How To:

20 Christmas Gifts

to Make and Christmas Dessert Recipes







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Letter from the Editors

Dear Cooking and Crafting Enthusiast:

The holiday season is all about celebrations. You can't go wrong when you take a few minutes and create a seasonal treat or handmade gift – it's a great way to get in the holiday spirit. There's something so meaningful about homemade treats and crafts during the holiday season. The extra effort is always appreciated and remembered long after the holiday season is over.

Since Christmas is the sweetest time of year, why not create delicious Christmas cookies? Each of the recipes included in this eBook feature a fun twist on a traditional idea. For instance, add a little cocoa powder and some chocolate chips for a new take on gingerbread cookies. Also, don't forget to make a few quick and easy Christmas gifts and have them on hand just in case you need something at the last second. These DIY ideas are perfect for hostess gifts, family presents and more. Whether you use yarn, paper or something else entirely, you'll find the perfect Christmas craft to make this season.

For more Christmas crafts and recipes, be sure to visit RecipeLion.com and FaveCrafts.com. While you're there, subscribe to our free newsletters Quick and Easy Recipes and Quick and Crafty to get free recipes and craft projects delivered to your inbox every week.

Happy Eating!

Sincerely,

The Editors of RecipeLion & FaveCrafts

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Table of Contents

Christmas Cookie Recipes	6
Cherry-Chocolate Snickerdoodles	6
Cranberry Noel Cookies	8
Chewy Chocolate Gingerbread Cookies	10
Raspberry Thumbprint Cookies	12
Peppermint Cookies	14
Candy Cane Cookies	16
Quick and Easy Christmas Gifts to Make	18
Snowballs for the Bath	18
Decoupage Holiday Plate	20
Blue and White Snowflake Box	22
Christmas Snow Globe	24
Christmas Decoupage Picture Frame	26
Glittery Tree Vase	28
Christmas Frame	31
Christmas Tree Button Tote	33
Etched Holiday Candy Dish	35
Homemade Christmas Gift Ideas	37
Christmas Tree Pendant and Earrings	37
Quilted Christmas Jar	43
Holiday Pocketbook	45
Cable Socks for Men	
Soft Check Scarf Crochet Pattern	52
Special Thanks	55



Christmas Cookie Recipes

Cherry-Chocolate Snickerdoodles

By: The Heartstone Inn & Cottages located in Eureka Springs, AR (via BnBFinder.com)



Snickerdoodles taste great all year round, but when you add chocolate chips and dried cherries, it becomes a seasonal treat. Make a batch for a cookie exchange or Christmas party – they taste great warmed up with a glass of milk.

Yields: 4 dozen cookies

Ingredients:

- 2-1/2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon cream of tartar
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 10 oz. pkg. Nestle Swirled Chocolate Chips

- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup (6 oz.) dried cherries, coarse chopped
- 3/4 cup (1-1/2 sticks) butter, softened
- 3 Tablespoons sugar
- 1-1/2 cups sugar
- 1-1/2 teaspoons ground cinnamon





Instructions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- 2. Combine flour, cream of tartar, baking soda and salt in medium bowl. Beat butter, 1 ½ cups sugar and vanilla in large mixer bowl until creamy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Gradually beat in flour mixture. Stir in 1 ¼ cups morsels and cherries.
- 3. Combine remaining 3T sugar and cinnamon in small bowl. Roll dough into 1 ¼ inch balls and roll in cinnamon-sugar mixture until coated. Place on ungreased baking sheets. Top balls with a few of the remaining morsels and bake for 12 to 14 minutes or just until centers are set. Cool on baking sheets for 2 minutes; remove to wire racks to cool completely.





Cranberry Noel Cookies

By: Canyon Villa Bed & Breakfast Inn of Sedona located in Sedona, AZ (via BnBFinder.com)



You can never go wrong when you add cranberries to your favorite seasonal treats. Coconut and pecans turn these ordinary Christmas cookies into a yummy treat. Delight your taste buds and impress friends with this down-home recipe.

Ingredients:

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 tsp. milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2-1/2 cups flour

- 3/4 cup dried cranberries, chopped in food processor
- 1/2 cup pecans, chopped in food processor
- 3/4 cup shredded coconut (can be processed in food processor

Instructions:





- 1. Combine butter and sugar. Mix for 3 minutes or until light and fluffy. Add milk and vanilla extract to butter mixture.
- 2. In a separate bowl, combine remaining ingredients. Slowly add flour mixture to the butter.
- 3. Make three dough logs. Wrap each dough log separately in plastic wrap. Store in refrigerator overnight.
- 4. Remove plastic from dough log. Cut cookies. Place on cookie sheet and bake in 375 degree oven for 12 minutes or until lightly browned.
- 5. We dip the cookies in Ghirardelli candy making and dipping bar white chocolate.





Chewy Chocolate Gingerbread Cookies

By: The King's Daughters Inn located in Durham, NC (via BnBFinder.com)



Gingerbread is as much a part of the holiday season as Santa and elves. Put a new twist on an old favorite by adding chocolate to your favorite gingerbread cookies. Serve these cookies moist - they're best when they're extra soft and chewy. After one taste you won't believe you never imagined this combination before.

Yields: 2 dozen cookies

Ingredients:

- 7 ounces semisweet chocolate
- 1-1/2 cups plus 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
- 1-1/4 teaspoons ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg

- 1 tablespoon unsweetened Dutch process cocoa powder
- 8 tablespoons butter
- 1 tablespoon freshly grated ginger
- 1/2 cup dark brown sugar, packed





1/4 cup unsulfured molasses

1 teaspoon baking soda

• 1/4 cup granulated sugar

Instructions:

- 1. Chop chocolate into 1/4 inch chunks and set aside. In a medium bowl, sift together flour, ground ginger, cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg and cocoa. In a bowl with an electric mixer, beat butter and grated ginger until whitened, about 4 minutes. Add brown sugar, beat until combines. Add molasses, beat until combined.
- 2. In a small bowl dissolve baking soda in 1 1/2 teaspoons boiling water. Beat half of flour mixture into butter mixture. Beat in baking soda mixture, then remaining half of flour mixture. Mix in chocolate, turn out onto plastic wrap, wrap and refrigerate for 2 hours or more.
- 3. Heat oven to 325 degrees. Roll dough into 1 1/2 inch balls and roll in sugar. Place on baking sheet 2 inches apart. Bake until the surfaces crack slightly, 10 to 12 minutes. Let cool 5 minutes.





Raspberry Thumbprint Cookies

By: The Candlelite Inn located in Bradford, NH (via BnBFinder.com)



Gather up the kids and create some simple and sweet thumbprint cookies. The delicious raspberry filling makes this a sweet treat that's still light and airy. Have kids use their thumbs to create the indents in the center – they'll love showing off their work at your next Christmas party.

Yields: 2 dozen cookies

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup of butter or margarine, softened
- 1/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

- 1-1/2 cups all-purpose flour, sifted
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1/3 cup miniature semi-sweet chocolate chips
- Raspberry preserves

Instructions:





- 1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. In a medium mixing bowl, cream butter, sugars, salt and vanilla until light and fluffy. Blend in flour and milk. Stir in chocolate chips.
- 2. Shape dough into 1 inch balls and place on ungreased baking sheets. Make a small indentation with thumb in the top of each ball. Use a teaspoon to place a small amount of raspberry preserves in each indentation.
- 3. Bake 10 to 12 minutes. Remove from sheets and cool on wire racks.





Peppermint Cookies

By: Inn & Spa at Cedar Falls – Hocking Hills Lodging located in Logan, OH (via BnBFinder.com)



Savor the sweet smell of peppermint and make delicious cookies – what could be better? Crush peppermint candies and add them to the batter for a crunchy surprise. These cookies are perfect for anyone that loves a fragrant and delicious snack during the holiday season.

Yields: 6 dozen cookies

Ingredients:

- 1 cup shortening
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1-1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract

- 2-3/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 cup crushed peppermint candies

Instructions:





- 1. In a mixing bowl, cream shortening and sugars. Add the eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Beat in vanilla. Then combine the dry ingredients; gradually add to the creamed mixture. Stir in crushed candies.
- 2. Shape into a 15-inch roll; wrap in plastic wrap. Refrigerate for 4 hours or until firm.
- 3. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. Unwrap and cut into 1/8-inch slices. Place 2 inches apart on ungreased baking sheets. Bake for 6 to 8 minutes, or until edges begin to brown. Remove to wire racks to cool.





Candy Cane Cookies

By: Birchwood Inn located in Lenox, MA (via BnBFinder.com)



These aren't your standard Christmas cookies. Use red food coloring to create a peppermint swirl that resembles a standard candy cane. Add peppermint extracts and crushed candy canes to the dough for a fun and unexpected touch. The cute shapes and pretty colors will help your cookies stand out from a sea of round treats on Christmas.

Yields: 3 dozen candy canes

Ingredients:

- 1 egg
- 1 tsp. peppermint extract
- 1/2 tsp. almond extract
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour

- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. red food coloring (more if needed)
- 1/4 cup crushed candy canes or peppermint candy





1/4 cup sugar

Instructions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 375F. Mix the butter, sugar, egg, and extracts thoroughly. Mix the flour and salt, and stir into the butter mixture. Divide the dough in half.
- 2. Blend the food coloring into one half. Mix the sugar and crushed candy together.
- 3. Roll 2 tsp. of each color into 2 5-inch "snakes," rolling each "snake" back and forth on a lightly floured board. Place the two "snakes" next to each other, press together lightly and twist like a rope (so it looks like a barber's pole).
- 4. Make the cookies one at a time. Curve the top to make the handle of the candy cane. Bake for approximately 8-10 minutes, until just lightly brown on the bottom. Remove the cookies immediately and sprinkle with the sugar-candy mixture.



Quick and Easy Christmas Gifts to Make

Snowballs for the Bath

By: Amy Thompson of Progressive Pioneer



Cook up some super snowballs that will help you relax and unwind. Add in some essential oils to make your gift even more special. If you really want to try something different, add food coloring to your snowballs! This is a great gift for a friend, neighbor or colleague.

Materials:

- **Epsom salts**
- Water
- Spherical Mold or Bath Ball Mold
- Essential oil- lavender, sweet orange, rose, cinnamon, peppermint, etc. (optional)
- Food coloring- Keep the snowy white look or add blue food coloring for an icy look if you like (optional)





Instructions:

- 1. For every cup of Epsom salts, add about a tablespoon of water or a little more, to give it kind of a moldable, wet sand consistency.
- 2. Pack it into some sort of spherical mold (craft stores usually have clear plastic ones designed to fill with Christmasy stuff for ornaments. Should be easy to find this time of year).
- 3. You can also add a few drops of essential oil per cup of salts. I used lavender, but try sweet orange, rose, and cinnamon... plenty of lovely options.
- 4. You can add food coloring if you like, though I prefer the snowy white look.
- 5. Remove from mold and let air dry for 2-3 days or speed up drying by placing in a 200 F oven for a few hours.





Decoupage Holiday Plate

By: Pattie Donham-Wilkinson for ilovetocreate.com



Tear out decorative papers, words and photos to create a collage on a plain plate with this craft from L Love to Create. With decoupage, you can turn an ordinary plate into a lovely holiday accent or homemade gift. This is a great gift idea for anyone on your list.

Materials:

- Collage Pauge Instant Decoupage™
- Decorative papers
- Plastic tray

- Foil
- Foam brush

Instructions:





- 1. Cut or tear photos, words or special designs from papers you wish predominate on tray.
- 2. Cut or tear additional pieces until there are enough to cover tray. If paper is torn it will leave a ragged white edge, which will make it look more like a collage.
- 3. Cover work surface with paper towels. Shake bottle of Collage Pauge well. Squeeze a puddle onto foil. Working in a small area at a time, quickly brush Collage Pauge onto the backside of the tray and onto back of a strip of paper. Place photos first, continue to smooth paper onto wet glue on tray. Brush a coat of Collage Pauge over paper. Dip fingers into water. Smooth out any air bubbles, starting at center and working outward in a circle.
- 4. Repeat procedure adding words or special designs.
- 5. Finish with coat of Collage Pauge over entire piece, and then cover with tissue paper. Apply final coat of Collage Pauge over entire tissue paper.
- 6. Cut tissue paper around rim of plate.
- 7. Let dry.



Blue and White Snowflake Box

By: DecoArt



Create a royal blue box painted with popping white snowflakes as a reusable holiday gift box or lovely storage box. Organization has never looked so cute or festive! This project is inexpensive to produce and perfect for the snowy Christmas season.

Materials:

- DecoArt Snow Writer DS65C Snow Writer
- DecoArt Americana Acrylics DAO36 -True Blue
- DecoArt Triple Thick Gloss Glaze
- DecoArt Americana Brushes DBF2575-B
 Flat 3/4"

- Water container
- Paper towels
- Palette or foam plate
- Chalk pencil (optional)
- Round paper mache box





Instructions:

- 1. Paint box and lid using flat brush and True Blue. Allow to dry.
- 2. Use chalk pencil or regular pencil to draw crosses for placement of snowflakes.
- 3. Use paper towel or foam plate to practice snowflakes. Draw snowflakes on box using Snow Writer. Use small grouping of three dots to fill in around flakes. Allow to dry.
- 4. Spray box with several light coats of Triple Thick Gloss Glaze. Allow drying between coats.





Christmas Snow Globe

By: Art Glitter



Give a great, easy-to-make gift this holiday season from Art Glitter. This Christmas Snow Globe is a fantastic homemade Christmas craft that can be displayed all year.

Materials:

- Snow Globe (Hobby Lobby)
- Stamp (Crafty Secrets)
- Ink Colorbox
- Ultrafine Opaque Aqua Marine Glitter (Art Glitter)
- Designer Dries Clear Adhesive (Art Glitter)
- Fine Tip Tool (Art Glitter)
- Cardstock (Worldwin)
- Rub-ons (K & Co.)

Instructions:

- 1. Stamp Santa image on white cardstock.
- 2. Using the fine tip writing tool, apply glitter to parts of Santa.
- 3. Let dry.



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- 4. Insert into snow globe.
- 5. Apply rub-ons and glitter to the outside of the snow globe.

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Christmas Decoupage Picture Frame

By: Mary Lyon



This is an easy Christmas craft from Mary Lyon that will make your rooms festive in an instant using your very own photos and frames. Stick a meaningful photo inside the frame and give one as a gift grandparents, aunts and uncles will love it! Follow these quick and easy instructions to make beautiful Christmas crafts.

Materials:

- Picture Frame
- Wrapping paper

- Mod Podge or similar type glue
- Hot glue gun

Instructions:

- 1. Use an old wooden picture frame or one that you can pick up at a yard sale. Remove the glass and put it aside in a safe place.
- 2. Cut up pieces of gently used or left over Christmas wrap. Place on frame and brush on the Mod Podge. Continue this until the entire frame is covered.
- 3. You can also cut out shapes (like the candy canes) from the wrap and glue those on too.
- 4. After the frame dries, take a small ornament or toy and hot glue it to one of the corners.



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5. Finish it off by putting your favorite holiday photo inside.

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Glittery Tree Vase

By: Etchworld Armour



This glittery tree vase from Etchworld Armour is perfect for the Christmas holiday. It sparkles with pride and you can make this to give as a great gift.

Materials:

Crystals- white glitter (chunky glitter) Thick white craft glue (dries clear) (Tube with cutable tip) Popsicle stick or coffee stirrer





- 15-0150 Armour Etch Cream
- 61-4162 Needle Tip Applicator bottle
- 60-6901 5" Cylinder vase 61-3328 White Rub N Buff
- Liner detail paintbrush (optional)
- Cotton swab
- Paper clip or embroidery needle
- Large glass jar from the recycling

Instructions:

- 1. With a Popsicle stick or coffee stirrer, load the Needle tip applicator bottle with Etch cream. Discard any obvious lumps or crystals.
- 2. Snip off the smallest amount of the tip you can from the applicator bottle. If the cream won't come out the tip, snip a tiny bit more off the end until the cream makes a nice line into a paper towel or on a paper plate. You want as fine a line as you can get without the Etch cream clogging the tip. Keep an opened paper clip or embroidery needle handy to handle clogs as you are working.
- 3. Turn vase upside down and place over your free hand with the top of the vase towards you and the bottom facing away from you.
- 4. You will be forming the tree upside down. I found this works best because when you start the line, the Etch Cream always seems to come out heavier at the start and it is easier to let up pressure on the bottle as you go up the trunk and out to the branches than visa a versa. Decide whether you want roots to show or not on your tree. If you do (which is what is shown), using the picture as your guide, start a horizontal line across the bottom edge of the vase from left to right for about 1" and then make a right angle and continue vertically up the vase toward you until almost to the top. (If you are not making roots then just go straight up from the bottom) then make a slight left at the end, easing the pressure on the bottle as you go so the line gets thinner.
- 5. Now do the opposite and repeat step 4 for the other half of the tree. Fill in the center of the trunk if needed.
- 6. For the other limbs on the tree, start the next limb a little above the trunk or however far up the tree you want the lowest branch to be. Start the line for a new limb just above the last one in the crook of the limb below it. Continue in this fashion going higher and higher on each side until the tree is as full as you wish. Stagger your limbs to look more natural (use our pic as your guide or illustrations of trees from clip art, books or even rubber stamps to make different types of trees)
- 7. To make finer branches, take a dry liner brush and drag out the Etch Cream from the end the limb. Squiggle the brush a little; even bend some down slightly, so they look more natural.





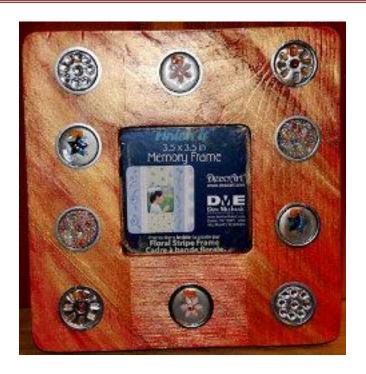
- 8. Rinse off Etch Cream under running water without touching the design until as much of the cream is removed as possible. Wet a paper towel and wash off any remaining cream while water is still running. Dry vase.
- 9. Place a little white Rub N Buff on the end of a cotton swap and smear all over trees. Take a soft paper towel and wipe off the excess Rub N Buff, flip towel over and buff to a luster. The Rub N Buff will only stick to the etching.
- 10. Snip off a very small section from the tip of the glue's applicator bottle.
- 11. Working with one tree at a time, run a line of glue up one side of the tree and along the top of most of the branches.
- 12. While the glue is still wet, sprinkle with glass glitter. Repeat for each of the other trees. Also add some along the ground between trees. Let dry.
- 13. Can be gently hand washed with soft cloth, plain water and a little dish detergent.





Christmas Frame

By: Alyice Edrich for The Dabbling Mum



Make this Christmas craft with your kids and you'll both enjoy the wonderful results. The kids will love choosing colors and shapes to add to the wooden frame. The Christmas Frame from Alyice Edrich to make with kids is the perfect way to create with loved ones.

Materials:

- DecoArt 3.5 x 3.5 Memory Frame
- White Gesso
- Acrylic paints
- Paintbrushes
- Judkins' Diamond Glaze®
- Scrap papers cut into shapes using a paper punches.
- Small buttons, beads, or other 3-D objects

- Bottle caps, photo charms, even the metal from old floppy disks—anything that can hold an object and glue will work.
- Fine tip permanent marker
- Tweezers (or disposable toothpicks)
- Personal photo or custom artwork





Instructions:

- 1. Paint wood frame with gesso.
- 2. Let dry.
- 3. Sign and date back of frame with permanent marker.
- 4. Paint the frame using various colors—abstract is best.
- 5. Let dry.
- 6. Squirt a small dot of Diamond Glaze® on the back of the holders and spread using a cheap, throw-away paintbrush. Then turn over and place on the frame.
- 7. Let dry.
- 8. Squirt Diamond Glaze® into the holder, filling it up halfway.
- 9. Slowly drop objects into the glaze.
- 10. Use tweezers (or disposable toothpicks) to move the objects around, thus creating designs or centering objects.
- 11. Cover objects with glaze.
- 12. Lay flat and let dry overnight.
- 13. You may have to check the glaze after a few minutes for air bubbles. You can leave them in and allow them to add charm to the piece, or you can take a sharp needle and carefully poke the air bubbles.
- 14. Insert photo or artwork.





Christmas Tree Button Tote

By: TyAnne Roberts for InspireMeCrafts.com



Here is an easy Christmas craft that all your girl friends will love. The instructions are simple and the materials can be found easily at the craft store. This easy Christmas craft is great for gifting or toting around the holidays.

Materials:

- DecoArt 3.5 X 3.5 Memory Frame
- Tote bag
- Buttons (For Christmas Tree: 9 small, 12 large, 1 star in silver and gold)
- Needle & thread
- Ribbon

Instructions:

1. Lay out buttons to resemble Christmas tree shape next to tote bag. I used small and large as well as gold and silver buttons.





- 2. One by one start to sew each button on to the tote in the shape that you laid out next to the
- 3. Continue until you are done.
- 4. Tie a ribbon in a bow and sew to where the handle attaches to the tote.
- 5. Use your bag as a gift bag or tote it around town.





Etched Holiday Candy Dish

By: Armour Products



This simple etched candy dish from <a>Etchworld Armour works as a great Christmas accent in any room. This beginner etching project makes a great holiday gift.

Materials:

- Sand Etch® Kit
- Sand Etch® Stencil #70-9205
- Sand Etch® Stencil #70-9206
- 8" Clear Square Place
- Several sheets of paper
- Glass Cleaner

- **Masking Tape**
- **Paper Towels**
- Scissors
- **Running Water**
- Cardboard Box

Instructions:

1. With scissors cut out the tree stencil design from stencil #70-9205.





- 2. Position the design in the center of the reverse side of the plate. Be sure the stencil is flat against the glass.
- 3. Secure in place with masking tape.
- 4. Cover everything that will remain clear (not etched) with paper.
- 5. Begin to blast your project according to the detailed instructions found in the Sand Etch Kit. Hold the nozzle of the blaster approx. 1 inch from the glass while blasting in a circular or zig zag motion. Hold the glass up to the light periodically to be sure all areas are etched.
- 6. Carefully remove stencil design, tape and paper to avoid scratching glass with any remaining abrasive.
- 7. Rinse project under running water to remove excess abrasive. Clean project with glass cleaner and dry with paper towels.
- 8. To complete the project, cut out snowflake design stencil #70-9206 and place in a random pattern around the tree repeating steps 2 thru 6.



Homemade Christmas Gift Ideas

Christmas Tree Pendant and Earrings

By: Jana Ewy for Amaco



Step-by-step photos help you to create a swirly plastic necklace pendant with matching earrings from AMACO, perfect for the holidays. The Christmas tree pendant and earrings are festive, yet stylish. Give friendly plastic a try!

Materials:

- Friendly Plastic® 7" sticks Green, Avocado, Dark Teal, Print Green, Swirl and Black
- Craft knife
- Scissors

- Needle tool
- Small dish of cold water with a few drops of olive oil
- Griddle set at 200-300 degrees





- Non-stick baking sheet that fits flat on griddle surface
- Stylus
- Heat tool
- Sealer Envirotex Lite or similar high gloss acrylic sealer
- Disposable mixing container and stir
- Straw
- Non-stick cookie sheet

- Round nose and needle nose jewelry pliers
- Wire cutters
- E 6000 glue
- Jewelry findings antiqued brass, round filigree, 2 sparrows, circle link, 3 star shaped spacer beads, eye pins, chain, clasp, ear wires, jump rings
- Three flat backed Swarovski crystals

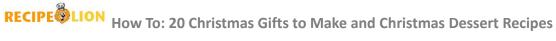
Instructions:

1. Using scissors cut the plastic sticks into random sized strips and triangles. This is a perfect project for using any scrap pieces of plastic left from previous projects.



2. Pre heat the griddle. Place the baking sheet onto the griddle. One at a time, begin to arrange the triangles and strips in a patchwork pattern. Make sure each piece is stuck in place before adding the next. Try to press each piece tightly against the one before to prevent any gaps. Continue until all of the pieces have been added. Allow the plastic to soften and seal together. If any gaps do appear, simply tap over them with your finger pressing the softened plastic together.









3. When all the plastic has softened and sealed together, place the teeth of the marbling comb against the baking sheet and draw the comb through the plastic in a wavy "S" pattern. NOTE: It is very important that you keep the teeth of the comb against the pan while cutting through the plastic. If you only rake over the top, you split the metallic finish and take the chance of exposing too much of the base plastic.







4. Remove the pan from the griddle. Allow the plastic to cool. You may place the pan under cold running water to speed the cooling process along. Use the needle tool to press under the edges of the cooled plastic and remove it from the pan. On the reverse side of the plastic, using a stylus, trace one large and two small tree templates. Do the same of the reverse side of a stick of black plastic. Following the indented lines created by the stylus, cut out the trees using scissors.



5. Apply the Envirotex lite sealer following the manufacturer's instructions.







- 6. Note: I like to place my pieces on a non-stick cookie sheet. This way if there is any run off, it will be easy to remove later. Once I have the Envirotex mixed, I like to pour it into a small squeeze bottle. The application will be more precise and much easier. Blow softly through a straw to pop any air bubbles that remain. Allow to dry at least 12 hours if there has been any run off. Remove the piece from the pan by pressing the needle tool under it and lifting. The resin is still soft enough that you can cut the excess off with a scissors. Envirotex cures completely in 24 hours.
- 7. To create the earring components, heat and soften the back of the small black tree using the heat tool. You don't want to soften the whole piece, just the surface, enough to press the eye pin into place. Be careful not to touch the softened plastic with your fingers. Once the eye pin is in place, align the marbled tree on top and gently press the two together. Moisten your fingers with water and lightly rub around the edges of the component to smooth and secure the bond. Allow the components to cool completely. Repeat this step for the second earring component.
- 8. To create the large tree pendant, heat and soften the back of the large black tree using the heat tool. Once again, you don't want to soften the whole piece, just the surface, enough to press the filigree finding into place. Be careful not to touch the softened plastic with your fingers. Once the filigree piece is in place, align the marbled tree on top and gently press the two together.









9. Gather the jewelry components to being assembly. Glue the stars onto the top of each tree, and then glue a crystal into the center of each star. Allow glue to dry.



10. Assemble the necklace and earrings according to the photo or as desired.





Quilted Christmas Jar

By: Dena Lenham for Kreinik



Decorate a simple mason jar for those special Christmas treats. This quick and easy project will make your canned gifts look even more beautiful this holiday season.

Materials:

- Empty glass canning jar
- 100% cotton fabric with a Christmas theme
- 1/4" red satin ribbon
- Misc. buttons in red and green colors
- 1/16" Ribbon 002 Gold

- #8 Braid 009 Emerald
- #12 Braid 008 Green
- **Diamond Beadlets**
- Shallow pan or tray
- 8x10 sheet of red liner, heavy duty double sided Treasure Tape

Instructions:

1. Cut out squares from your Christmas fabric (in our sample, we used teacup blocks and a patch with the words "Christmas Tea" printed on the fabric). Set aside momentarily.





- 2. Cut a rectangular piece of Treasure Tape from the 8x10 sheet to fit like a belt around the middle of your jar. Remove the white backing from this tape and attach it to your jar.
- 3. Using leftover pieces of Treasure Tape cover the jar lid.
- 4. Peel off the red liner from the tape on your jar and begin embellishing: lay the fabric squares first, then the red satin ribbon, then the buttons. Lay the gold ribbon along the top and bottom as a decorative border, and fill in other sticky areas with the green braid colors.
- 5. When embellishing is complete to your satisfaction, lay the jar in your shallow pan and cover all remaining sticky areas with the Diamond Beadlets. Shake to dislodge loose beads.
- 6. Do the same with the jar lid to decorate it, and then use your personalized, embellished holiday jar as a decoration or gift.





Holiday Pocketbook

By: Laurie D'Ambrosio for GlueDots.com



This kids Christmas craft from Glue Dots will be cherished by grandparents and relatives alike. Let the kids make this special craft including a photo, unique ornament and a couple of free tickets for BIG hugs!

Materials:

- Craft Glue Dots
- Mini Glue Dots
- 1" Glue Lines
- 5 X 7" photo mat
- 24 x 36" sheet of textured paper
- 1/2" wide flat trim
- 1" wide holiday ribbon
- Gingerbread buttons; Jesse James

- Small red, flat buttons
- Green embroidery floss
- Decorator chalks
- Holiday confetti
- Cotton balls
- Wire nippers or old nail clippers
- Solid green cardstock

Instructions:





- 1. Use the backing cardboard from the photo mat to trace 5 rectangles next to each other across the bottom of your paper.
- 2. Cut the paper into one long strip. (To make an accordion fold, fold the strip on the lines in opposite directions.)
- 3. Place Glue Lines on three sides of the photo mat and attach one end of the folded strip to the photo mat. Fold back the last section and secure it with Glue Lines to create a stiff back for the book.
- 4. Use Glue Lines to add trim to the mat frame. Cut the shanks (loops) off the back of the buttons and use Mini Glue Dots to adhere them to the top of the trim.
- 5. Use the cotton ball to add red chalk to the pages.
- 6. Cut green cardstock 1" larger than the item you want to put in the book. Place Glue Lines on three sides and add to the book to make a pocket.
- 7. Use Mini Glue Dots to add confetti to one or two of the pockets.
- 8. Tie a piece of embroidery floss to the red buttons and glue them to the pocket using Mini Glue Dots.
- 9. Add the CD to one of the pages and mark where the slits for the ribbon should be. Use scissors to snip a hole for the ribbon. Cut a 12" piece of ribbon for the CD. Thread the ribbon through the holes and tie on the CD.





10. Secure the ribbon to the back of the book with a Mini Glue Dots, so it doesn't slip out.



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Cable Socks for Men

By: Patons



Knit a cozy pair of cable socks for any man in your life with this intermediate socks knitting pattern from Patons. The look of these socks is classic but relaxed.

Materials:

- Yarn: Patons® Kroy Socks (50 g/1.75 oz) Sizes: 10 (11-12) 2 (3-3) balls
- Knitting Needles: One set of four 21/4 mm (U.S. 1) double pointed knitting

- needles or size needed to obtain tension
- Cable needle

Sizes: Finished Foot Length:

10 ins [25.5 cm]





11 ins [28 cm]

12 ins [30.5 cm]

Gauge: 36 sts and 48 rows = 4 ins [10 cm] in stocking st.

Abbreviation: C4B = slip next 2 sts onto cable needle and leave at back of work. K2, then K2 from cable needle.

Instructions:

The instructions are written for smallest size. If changes are necessary for larger sizes the instructions will be written thus ().

Cast on 84 sts loosely. Divide into 24, 36 and 24 sts on 1st, 2nd and 3rd needles. Join in rnd, placing a marker on first st. Work in (K2. P2) ribbing for 1½ ins [4 cm].

Proceed in Cable Pat as follows:

1st and 2nd rnds: *P1. (K1. P1) twice. P2. K4. P1. Rep from * around.

3rd and 4th rnds: *P1. (P1. K1) twice. P2. K4. P1. Rep from * around.

5th rnd: *P1. (K1. P1) twice. P2. C4B. P1. Rep from * around.

6th rnd: As 1st rnd.

7th and 8th rnds: As 3rd and 4th rnds.

9th and 10th rnds: *P1. K4. P2. (K1. P1) twice. P1. Rep from * around.

11th and 12th rnds: *P1. K4. P2. (P1. K1) twice. P1. Rep from * around.

13th rnd: *P1. C4B. P2. (K1. P1) twice. P1. Rep from * around.

14th rnd: As 9th rnd.

15th and 16th rnds: As 11th and 12th rnds.

These 16 rnds form Cable Pat.





Cont in Cable Pat until work from beg measures approx 6½ ins [16.5 cm], ending on a 16th rnd of Cable

Next rnd: 1st needle: (K6. P2tog) 3 times. 2nd needle: Pat to end of needle. 3rd needle: (K6. P2tog) 3 times. 78 sts in rnd divided as 21, 36 and 21 sts on 1st, 2nd and 3rd needles. Break yarn.

Arrange heel sts: Slip last 4 sts from 1st needle onto beg of 2nd needle. Slip first 4 sts from 3rd needle onto end of 2nd needle. Divide 44 sts from 2nd needle onto 2 needles and leave for instep. Slip sts from 3rd needle onto 1st needle for heel.

Make heel: Next row: (RS). *K1. Sl1. Rep from * to last 2 sts. K2.

Next row: K1. Purl to last st. K1.

Rep these 2 rows for 2½ ins [6 cm], ending with RS facing for next row.

Shape Heel: Next row: K21. Sl1. K1. psso. Turn.

Next row: P9. P2tog. Turn.

Next row: K9. Sl1. K1. psso. Turn.

Next row: P9. P2tog. Turn.

Rep last 2 rows until all sts are worked, thus ending with RS facing for next row. 10 sts.

Shape instep: With RS of work facing and 1st needle, knit and pick up and knit 16 sts along left side of heel. With 2nd needle, pat across 44 sts for instep. With 3rd needle, pick up and knit 16 sts from right side of heel, then knit first 5 heel sts. 86 sts in rnd divided as 21, 44, and 21 sts on 1st, 2nd and 3rd needles.

1st rnd: 1st needle: Knit to last 3 sts. K2tog. K1. 2nd needle: Pat to end of needle. 3rd needle: K1. Sl1. K1. psso. Knit to end of needle.

Work 1 rnd even.

Rep last 2 rnds to 78 sts divided as 17, 44 and 17 sts on 1st, 2nd and 3rd needles.

Keeping instep sts in cable pat, cont even until foot from picked up sts at heel measures 6½ (7½-8½) ins [17 (19-22) cm].

Next rnd: 1st needle: Knit. 2nd needle: (K5. K2tog) 6 times. K2. 3rd needle: Knit. 72 sts.

Shape Toe: 1st rnd: (K7. K2tog) 8 times.





Knit 2 rnds even.

4th rnd: (K6. K2tog) 8 times.

Knit 2 rnds even.

7th rnd: (K5. K2tog) 8 times.

Knit 2 rnds even.

10th rnd: (K4. K2tog) 8 times.

Knit 2 rnds even.

13th rnd: (K3. K2tog) 8 times.

Knit 2 rnds even.

16th rnd: (K2. K2tog) 8 times.

Knit 2 rnds even.

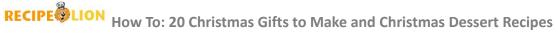
19th rnd: (K1. K2tog) 8 times.

Knit 2 rnds even.

22nd rnd: (K2tog) 8 times. 8 sts in rnd.

Break yarn leaving long end and draw through rem sts and fasten securely.







Soft Check Scarf Crochet Pattern

By: Red Heart Yarn



Made with eco-friendly wool containing sustainable bamboo, this scarf from Red Heart Yarn with unique check pattern is pretty, responsible and feel greats to touch. Look closely at this warm yet soft scarf to see the lovely checked, diamond pattern running throughout. This scarf crochet pattern includes two slits to pull the scarf through and secure around your neck.

Materials:

Yarn: RED HEART® Eco-Ways Bamboo Wool: 3 skeins 3365 Cocoa

Gauge: In pattern: (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) twice = 4"

Size: 48" x 6" featuring two 3" long slits

Crochet Hook: 5.5mm [US I-9]

Yarn needle





Instructions:

Ch 35.

Row 1 (Wrong Side): 3 dc in 5th ch from hook, [sk next 4 chs, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next ch] 5 times, sk next 4 chs, sc in last ch, turn.

Row 2 (Right Side): Ch 4, 3 dc in first sc, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in each of next 5 ch-3 spaces, sc in space formed by beginning 4 sk chs, ch 4, turn.

Row 3: Ch 4, 3 dc in first sc, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in each of next 5 ch-3 spaces, sc in next ch-4 space, ch 4, turn. Rows 4-9: Repeat Row 3.

Note: To form the two 3" slits, scarf is worked in 3 sections for following 4 rows.

FIRST SECTION

Row 10: Ch 4, 3 dc in first sc, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next ch-3 space, sc in next ch-3 space, turn, leaving remaining sts unworked.

Row 11: Ch 4, 3 dc in first sc, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next ch-3 space, sc in next ch-4 space, turn.

Row 12: Ch 4, 3 dc in first sc, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next ch-3 space, sc in next ch-3 space.

Row 13: Ch 4, 3 dc in first sc, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next ch-3 space, sc in next ch-4 space. Fasten off.

SECOND SECTION

Row 10: Join yarn with slip st in first unworked sc on Row 9 from First Section, ch 4, 3 dc in same sc, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next ch-3 space, sc in next ch-3 space, turn, leaving remaining sts unworked.

Row 11: Ch 4, 3 dc in first sc, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next ch-3 space, sc in next ch-4 space, turn.

Row 12: Ch 4, 3 dc in first sc, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next ch-3 space, sc in next ch-3 space, turn.

Row 13: Ch 4, 3 dc in first sc, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next ch-3 space, sc in next ch-4 space. Fasten off.

THIRD SECTION

Row 10: Join yarn with slip st in first unworked sc on Row 9 from Second Section, ch 4, 3 dc in same sc, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next ch-3 space, sc in next ch-3 space, turn.

Row 11: Ch 4, 3 dc in first sc, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next ch-3 space, sc in next ch-4 space, turn.

Row 12: Ch 4, 3 dc in first sc, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next ch-3 space, sc in next ch-3 space, turn.

Row 13: Ch 4, 3 dc in first sc, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next ch-3 space, sc in next ch-4 space. Fasten off.

CENTER SECTION

Row 14: Hold piece with right side facing, join yarn with slip st in first sc on Row 13 of First Section, ch 4, 3 dc in same st, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next ch-3 space, sc in next ch-4 space, ch 3, 3 dc in first sc on Second Section, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next ch-3 space, sc in next ch-4 space, ch 3, 3 dc in next sc on Third Section, (sc, ch 3, 3 dc) in next ch-3 space, sc in next ch-4 space, turn.

Rows 15-65: Repeat Row 3.





Fasten off.

FINISHING

Weave in ends.

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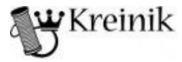


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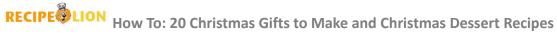


























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