smart! [creating round things] To Completely Cover The Washer: I used 2 different fibers here - a perle cotton and a metallic cording. Be adventurous and play around with various combinations.

Designer's Notes: To make it easy to get started, tape the ends of the fibers to the table before stitching. You can remove the tape after placing a few blanket stitches.



After stitching all around, run the needle under the stitches on the back side, half way around. Cut, leaving a tail a few inches long. You will use the tails to attach the covered washer to your project, working the tails into the existing stitches on the backside of the canvas. Get creative! Embellish needlepoint, pillows, photo frames, handbags & more. See examples below.



Attaching Metal Washers....and other hardware. To

Attach a Plain Washer: A sealed brass or copper washer can add an extra element of artistry to a needlepoint project, especially when attached with a nubby fiber for texture as seen on my "Autumn Sunflower" Night Sconce at right.



Designer's Notes: These Brass Washers were attached with a cotton perle fiber as part of an open stitch pattern. Then, I went back and overstitched the washers with a copper metallic fiber at the "12", "3", "6" and "9" o'clock positions to add visual interest. The addition of a small wood or glass bead at the center of each washer would add another textural element to this project.

To Attach Chrome Hex Nuts: I used Chrome Hex Nuts to signify some of the numbers on my "Cone Zone" clock. I left about a 4 stitch area unstitched where these would be placed. You'll need to temporarily attach your clock works to know where you'll be placing these Hex Nuts and mark those spots so that you do not stitch there. I placed this clock into a shadow box frame, so that there would be room in the back for the clock works.

Center the clock onto the back and mark where the clock works and Hex Nuts will attach to it. Remove the stitched canvas and drill appropriate sized holes in the backing of the shadow box before lightly padding and attaching the canvas.

Attach the Hex Nuts and Clock Works. Tightly wrap the canvas around the backing and attach. Place back into the frame and push it to the front, so that there is room for the clock works. Note: Hex Nuts come with little bolts to attach them, see photo at right and at top of next column:



To Attach a Snap: Ok, this isn't from the hardware store, but it is hardware, so I wanted to include this idea! I like to be creative and after searching through my stash of goodies, I came upon the little drawer of snaps...here's the result on "Frame it...with Petey Patrol" from my Transportation Station Collection.



Designer's Notes: Snaps make the most wonderful Chrome Wheels! Attach them to your stitched canvas by stitching between the little holes. I used the part that had the little "hub cap" facing up, as seen above. Want perfect dimensional circles? Blanket stitch over washers and attach to a stitched canvas (on lower left).

**COURTESY: Sandy Morris-Grossman
Sandy Morris-Grossman Designs**

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COURTESY: Drew Emborsky
The Crochet Dude

FUSIBLE FABRIC APPLIQUÉ CARDS



Use fusible web and cotton fabric to decorate handmade cards. Use a pattern or learn to cut freehand shapes.

Trace desired shapes and iron fusible web to back of fabric. Cut out on lines. Arrange shapes as desired on front of card and fuse. Use pigment pen to add pen stitching embellishment. The fusible web keeps the fabric edges from raveling.

COURTESY: Laura West Kong
Author & Designer

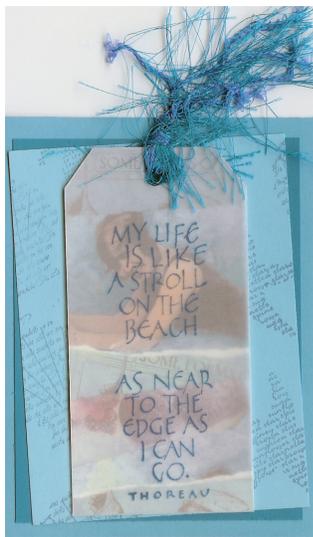
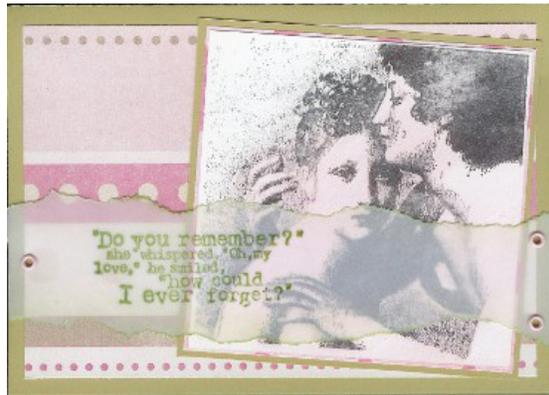


Theresa Cifali

The Altered Canvas®

Very Vellum Techniques

Have you tried incorporating vellum into the design of your cards and scrapbook pages? Theresa Cifali shows a few quick and simple techniques. She demonstrates how she colorizes vellum using simple die inks. Then the vellum can be laid over an image stamped in black. She also uses colored vellum to create a weaved background. Because the vellum is translucent, the sections where the two colors overlap will create a new color. Other points she covers include: the versatility of vellum; ways vellum can be stamped and embossed; different colors and printed varieties that vellum comes in; and printing photos onto vellum creates a softer looking print. If you haven't tried working with vellum yet, you'll want to after watching Theresa show how she uses it.



COURTESY: Theresa Cifali
The Altered Canvas

GIFT BASKETS FOR CRAFTERS

Gift baskets are great to give for any occasion: all holidays, birthdays, or just a general “I’m thinking of you!”

Baskets can be easily customized for any recipient's area of interest and the giver's budget. A knitter's basket might contain everything needed to make a pair of socks: sock yarn, needles, stitch markers, point protectors, and a pattern.

An art basket could include brushes, paints, brush cleaners, pencils, a travel palette, and something to paint or draw on.

For people who like to cook (or just eat), collect small bottles of favored oils, specialty coffees or chocolate, and a decorated journal to use for favorite recipes.

You can buy a few items at a time in order to spread the cost out over a few weeks if you plan ahead. Ask the person what they like to do or maybe what they would like to learn. Then spend time browsing in the local craft store. Don't be afraid to ask a clerk for suggestions. Most of the time it doesn't matter if you happen to buy a duplicate of something the person already has in their supplies. Paints get used up and a knitter can always use more yarn and needles.

Choose a pretty basket or flower pot to hold the supplies. Add filler, such as excelsior or shredded paper, to the bottom. Arrange your items so that things show all around the edge. If you want to add shrink wrap to make the basket look fancy, set your basket inside a sleeve of shrink wrap. These come in different sizes so you can choose the one closest to your basket. Use a blow dryer to mold the plastic around the basket. Start at the bottom and work slowly upwards.



Take your time and it will look professional! Gather the top of the wrap with ribbon. Make a bow from ribbon that matches the theme (red for the holidays, pink for a baby girl).

Polypropylene ribbon is the kind that is used outdoors. It tears easily so you can make streamers out of the ends of your bow and then curl them with scissors. Or make a flat bow by making a stack of ribbon loops. Attach a gift card and you're done!

**COURTESY: Ava Lynne Green
Terri's Yarns and Crafts**

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