



Creative Living with
Sheryl Borden
7300 Series
Crafts



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Upcycled Treasures

Looking for ways to refinish furniture or other treasures? It is interesting to me that "What Goes Around Comes Around". Remember that saying? Remember in the 60s-70s when everyone was "antiquing" furniture? We still are, the products are just different. Our mothers or grandmothers probably never distressed anything though.

I have discovered there are many, many ideas and techniques! Find something you like, and go with it. But, experiment with other techniques. You will find numerous blogs, Pinterest boards, etc. with good information. Spend some time with your computer searching through some of this information. One blog I found helpful was InMyOwnStyle.com. She does lots of comparisons with the different methods and products. Go to the hardware or paint store and spend some time researching the products available. Then pick a project to paint and HAVE FUN!

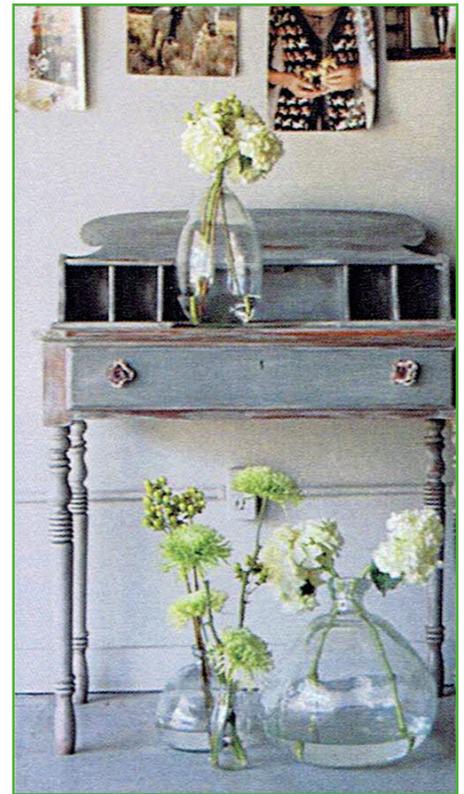
Some phrases you should know:

Chalk Paint - Can be purchased or make you own. It is a latex paint with a bonding agent. Recipes are below. Chalk paint usually requires no stripping, no sanding, no priming. It provides a porous surface that accepts wax for a rich patina. I used the Plaster of Paris recipe. You will find your own mixture for thicker or thinner paint.

Paste Wax - Is just a soft furniture polishing wax. It can be used clear. Or your choice of stain can be mixed into it to age your piece. Wax adds patina to your piece and protects it, even from water rings. Brush on or rub on with a soft cloth. After it has a chance to dry you need to buff it. An old towel works well for this process. You can also purchase colored waxes usually referred to as "aging wax".

Glaze - Working with glazes gives any painted piece the depth in a similar way that colored waxes do to chalk paint. Colored glazes are also available to purchase. You mix glaze with your paint and a little bit of water.

Distressing - This is not how you feel when you think about taking sandpaper to your newly painted item. Distressing is using sandpaper or a wet cloth to "distress" your painted piece, usually in natural looking wear patterns. When you use a colored wax it accentuates this area. You are making something look old and worn, like your favorite boots or pair of jeans.



Dry Brushing - Works best on a dark surface because of the contrast. The key is the amount of paint on your brush and speed. Barely dip the very tips of the brush into the paint and wipe or dab a little of the paint off on a rag, plate or waxed paper. The success of this finish depends on the wood NOT being completely covered. Paint should be quickly applied to the section you are working on with a light hand. Dry brushing could be layered with different colors for a desired effect.

DIY CHALK PAINT RECIPES

Non-Sanded Grout

- 1 cup paint
- 2 Tbsp. non-sanded grout
Water



COURTESY: Connie Moyers (ret.)
NM Cooperative Extension Service

Monoprinting with a Gel Press

Supplies

- Brayer
- Decoupage or gel medium
- Distress stain
- Gel printing plate
- Paper (music sheet, book text or patterned)
- Stamp
- Stencil
- Wet wipes



1. Squeeze a small amount of two colors of paint onto the 8"x10" Gel Press and use the brayer to completely cover the plate.
2. Press in and remove an opened embossing folder into the paint to add a design.
3. Use your hand to press a sheet of cardstock onto the plate and lift the print.
4. Attach the 3"x5" plate onto the acrylic stamp block. Squeeze white paint onto the plate and spread it around with the brayer.
5. Stamp the plate in the center of the print and lift off.
6. Cover the small plate with purple paint, add string on top in a random pattern. Press a paper down on the plate and lift off. Remove the string and stamp down onto the white rectangle at the center of the print.
7. Spread white paint onto the plate with the brayer. Put a 2.5" x 4.5" piece of paper in the center of the plate to create a frame. Press down an embossing folder all around the paper. Stamp the plate in the center of the print.
8. Use stamps and ink to add another layer to the print.
9. Use the Tombow Fudenosuke Brush Pen to write a sentiment at the center of the print.

Bible Journaling

First Page:

1. Use a mini blending tool to apply a light color inside the large silhouette stencil.
2. Line up the words from the stencil set inside the silhouette and use a darker ink to color them in. More than one color can be used as the inks blend nicely.
3. Apply ink to the rest of the page.

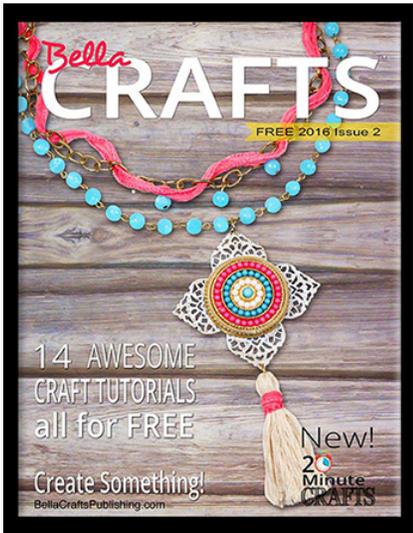
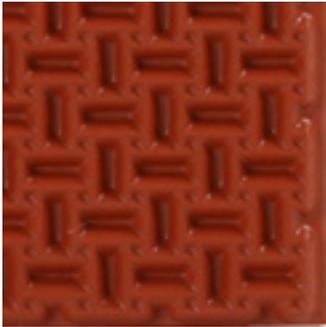
Second page:

1. Use a mini blending tool to apply color through a stencil all over the bible page.
2. Color the printable with the Tombow Dual Brush Pens.
3. Attach the printable to the edge of the bible page with a tab sticker. This will allow the printable to be lifted.
4. Journal under the printable directly on the bible page with the Tombow Fudenosuke Brush Pens.
5. Decorate the rest of the page with stickers.



COURTESY: Marjolaine Walker
 Twelve Stones Scrapbooking
www.marjolinewalker.com

Background Basics with Stamps and Inks



For information on other products by Ann Butler, go to her website. Also, if interested in learning more about the online magazine, Bella Crafts, you can go to: www.bellacraftspublishing.com.

COURTESY: Ann Butler
Ann Butler Designs

Making a Mold with Silicone Putty

Easily create molds for small impression type objects! Odorless, Non Toxic. FDA Compliant, Food Grade.

EasyMold Silicone Putty is ideal for a wide range of impression type mold applications, including Castin'Craft Clear Casting Resin, EasyCast Clear Casting Epoxy, wax, baking, chocolates, ice cubes, soap, plaster, air dry clay, concrete and low melt metals! EasyMold is an easy to use two component silicone putty.



- Easy to use, 3 Minute working time, 25 minute cure.
- Ideal for small molds, excellent detail from original.
- Strong, flexible, reuseable molds.
- High heat range, up to 400° F.
- No shrinkage.
- Self releasing, no mold release agent required for most applications.

Supplies:

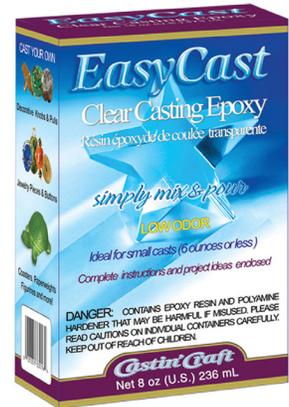
ETI Silicone Putty

Assorted Items to use to make a mold

1. Measure equal parts of A and B.
2. Mix together until you have a uniform color.
3. Roll into a ball and flatten slightly to about the same size as the item you will be making a mold from. Note: you want this to be thick.
4. Press your item into the putty, press up along the edges to get the complete shape. Let set 20 minutes and remove the item.

EasyCast Clear Casting Epoxy

EasyCast Clear Casting Epoxy is a two-component, low odor, solvent free, clear casting epoxy. It is easy to use and ideal for casting small decorative items and jewelry in molds. Use it to encase or embed items to create jewelry, figurines, paperweights, coasters, drawer pulls and more. Although this epoxy sets up clear, you can add color dyes to it to create a transparent or opaque appearance.



COURTESY: Ann Butler
Ann Butler Designs
www.annbutlerdesigns.com

Inked Embossing Folder Techniques

Paper Leaves

Cutting the pieces:

Card base: 4 1/4" X 11" scored along 11" side at 5 1/2" (Early Espresso paper by Stampin Up)

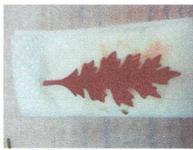
Layer: one piece 4 1/8" X 5 3/8" (Cajun Craze) card front

Layers: two pieces 4" X 5 1/4" (Very Vanilla) one for card front, one for card inside

Sentiment: 1 1/4 X 3 5/8" (Very Vanilla) Stamp "Thankful" sentiment from Six Sayings stamp set

Creating the leaves:

Using the Leaflets Framelits, cut three leaves of different colors and shapes. Spritz both sides of the leaf with water or alcohol and allow the liquid to soak into the cardstock. Carefully wad the leaf into a loose ball and then spread back out. Allow some of the wrinkles to stay in the cardstock. Using your fingers, pinch a stem/vein down the middle of the leaf. When you achieve the desired look, allow cardstock to dry COMPLETELY. When dry, lightly sponge edges of leaf with Early Espresso.



Create the background:



Using the Woodland Textured Impressions Embossing Folder and one piece of the 4" X 5 1/4" Very Vanilla paper, ink the side of the embossing folder with the background raised using Crumb Cake and a brayer. On most embossing folders this will be the side that has some print on it.

Sponge the tops of the trees lightly with Early Espresso ink.



Stamp sentiment on the 1 1/4" X 3 5/8" Very Vanilla Cardstock. Round corners if desired.

Build the Card:



Glue the embossed background to the 4 1/8" X 5 3/8" Cajun Craze piece, then glue both to the card front. Use dimensionals to adhere the sentiment. Tie the three leaves together with Linen Thread and glue to card front. Stamp sentiment to the remaining Very

Vanilla cardstock and glue to the inside of card.

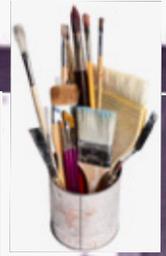
Another background embossing technique:

Sponge a 4" X 5 1/4" piece of cardstock with desired design. Emboss the cardstock. Brayer lightly the raised portion of the embossed design.



**COURTESY: Diane Tunnell
Stampin' Up!**

www.stampwithwiladiane.stampinup.net



Sha & Co.

“Green” Jewelry

This project involves using recycled prod-



ucts along with paints to create beautiful jewelry. The base of the jewelry is chipboard, or a piece of cardboard (not corrugated.) You can use pre-cut chipboard pieces or cut your own – or use both.

1. Coat all pieces, front and back, with black acrylic paint.
2. When dry, coat all pieces with a mixture of gold and copper paints. Allow to dry. Gently rub a bit of the metallic paint off most pieces to reveal a bit of the black underneath.
3. Using the end of a small paintbrush, pound it over and over into the painted pieces to create the “old worked metal” look.

4. Using blue and green acrylic paints, dab a bit of each color on some of the pieces to create a patina effect.
5. Using needle nose pliers, separate pieces of old chains and connect them to individual pieces of jewelry with holes already pierced in them.
6. Build a necklace and bracelet by putting pieces together as desired, connecting with rings and chain sections. Create earrings to match.



COURTESY: Shannon Bielke
Sha & Co.
www.shaandco.net

fast2fuse Flower



Materials:

- fast2fuse® Medium – available at ctpub.com
- Fabrics – 1-3 coordinating prints/solids
- Thread
- Glue gun
- Pin back (unless attaching permanently to bag/garment)
- Focal center (flower made of silk, silk ribbon, mixed media, etc.)

Tools:

- Iron and ironing board
- Rounded object (e.g., fat pen)
- Sharp scissors

Instructions:

Petals:

1. Prepare your fast2fuse by ironing fast2fuse between top and bottom petal fabrics according to manufacturer's instructions.
2. Using scissors, cut the prepared fast2fuse into 3-5 petal shapes using a petal template (hold template in place or draw around with a marking pencil/pen).



Wispy pieces:

1. Prepare a contrasting solid fabric on both sides of a 2" x 3" piece of fast2fuse.
2. Using scissors or a rotary cutter, cut tapered slivers approximately, 1/4" x 3".



Shaping your flower petals:

1. Iron your petal to warm it up. Quickly and carefully wrap the petal around a fat pen or dowel and hold for about 4-5 seconds to cool. Wrap the pointed end first and at a slight angle. This may take a few tries to get the hang of it. If you don't like the shape, just iron it flat again and start over. Continue for all the flower parts.



Assembly:

2. If you're adding a pin back, sew or glue gun it to the back of the bottom petal or directly onto a bag or garment.

3. Glue gun or sew the remaining petals in place as desired. Glue or sew your flower center on top of the petals. Glue gun the thin brown wisps between the flower center and fast2fuse petals as desired.



COURTESY: Roxane Cerda
C & T Publishing
www.ctpub.com

TAP (TRANSFER ARTIST PAPER) GIFT TAG



These reusable and customized tags are a great touch for any gift. Create a design using your computer, scanned artwork with added text, or draw directly onto TAP. The possibilities are endless.

Materials:

- 1 sheet of Lesley Riley's TAP Transfer Artist Paper—available at ctpub.com
- fast2fuse Medium or Light
- Fabric:
 - o Front – white or light colored/patterned
 - o Back – Decorative/color pop
- Ribbon or tie
- Markers (optional)

Tools:

- Inkjet printer or markers for creating design on TAP
- Cutting tools – scissors (optional: pinking scissors, rotary cutter & mat)
- Japanese hole punch
- Sewing machine (optional)
- Coordinating thread

Instructions:

1. Cut your fast2fuse approximately 1" taller/wider than your final tag.
2. Cut your front and back fabric 1" taller and wider than your fast2fuse shape.
3. Create a sandwich in this order: tag front fabric (lighter fabric) face down, then fast2fuse, and finally tag back fabric face up. Iron both sides together according to manufacturer's instructions.
4. Prepare your image to transfer either by printing image onto TAP using an inkjet printer or by drawing an image on with soft-tipped markers, keeping in mind that your image will appear as a mirror image.

5. Trim TAP as close to image edge as possible using paper scissors.
6. Preheat your iron on the very highest setting for at least 5 minutes.
7. Place your TAP image face down on your prepared tag (light or white side). It's a good idea to place a protective layer on top of TAP to protect your iron.
8. Iron according to the manufacturer's instructions. Press firmly, moving iron around by lifting and pressing (not sliding) the iron.
9. Carefully peel TAP off fabric before it cools. If it doesn't pull off easily, briefly reapply heat with iron.
10. Cut your tag into the shape you desire using scissors (regular/pinking) or a rotary cutter.
11. Place a hole in your tag using a Japanese-style hole punch.
12. Attach ribbon/string to hole.

Hints:

- Use sandpaper to distress the edges of your TAP before transferring to fabric.
- Forgot the text? You can always add in additional layers of TAP.

**COURTESY: Roxane Cerda
C & T Publishing
www.ctpub.com**

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