

GREETING CARD INSTRUCTIONS

Supplies to bring to "Make and Donate":

1. Sewing machine
2. Regular foot and zig zag foot
3. Neutral thread and Bright Christmas Colors
4. Size 80 or 90 needle
5. Paper scissors and small sharp fabric scissors
6. Glue stick

We will supply:

1. Greeting cards with envelopes
2. Steam-A-Seam II fusible interfacing
3. Christmas-themed fabric
4. Heavy Stabilizer/Interfacing - one-sided fusible
5. Medium-weight stabilizer, either fusible or non-fusible
6. Sturdy cardboard to make templates

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Make a template out of cereal box cardboard the size of the greeting card (5 1/2" x 7 5/8"). I will provide some already made - hopefully enough for all participants. Cut heavy stabilizer the size of the template (5 1/2" x 7 5/8").
2. Make another template duplicating the "window" opening of the greeting card. I will provide some already made - hopefully enough for all participants.

METHOD FOR FABRIC MOTIFS:

1. Choose a joyful greeting card motif from the Christmas fabrics. Iron Steam-a-Seam on the back of the fabric. Do not remove the backing paper. With sharp scissors, cut out the motif/s. Use the "window template" to audition the motif to make sure it will fit the actual greeting card window.
2. Choose a background fabric from the Christmas fabrics that will compliment the joyful motif you have prepared with the Steam-a-Seam.
3. With a hot iron, fuse the background fabric onto the heavy stabilizer.
4. Remove the paper backing from your motif and iron onto the prepared background. Use the "window template" to ensure it's placed in a pleasing position onto the background.
5. With colorful thread, stitch the circumference of the motif. You can also enhance the motif using colorful thread or yarn.

METHOD FOR CREATING CHRISTMAS SHAPES:

1. Follow above instructions for making the cardboard templates and fusing the background fabric to the heavy stabilizer. I will provide templates to as many participants as I can.
2. For Christmas Ball and Christmas trees, sew strips or fabric together. Iron or glue medium- weight stabilizer to the back of sewn strips.
3. Decorate strips with fancy stitches, ribbon, yarn, lace, etc.
4. Cut out shapes and attach to prepared background using glue. Use the “window template” to place the shape in its proper location. Sew around circumference of shape with colorful thread. Satin stitches work best for these shapes.
5. For the Stars, Candy Canes, iron Steam-a-Seam on the back of the fabric. Do not remove the backing paper. You can use this method to make the Christmas Balls and Christmas trees if you don't want to make the fabric strips.
6. Trace the shape onto the paper backing using the Christmas templates . Cut out the shape with sharp scissors, remove the backing paper and iron onto the prepared background. Use the “window template” for the correct placement.
7. With colorful thread, stitch the circumference of the shape. Satin stitches work best for these shapes.
8. All these shapes can be enhanced using ribbon, yarn, lace, glitter glue, etc. Use your imagination.
NOTE: DO NOT USE RHINESTONES, BEADS, OR ANYTHING SOLID THAT IS RAISED.

FINISHING:

1. With neutral thread sew 1/4” from 4 sides of completed card with straight stitches. Trim off approximately 1/8” on 4 sides. Insert finished card inside of card stock pocket. Pair the card with it's envelope so that it remains a set.

HAVE FUN!!!!