## Creative Living

with Sheryl Borden


6900 Series - Crafts - Section II

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Due to the size of this section, it has been separated into two sections in order for it to be downloaded more quickly. For instance, "Magic Folds Pillow" is in Section I on page 3, whereas "Create Your Own Background Paper" is in Section II on page 9.

## Create Your Own Backģround Paper



Have you ever driven yourself nearly mad just trying to find the absolute right piece of patterned paper to go with your scrapbook layouts or handmade cards? Learn how to make your own unique background papers that coordinate perfectly with your handcrafted creations.

## Materials:

- White or a fairly light colored piece of card stock or scrapbook paper
- StazOn permanent ink by Tsukineko)
- Tim Holtz's Distress Inks
- Stipple brushes
- An assortment of rubber stamps

The first thing you will want to do is take your largest images and begin to stamp those randomly onto your solid colored piece of paper. To make it interesting, stamp some of the images off the page.

**Important note....when using this technique, you want to use PERMANENT ink. If you use dye inks to stamp your background, they will smudge when you go to colorize it later.

Next, stamp your medium and then smaller stamps to fill in some of the white space. Again, use a random pattern and stamp some of the images so they are "hanging" off the page. Also, overlap your stamps. It looks really cool!

Use a filler stamp, like this checkered patterned stamp, to fill in some of the wider areas of white space. Overlapping images looks really cool, so don't be afraid of it. Once you've done that, it should look something like this.


Finally, use a textured stamp and stamp it all over the entire page, even over the images already stamped. This creates texture and makes the over all look much softer.


If you don't have a textured stamp in your arsenal, that is just fine! You can create texture in other ways. You can "stamp" with the following:

- a stipple brush and tap the bristles onto the paper - a crumpled piece of wax paper or even tin foil
- a piece of steel wool
- the scrubby side of a sponge
- a sea sponge (which will be right by the sea shells in your local craft store)

This looks great in just black and white! However, if you would like to add some color you can do so easily with dye based ink and stipple brushes.

Starting with the lightest color, use your stipple brush to "sweep" the color over the entire page. Take the next darkest color and highlight specific areas. Use your darkest color around the edges of the paper to add some contrast.

COURTESY: Theresa Cifali The Altered Canvas
http://theresacifali.com/altered-art-canvas

## Magazine Technique for Purses and Journals

## Materials:

- Earth Safe Finishes ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ Gel Medium (www.earthsafefinishes.com)
- Earth Safe Finishes ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ Shimmer Translucent (2-3 colors Copper, Gold Sparkle \& Pearl) (www.earthsafefinishes.com)
- 1" - 1 1/2" Dynasty® Paint Brushes (www.dynasty-brush.com)
- Assorted Trims by Expo International (www.expointl.com)
- 2-3 yards Woven Braid by Expo International (www.expointl.com)
- Fabric Tac by Beacon Adhesives (www.beaconcreates.com)
- Cloth Base: old clothing, fabric, placemats, etc.
- Torn out Magazine Pages
- Toothpick
- Scissors
- Clothes Pins


## Instructions:

1. Apply gel medium to back side of magazine pages with paint brush and on fabric base; place magazine onto base then add gel medium on top side of magazine page; continue until fabric base is covered.
2. Apply Shimmer Translucents on top and let dry. 3. Cut the fabric base for purse or journal (making your own pattern or using purchased pattern.)

3. Apply trims to the inside and outside with glue; let dry.

Tips:
*Good quality magazine pages work
 best.
*Cut or tear magazine pages for the look you like. *If you don't like how something looks add another piece over it. *Add Shimmers until you are happy with the look, you can never add too much.
*Use toothpick to apply Fabric Tac.
*Use clothespins to hold trim in place while drying.
COURTESY: Ann Butler
Ann Butler Designs
www.creativitystirsthesoul

## Funky Fowl Instructions

## Materials:

- $3^{\prime \prime}$, $6^{\prime \prime}$ balls, $4^{\prime \prime}$ cube of MakeitFun STYRO FOAM $^{\text {™ }}$ Brand Foam
- $1 / 6$ yard yellow fleece
- $1 / 3$ yard orange fleece
- 9 " $\times 12^{\prime \prime}$ pieces of Canary (yellow), Papaya (orange) scraps of Fuchsia, Seashell Pink, Carib bean Surf ( teal) Xotic Felt by National Nonwovens
- 6 " fabric scrap
- 1 chenille stem
- 1 skein black, pink embroidery floss
- 6 black, 12 colored head quilt pins
- Aleene's Fabric Fusion ${ }^{\text {TM }}$
- Upholstery thread
- Embroidery Needle
- $5^{\prime \prime}, 8^{\prime \prime}$ Westcott Brand® Titanium Steel Scissors
- Ruler, measuring tape, pencil, circle templates for large duck $12^{\prime \prime}$, small $8^{\prime \prime}$


## Making the Ducks:

1. For both the 3 " and 6 " ducks construction is exactly the same. The pattern pieces included can be made any size. Any variations will be indicated in instructions. For the 3 " duck cut a 3 " and 8 " fleece circle. For the 6 " duck cut two 3 " and one 12 " circle. Cut two of each cheeks, beaks and 4 of each foot from felt. Cut $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ by 9 " strip of felt for bows.
2. With upholstery thread anchor thread at edge of the large circle. Sew a small basting stitch around the complete circle.
3. Pull stitches slightly. Place circle over ball pulling stitches tightly. Circle should stretch to close. (On larger duck if
 this does not happen, a small circle can be glued on bottom to finish the body.) Secure thread and cut.
4. For small duck cut 3 " circle in half. Fold in half again wrong sides together and glue. For large duck fold each 3 " circle in half wrong sides together and glue. Glue wings to sides of body as shown in photo. 5. Glue beak pieces together angling top one slightly higher than lower beak. Make two small stitches at top of beak. (These stitching details are optional; they can also be recreated with a fabric marker.) Glue beaks to center of face slightly above wing line.
5. Insert two black head pins as eyes. Adjust until you are pleased with location. Remove and dip in glue, reinsert, pushing in to indent in face slightly.
6. Sew around cheek circles with pink floss if desired or use fabric marker or add just as is. Glue to face of duck under eyes. Refer to photo for placement. 8. Place feet together in pairs, reverse one pair. Glue together. Outline in black floss with a small stitch as an option. Glue feet to bottom of bird. Tie bow from felt strip, pin or glue to head.

## Making the Chicken:

1. Use the ruler to cut a 4 " by 16 " strip of fleece. Cut two 4 " squares of fleece and one 3 " circle. Cut one $11 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ by 3 " topknot piece, two beaks, two 3 " by $3^{\prime \prime}$ strips and four feet from orange felt. Cut one 3 " circle from fabric scrap. Cut one heart from teal.
2. Begin at one edge of cube and glue long fleece strip. Wrap fleece piece around cube bringing it back to the edge to meet. Glue in place. Glue each 4 " square on the opposite 2 remaining sides along edges. Press fleece seams together, add more glue if needed.
3. Cut 3 " fleece and fabric circles in half for wings. Glue or sew with black around edges. Pin or glue in place on either side of chicken. (Approximately at 3" mark.)
4. Cut chenille stem in two 3 " pieces. Roll an orange strip around each leg and glue. Place feet in pairs reversing one set. Glue or topstitch in black around edges. Glue to end of each leg. Glue to edge of body.
5. Glue beak pieces together with top one slightly above lower beak. Glue to face. Insert two black head pin eyes. Add glue to ends and reinsert, indenting slightly.
6. Fold topknot in half, cut through from fold to $1 / 4$ " from ends. Glue to top of head. Stitch through heart with black floss. (Optional or use fabric marker.) Glue heart to body.

COURTESY: Debra Quartermain Debra Quartermain Design
www.debraquartermain.com

## Tulip® Fabric Markers ${ }^{\text {TM }}$

Tulip® Fabric Markers ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ are nothing less than the best quality fabric marker available, with the richest pigments to provide true, intense and vibrant colors on fabric - resisting from fading through multiple machine washings.

Tulip® Fabric Markers ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ are available in:

- Six-Pack Bullet Tip - three color combinations (Primary, Neon and Brights) packaged in a reusable storage pouch.
- Six-Pack Dual Tip - Three color combinations (Primary, Neon and Pastel)
- Fine Writer Tip Pack with 20 Assorted Colors
- Fine Writer Tip Pack with 12 Assorted Colors.
- Fine Writer Tip 6 Packs in two color combinations (Primary and Neon)

> Joy to the World of Sparkle T-Shirt


## Instructions

1. Wash T-shirt without fabric softener and do not dry.
2. Cover work surface with plastic table cover. Lay damp T-shirt on work surface.
3. Wearing gloves from kit, mix Lime dye according to package instructions. Fill bowl with water.
4. From bottle, apply dye along top one-fourth of T-shirt. Working quickly, wet paintbrush and brush dye downward toward bottom of T-shirt. Dip brush in water as needed to move the dye and blend color, creating a darker look at top to lighter at the bottom. Continue until desired gradient is achieved. Cover with plastic table cover and let dye set 6-8 hours.
5. Rinse shirt in cold running water until water runs clear. Wash and dry shirt as directed.
6. Iron freezer paper to inside front of shirt to create stable drawing surface and prevent ink seepage to back of shirt.
7. Use Fabric Markers to write out holiday words, using different writing styles and drawing doodles around each word.

## Birthday Party Invitations and Favors

1. Choose Coordinating cardstock and decorative papers to coordinate with your party theme.
2. With the Cricut Artiste Cartridge, make the following cuts:

- Banner - 1", <k>+SH+accent3, pg. 58
- Curved Banner - 1 1/4", <5>+Accent1, pg. 35
- Balloon - 1 3/4", <Hppy Bday>+Accent3, pg. 70 (x4)
- Flag for straw - 1" <BdayBoy>+SH+accent4, pg. 68
- Cupcake liner - 2" <BdayBoy>+accent4, pg. 68
- Striped frame - $21 / 4$ " <v>+accent3, pg. 64
- Herringbone frame - $21 / 2^{\prime \prime}$, <c>+card, pg. 63
- Rosette on hat - $21 / 4$ " <p>+accent4, pg. 65
- Envelope - 9 1/2" \& 9 1/4"<BdayBoy>+SH+card, pg. 68

3. Punch four 1 1/4" circles.
4. Punch a 2" scalloped circle.
5. Stamp the balloons and banners with the coordinating stamps from the Cricut Artiste stamp set (D1529)
6. Stamp the frames using the Perfect Fit
Frames 2 stamp set (D1536)
7. On 2 circles stamp the following: "Its Party Time" and "Celebrate" with gift from the Perfect Fit Birthday set (B1417).
8. With the other two circles, use the "Celebrate" stamp but use a sponge dauber to ink the outer edge only so that the gift in the center is not stamped.
9. Add a Cricut shape or sticker in the center of the previously stamped circles.
10. Wrap the flag around the top of a decorative straw and adhere one of the "Celebrate" circles to center.
11. For the treat tube wrapper, take the striped frame and add a $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ strip of coordinating cardstock. Add three $1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 1$ " dovetailed strips and add to side of center. Place the "It's Party Time" stamped image and glue to center of striped frame. Wrap treat tube with striped frame cluster and adhere in back.
12. For the herringbone frame cupcake topper take the herringbone frame and add a $3 / 4^{\prime \prime} x$ $41 / 2$ " strip of coordinating cardstock to center. Layer the strip with the silver shimmer trim and dovetail the strip. Adhere to frame with foam adhesive. Add three $1 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 1^{\prime \prime}$ dovetailed strips to side center of frame. Place the "Celebrate" with gift stamped image and glue to center of striped frame. Adhere to toothpick or small skewer to insert into cupcake.
13. On computer, design the invitation leaving room on your preferred side of invitation for embellishment.
14. Cut the invitation to fit the envelope and use a corner rounder for edges. Layer invitation if desired. Add two of the stamped balloons and "Celebrate" image to side of the invitation. Finish invitation with the Balloon string stamp from Birthday set.
15. Layer the inside of envelope with a coordinating paper and adhere envelope to assemble.
16. For the party favor bag, cut a 2 " strip of decorative paper to the width of the party bag. Add here to bag and add a strip of ribbon above the paper strip. Using foam tape, adhere two balloons to the bag. Stamp the balloon strings to the bag and finish by adhering the "Oh Happy Day" banner to the bottom of the strip of paper on bag.
17. For the party Hat - sew two rows of plain stitching to the bottom of the hat while still flat. Cut strips of paper to line the stars in the hat and adhere on the inside with decorative paper showing through. Assemble rosette by scoring the lines and folding back and forth. Adhere the ends together to form the rosette. Adhere the scallop circle to the center of the rosette and add the "Happy Birthday" curved banner to center. Assemble the hat and adhere the rosette cluster. Create a ribbon cluster by cutting strips of ribbon and tie together in the center. Adhere to the top of the hat.

COURTESY: Kristine Widtfeldt and Carlie Robertson Close To My Heart
www.closetomyheart.com

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## Working with Hearty Clay

Welcome to the world of Expressions. We make and distribute molds for the beautiful porcelain dolls designed by Dianna Effner and other fine artists. We also stock a large assortment of products for dollmakers, such as paints, brushes, instructional videos, doll boxes, and wigs. You can see the video with Dianna Effner when she appeared on Creative Living by going to: www.expressionsdolls.com.

Dianna designs many of her molds and other items using Hearty Clay.
 She will show how to mix colors and condition the clay for pressing into the doll molds. Besides using the clay to make dolls, it can also be used to make various ornaments.

## The Right Consistency

The most important thing to learn about Hearty Clay is how to tell when it is the right consistency for the results you want. There is a happy medium between too wet and too dry. Experience will teach you to know when it feels right. The clay requires conditioning by working it in your hands before pressing or rolling, Generally it is too soft and wet when it is fresh from the package. (Occasionally you may get a package that is too dry.) If the clay has a cold sticky feel it should be kneaded and worked until it is no longer sticky but is soft and velvety to the touch. When it is on the side of being too dry it
 will begin to feel more firm and will be difficult to form into a smooth ball. At this point moisture can be added by kneading a bit of water into the clay. It should be kneaded very thoroughly when adding water. If it is not kneaded thoroughly after adding water it will tend to be sticky. If the package has been opened and the clay has been exposed to the air it will become hard. At some degree of hardness it will not be possible to reclaim by adding water and will have to be discarded.

## Forming a Smooth Ball

Many things that we do with the clay begin with a smooth ball. We form a ball to remove all the wrinkles before pressing into a mold, for example. Practice to develop the knack of making a smooth ball. After working the clay vigorously and turning it inside out, roll it vigorously, with a bit of pressure, between the palms of your hands. Examine to see if it is free of cracks and creases. Repeat if necessary.


NOTE: Recently I have made a discovery that I want all shoemakers to know about. You will find that Hearty Clay is somewhat flexible when dry but also has a brittle quality. Thin pieces crack or break easily. I have discovered that adding a small amount of glycerine and kneading it into the clay before making the shoes will cause the clay to be much more soft and pliable when it is dry. At this writing I haven't determined the ideal amount to be added. I use a dime sized blob for a 1 ounce package of clay. Then it must be kneaded thoroughly.

Occasionally I have had a piece of clay that has been stored a long time break down and loose it's elasticity and smooth quality. I'm not sure why this happens because other pieces have stayed workable for a long time. I suspect some kind of contamination. In the past I recommended adding medium or hand cream for reconditioning clay. I'm not sure if that is a good idea for clay that is going to kept for a long time. Maybe eventually we will know more about what we can add and what causes the clay to break down. It's all an experiment.

Sticky wet clay will cause problems when rolling with a pasta maker or pressing into molds. It will stick to the molds and make a mess if you try to press it into a mold when it is too moist. When rolling in a pasta machine it will cling to the rollers and come out ruffled and uneven.

A piece of clay that has been wrapped and stored will require a bit of reconditioning. It will form a skin on the outside that is slightly drier than the middle. Knead vigorously, turning the surface in to the middle and bringing the moist clay in the middle to the outside. Then it's ready to roll.

## Storage

The recommended way of storing the clay is to wrap it tightly in plastic wrap and keep it in an air tight container. The
 best containers I have found that are really air tight are the Lock and Lock brand. They are carried by Target, Walmart and Penney's or you can get them on-line at http://www.heritagemint.com. The clay lasts longer in them than in anything else I've tried. I suggest rolling pieces of clay into smooth balls for storage and wrapping in plastic wrap to keep it clean and moist. A damp cloth or sponge stored with the clay will keep the air in the container from drying out the clay.

COURTESY: Dianna Effner Expressions www.expressionsdolls.com

## Velvet Stamping Album


love the look of stamped velvet. You can achieve such a beautiful look with a rubber stamp and an iron. The most important tip to remember about working on any project that has velvet stamping is to use the Rayon/ Acetate velvet. It will cost a little more to purchase, but it is the only way to achieve the look you want. The cheaper types of velvet will not do your project justice.

## Steps:

1. Stamp your image onto paper to determine your pattern.
2. Lightly spray the back side of velvet with water. Lay the stamp on the table with the rubber side facing up. Place the velvet right side down on the stamp image. Place the iron on the velvet for 5 seconds. Lift the iron straight up to avoid slipping.
3. Repeat pattern all over velvet.
4. Place the stamped velvet over the cardboard and adhere with the Fabri-Tac ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ glue. Add black trim around the stamped velvet and adhere with the FabriTac ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ glue.
5. Secure the velvet stamped cardboard to the cover of a spiral bound photo album and then glue in place.
6. Adhere the rhinestone ribbon, floral stem and paper flowers to the front of the album cover with the Fabri-Tac ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ glue. Add rhinestone brads to the metal keyhole. Attach the keys to a piece of gold thread.
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Materials:
    Spiral bound album
    Cardboard, 8 1/2" x 11"
    Velvet Rayon/Acetate, black, 10" x13"
    Trim, black
    Sheer ribbon, pale yellow
    Thread, gold
    Prima Marketing® Floral Stem
    Prima Marketing® Paper Flowers
    Prima Marketing® Rhinestone Ribbon
    Cardstock, off white
    Rhinestone and glitter frame
    Graphic 45® Metal Embellishments
    Rhinestone brads, (2)
    Floral Flourish rubber stamp
    Beacon Adhesives }\mp@subsup{}{}{\mathrm{ TM Fabri-Tac }}\mp@subsup{}{}{\mathrm{ TM }
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## Tools

    Duetica}\mp@subsup{}{}{TM}\mathrm{ Font, Mandolyn
    Iron
    Spray bottle
    Westcott Brand Non Stick® Scissors
    ```
7. Using the Duetica \({ }^{\text {TM }}\) Mandolyn font, print out the saying on off-white cardstock. Attach the frame to the cardstock and cut out. Attach the keys to the back of the frame with a piece of tape. Attach the frame with the keys, the keyhole and the small black paper flowers to the album cover with the Fabri-Tac \({ }^{\text {TM }}\) glue. See the picture for placement of the embellishments if needed

COURTESY: Lisa Rojas
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