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Kathi Walters, page 28.

## Cover photograph: Scott Little

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Lois White Decorative Woodcrafts 1912 Grand Avenue Des Moines, IA 50309-3379

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## THE TIPS SHOPPE

## SIMPLE, STURDY STENCILS

At Christmastime, I try to choose greeting cards that come in boxes with clear plastic lids. This plastic is good for cutting stencils. I trim off the sides for small stencils, and use the top pieces for larger designs.

—Linda Aten Portland, Oregon

## LABELING BRUSHES FOR LONG-TERM CARE

I use a half dozen 1" brushes to seal, base-coat, and varnish my painted projects. To properly care for my brushes, I label each one according to the application it's used for. To label the brushes, I use a #10/0 synthetic liner, and then varnish over the painted lettering.

—Susan Young Madison, Alabama

## A SAFE PLACE FOR DRYING

My kids, cats, and dog have access to my crafting area, so when I paint a project that requires a long drying

storage box with cutout handles. This protects my painted work from pet hair and "helping hands" while allowing for ventilation.

—Donna Olmstead Waverly, Iowa

## SAWDUST CREATES A SNOW SENSATION

In the midst of painting a project, I discovered I had run out of the texture medium I use for snow. So I scraped up some sawdust and mixed it with white paint to use instead. To my surprise, when the paint dried, it took on the same "real snow" look as it would have with the texture medium. And it cost next to nothing.

—Rita Moghadan Middletown, Ohio

## GET A GRIP ON BRADS

When a project calls for brads, we use the tines of a small-tooth comb to hold each brad steady while tapping it into the wood.

—Phil and Georgia Addis Culloden, West Virginia

## SMOOTH, SPEEDY SANDING

I buy my lumber for crafting in large pieces and sand the entire piece before cutting out a project. After cutting, I simply touch up the edges.

> —Sonja Dumdei McLaugblin, South Dakota

## IRONING OUT WOOD FLAWS

Almost every time I start to paint a piece of unfinished wood, I find small nicks and scratches on the surface. I discovered that ironing over the blemishes with an iron on the steam setting gives the wood a virtually flaw-free surface.

—Jill Winters Bemidji, Minnesota

## MAKING COLOR CHOICES

Try to paint projects that coordinate with the colors in your home. Take wall-paint chips, wallpaper scraps, and fabric swatches (even pillowcases and curtains) to your painting-supplies store. Buy bottles of paint in colors to match those in your home. At home, label the paints with the names of the rooms. Then when you begin a new project, you'll know what basic colors to start with.

—Adele Noetzelman Snobomish, Washington

## COPYING PATTERNS

When transferring book or magazine patterns to wood, I've found it works slick to first copy the pattern onto tracing paper using a photocopier. Then I slip a piece of graphite paper between the tracing paper and the piece of wood.

—Becky Harvey Monrovia, California

## SEND US YOUR TIPS

Want to share your painting and woodcrafting know-bow with other readers and make money, too? Send us your tip that saves money or time, or that just makes crafting more enjoyable. We'll pay \$25 for each published submission. Mail your ideas with your name, address, Social Security Number, and daytime phone number to:

The Tips Shoppe

Decorative Woodcrafts\*\*

1912 Grand Avenue

Des Moines, IA 50309-3379



Decorate your home in colorful new ways with paint. We've filled our first issue with dozens of projects—many of which you can complete in a weekend. And there is more:

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- Full-color photographs of complete rooms and projects
- Step-by-step instructions and full-size patterns for each project
- Complete buyer's guide

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Available at your newsstand next Spring



Accent Country Colors
BK Soft Black 2447
FR Fingerberry Red 2425
GH Golden Harvest 2433

### BRUSHES

Robert Simmons brush #8 synthetic flat

## SUPPLIES

1/4x4x4" pine
12—8mm wooden beads
2—5/xx/4" wooden spools
11/2"-diameter wooden button
Wood sealer
Fabric scraps
Crafts glue
Fine-tip permanent black
marking pen
6" length of black thread
5-minute epoxy
Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray
4" of 24-gauge wire
30" of off-white cotton cord
Pair of earring posts and backs



Designed by Deb Anderson, Auburn, Indiana

## Heart-and-Star Jewelry

## START WITH RAW WOOD

Duplicate the jewelry patterns in the pattern packet with tracing paper. Copy the outlines onto ¼" pine. (Utilize the best grain direction for strength.) Cut out the shapes with a scrollsaw, using a #5 blade. Drill all holes where shown.

To order all wooden pieces #32A for \$6.95 ppd. in the U.S., write to Cabin Crafters, 1225 W. First St., Nevada, IA 50201. Orders only: 800/669-3920.

Sand all surfaces of the cutouts and pieces with 100-, then 150-grit sandpaper. Remove the dust with a tack cloth. Apply wood sealer to all surfaces; let the pieces dry. Sand again, and wipe clean.

## HAVE FUN PAINTING

Base-coat the button, hearts, and the ends and rims of the spools FR. Paint the star GH and the beads BK. Let the paint dry. Sand paint from the edges of the stars, hearts, and spools. Then sand all surfaces with a paper grocery sack, and wipe clean.

## FINISH WITH PRIDE

Cut patches from the fabric scraps, and fray the edges. Cut a 36×½" patch for the large heart, two ½×36" patches for the small hearts, and a ½×¾" patch for the star. Cut two strips of fabric measuring ½×2" for the spools. Using crafts glue, glue the patches onto the pieces as shown. Ink the stitching lines and the dots on the star and hearts with a fine-tip permanent black marking pen.

Insert black thread through the buttonholes, and tie a bow. Epoxy the button onto a corner of the patch on the star. Let the epoxy set. Spray all surfaces with Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray. Cut a 4" length of 24-gauge wire in half. Form a loop at the end of one length of wire, and thread the other end through the diagonal hole in the star; twist the end to secure. Thread the other length of wire through the hole in the heart and then through the loop in the star wire. Form a loop in the wire, connecting the heart to the star. Twist the other end of the wire to secure it.

Thread the star, beads, and spools onto a 30" length of cotton cord. Tie the ends of the cord together. Epoxy an earring post to the back of each small heart at the top center.

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### PALETTE

Delta Ceramcoat Colors For all gift tags Black 2506 IV Ivory 2036

For the Santa tag BS Burnt Sienna 2030

FL Fleshtone 2019

MA Maroon 2075

MS Maple Sugar 2062

TS Tomato Spice 2098

For the Snowman tag

DF Dark Forest 2096 MI Midnight 2114

MS Maple Sugar 2062

SI Spice Brown 2049

TA Tangerine 2043

For the Gingerbread Man tag

CB Candy Bar 2407

LT Light Chocolate 2022

MA Maroon 2075

SI Spice Brown 2049

TS Tomato Spice 2098

## BRUSHES

Loew-Cornell brushes #10 synthetic flat #1 synthetic liner Scruffy, small flat Spatter or old toothbrush

## SUPPLIES

For all gift tags
1/4x10x12" Baltic birch plywood
Wood sealer
Woodworker's glue
Antiquing medium
Satin-finish spray varnish
15" of 19-gauge wire
1x10" strip of fabric
Small cinnamon stick (for the
Gingerbread Man tag)

## START WITH RAW WOOD

Duplicate the gift-tag patterns in the pattern packet with tracing paper. Copy two star outlines for each tag onto ¼" Baltic birch plywood. Cut out the shapes with a scrollsaw, using a #5 blade. Set one star aside for each tag. Copy the details for each tag onto the second star; cut out along the dashed and solid lines.

To order a set of three unpainted tags (one of each design) #32B for \$14.95 ppd. in the U.S., write to Cabin Crafters, 1225 W. First St., Nevada, IA 50201. Orders only: 800/669-3920.

Sand all surfaces with 150-grit sandpaper. Then use the sandpaper to round over the edges of all top pieces. Remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth. Apply wood sealer, and let the sealer dry. (Do not seal or paint the fronts of the whole star pieces or the backs of the top pieces.) Sand again with 150grit sandpaper, and wipe clean with a tack cloth. (Assemble the ornaments after painting.)

## HAVE FUN PAINTING

See Brushstroke Basics in the pattern packet for information on shading. Refer to the patterns for shading locations.

Base-coat and shade with a #10 flat brush. Apply the details with a #1 liner brush. Add snow with a spatter brush or an old toothbrush. Continue the details around the edges of all pieces.

Santa tag: Base-coat Santa's mustache, beard, and cap fur IV; his face FL; his cap MA; and all star pieces MS. Let the paint dry. Then lightly sand with a paper grocery sack to remove fuzz raised by acrylic paint. Remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth.

Continued on page 14

These handsome tags appear handcarved, but Robin Rodriguez' layered "puzzle" technique provides a creative alternative. And once the recipient removes the gift from the package, the tag makes a fantastic ornament!





# Jung On for the Olidays

With TS and a scruffy, small flat brush, drybrush shading around Santa's face and apply his cheek blush. Apply Black eyes, a MA nose, and IV eyebrows.

Dilute BS with water to ink consistency, and use the liner brush to add the star grid lines. Let the paint dry, then add a second IV line to the left of each BS line. With the small end of a stylus and MA, dot the star where shown.

Thin Black with water to ink consistency, and apply the lettering. Dot the letters with the stylus and Black. Using paint thinned with water to ink consistency, spatter (flyspeck) the hat IV and the other pieces Black.

Snowman tag: Base-coat the snowman and the large snowdrift IV. Base-coat the small snowdrift MS, the tree DF, the tree trunk SI, and the remaining star pieces MI. Let the paint dry. Then lightly sand with a paper grocery sack to remove fuzz raised by acrylic paint. Remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth.

Paint the snowman's nose TA.

Dilute Black with water to ink consistency, and use the liner brush to outline his nose and to add his eyes, mouth, buttons, and the lettering. Dot the letters Black with a stylus.

Dilute IV with water to ink consistency, and add the stars. Using the thinned IV, spatter the sky and the tree. Spatter the snowman and the snowdrifts with the thinned Black.

Gingerbread Man tag: Base-coat the gingerbread man's body and head SI. Paint the heart and all remaining star pieces MA. Let the paint dry. Then lightly sand with a paper grocery sack to remove fuzz raised by acrylic paint. Remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth.

Thin CB with water to ink consistency, and use the liner brush to apply the stripe details to the star pieces. With a stylus and LT, add the three-dot details between the stripes. Let the dots dry thoroughly.

With a scruffy, small flat brush and TS, apply the cheek blush. Dot the eyes Black. Dilute IV with water to ink consistency; apply



the "icing" details to the cookie, add the numbers (date), and spatter all shapes.

## FINISH WITH PRIDE

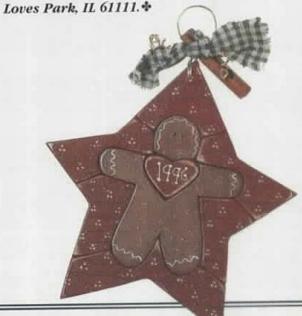
With woodworker's glue, affix the star pieces to the star back for each tag. Let the glue dry. For an aged look, lightly sand paint from some of the edges of the top pieces. Remove the dust. Drill the hanging holes where shown.

Antique the tags with your favorite antiquing medium. Let them dry. Varnish all surfaces with satin-finish spray varnish. Attach decorative wire hangers, and embellish each hanger with a fabric strip (add a cinnamon stick to the Gingerbread Man tag.).



Project designer Robin Rodriguez has been painting for eight years and is especially fond of creating projects with a country theme. To receive informa-

tion about Robin's work, write to Country Marmalade Studio, 4330 Rockaway Ct.,



## For Year-Round Enjoyment

## PINECONE PERFECTION

## STEP 1



- ▲ Prepare your chosen surface, using the instructions for the lampshade on page 19. Then follow these simple steps to paint perfect pinecones.
- ▲ Copy the pattern details from the pattern packet onto your base-coated wood surface. (We used a wooden lampshade.) In a small container with a lid, mix equal parts of Jo Sonja's Clear Glaze Medium and Jo Sonja's Flow Medium to create "flow mix." Shake or stir the mixture well before each use.
- ▲ Add flow mix to a small amount of Jo Sonja's Raw Umber Acrylic Gouache, and blend to the consistency of milk. (For this project, all colors are Jo Sonja's Acrylic Gouache.) Using a #1 liner brush and this mixture, outline the pinecones and the pine branches.
- ▲ Combine Teal Green, Pine Green, Jade, and Raw Umber 2:2:2:1, and add flow mix until you again achieve a milk consistency. Apply the pine boughs; after 20 minutes, erase pattern.

## STEP 2



- ▲ To add a scant amount of retarder medium to a color, dip a 1" flat brush into the medium, then wipe the brush on a paper towel. Load the brush with a 3:1 mixture of Warm White and Yellow Light. Apply mixture to the entire area where the pinecones are painted as well as into the background. Wipe off the brush.
- ▲ Using a 1½" brush, sweep across the painted area to soften the edges and remove the brush marks. With the 1" flat brush, brush hints of color randomly into the background using the following color mixtures: Jade/Warm White, Plum Pink/Warm White, and Sapphire/Warm White. Shade the mixtures in the areas under the needles and under the edges of the pinecones.
- ▲ With a liner brush and the specified color plus flow mix, apply the details to the pinecone scales (petals). Begin with Raw Umber on the right side, and add Burnt Umber as you move past the center to the left side of each pinecone. Wipe off the brush.

## STEP 3



- ▲ With Yellow Oxide plus flow mix, pull a few contour lines on the right side of each scale. At the ends of each scale, add shading lines of Burgundy and Raw Sienna mixed 1:1. (Add flow mix for easier control of the fine lines.) Let the paint dry thoroughly.
- A Mix Yellow Oxide and flow medium, using a 1:8 ratio, and apply a wash to the entire pinecone. Pick up a touch of Burgundy, and add a few tints here and there. Then add a bit of Sapphire for a random blue tint on the left third of each pinecone. Soften wet tints with a dry 1½" brush, pulling in all directions.
- ▲ To a few of the upper right scale ends, add linework highlights, using a mixture of equal parts of Warm White, Yellow Oxide, and Yellow Light. Using Raw Umber, paint lines over the darkest areas of the pine branches.
- ▲ Let the paint dry thoroughly, then apply Jo Sonja's Clear Glaze Medium to intensify the colors and seal the painting.



# CABIN FEVER

Reserve a special spot in your cabin, lodge, or den for this stunning lamp.

Once you've sponge-painted the base, crown the lamp with a pinecone shade.

To paint the shade, follow our step-by-step instructions on page 16.

## PALETTE

Jo Sonya's Artist's Colors

**BR** Burgundy

BU Burnt Umber

JD Jade Green

PG Pine Green

PL Plum Pink

PY Paynes Gray

RG Rich Gold

RS Raw Sienna

**RU Raw Umber** 

SA Sapphire

SP Smoked Pearl

TG Teal Green

TG Teal Green

WW Warm White

YL Yellow Light

YO Yellow Oxide

## BRUSHES

Winsor & Newton brushes
1½" synthetic flat
1" synthetic flat
½" synthetic angular shader
#1 synthetic liner

## SUPPLIES

Vooden lampshade
Vooden lamp base
o Sonja's All Purpose Sealer
o Sonja's Clear Glaze Medium
o Sonja's Flow Medium
letarder
iray transfer paper
or graphite paper
Vhite tissue paper

atin-finish varnish

## START WITH RAW WOOD

Duplicate the pattern in the pattern packet with tracing paper. Set the pattern aside.

Sand all surfaces of the shade with 100- and then 150-grit sandpaper. Remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth. Apply Jo Sonja's All Purpose Sealer to all surfaces of the shade and all wood surfaces of the base, following the manufacturer's directions. Sand again with 150-grit sandpaper, and wipe clean with a tack cloth.

To create the textured look shown, brush the outer surface of the lampshade with a heavy coat of sealer. Crumple tissue paper, then smooth it out and press it onto the wet shade surface. Allow it to dry thoroughly. Once the tissue dries on the shade, remove the excess from the edges with sandpaper.

To order a wooden shade #32C for \$38, a wooden lamp base #32D for \$34, or both shade and base #32E for \$72 (all ppd. in the U.S.), write to Carolyn's Folk Art Center, P.O. Box 624, 715 W. John Street, Matthews, NC 28105. Orders only: 704/847-0487.

## HAVE FUN PAINTING

Use a 1" flat brush to base-coat the shade and base. Refer to the step-by-step instructions on page 16 for pinecone painting instructions.

Mix SP and Clear Glaze Medium 1:1, and apply two coats to the outside and the edges of the lampshade. Let the base coat dry.

In a small container with a lid, combine equal parts of Clear Glaze Medium and Flow Medium to create "flow mix." Shake or stir the mixture well before each use.

With a pencil, draw two lines around the shade 56" from the top and bottom edges. Combine TG, PG, JD, and RU 2:2:2:1. (Phyllis uses dime-size amounts.) Reserve a large chocolate-chip-size drop of this mixture on your wet palette for painting the pine boughs.

Combine the remaining mixed paint with an equal amount of Clear Glaze Medium; paint the lampshade bands and base-coat the lamp base. You may need to apply a second coat for good coverage. If so, allow ample drying time between coats. Let the paint dry.

For the lamp base, add RS and SP to the green base-coat mixture to create a lighter value. Dampen a sponge with water, and wring it out. Blot the sponge on a paper towel to remove excess moisture. With the damp sponge and the lighter green mixture, sponge the lamp base. Let the paint dry.

With a 1:1 mixture of RG and Clear Glaze Medium, paint the lamp-base bands and the inside of the lampshade.

Next, copy the pattern onto the lampshade using gray transfer paper or an old (worn) piece of graphite paper. (Keep the transferred image light. If you're using a new piece of graphite paper, wipe off the excess graphite from the paper with a paper towel.)

Note: When transferring a pattern with lots of detail, project designer Phyllis Williams positions her pattern on her wood, then lays a piece of waxed paper over the pattern. She traces with a stylus and says she always can see if she misses any details.

Now follow the steps on page 16 to paint the pinecones and the pine boughs. After you complete all painting, apply a coat of Clear Glaze Medium over the design areas to intensify the paint colors.

## FINISH WITH PRIDE

Finish the lampshade and the lamp base with three coats of satin-finish varnish, allowing ample drying time between coats.

Phyllis Williams started painting in 1976. She's currently involved with teaching, creating pattern packets, and doing custom furniture and faux finishes for a variety of clients. To contact Phyllis, write to ber at 941 Mangionne Dr., Matthews, NC 28105. Or, call 704/847-6529.

## ountry

Our charming Santa candlebolder, shown opposite, will kindle warm feelings when family and friends gather for the holidays. Coordinate the candleholder with the festive Santa-face garland, shown on pages 22 and 23. Hang the garland on the fireplace mantel or a banister to create a cozy, country look.

## PALETTE

Delta Ceramcoat Colors

AW Antique White 2001

BG Black Green 2116

Black 2506

BS Burnt Sienna 2030

BU Burnt Umber 2025

CB Candy Bar 2407

CM Cinnamon 2495

DR Deep River 2419

HU Hunter Green 2471

LE Leprechaun 2422

MF Medium Flesh 2126

NF Nightfall 2131

Pigskin 2093

Toffee 2086

TR Trail Tan 2435

White 2505

Delta Ceramcoat Gleams

MG Metallic Gold 2600

## BRUSHES

Loew-Cornell brushes

3/4" synthetic flat

#12 synthetic flat

#8 synthetic flat

#6 synthetic flat

#2 synthetic flat

#10/0 synthetic liner

1/4" stencil

Scruffy flat

Spatter or old toothbrush

## SUPPLIES

2x10x12" pine 1/4x8x10" Baltic birch plywood 1/6x6x7" Baltic birch plywood 2-1x11/4" wooden candle cups 3/16x41/2" dowel Wood sealer

Continued on page 22

## START WITH RAW WOOD

Duplicate the Santa candleholder and garland patterns in the pattern packet with tracing paper. Copy the outline of the Santa candleholder onto a 12" length of 2×10 pine (actual size: 11/2×91/4"). Copy three garland Santas and four candy canes onto 44" Baltic birch plywood. Copy one large mustache, three small mustaches, two hearts, six gingerbread men, and twelve lights onto 18" Baltic birch plywood. Cut out the shapes with a scrollsaw, using a #9 blade to cut out the Santa candleholder and a #5 blade to cut out the remaining shapes. Cut the dowel into two equal lengths. Drill all holes where shown on the pattern.

To order cutouts for the candlebolder #32F for \$17.95 ppd. or the garland #32G for \$15.95 ppd. in the U.S., write to Country Elf, Rte. 2, Story City, IA 50248. Orders only: 800/325-6122.

Round over all edges of the cutouts with 80grit sandpaper or an electric sanding tool. Sand all surfaces with 100- and then 150-grit sandpaper. Remove the dust with a tack cloth. Seal all wood surfaces with wood sealer; let it dry. Then sand again and wipe clean.

## HAVE FUN PAINTING

Refer to Brushstroke Basics in the pattern packet for information on shading, stippling, stenciling, dry-brushing, and comma strokes.

Base-coat and shade with the flat brushes. Apply the details with a #10/0 liner brush. Stipple the fur on the Santa candleholder with a scruffy flat brush. Lightly copy the main outlines onto the candleholder, the garland Santas, and the lightbulbs with transfer paper. There's no need to copy the details yetyou'll base-coat over them.

Santa candleholder: Base-coat Santa's face MF; the beard, mustache, and fur AW; the hat, mittens, hearts, dowels, and suit CM; and Santa's coat and the candle cups HU. Let the paint dry, then lightly sand with a paper grocery sack to remove fuzz raised by acrylic paint. Remove the dust with a tack cloth.

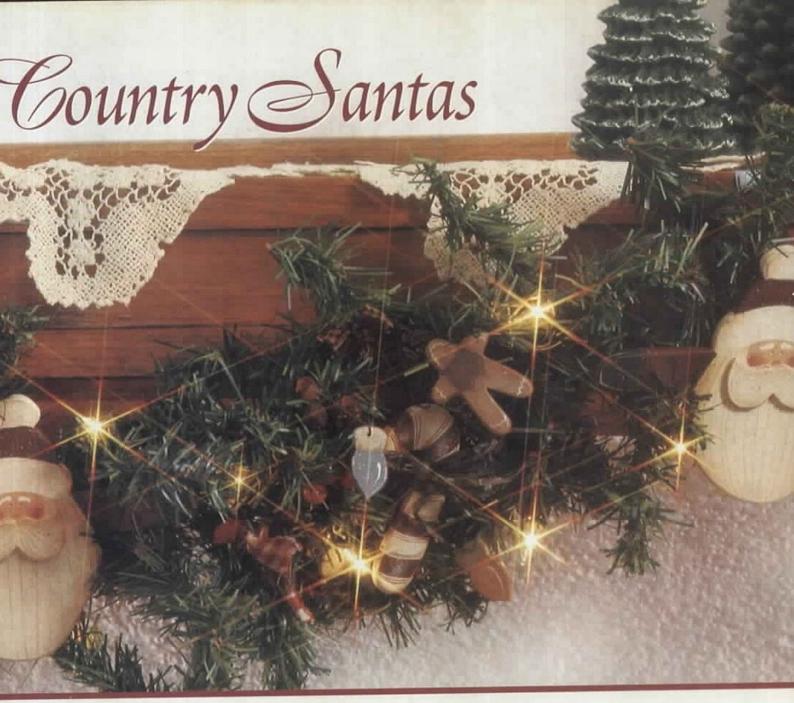
Dip the 1/4" stencil brush into CM, then wipe off most of the paint on a paper towel. Using a circular motion, apply the cheek blush. Dilute BS with water to ink consistency, and using a #10/0 liner brush, outline the nose. Dot the eyes Black. When the paint is dry, add AW highlight dots. Use the tip of a #10/0 liner brush and AW to dab on the eyebrows. Dilute TR with water to ink consistency, and paint the lines on Santa's beard and his mustache. Shade his beard under the hat with TR. Using a scruffy flat brush, stipple TR shading on the fur.

Stencil 1/2" LE checks on Santa's coat. Dilute BG with water to ink consistency, and outline his checks. Apply three CM dots on each LE check. Shade the sides of the coat and next to his beard with BG. Stencil or paint the stars on the suit with MG. Dilute MG with water to ink consistency, and paint the lines on the hearts and the hat. Mix CB and Black 5:1, and shade the suit next to the coat, the hat next to the fur, the mittens next to the sleeves, and the tops of the hearts.

Garland: Base-coat the Santa faces MF; the beards, mustaches, and fur AW; the sleeves and hats CM; and the mittens Black. Base-coat the gingerbread boys TF and the candy canes AW. Base-coat the tops of all lights TR. Base-coat four bulbs CM, four bulbs NF, and four bulbs PS. Let the paint dry, then lightly sand with a paper grocery sack to remove fuzz raised by acrylic paint. Wipe clean with a tack cloth.

Paint the Santas' faces, beards, mustaches, and hats in the same manner as the candleholder. Dilute White with water to ink consistency, and Continued





## SUPPLIES

Continued from page 20 1/2"-check stencil 1/4" star stencil (optional) 1/4"-check stencil (optional) Antiquing medium 5-minute epoxy 3-3/8"-diameter white buttons 6-1/2"-long brass nails Raffia 2-1/2"-diameter candles 36" of artificial greenery 60" of 22-gauge wire Scraps of fabric 2-5/8x3/4" wooden spools Cinnamon sticks %"-diameter artificial red berries Tiny pinecones Dried rose hips String of small lights

paint curlicue lines on the fur. Shade the edges of the fur with TR. Stencil or paint ¼" checks on the sleeves with CB and Black mixed 5:1. Shade the sleeves with the check mixture.

Using a #2 flat brush, dry-brush the gingerbread boys' cheeks with CM. Dot their eyes Black. Dilute CM with water to ink consistency, and paint their mouths. Paint the "icing" with thinned AW.

Base-coat three vests CM and three vests DR. Thin BG with water to ink consistency, and paint the lines on the green vests. Using BG, shade the vests, and dot the buttons. Mix CB and Black 5:1, thin part of the mixture to ink consistency, and paint the lines on the red vests. Using the undiluted mixture, shade the red vests, and dot the buttons.

Shade the tops of the lights with BU. Highlight each bulb with an AW comma stroke.

Using a #8 flat brush and CM, paint the stripes on the candy canes. Dilute CM with water to ink consistency, and paint two lines on each side of the stripes. Shade the outside edges of the red stripes with CB and Black mixed 5:1. Dry-brush AW highlights in the center of each red stripe.

Paint the ends and rims of two wooden spools with the palette colors of your choice.

## FINISH WITH PRIDE

Sand paint from some of the edges of the cutouts, the dowels, and the candle cups. Remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth.

Apply your favorite antiquing medium to all surfaces of the cutouts, the dowels, and the candle cups. (Project designer Myra Mahy used a mixture of paste wax and Burnt Umber and Burnt Sienna oil paints.) Let the antiquing medium dry.

Dilute AW with water to ink consistency. Dip a spatter brush or an old toothbrush into the thinned paint, and spatter (flyspeck) all pieces. Repeat with Black.



Santa candleholder: Sand spots of paint from Santa's face, the back of his mustache, the coat, and the backs of the hearts. Epoxy the mustache and hearts to the Santa. Attach the buttons with epoxy and brass nails. Epoxy one end of each dowel into the bottom of a candle cup and the other end into Santa's hand. Let the epoxy set. Tie raffia bows around the dowels under the candle cups, and place candles in the holders.

Garland: Sand spots of paint from the Santas' faces and the backs of their mustaches. Epoxy their mustaches to their faces.

Referring to the photograph, wire the Santas to the garland, spacing them evenly apart. Wire three lights in each of the four greenery sections between the Santas, and wire one or two gingerbread boys in each of the sections. Tie a raffia or fabric bow around each candy cane, and epoxy a candy cane in each section.

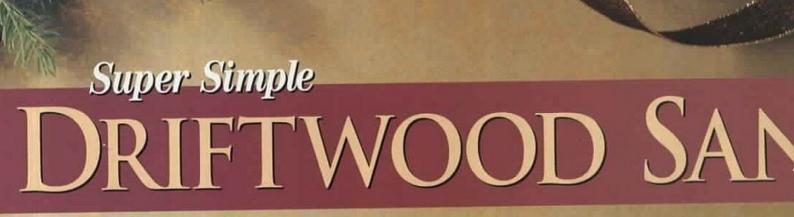
Cover the center sections of the wooden spools with fabric, and tie fabric bows around pairs of cinnamon sticks. Epoxy a variety of fabric bows, spools, cinnamon-stick bundles, pinecones, berries, and rose hips in each section.

To attach the string of lights, place the garland faceup in front of you, and plug in the lights so they're easier to see. From the back, push the lights up through the greenery, spacing them evenly. Use 1" lengths of wire to hold the lights in place.



Project designer Myra Maby cuts ber own wood wben designing projects that reflect ber love of country. To learn more about Myra's designs and to receive a

brochure of her pattern packets, send \$1 to Myra Maby, 4919 Resmar Rd., LaMesa, CA 91941.\*



v:6:~

TECHNIQUE

When Sandy Dewey
entered her Santa face
ornament (opposite)
in our Strokes of
Creativity Ornament
Contest, we all agreed
it was magnificent,
but it looked difficult.
How surprised we were
when Sandy shared
her secret technique.
She even agreed to
let us show you
bow easy it is
to "carve."

## PALETTE

Delta Ceramcoat Colors
Black 2506
CI Crimson 2076
TO Tompte Red 2107

White 2505

## BRUSHES

Loew-Cornell brushes
3/4" synthetic flat
#10/0 synthetic liner
Deerfoot stippler or
scruffy round

## SUPPLIES

Small piece of driftwood (These pieces each measure about 2x61/2".) Face mold (The Santas shown were made from AMACO's What a Character Push Mold No. 10, designed by Maureen Carlson.) Super Sculpey ceramic-like sculpturing compound from Polyform Products Co. in fleshtone color 2 black seed beads **DecoArt Snow-Tex texture** medium Warm brown antiquing medium Extender medium Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray Tacky glue 3/4x31/4" strip of synthetic fur

Note: We found most of the supplies for this project at our local Michaels Arts & Crafts store.

8" of leather cord

## CHOOSE YOUR DRIFTWOOD

Look for a piece of driftwood that offers a place to put the face, and try to imagine the cap and beard areas as you select a shape. Drill a 1/16"-diameter hole in the top for hanging.

Note: We used a different piece of driftwood for each photograph to show the versatility of this technique.

Wash and dry the driftwood. While the wood is drying, preheat your oven to 275°.







MOLD SANTA'S FACE Form the Santa face according to the package directions of the sculpturing compound. Roll the sculpturing compound into a ball the size of a quarter and then into a cone shape with a smooth point. Moisten the mold, then place the point of the sculpturing compound cone in the nose area of the mold. Dampen your fingers, and press the sculpturing compound into the mold.

Remove the face from the mold; cut away the chin and lower lip. "Fit" the face on the driftwood, molding the sides to fit the area. Now remove the molded face from the driftwood. With a straight pin, pick up a small

the surface of the sculpturing compound when it's in the right position. Repeat for the other eye. (To age your Santa, bring the eyelids down over the outer edges of the eye beads, using a knife.) Bake the face on a cookie sheet in the preheated oven about 20 minutes. Let cool, then glue the face to the driftwood piece (see Step 1, opposite).

## BEGIN THE TRANSFORMATION

With a toothpick and Snow-Tex texture medium, add a mustache, building up the area under the nose and cheeks and "bonding" the face to the wood (see Step 2). Add the eyebrows in the same manner.

Continued on page 26

## SUPER SANTA FACES

All of the Santa faces shown in the steps on pages 24-26 were created with a No. 10 What a Character Push Mold. The molds are designed to be used with a variety of polymer clays or sculpturing compounds, such as Super Sculpey. Project designer Sandy Dewey chooses from several different styles and sizes of molds to create her whimsical Santas. "I simply choose the mold that goes best with the size and shape of my piece of driftwood," she says.

Note: For the ornament shown above, Sandy used a No. 17 Push Mold and applied a Delta Ceramcoat Fleshtone acrylic paint base coat to the face before adding the finishing touches.

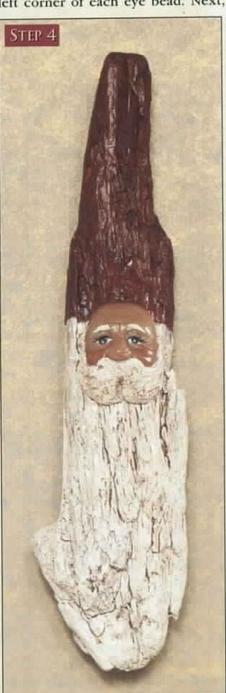
Designed by Sandy Dewey Anderson, California

## APPLY THE PAINT

Using a deerfoot stippler or a scruffy round brush, apply extender medium to the cheek areas. Dip a corner of your brush into CI, then wipe off most of the paint on a paper towel. Blush Santa's cheeks (see Step 3).

STEP 3

With a #10/0 liner brush and White, fill in the eye areas around the beads. Let the paint dry, then dot the center of the bead with Black. Using a toothpick and White, place a tiny highlight dot in the lower left corner of each eye bead. Next,



base-coat Santa's cap TO, and paint his beard White with a ¾" flat brush.

## FINISH WITH PRIDE

Once the paint dries, antique all surfaces with your favorite antiquing medium (see Step 4).

Wipe off excess medium, and let it dry. Spray all surfaces with two coats of Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray; let it dry. Glue the synthetic fur around the bottom of Santa's cap (see Step 5). Then hang the ornament with an 8" length of leather cord.





From her humble beginnings as a closet artist, Kathi Walters has emerged to inspire thousands of decorative painters with her "Pipsqueaks" creations.

s her eyes gaze out at the peaceful woodland setting of her home just outside Spokane, Washington, Kathi Walters reflects on her early days as a beginning decorative painter. She recalls the culture shock and boredom she experienced nearly 20 years ago after her family had moved

Hulotide

from her native Washington state to Houston. In search of something to do to pass time after her son Casey started school, Kathi signed up for painting classes. It never once entered her mind at the time that painting would become a significant part of her life. In fact, she still remembers how a second-grade teacher had told her mother that Kathi would never be able to pursue a career in art because she had "no imagination."

Contrary to what her teacher believed, Kathi's interest and imagination sparked the minute she began painting in class. "I was hooked," she says.

In fact, Kathi was so hooked that she signed up for two classes simultaneously, from different teachers at different shops. "I became clever at writing the check at the grocery store for a little bit over to cover the expenses of the second class," she says.

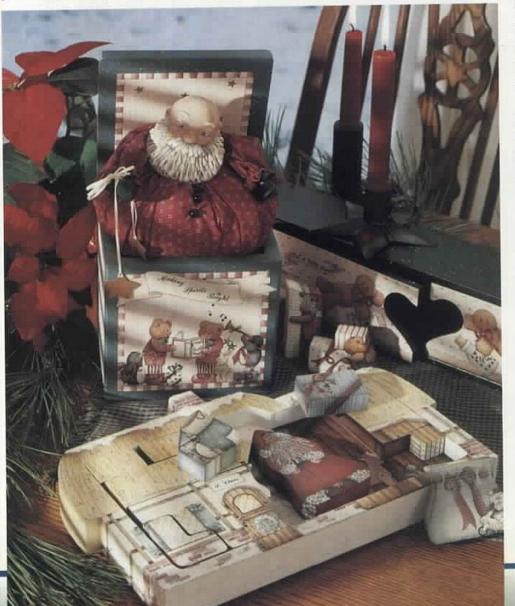
Even outside the classroom, Kathi constantly had painting on her mind. Now painting was more than just something to pass the time. It had become a creative outlet, and one she found very rewarding.

## A SUCCESSFUL ENDEAVOR

Since then, Kathi's fascination with painting has blossomed into an enormously successful pattern business, and has earned her respect and popularity she never dreamed of.

However, her early efforts weren't all that promising. Her first painting project was a porcelain egg with decorative stroke work, lots of beginner-friendly dots, and simple rose-buds. "I was so excited to finish my egg that I tried to speed-dry it with my hair dryer. It blew right off the table and smashed into tiny pieces on the floor," she recalls. But this unfortunate disaster didn't discourage

Above and left: A boliday trio of wooden blocks, puzzles, and a whimsical jack-in-the-box attest to Kathi's unlimited imagination.





her, and she continued to take classes and attend shows.

Later, Kathi returned to Spokane, where her painting career flourished and her time in the classroom was spent as a teacher, not a student. Kathi also began publishing her patterns. Her latest creations are featured in a delightful series called "Pipsqueaks."

## QUALITY BY DETAIL AND DESIGN

A close look at Kathi's original penand-ink designs and her 12 volumes of "Pipsqueaks" pattern books reveals her attention to detail and her dedication to quality. "I insist that my books are printed on high-quality paper with good photography," she says. Kathi's pursuit of excellence shows not only in her publications but in her designs as well. Reminiscent of classic book illustration or early American primitive art, her work exhibits a sense of order, linearity, and control. Her whimsical pieces have a more relaxed country flavor.

To what does Kathi attribute her phenomenal popularity? "I think people like the detail in each piece, as well as the sense of whimsy. I try to create works that appeal to the child in all of us," she says. Her style exudes humor and simplicity, and often draws inspiration from her favorite subject—traditional American folk art. "I've always

Photographs: Perry Struse

been fond of little Americana landscapes dotted with simple buildings," she says.

These days, Kathi couldn't hide her passion for painting even if she tried. Still, one wonders what her future holds. (At the moment, she's eagerly awaiting the release of her first line of designer fabrics.) But it's a safe bet that whatever comes from Kathi's workshop will continue to make a lot of people take notice—including, perhaps, a certain second-grade teacher.

To receive a brochure of Kathi's designs, send a self-addressed, businesssize envelope to: Walters Publications, 17016 North Saddle Hill Rd., Colbert, WA 99005.❖



## Elegant Angel Dolls

### PALETTE

Delta Ceramcoat Colors

AO Adobe 2046

BG Black Green 2116 Black 2506

BN Barn Red 2490

BS Burnt Sienna 2030

BU Burnt Umber 2025

CH Charcoal 2436

EY English Yew 2095

FL Fleshtone 2019

MS Maple Sugar 2062

OW Oyster White 2492

SO Sonoma 2446

## BRUSHES

Loew-Cornell brushes

#8 synthetic flat

#6 synthetic flat

#4 synthetic flat

#1 synthetic flat

#1 synthetic liner

## SUPPLIES

3/8x4x4" Baltic birch plywood
1/4x4x31/2" Baltic birch plywood
1/4x5" dowel
White pickling gel
Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray
7x12" aluminum window screening
Off-white spray paint
Gray graphite paper
11x14" sheet of 140-lb. coldpress watercolor paper
Fine-tip permanent black
marking pen
X-ACTO knife or crafts knife
1/2"-diameter star hole punch

Continued on page 32

Paper-piercing tool

## START WITH RAW WOOD

Duplicate the angel patterns in the pattern packet with tracing paper. Copy the outlines of the heads and the bodies onto 36" Baltic birch plywood, and one pair of legs and one pair of small angel's arms onto 14" Baltic birch plywood. Copy a pair of legs, a pair of small arms, the large angel's arms, the bow, the small angel's bun, and the large angel's star crown onto 16" Baltic birch plywood. Cut out the shapes with a scrollsaw, using a #5 blade. Cut a 14" dowel into three pieces, two pieces measuring 136" and one measuring 2". Drill all holes where shown on the patterns.

To order wooden cutouts for a set of three angels #32H for \$15.95 ppd. in the U.S., write to Country Elf, Rte. 2, Story City, IA 50248. Orders only: 800/325-6122. (Note: The arms and legs for the small angels will be cut from 1/8" Baltic birch plywood.)

Sand all surfaces with 100- and then 150-grit sandpaper. Remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth. Apply one coat of white pickling gel to all surfaces, following the manufacturer's directions. (Project designer Kathi Walters used Delta Desert White Pickling Gel.) Allow the gel to dry overnight. Sand again with 150-grit sandpaper, and wipe clean. Lightly spray all surfaces with Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray; let it dry.

Cut out the wing patterns from tracing paper and pin them to aluminum window screening. Using old scissors, cut out the shapes. Spray both sides of each wing with off-white paint, and set the wings aside to dry.

## HAVE FUN PAINTING

Refer to Brushstroke Basics in the pattern packet for information on washing, floating, and shading. See the patterns for shading locations.

Base-coat and shade with #8, #6, #4, and #1 flat brushes, using the size that best fits the area. Fill in small shapes with a #1 liner brush.

Using gray graphite paper, transfer the patterns onto the wood cutouts and the dresses onto watercolor paper. (The ¼" plywood arms will be attached to the angel with the plaid dress after you complete the painting.) Ink the main pattern lines on the cutouts and dresses with a fine-tip permanent black marking pen. You'll ink the details when you complete the painting. Let the ink dry.

Base-coat all the arms and the legs OW. Paint the shoes CH, and shade with Black. Dot the buttons on the straps and paint the details with OW. Apply all remaining base coats as washes. Wash the angels' faces and hands with FL, and float BS shading. Blush the cheeks with a wash of AO, and dot the eyes with CH. Wash their hair with BS, and shade with BU.

Large angel: Wash the star crown with MS. When the paint dries, shade with MS. Wash the plaid stripes, the bows on the dress, and the bands on the sleeves with BN. Using SO, shade the bows and the sleeve bands, and darken the squares where the stripes intersect. Wash the trees on the sleeves and the lower trees on the dress with EY, and shade with BG. Wash and shade the remaining trees on the dress with BG. Wash and shade the tree trunks with BU. Dot the buttons on the bodice with CH.

Small angel with plaid dress: Using EY, wash the plaid stripes on the dress, and paint the bands and apply the dots to the sleeves. Paint the hearts on the sleeves BN. Wash the hair bow with BN, and shade with SO.

Small angel with striped dress: Wash the stripes on the dress and the sleeves (including the edges of the sleeves) with EY, and shade with BG. Wash the checks with BN.

Continued

## Elegant Angel Dolls

## SUPPLIES

Continued from page 31

½"-diameter circle hole punch
Crafts glue
11—¼"-diameter brass
paper fasteners
5-minute epoxy
2—#217½ screw eyes
10" of string or jute
24" of ½" burgundy satin ribbon
2x4" natural-color parchment
paper

Designed by Kathi Walters, Colbert, Washington

## FINISH WITH PRIDE

Lightly spray the painted pieces, including the dresses, with Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray. Let it dry. Ink the details on the cutouts and dresses. Let the ink dry, then apply two or more coats of Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray, allowing ample drying time between coats.

Cut out the dresses. On the large angel's dress, use an X-ACTO knife or crafts knife to cut out the areas between the trees. Cut out the stars or use a star hole punch. Pierce small holes around the scalloped hem with a paper-piercing tool. Use a circle hole punch to punch holes on the backs of all dresses where shown on the patterns. (See the Product Marketplace on *page 50.*) Overlap the back edges of each dress, lining up the punched holes. Secure the edges with crafts glue and paper fasteners, attaching the wings with one of the fasteners on each dress.



Secure the angels' dresses and wings in the back with crafts glue and paper fasteners.

Photographs: Scott Little



Sand spots of paint from the angels' heads and from the star crown, bow, and bun where the pieces join. Epoxy the stars, bow, and bun to the appropriate angel's head. Attach a screw eye to the top of each small angel's head. Tie the small angels' legs to their bodies with string or jute. Epoxy one end of the 2" dowel into the large angel's body and the small dowels into the small angels' bodies. Place the bodies inside the dresses, threading the dowels through the neck openings. (The legs cut from 1st" plywood belong to the angel with the plaid dress.) Epoxy the heads to the dowels. Epoxy the arms to the dresses.

Tie a ribbon bow around the large angel's neck. Glue a bow to each of the small angels' dresses as shown. Fold parchment paper as shown in the pattern packet, trace on the angel paper doll, and cut out. Glue the paper doll angels to the backs of the large angel's hands.

Small angel

with striped

dress

## A Beauty of a firdhouse

Project designer Kay Baxter makes roses by the dozen in minutes with ber rose stick. They make her crafts projects elegant—yet easy!

## PALETTE

Delta Ceramcoat Colors

AW Antique White 2001

BG Black Green 2116

Black 2506

BU Burnt Umber 2025

DM Dusty Mauve 2405

LG Leaf Green 2067

ME Mendocino 2406

Midnight 2114

SI Spice Brown 2049

SW Straw 2078 White 2505

## BRUSHES

Loew-Cornell brushes

1" synthetic flat

#8 synthetic flat

3/4" angular shader

#4 synthetic round

#10/0 synthetic liner

Deerfoot stippler or

scruffy round Spatter or old toothbrush

## SUPPLIES

1x6x14" pine 1x8x24" pine 1/4x11/2" dowel Woodworker's glue #17x11/2" brads Wood sealer Fine-tip permanent black marking pen Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray Extender medium Medium-size rose stick Antiquing medium



## START WITH RAW WOOD

Duplicate the patterns in the pattern packet with tracing paper. Using the Exploded View diagram and the Bill of Materials in the pattern packet, cut out and build the birdhouse from 1" pine (actual thickness: ¾"). Rout the base edge, bore the front opening, and drill the hole for the perch, following the pattern. Using woodworker's glue and #17×11/2" brads, assemble the house.

To order an unpainted birdbouse #32K for \$18 ppd. in the U.S., write to KK's Craft Haven, 2014 Mitchell Dr., Eureka, IL 61530. Orders only: 309/467-2135.

Sand all surfaces with 100- and then 150-grit sandpaper. Remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth. Apply wood sealer to all surfaces. Let the sealer dry. Sand again, and remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth.

## HAVE FUN PAINTING

Refer to Brushstroke Basics in the pattern packet for information on washing, floating, stippling, shading, and highlighting.

Use the 1" and #8 flat brushes and a 34" angular shader for base-coating, shading, and highlighting. Add the details with #4 round and #10/0 liner brushes.

Base-coat the sides of the house AW. For good coverage, apply two coats, allowing ample drying time between coats. Paint the roof, the perch dowel, and the base MI. Copy the door and the window details onto the birdhouse sides. There's no need to copy the flower and vine details yet-you'll base-coat over them.

Windows and door: Fill in the door, the window ledges, and the window frame with DM. Fill in the inside of the window (the pane) with SW. Let the paint dry, then float SI around the windowpane edges. Next add a very light wash of ME over the SI to "warm" the windows.

Float ME along the bottom of each window ledge and on the inside left of the door. Float BU shading under each window ledge, to the left of each window, and to the left of the door.

Then use a fine-tip permanent black marking pen to add the window details. To prevent the ink from smearing, lightly mist the inked lines with Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray.

Foliage: With a deerfoot stippler or a scruffy round brush and BG, lightly stipple in foliage around the door, above each window box, and on the birdhouse sides where shown. Wipe off the paint on a paper towel, then use the same brush to stipple LG over the lightest areas of foliage.

Vines: Thin BG with extender to ink consistency. Add the vines. (Extender lets you wipe off a vine if you don't like its placement.)

Stick roses: On your palette, pour mediumsize puddles of White and ME. Dip one side of the blunt end of the rose stick into White and the other side into ME. Lightly apply the paint where you want the rose. Then, using the pointed end of the stick, gently "stir" the paint to form a rose. Wipe the stick clean, and reload it for each rose. Let the roses dry thoroughly.

Leaves: Using BG, add leaves around the roses with the #4 round brush, and paint leaves on the vines with the #10/0 liner brush.

Dots: Using the large end of a stylus and White, add the three-dot flowers to the foliage. Add a BG dot to the center of each rose.

Dilute Black with water to ink consistency; spatter (flyspeck) the birdhouse. Let it dry.

## FINISH WITH PRIDE

For the look shown, sand paint from the edges of the roof and the base. Remove the dust with a tack cloth. Spray all surfaces with Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray. Let dry, then antique the birdhouse with your favorite antiquing medium. Let it dry. Finally spray with two more coats of Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray, allowing ample drying time between coats.



Project designer Kay Baxter is known to ber friends as the "birdbouse lady." Her busband, Russ, belps out by designing and building the bouses in their home wood

shop. For a pattern list, send a businesssize, self-addressed stamped envelope to KK's Craft Haven at the above address.







## Country Snow Scene



Some of the best Christmas gifts come straight from the heart and from the kitchen. Tuck these hand-painted accessories into packages of homemade treats for gifts that will be long remembered.

## PALETTE

Delta Ceramcoat Colors

- BP Bridgeport 2440
- CH Charcoal 2436
- FT Flesh Tan 2035
- LI Light Ivory 2401
- RI Red Iron Oxide 2020
- SI Spice Brown 2049

## BRUSHES

Loew-Cornell brushes

- 1" synthetic flat
- #8 synthetic flat
- #4 synthetic flat
- #5 synthetic round
- Spatter or old toothbrush

## SUPPLIES

6"-diameter wooden bowl 36x4x8" Baltic birch plywood Wood sealer Matte-finish spray varnish 8" of 22-gauge black wire 1x8" strip of red-check cotton fabric

## START WITH RAW WOOD

Duplicate the patterns in the pattern packet with tracing paper. Copy the heart outline onto 36" Baltic birch plywood. Cut out the heart with a scrollsaw, using a #5 blade. Drill the holes in the heart where shown on the pattern.

To order an unpainted 6"-diameter bowl #32L for \$9.99 or an unpainted beart cutout #32M for \$4.49 or both #32N for \$12.99 (all prices ppd. in the U.S.), write to Homespun Touch, 231 N. 7th St., Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235. Orders only: 800/445-5753.

Sand all surfaces of the heart and the wooden bowl with 100- and then 150-grit sandpaper. Remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth. Apply wood sealer to all surfaces of both pieces, and let it dry. Sand again with 150-grit sandpaper, and wipe clean.

## HAVE FUN PAINTING

Fill in the design areas and add the details with #8 and #4 flat brushes and a #5 round brush. Using a I" flat brush and FT, base-coat all heart surfaces and the inside and rim of the bowl. Let the paint dry. Then apply RI to the bottom of the bowl. When the paint dries, lightly sand with a paper grocery sack to remove fuzz raised by acrylic paint. Remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth.

Now copy the remaining details onto the wood pieces with transfer paper.

Note: Project designer Pat Olson paints the house and trees freehand in the bowl so she doesn't have to transfer the pattern to the curved surface. She says that, because it's a primitive design, she doesn't want the lines to appear perfect.

If you copy the pattern with transfer paper, Pat suggests that you cut around each tree and around the house, and apply only one design element (the house or a tree) at a time.

Paint the snow areas LI. Shade the snow where it meets the sky with FT. Fill in the house sides with a wash of RI. Shade with additional washes of RI where shown on the pattern. Paint the roof BP; shade with CH. Add RI chimneys, and fill in the windows and doors with dark washes of CH.

Paint the trees with several layers of SI washes. Let the paint dry thoroughly.

Thin LI with water to ink consistency, and spatter (flyspeck) snow on both the heart and bowl using a spatter brush or an old toothbrush. Let the paint dry. (Heavy flyspecked dots take longer to dry because of their thickness. Allow plenty of drying time before applying a finish.)

## FINISH WITH PRIDE

Finish the bowl and heart with mattefinish spray varnish. If you plan to use the bowl to serve edible treats, apply two more coats of varnish, allowing ample drying time between coats.

Attach a hanger to the heart with 22gauge wire. Randomly coil the wire around a small brush handle. Insert the ends through the holes in the heart, and twist the ends with needle-nose pliers to secure them. Finish the heart by tying a fabric strip at the top of the hanger.



With more than 25 years of painting experience, designer Pat Oison offers numerous books, pattern packets, wood pieces, and painting supplies in

ber catalog. For a copy, send \$3 to Pat's Designs, Homespun Touch, 231 N. 7th St., Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235.♣

# A Visit from HOSty

Our ruby-cheeked snowman is having plenty of frosty fun.
Coming from his winter walk in the woods, he carries a tree and birdhouse.

## PALETTE

DecoArt Americana Colors

BF Black Forest Green DA83

DC Dark Chocolate DA65

HB Honey Brown DA163

LB Lamp Black DA67

NP Napa Red DA165

SN Sand DA4

**UB Uniform Blue DA86** 

## BRUSHES

Loew-Cornell brushes
1/2" synthetic angular shader
#1 synthetic script liner
3/6" stencil

## SUPPLIES

1x6x11" pine
3/16x4x7" Baltic birch plywood
Modeling compound
Walnut wood stain
16" of 20-gauge wire
5-minute epoxy
1" of 18-gauge wire
3 small pieces of aquarium
charcoal
Matte-finish spray varnish
3/4x8" strip of fabric

## START WITH RAW WOOD

Duplicate the snowman patterns in the pattern packet with tracing paper. Copy the outlines of the snowman, the feet, and the birdhouse onto an 11" length of 1×6 pine (actual size: ½×5½"). Copy the outlines of the arms (including the tree) and the star onto ½6" Baltic birch plywood. Cut out the shapes with a scrollsaw, using a #5 blade. Drill all holes where shown. Sand all surfaces with 100- and then 150-grit sandpaper. Remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth. Do not seal the wood.

To order all cutouts #32P for \$11.95 ppd. in the U.S., write to Cabin Crafters, 1225 W. First St., Nevada, IA 50201. Orders only: 800/669-3920.

For the snowman's nose, roll a small piece of modeling compound into a ball, then flatten the ball slightly so it measures 1/4" in diameter. (Project designer Andrea Lyness used Model Magic brand.) Set the nose aside to dry (see manufacturer's drying instructions). Attach the nose after you complete all painting.

## HAVE FUN PAINTING

Base-coat with a ½" angular shader brush, and fill in small areas and apply details with a #1 script liner. Apply the cheeks with a ¾s stencil brush. Continue the colors around the edges of the cutouts. Copy the main outlines onto the cutouts with transfer paper. There's no need to copy the details yet—you'll base-coat over them.

Base-coat the snowman and arms SN, the star HB, the tree BF, the tree trunk DC, and the birdhouse UB. Paint the hat, the shoes, and the birdhouse roof LB. Paint the hatband, the mittens, and the nose NP. Let the paint dry, then sand lightly with a paper grocery sack to remove fuzz raised by acrylic paint. Remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth.

Dip a %" stencil brush into NP, then wipe off most of the paint on a paper towel. Using a circular motion, blush the snowman's cheeks. Dot the eyes LB. When the dots are dry, apply SN highlight dots. Dilute LB with water to ink consistency, and paint the eyebrows. Paint the mouth with NP diluted with water to ink consistency. Dip a stylus into LB, and dot the hatband and the mittens. Dip a brush handle into LB, and apply the holes to the birdhouse.

## FINISH WITH PRIDE

Sand paint from the edges of the cutouts. Remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth. Apply a light coat of walnut wood stain to all surfaces of the cutouts. Let the stain dry.

For the snowman's hair, cut ten 1¼" lengths of 20-gauge wire, and make two bundles with five wires in each. Add epoxy to one of the holes under the hat, and insert one bundle of wires. Repeat on the other side. Let the epoxy set. Trim the ends as needed, and spread out the wires. Attach the star to the hat with epoxy and a 1" length of 18-gauge wire.

Sand spots of paint from the front of the snowman's body where the arms, the shoes, and the buttons attach, and from the backs of the arms and the shoes. Epoxy the arms, the aquarium charcoal (buttons), and the shoes to the snowman.

Thread 3" of 20-gauge wire through the hole in the birdhouse roof. Pull the ends up and twist. Insert the twisted ends through the hole in the snowman's mitten, and twist the ends around the wire to secure them. Spray the snowman with matte-finish spray varnish. Tie a strip of fabric around his neck for a scarf.



Many of the whimsical country creations by project designer Andrea Lyness exhibit a nature theme. For a catalog of Andrea's project books and patterns, send \$2

(refundable with your first purchase) to Sharon & Gayle Publications, Box 15394, Covington, KY 41015.



# Cheers to Santa

Santa will be delighted when he finds this distinctive-looking tray with festive offerings of gingerbread cookies and cocoa.

## PALETTE

Delta Ceramcoat Colors

AW Antique White 2001 Black 2506

BJ Blue Jay 2059

BS Burnt Sienna 2030

CC Cape Cod 2133

CM Cinnamon 2495 FG Forest Green 2010

LM Lima 2072

MS Maple Sugar 2062

RO Rouge 2404

TR Trail Tan 2435

WB Wedgwood Blue 2069

## BRUSHES

Royal Brush brushes #10 synthetic flat #8 synthetic flat #6 synthetic flat #00 synthetic liner

## SUPPLIES

1x10x11" pine
1/2x21/2x4" pine or Baltic
birch plywood
Wood sealer
Fine-tip permanent black
marking pen
5-minute epoxy
Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray
Cup and cookie plate

## START WITH RAW WOOD

Duplicate the Santa-tray patterns in the pattern packet with tracing paper. Copy the tray onto 1" pine (actual thickness: ¾"). Copy Santa's arm onto ½" pine. Cut out the shapes with a scroll-saw, using a #5 blade.

To order unpainted Santa-tray cutouts #32Q for \$14.95 ppd. in the U.S., write to Morse & Co., 200 S. Dowd Rd., Lincoln, CA 95648. Orders only: 916/645-0663.

Sand all surfaces with 100- and then 150-grit sandpaper. Remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth. Apply wood sealer, and let the sealer dry. Sand again with 150-grit sandpaper, and wipe clean with a tack cloth.

## HAVE FUN PAINTING

Refer to Brushstroke Basics in the pattern packet for shading and highlighting information. See the patterns for shading and highlighting locations.

Base-coat, shade, and highlight with #10, #8, and #6 flat brushes. Choose the brush that best fits the area. Add the details with a #00 liner brush. Continue the details around the edges of both pieces.

Copy the main outlines onto the wood cutouts. There's no need to copy the details yet—you'll base-coat over them.

Base-coat Santa's face MS, his beard and all fur areas AW, his cap and coat CM, his boots Black, his mitten FG, and the tray area WB.

Base-coat the gingerbread boy MS. Paint the back of the tray WB. When the base coats dry, sand lightly with a paper grocery sack to remove fuzz raised by acrylic paint. Remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth.

Santa: Shade Santa's face BS where shown on the pattern. Paint his eyes Black. Highlight the lower left corner of each eye with BJ. Add an



AW highlight dot to the upper right corner of each eye. Mix MS and BS 2:1, and add Santa's nose. Using BS, add tiny dot freckles to his cheeks. Lightly blush his cheeks with RO.

Shade Santa's beard with TR. Highlight the top of his coat sleeve and along the top of his cap with RO. Add small BJ dots to his coat, including the sleeve cutout; let dry. (Because of their thickness, dots take longer to dry.)

Highlight Santa's mitten with LM. Apply BJ plaid details. Add a small square of BJ to each spot where the plaid details intersect.

Gingerbread boy: Shade where shown on the pattern with BS. Add a Black nose and eyes.

DECORATIVE WOODCRAFTS DECEMBER 1996



Paint the gingerbread boy's mouth, and dot the corners of his mouth with CM.

Tray: Shade the edge with CC.

## FINISH WITH PRIDE

Using a fine-tip permanent black marking pen, add the "icing" details around the edges of the gingerbread boy. To prevent the ink from smearing, spray the inked lines with Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray.

Sand a spot of paint from the front of Santa's coat and from the back of the arm cutout where the pieces join. (Glue and epoxy won't adhere permanently to painted or varnished surfaces.) Glue or epoxy the arm onto Santa. Let the glue dry or the epoxy set.

Finally, spray all surfaces with two coats of Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray, allowing ample drying time between coats.



Designer Sue Jernigan enjoys painting simple projects for all seasons. For a brochure of ber patterns, send \$1 and a business-size, self-addressed stamped

envelope to From the Heart, 709 Forder Crossing Court, St. Louis, MO 63129.❖

## "All I Want for Christmas..."

## PALETTE

Delta Ceramcoat Colors Black 2506

BR Burgundy Rose 2123

BU Burnt Umber 2025

CA Cardinal Red 2077

CB Candy Bar 2407

DJ Dark Jungle 2420

GR Gypsy Rose 2129

LI Light Ivory 2401

MF Medium Flesh 2126

MI Midnight 2114

NF Nightfall 2131

PS Pigskin 2093

SW Straw 2078

TR Trail Tan 2435

Delta Ceramcoat Gleams

MG Metallic Gold 2600

## BRUSHES

Loew-Cornell brushes
1" synthetic flat
#6 synthetic flat
#2 synthetic flat
#10/0 synthetic liner
Spatter or old toothbrush

## SUPPLIES

1/4x4x4" Baltic birch plywood Wood sealer Fine-tip permanent black marking pen Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray 10" of 16-gauge brass wire

## START WITH RAW WOOD

Duplicate the ornament pattern in the pattern packet with tracing paper. Copy the outline onto ¼" Baltic birch plywood. Drill a starter hole where shown on the pattern, and cut out the inside area first with a scrollsaw, using a #5 blade. Then, cut out the shape. Drill remaining holes where shown on the pattern.

Round over the outside edges of the cutout with 100-grit sandpaper. Sand all surfaces with 100-, then 150-grit sandpaper. Remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth. Apply wood sealer to all surfaces. Let it dry. Sand again with 150-grit sandpaper; wipe clean.

To order ornament cutout #32R for \$2.60 ppd. in the U.S., write to Rick Hutcheson, P.O. Box 237, Grimes, IA 50111. Orders only: 515/986-4185.

## HAVE FUN PAINTING

Using a 1" flat brush, base-coat all surfaces of the ornament NF. Double-load the brush with NF and MI, and blend well on the palette. Paint the ornament on both sides, keeping the MI toward the outside. Dilute LI with water to ink consistency. Dip a spatter brush or an old toothbrush into the thinned paint, and spatter (flyspeck) both sides of the ornament. Let the paint dry. Transfer the main pattern lines to each side of the ornament. There's no need to copy the details yet—you'll base-coat over them.

Side 1

Side 1

Side 1

Christmas

All I vistit for Christmas

All I vistit for Christmas

Is maid yo from feestill

Referring to the photograph, paint the outer edges of the ornament DJ with a #6 flat brush. Then paint Black stripes on the edges. Thin MG with water to ink consistency, and using a liner brush, paint a stripe between the edges and the blue background as shown.

Note: Instructions are given for both the boy and girl. You may prefer to paint one side at a time. Allow the paint to dry before turning the ornament over.

Using a #6 flat brush, paint the faces MF, and shade with GR. Paint the hair SW, and shade with PS. Paint the banner TR, and shade with BU. Using a #2 flat brush, paint the cheeks GR, and shade with BR. Paint the girl's bow and the boy's tie CA, and shade with CB. Paint the collars and teeth LI; shade the collars with TR.

Outline and apply details and lettering with a fine-tip permanent black marking pen. Let the ink dry. Dot the ends of the letters with Black, and dot the eyes and cheeks with LI.

## FINISH WITH PRIDE

To prevent the ink from smearing, spray all surfaces with Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray. Let the spray dry. To hang the ornament, insert 16-gauge wire through one of the holes from the front. Use needle-nose pliers to twist the inserted end around the main wire section. Coil the wire by wrapping it around a dowel or pencil, leaving 2" uncoiled at the other end. Insert the end of the wire through the other hole, and twist the end to secure.



DECORATIVE WOODCRAFTS DECEMBER 1996

Best Open Theme, Professional Division, 1996 Strokes of Creativity<sup>®</sup> Ornament Contest, designed by Stacey Hutchings, Tracy, California

## Fireside Chat

## PALETTE

Delta Ceramcoat Colors

AW Antique White 2001

BH Blue Haze 2122

CH Charcoal 2436

FG Forest Green 2010

HG Hippo Gray 2090

LI Light Ivory 2401

PS Pigskin 2093

QG Quaker Gray 2057

RI Red Iron Oxide 2020

Delta Ceramcoat Gleams

KG Kim Gold 2602

## BRUSHES

Robert Simmons brushes 1/2" synthetic flat #10 synthetic flat #2 synthetic flat #2/0 synthetic liner

SUPPLIES 1/2x4x4" pine (fireplace front) %x2x5" pine (base, presents) 1/4x3x4" Baltic birch plywood (tree, star) 3/16x31/2x41/2" Baltic birch plywood (fireplace back, front mantel piece, Santa's legs) 1/8x11/2x11/2" Baltic birch plywood (stockings) 1/8x10" dowel Woodworker's glue Wood sealer Wood stain Fine-tip permanent black marking pen X-ACTO knife or crafts knife 5-minute epoxy 3/4"-long brass brads Linen jute

Best Open Theme, Hobbyist Division, 1996 Strokes of Creativity Ornament Contest, designed by Bob & Mary Standish, Rexford, N.Y.

Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray

4" of 19-gauge wire

8" of 24-gauge wire

## START WITH RAW WOOD

Duplicate the fireplace patterns in the pattern packet with tracing paper. The front and back fireplace pieces are cut as one to ensure that they match. Copy the outlines of all cutouts onto pine and Baltic birch plywood as listed under supplies. Cut out the shapes with a scrollsaw, using a #5 blade. Crosscut the base to its length of 4" from the 38" pine.

Referring to the pattern, rout or chisel the marked area on the back of the front fireplace section. Drill all holes where shown.

Cut nine 34" pieces from a 1/8" dowel for the logs. Using woodworker's glue, glue the logs together, and glue the edge of the half tree to the center of the full tree section; let the glue dry. Do not assemble the rest of the ornament until you complete the painting.

Sand all surfaces with 100-, then 150-grit sandpaper. Remove the dust with a tack cloth. Apply wood sealer to all surfaces; let the sealer dry. Sand again and wipe clean.

To order ornament cutouts #32S for \$12.50 ppd. in the U.S., write to Rick Hutcheson, P.O. Box 237, Grimes, IA 50111. Orders only: 515/986-4185.

## HAVE FUN PAINTING

Apply wood stain to the hearth; let dry. Basecoat the fireplace QG and the edge of the opening HG. Dilute AW with water to ink consistency, and paint the grout lines. Float HG randomly on the stones. Paint the mantel, the mantel piece, and the brick areas on the hearth and on the back fireplace section RI. (Extend the brick area slightly on the back section.) Paint the grout lines QG diluted with water to ink consistency.

Base-coat the rug PS. Using paint diluted with water to ink consistency, paint zig-zag "braids" RI, BH, LI, and FG. When the paint dries, ink stitching lines between each row of braid with a fine-tip black marking pen.

Base-coat the tree FG and the star PS. Mix CH and water 1:5, and paint the logs. Paint the gifts as follows: PS with LI plaid lines, BH with LI hearts, RI with LI wavy stripes, and FG with LI and PS plaid lines. Paint Santa's pant legs RI, the cuffs LI, and his boots CH. Float CH shading on the pant legs next to the cuffs. Groove lines on the cuffs with an X-ACTO knife or crafts knife. Dot KG buttons on his boots. Base-coat the body of each stocking



the cuffs, toes, and heels with contrasting colors. Decorate the stockings as desired.

## FINISH WITH PRIDE

Randomly sand paint from the logs and, if desired, from some of the edges of the cutouts. Remove the dust with a tack cloth.

Cut two 1/4" lengths from a 1/8" dowel. Epoxy one end of each dowel into the holes in the routed area on the back of the front fireplace section. Place Santa's legs on the dowels, but do not glue them. Epoxy the fireplace sections together. Sand off spots of paint on the front of the chimney and the back of the mantel piece. Epoxy the mantel piece to the front of the fireplace; let it set. Hammer brads part way into the pilot holes on the mantel.

Cut two 7/16" lengths from a 1/8" dowel. Epoxy one end of each into the bottom of the fireplace, and epoxy the other ends into the holes in the base. Hang the stockings with jute as shown. Sand off spots of paint on the top of the tree and the bottom of the star where the pieces join. Epoxy the star to the top of the tree. Attach the tree to the base in the same manner as the fireplace, using a 7/16"-long piece of 1/8" dowel. Tie jute around each package, and tie a bow on top. Epoxy the packages in place around the tree.

To make the log holder, use needle-nose pliers to twist the ends of 19-gauge wire together. Keeping the twisted ends on the bottom, shape the loop by wrapping the twisted ends around a 1/2" diameter dowel or brush handle. Epoxy the ends into the base, Epoxy the logs in the holder. Attach 24-gauge wire to the ornament for hanging as shown.

To prevent the ink from smearing, spray all surfaces of the ornament with Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray.\*

## Ornament Contest Winner

## Heavenly Angel

## PALETTE

FolkArt Acrylic Colors

DO Dove Gray 708

DP Dusty Peach 616

ST Strawberry Parfait 751

TH Thicket 924

TP Tapioca 903

WB Whipped Berry 759

WW Wicker White 901

FolkArt Metallics

PG Pure Gold 660

## BRUSHES

Royal Brush brushes #6 synthetic flat #2 synthetic flat

## SUPPLIES

3/8x2x2" Baltic birch plywood 1/4x2x2" Baltic birch plywood 1/8x3x4" Baltic birch plywood Woodworker's glue Wood sealer Fine-tip permanent black marking pen Krylon 1311 clear acrylic spray X-ACTO knife or crafts knife Antiquing medium Scrap of red cedar wood Tacky glue Gloss-finish spray varnish 5" of 20-gauge gold wire 1/2"-diameter star sequin 5-minute epoxy 8" of thin gold cord

Best Angel, Hobbyist Division, 1996 Strokes of Creativity® Ornament Contest, designed by Stella Klassen, Comox, British Columbia

## START WITH RAW WOOD

Duplicate the angel pattern in the pattern packet with tracing paper. Construct the angel with layers of wood of various thickness as follows: Transfer the outline of the entire angel shape onto \(\frac{1}{2}\)" Baltic birch plywood. Also transfer (individually) her hands and the two cloud shapes on each side of the center cloud onto \(\frac{1}{2}\)" Baltic birch plywood. Transfer the outline of the angel's dress onto \(\frac{1}{2}\)" Baltic birch plywood. Copy the outlines (individually) of her head and the center cloud with her feet onto \(\frac{1}{2}\)" Baltic birch plywood. Cut out the shapes with a scrollsaw, using a \(\pi 5\) blade.

Using 100-grit sandpaper, round over the front edges of all shapes, except the base where another piece joins. (Project designer Stella Klassen used an emery board to sand the small shapes.) Sand all surfaces with 100-, then 150-grit sandpaper. Remove the sanding dust with a tack cloth.

To order ornament cutouts #32T for \$3.60 ppd. in the U.S., write to Rick Hutcheson, P.O. Box 237, Grimes, IA 50111. Orders only: 515/986-4185.

Before gluing, check the fit of all pieces, laying them in place on the base. Referring to the photograph, use woodworker's glue to assemble the angel. Let the glue dry. Drill holes where shown. Apply wood sealer to all surfaces; let it dry. Sand again and wipe clean.

## HAVE FUN PAINTING

Base-coat large areas with a #6 flat brush and small areas with a #2 flat brush. Continue the colors around the edges of the cutouts. Base-coat the angel's face, hands, and feet DP; her wings TP; and the clouds and the back of the ornament WW. Paint her dress with a 4:1 mixture of WW and TH.

Float ST blush on the angel's cheeks, nose, and toes. Float WB shading on her wings. Dot the dress with TH, the clouds with DO, and the wings with PG.

## FINISH WITH PRIDE

Ink the angel's facial features with a fine-tip permanent black marking pen. To prevent the ink from smearing, spray the ornament with



favorite antiquing medium to the dress, feet, and clouds. Let the antiquing medium dry.

Cut fine shavings from a piece of red cedar wood for the angel's hair. Sand spots of paint from the sides of the angel's head. Glue the wood shavings to the angel's head with tacky

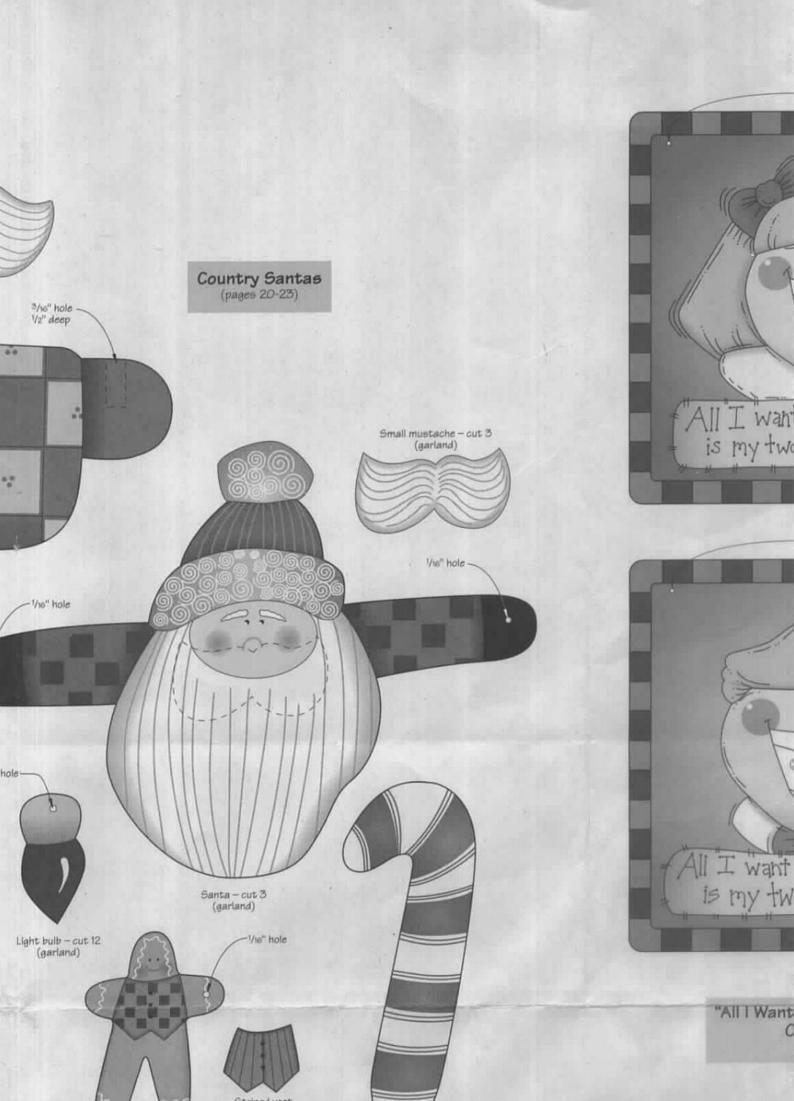
Spray all surfaces of the ornament with two or more coats of gloss-finish varnish. Allow ample drying time between coats.

glue. Let the glue dry.

Cut a 2" length of 20-gauge gold wire for the wand. Thread a star sequin onto one end, and use needle-nose pliers to curl the wire to secure the star. Bend a right angle in the other end of the wire, and epoxy it into the hole by the angel's hand.

To make the halo, form a ¾"-diameter circle with the remaining 20-gauge wire. Twist the ends of the wire together, and then epoxy them into the top of the angel's head. Bend the halo over the angel's head. To hang the ornament, tie a gold cord onto the halo, and knot the ends.❖





# ant for Christmas wo front teeth!

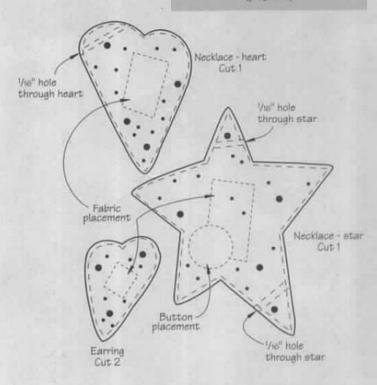


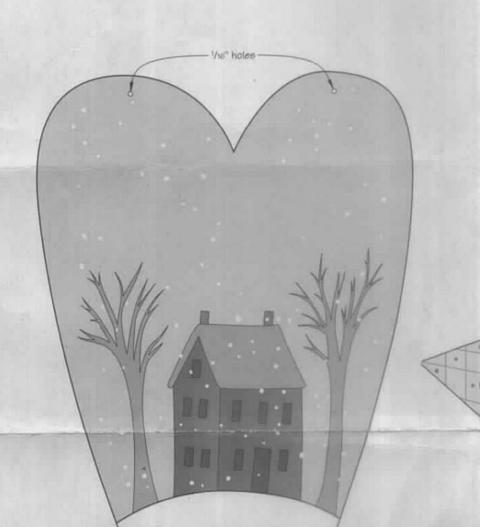


Side 2

ont for Christmas..." Crnament (page 44)

## Heart-and-Star Jewelry (page 10)





# Certificate (Excellence)

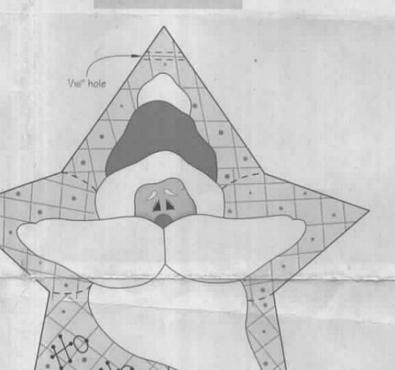
# OUR PLEDGE TO YOU:

Our team of editors reviews each element – materials lists, patterns, illustrations, and Instructions – to make sure the projects we provide you are complete. In short, we do everything possible to guarantee your crafting success and enjoyment.

To order your Color-Conversion Chart for Issue 32, send \$1 and a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Issue 32 Conversion Chart Decorative Woodcrafts" 1912 Grand Avenue Des Moines, Iowa 50309-3379

> Hang On for the Holidays (pages 12-14)

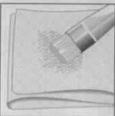


# Brushstroke Basics

#### Master these dry-brushing techniques



Dip the tips of a flat brush into paint. Use undiluted paint for a heavy paint coverage. For a transparent coverage, dilute the paint with 80 percent water.



 Wipe off almost all of the paint on a paper towel. There should be no thick paint hanging onto the outside edges.



 Brush over the surface with little or no pressure creating a soft-textured of aged look. This technique creates less texture than sponging.

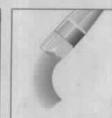
#### Tips on floating a color



 Dilute the paint with water 1:1 and mix well (Floated colors are transparent colors.)



 Load one corner of a flat or angular shader brush by dipping it into the diluted acrylic paint.



Blend the paint by wiping the brush on your palette until the color gradually fades to the opposite side.

## Shade and highlight to add dimension

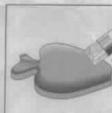


Select your main color (such as red), using it to base-coat the surface.

Apply your brushstrokes with the largest brush that fits the design area.

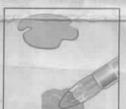


 Shade with a darker color (such as burgandy), using the floating techniques described above.
 Shading recedes an area, separating it from the surrounding color.



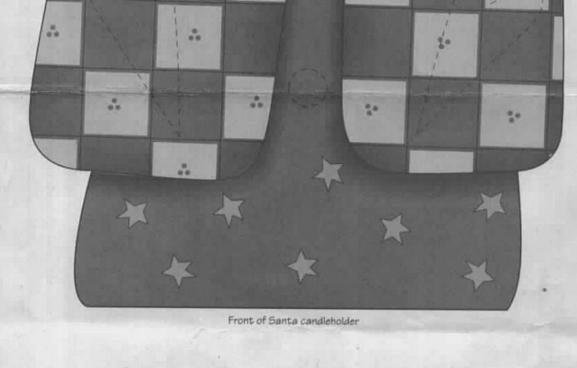
3. Highlight your work with a lighter color (such as yellow or white). Floating works well for this, too. Highlights raise an area, adding dimension

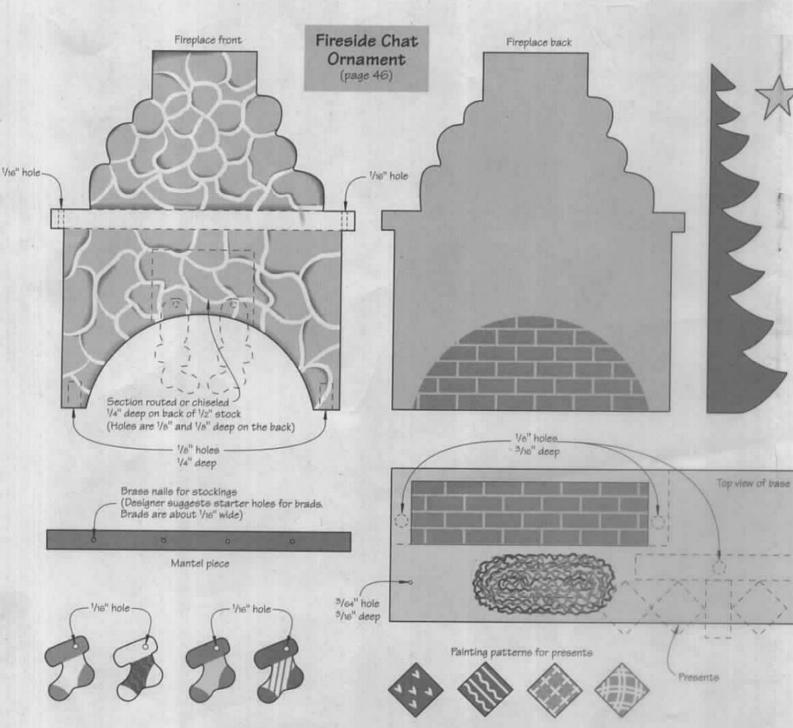
#### How To Make Comma Strokes

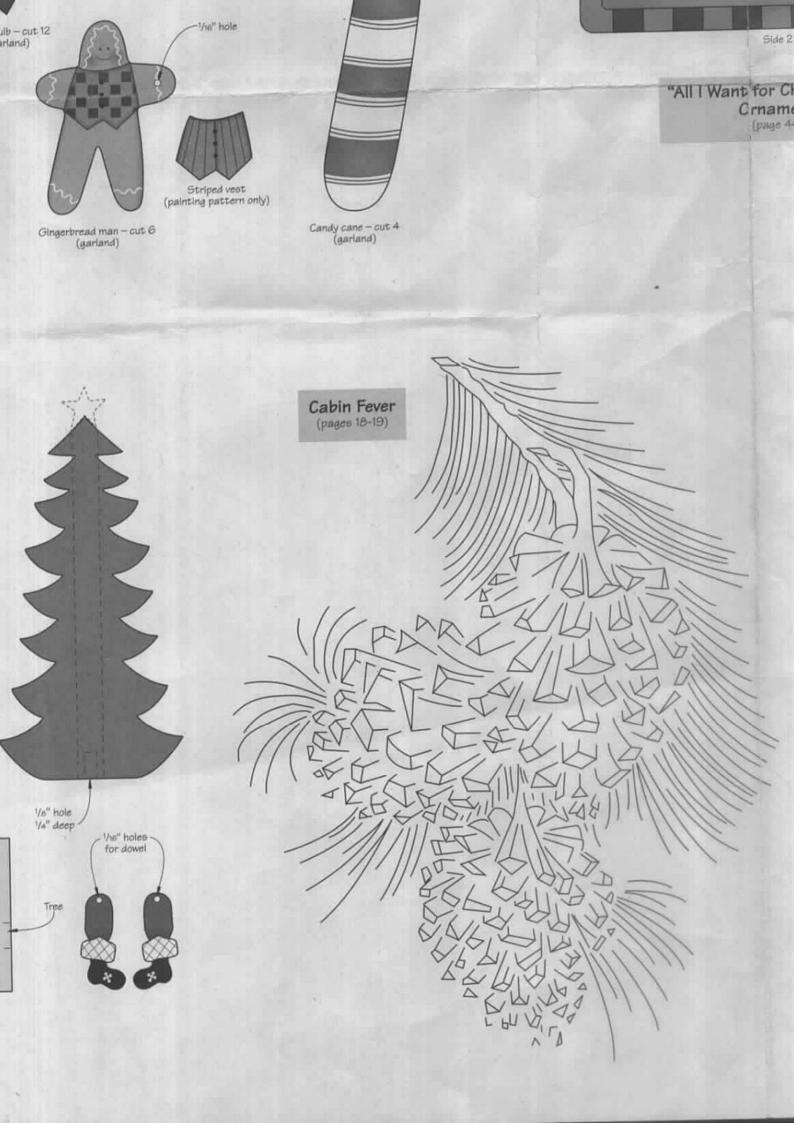


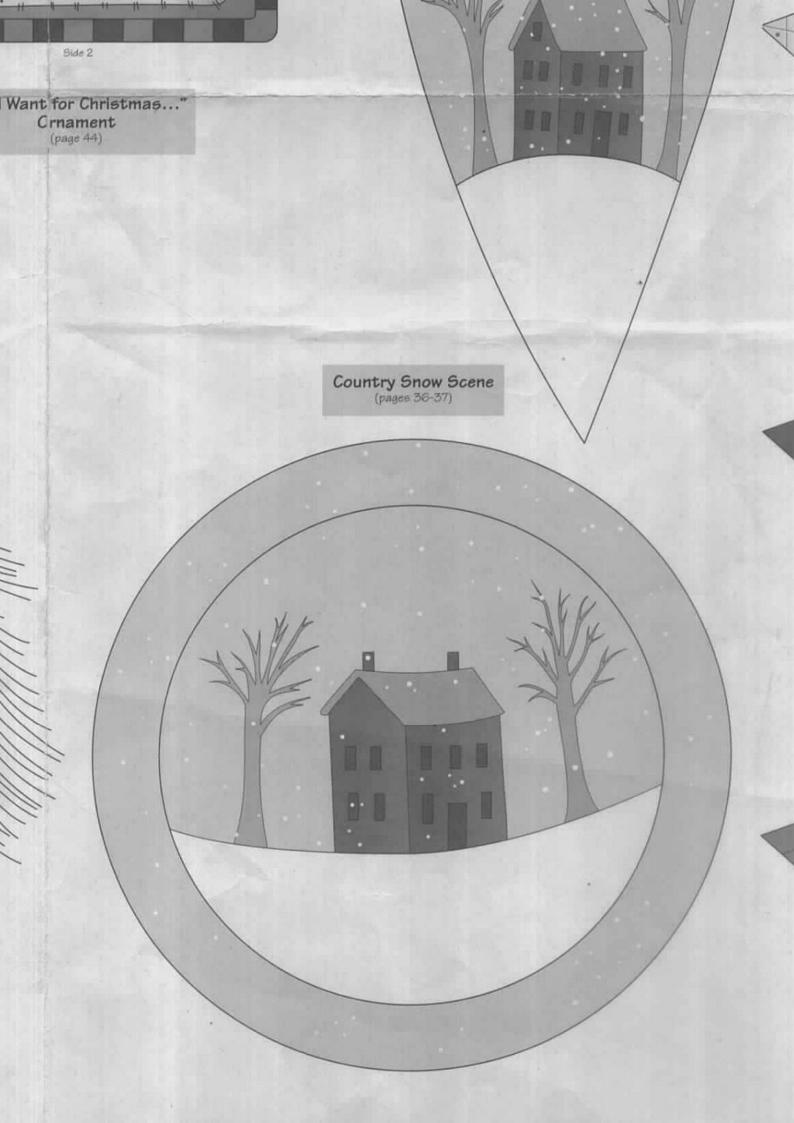


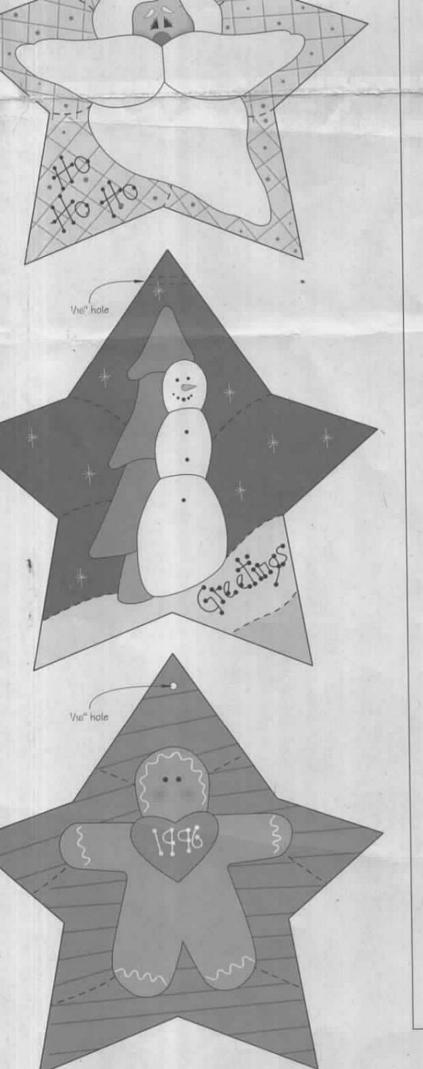












that fits the design area.

separating it from the surrounding color.

an area, adding dimension

#### How To Make Comma Strokes



 Dip the bottom half of the bristles of a round brush into paint. Pat on your palette, distributing paint evenly.

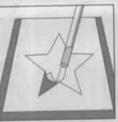


2. Hold the brush at a 45° angle to the work surface and apply pressure, flattening the tip of the brush to make the widest end of the comma stroke.



3. Gradually release pre sure to make a pointed tail. Slightly rotate the brush at the same time to pull the bristles back together into a point.

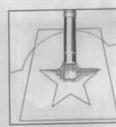
#### Stenciling Strategies



To make a stencil, use a permanent marker to transfer your design onto a stencil sheet. Cut along the design lines with an X-ACTO knife or an electric stencil tool.

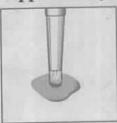


2. Dip the bristle tips of your dry stencil brush into paint. Blot off excess paint on a paper towel.

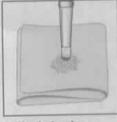


 Apply paint to the surface by pouncing the brush tip up and down to create a fuzzy or textured look.

# Stipple a fuzzy or a textured look



1. Load your stippler, deerfoot, or scruffy round brush, dipping just the bristle tips in paint.



Blot the brush on a paper towel, wiping off most of the acrylic paint.



 Apply the paint to the surface by pouncing the brush tips up and down to create a fuzzy or textured look.

## Add a wash in three easy steps



Dilute the paint with water 1:5 and mix well.
Use any size or type of brush that fits the area.

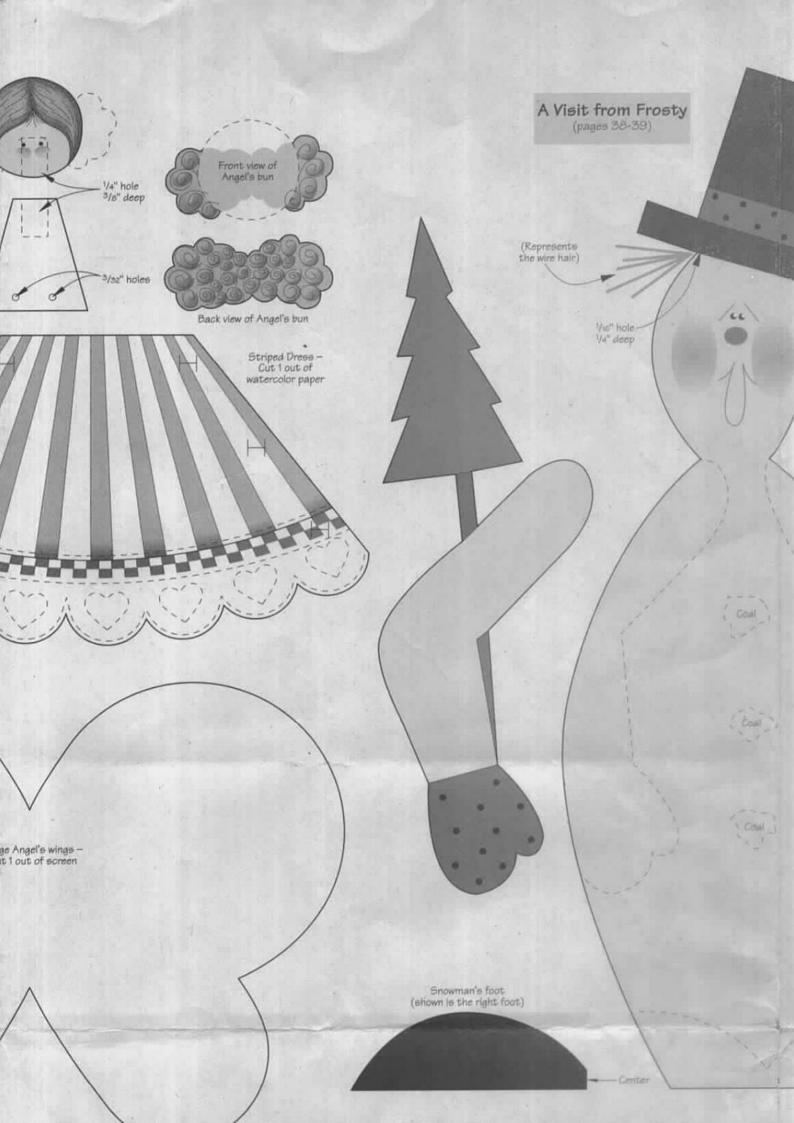


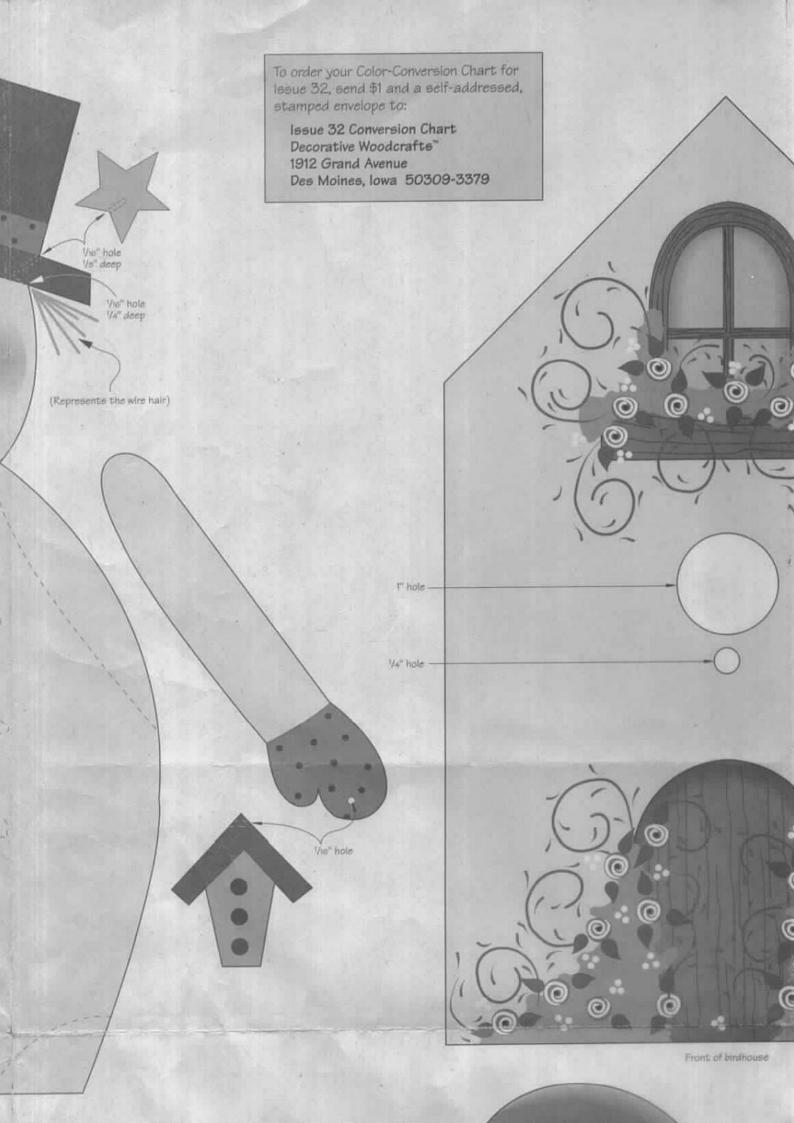
2. Blot excess drips from the brush on a paper towel. (Don't wipe off too much paint. Blot only until bristles begin to lose their shine.)

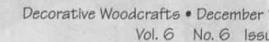


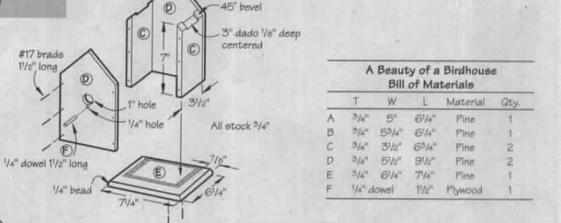
 Fill in the area for a tr parent coverage. Or, use wash mixture to float col (see floating instructions) when you want a transparent shadow or highliq







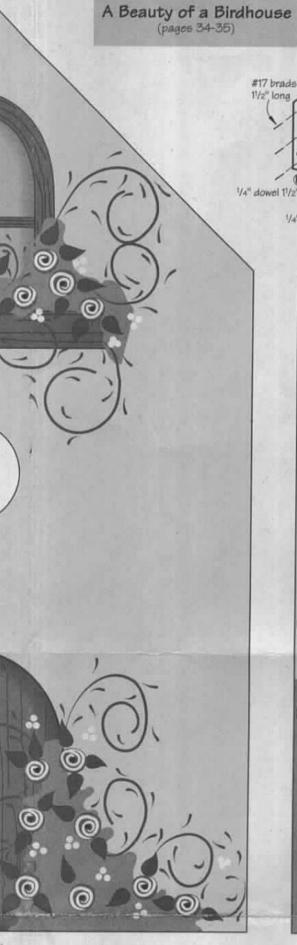




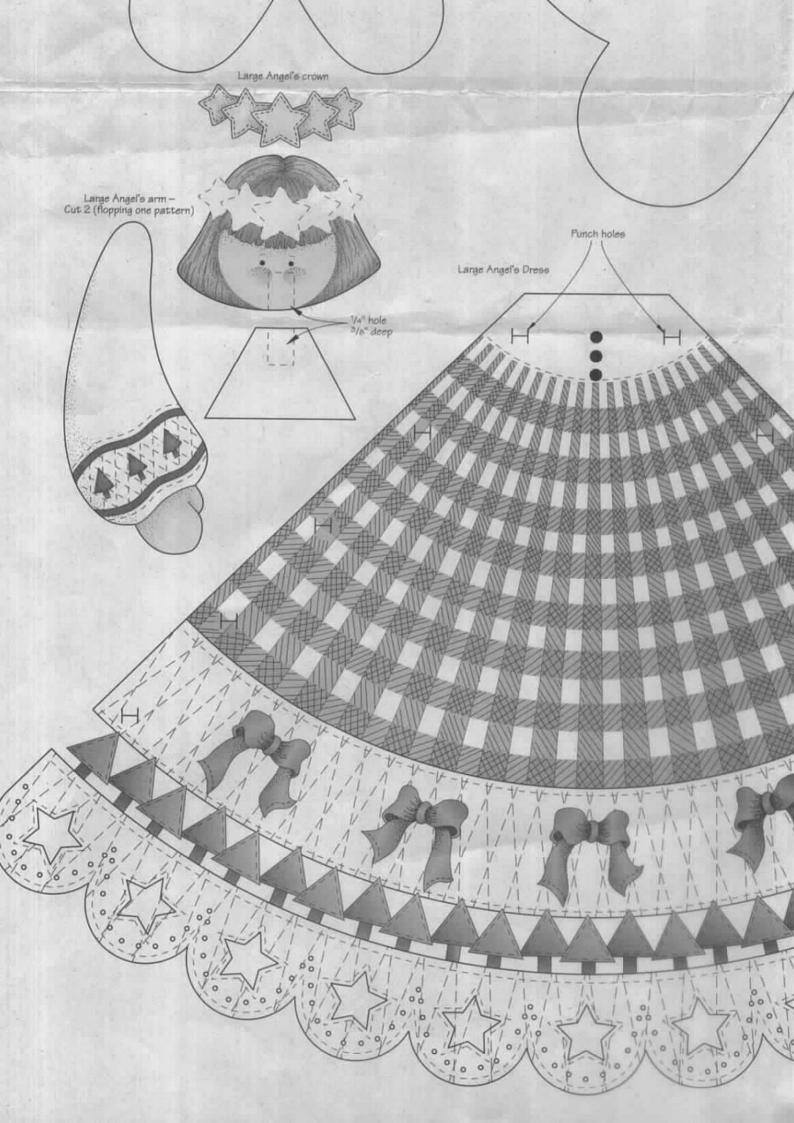
45° bevel

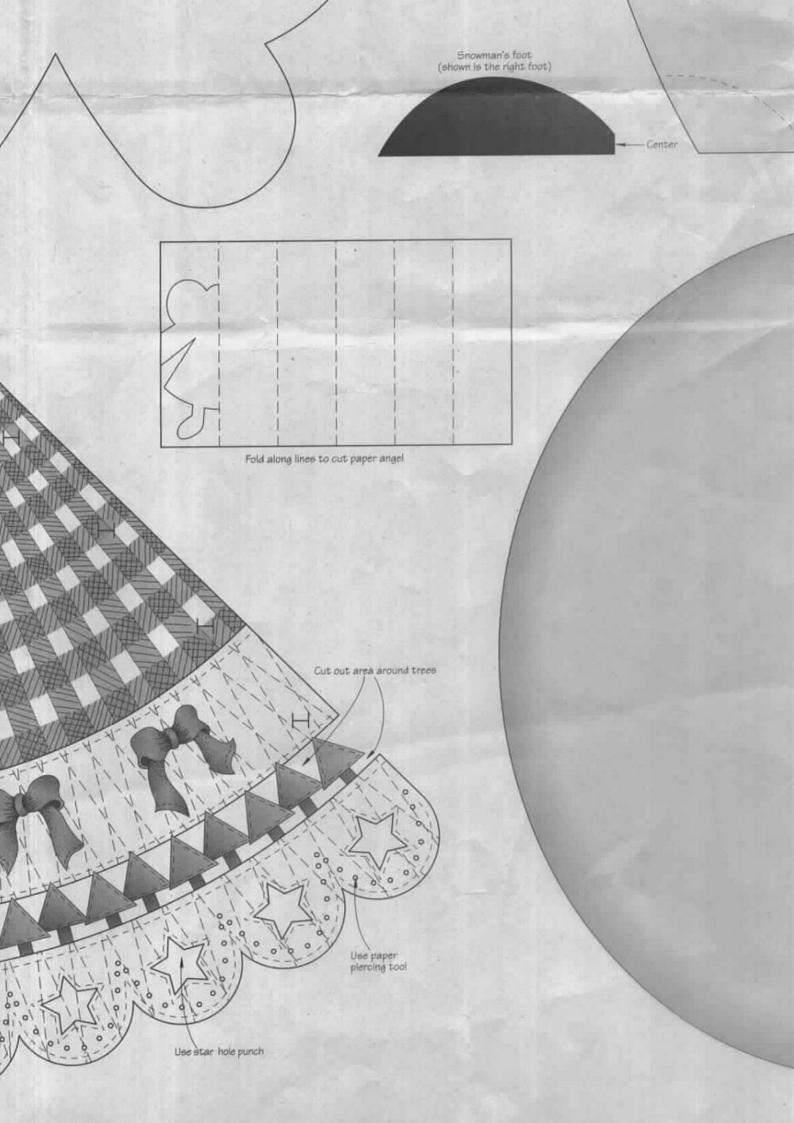
45° bevels





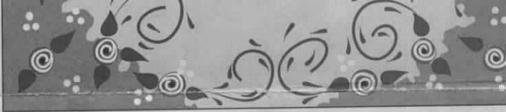
Side of birdhouse











Side of birdhouse

