

# Homemaker HANDMADE Christmas

SEW & CRAFT YOUR WAY TO FESTIVE FUN

**163**  
CREATIVE  
WOWS!

EASY PATCHWORK  
PRESENTS  
EMBROIDERED  
DECORATIONS  
APPLIQUÉ HACKS  
YOU'LL LOVE

*Seasonal  
pompom tricks*

**MERRY &  
BRIGHT**  
*stitching*

**INSIDE: FREE FAIRY ILLUSTRATIONS BY REBECCA JONES**







[www.frenchicpaint.co.uk](http://www.frenchicpaint.co.uk)  
#hastobeFrenchic





Despite blazing hot sunshine warming my back as I write this, it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. To my right is a Scandi stocking (you can see it in action on page 26) and on my desk is a smattering of iridescent sequins leftover from our sparkly projects on page 36. Oh, how bizarre my life is!

Contradictions aside, let me introduce you to this extremely cheerful and bustling Christmas Special. We've packed it full to the brim with seasonal projects, makers, buys and ideas so you can be inspired to have the best Christmas yet. I for one can't wait for you to get stuck in – discover the joy of arm knitting with our faux tree (p38), embroider a festive message on page 76, and be enamoured by Rebecca Jones' wintry illustrations (p47).

We've got a wonderfully kitsch collection of gift wrap and greeting card designs from Paperchase (p57) for you to cut out and enjoy – every time I see the cats wearing Christmas hats, I positively squeal with delight. What's more, our *Homemaker* Heroes have got that festive feeling too. Wayne remembers the time he spent Christmas Day in a lay-by in New Zealand – yes, really – and Annie Sloan takes us on a trip to Narnia on page 98.

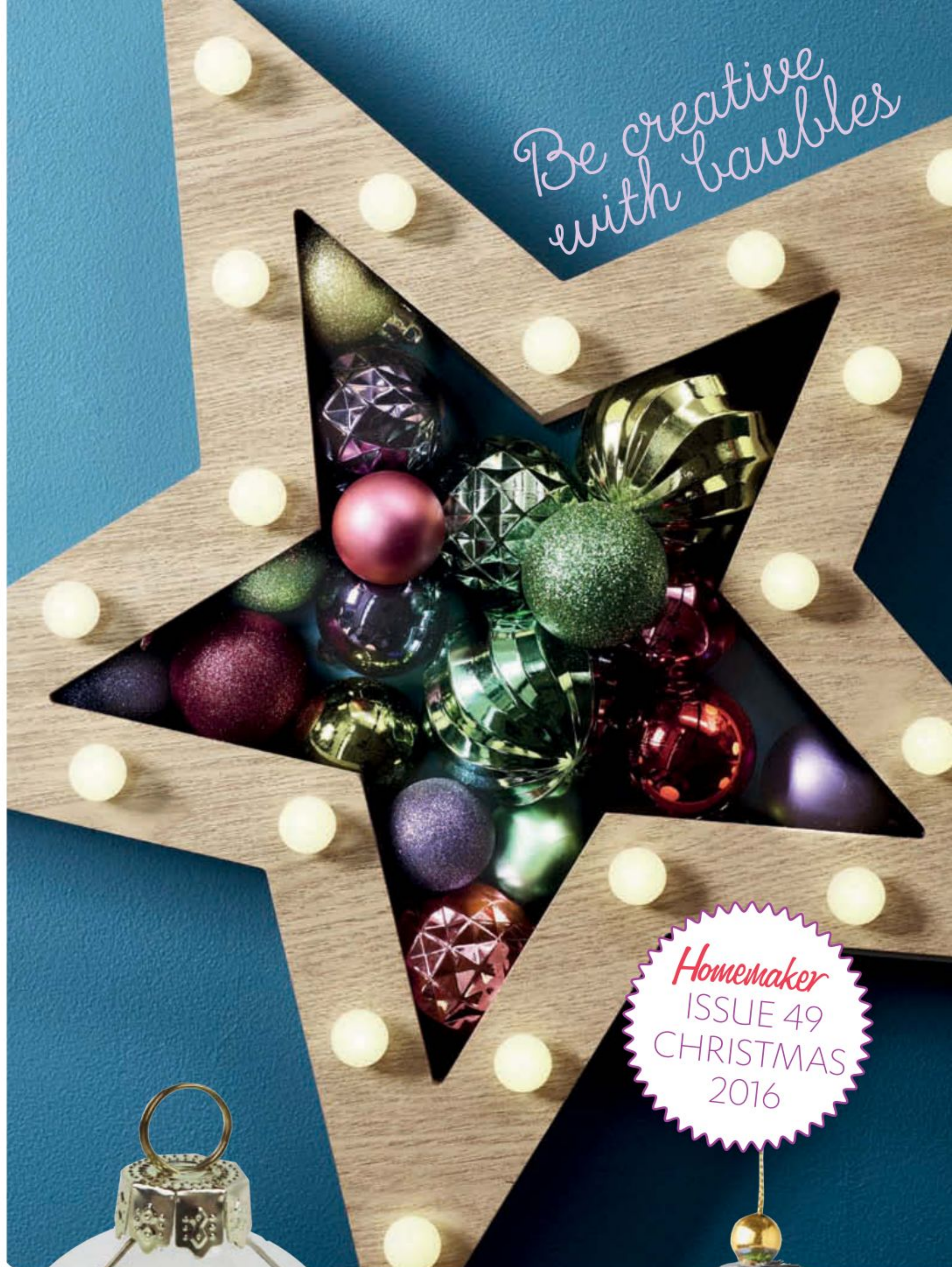
We're also spoiling you this month with £7,500 worth of prizes to be won, so look out for those as you read this festive edition. Who knows, maybe Father Christmas will deliver your prize just in time for the big day.

Happy crafting!

*Rosie*

ROSIE SAVAGE, EDITOR  
rosie.savage@aceville.co.uk

PS. I couldn't be more excited to announce the launch of the *Homemaker* Art & Craft Book Awards. Turn to p20 to get involved.



Be creative  
with baubles

*Homemaker*  
ISSUE 49  
CHRISTMAS  
2016



## GET IN TOUCH



Homemaker, 1 Phoenix Court, Hawkins  
Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JY  
[www.homemakermagazine.co.uk](http://www.homemakermagazine.co.uk)

## EDITOR'S FAVOURITES

Main image: [direct.asda.com](http://direct.asda.com)  
Gold star bauble place  
card holders: [oliverbonas.com](http://oliverbonas.com)  
Purple felt bauble: [theeloisebindery.etsy.com](http://theeloisebindery.etsy.com)  
Sequin peacock bauble: [tch.net](http://tch.net)



GRAPHTEC

# Meet Curio

The ultimate DIY machine.



The Curio is more than a cutting machine, it is where precision engineering meets cutting edge innovation. Curio allows you to harness the power of five stunning, creative functions..



Tel: 01978 666700

sales@graphtecgb.co.uk www.graphtecgb.co.uk



# HOCHANDA

## HOME OF CRAFTS HOBBIES AND ARTS

HOME OF YOUR FAVOURITE BRANDS

FREEVIEW 39 (6AM-9PM)

FREESAT 817 (24/7)

SKY 663 (24/7)

Claritystamp

Leonie Pujol

Crafter's Companion

CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

Spellbinder



TUNE IN TODAY...  
OR WATCH ONLINE AT  
[WWW.HOCHANDA.COM](http://WWW.HOCHANDA.COM)

THE UK's  
**INSPIRATIONAL**  
CRAFT TV CHANNEL



FAVOURITE BRANDS



# CREATE WITH *Homemaker*

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

**EDITOR**  
Rosie Savage  
01206 505994  
rosie.savage@aceville.co.uk

**DEPUTY EDITOR**  
Kayleigh Rattle  
01206 505488  
kayleigh.rattle@aceville.co.uk

**EDITORIAL ASSISTANT**  
Danielle Lett  
01206 505931  
danielle.lett@aceville.co.uk

**GROUP EDITOR**  
Lynn Martin

**ART DIRECTOR**  
Sarah Mayes

**DESIGNERS**  
Adam Barford, Lloyd Oxley,  
Damien Paddick,  
Charlotte Weatherley

**STUDIO MANAGER**  
Lee Whiteford

**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
CliQQ 01206 855477  
www.cliqq.co.uk

**PUBLISHING**  
Publishing Director: Helen Tudor  
Publishing Assistant: Paula Taylor

**SUBSCRIPTION ENQUIRIES**  
01795 414730  
homemaker@sevicehelpline.co.uk

**MARKETING MANAGER**  
Andrea Turner  
andrea.turner@aceville.co.uk

**GROUP ADVERTISING MANAGER**  
Martin Lack 01206 505940  
martin.lack@aceville.co.uk

**ACCOUNT MANAGER**  
Peter Harvey 01206 505476  
peter.harvey@aceville.co.uk

**ACCOUNTS**  
Philip Bale 01206 505907  
Newstrade Sales  
Marketforce 0203 148 3300

**Next issue on sale:**  
14th October 2016

Homemaker is published by Aceville Publications Ltd., Co No. 04109672. 21/23 Phoenix Court, Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JY. Printed in the UK by Wyndeham Heron. All rights reserved. Garments or accessories made from projects published by Homemaker are for personal use only and cannot be sold. Multiple copies of any part of this publication may not be made, and no part of this publication whether in its original form or a reproduction thereof may be sold. All projects and patterns featured within Homemaker are reproduced in good faith that they do not infringe any copyright. All published prices are correct at time of going to press but are subject to change. © Aceville Publications Ltd. 2016

Did you catch this sneak peek on Instagram? It's an upcoming Christmas project!



We welcomed our brand-new Deputy Editor Kayleigh to the team!



We've been busy launching our Art & Craft Book Awards – turn to p20 to find out more!



Discover this festive avocado snack recipe at [homemakermagazine.co.uk](http://homemakermagazine.co.uk)

## MEET OUR CONTRIBUTORS



**JENNIFFER TAYLOR**

This GBSB star is just one of our judges on the Art & Craft Book Awards (p20)



**REBECCA JONES**

On page 47, enjoy the delightful illustrations of Rebecca Jones



**ANNIE SLOAN**

Step into the world of Narnia on page 98 with one of Annie's favourite stockists



**ERIKA KNIGHT**

Update your sofa with Erika's traditional cushions on page 68



**WAYNE HEMINGWAY**

Hear about some of Wayne's unconventional Christmases on page 19



**AMANDA WALKER**

Amanda and her brother beautifully transformed an armchair this month (p71)



# Homemaker

## Contents

ISSUE 49



### IN EVERY ISSUE

- 9 PICK OF THE MONTH**  
Choose traditional colours for your blooms
- 10 HEADLINES**  
The latest trends, shows and craft essentials
- 13 FIVE AMAZING MAKES**  
It's colour pop Christmas!
- 22 HOMEMAKER HUB**  
All the latest from you lovely readers
- 25 READER MAKER**  
Hear from paper cutting duo Emma and Gill
- 91 COMING NEXT ISSUE**  
See what's in store for our second Christmas Special
- 93 WORKSHOPS & COURSES**  
You'll love these festive classes

### HOME MAKING

- 26 HANDMADE STOCKING**  
Take trend tips from Scandinavia
- 30 TRAVELLER'S SUITCASE**  
This is the perfect present for a holiday-goer
- 36 WAYS WITH... SEQUINS**  
Go glitzy this Christmas
- 38 WALL HANGING**  
You won't believe how soft this arm knitted make is
- 47 CREATE A BIT OF MAGIC**  
Be inspired to illustrate our fairies
- 53 STARRY BRANCH**  
Papercraft simple stars for your home
- 68 KNITTED HOME**  
Knit Erika Knight's traditional cushions

- 71 CHAIR MAKEOVER**  
Fix, paint and reupholster a statement chair
- 76 FESTIVE HOOP**  
Say 'Merry Christmas' with this embroidered make
- 78 SEWING KIT**  
Give the gift of haberdashery this season

### HOME BAKING

- 65 CAKE BOY**  
Bake a warming Scandinavian apple cake
- 66 CHRISTMAS TREE STACK**  
Whip up a batch of festive biccies

### HOME STYLING

- 86 HOST A STYLISH SOIRÉE**  
Add foliage to the Christmas table
- 88 Q&A**  
Expert answers to your home styling questions



## PRIZES!





28



## WANT NEED LOVE

- 34 GOLD!**  
Enjoy these glitzy delights
- 40 MODERN OR TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS?**  
Take our quiz to see which you prefer!
- 80 PHOTO PRESERVING**  
Snap the best shots with our how-to guide

## HOMEMAKER HEROES

- 19 WAYNE HEMINGWAY**  
The lovely Wayne shares stories from Christmases gone by
- 28 CAROL SMILLIE**  
Put your patchwork skills to the test
- 83 CAMILLA WESTERGAARD**  
Discover how to package up your Christmas makes
- 98 ANNIE SLOAN**  
Chalk Paint™ stockist Deborah of Tea and Roses is an inspiration

## MEET THE MAKER

- 32 SAM OSBORNE**  
Enjoy Sam Osborne's festive illustrations
- 84 LAUREN ASTON**  
Big balls of yarn are what Lauren's all about



30

## WIN!

- 54 FESTIVE FREEBIES**  
We've got prizes from some amazing brands
- 75 WIN A JANOME SEWING MACHINE**  
Be in with a chance of winning a 400E embroidery model
- 82 WIN A SIX PENNY MEMORIES BUNDLE**  
Get your hands on this prize from Hochanda

## AND THE REST...

- 20 THE ART & CRAFT BOOK AWARDS**  
Introducing our brand-new awards!
- 44 SUBSCRIBE TODAY**  
Never miss an issue of your favourite mag
- 97 HOMEMAKER TEMPLATES**  
We tell you where to find our patterns for this issue

17

## DON'T MISS!



You've got a **FREE** crochet kit and project booklet



Turn to p57 for your **FREE** Paperchase paper collection



SUBSCRIBE ONLINE TODAY AT **HOMEMAKERMAGAZINE.CO.UK**  
AND HAVE ALL THIS DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR!





**Ticket Offer:** Quote **HOME16** for **£2.50 OFF!\***

# The & Knitting Stitching Show

Alexandra Palace, London

**5th - 9th October 2016**

Harrogate International Centre

**24th- 27th November 2016**

The definitive event for anyone with  
a love of textile based crafts.

Supplies, workshops and textile art.


[www.theknittingandstitchingshow.com](http://www.theknittingandstitchingshow.com)

**0844 581 1302** (+44 (0) 121 796 6100 from outside the UK)

Image: Alice Kettle - Pause 2009 (detail) Photo: Joe Low

Workshops in association with:

**UPPER  
STREET  
EVENTS**

 **twistedthread**

*Hemline*

*Slow Living*

**PONY**

by GROVES

\*Valid on adult tickets in advance or £1.00 off concessions. Terms and conditions and £1.50 fulfilment fee applies.





PICK OF THE MONTH

# FESTIVE WOODLAND

## bouquet



Whether they're drawn, dried, pressed or printed, flowers are a must-have item for any crafter. But it doesn't have to stop there – filling a clear vase with foraged fare can also add a healthy dose of seasonal creativity to your home. Why not head to your local park or woods this month to gather some pine cones, ferns, berries and blooms? Think red, green and white hues. Shop-bought roses, mistletoe and gypsophila can also create the desired effect if nature is not quite to hand. For a final rustic flourish, we recommend tying a small piece of yarn or twine around your chosen vase.

Glass baubles, [tch.net](http://tch.net)



# HEADLINES

*Feel festive this month with our Crimbo-inspired finds!*



## SANTA PAWS

Get your crafty claws out this season with our new favourite book. Mariko Ishikawa's *Cattastic Crafts: DIY Projects for Cats and Cat People* is top of our to-read pile, and features over 30 feline-favoured makes including this adorable Santa hat. £11.65, Zakka Workshop, [amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk)



## HANDMADE CHRISTMAS

Make an assortment of party-pleasing gifts and decs from *Handmade Christmas*. With 35 step-by-step projects throughout, we can't wait to stitch our own gingerbread house doorstop – almost good enough to eat! £14.99, CICO Books, [rylandpeters.com](https://www.rylandpeters.com)  
To purchase *Handmade Christmas* for £10.99, including free P&P, call **01256 302699** and quote **HV6**.

## SITE TO SEE

SEE YOUR WORK IN A BETTER LIGHT WITH  
**CRAFTLAMPS.CO.UK**

## SPOTLIGHT ON...

### WEEKEND OF THE MAKER

Spend 26th – 27th November mingling with other makers and creative types at The Weekend of the Maker. A collaboration between Folksy and Crafty Fox Market, it's a celebration of all things hands-on and is being held at Sheffield's Roco Creative Co-op. Visit [folksy.com](https://www.folksy.com) for more information.



© HOLLY JOLLIFFE

## FESTIVE PRINTS

Round off your handmade gifts with a homemade touch by stamping your very own gift wrap. Joy Jolliffe's *Print It!* features 25 hand-printing projects including this Christmas stars wrapping paper. £9.99, Collins & Brown [pavilionbooks.com](https://www.pavilionbooks.com)





Count down to Christmas with this 3D advent calendar village – it has 24 houses to fill with sweets and treats! £9.95, [papermash.co.uk](http://papermash.co.uk)

## CURRENTLY COVETING...



Adorn your mantelpiece with a stunning gold geometric candle holder by Gisela Graham. £7.50, [tch.net](http://tch.net)

## SAVE THE DATE...

NOV 9 – NOV 13

THE COUNTRY LIVING CHRISTMAS FAIR  
Business Design Centre, London



NOV 10 – NOV 13

THE CAKE & BAKE SHOW  
EventCity, Manchester

NOV 17 – NOV 19

STITCHING, SEWING & HOBBYCRAFTS...  
AT CHRISTMAS  
ExCel, London

NOV 26 – NOV 27

CHRISTMAS CRAFT AND GIFT FAYRE  
Galashiels, Scottish Borders

## DECK THE HALLS

Adorn your home with these festive pocket bunting flags from Springwood House Designs. Available in two sizes, they are perfect to use as an advent calendar or to deck the halls. [springwoodhousedesigns.co.uk](http://springwoodhousedesigns.co.uk)



## SPOTTED...

### TILLY MINT VINTAGE

Give the gift of upcycling this year with a festive Frenchic gift kit by Tilly Mint Vintage; an official Frenchic stockist. Starting from £8, every need and budget is catered for with their paint, brush, wax and stencil bundles. [facebook.com/tillymintvintage](https://facebook.com/tillymintvintage)



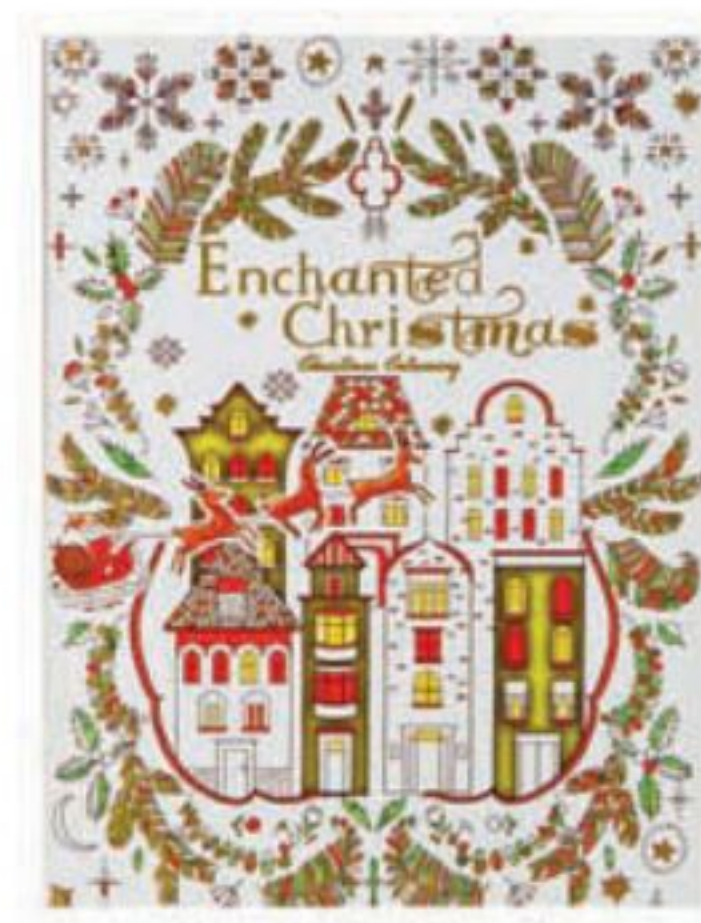
## READS WE RATE:



If you're hooked on crochet, be sure to add Lisa Gentry's *A Granny Square Christmas* to your craft library. (£6.99, Search Press)



Channel Nordic simplicity in your stitching this Christmas with Kajsa Kinsella's *Sew Scandinavian*. (£12.99, Ryland Peters & Small)



*Enchanted Christmas* is the perfect budget-pleasing colouring book to fill any crafter's stocking this Christmas. (£1, Poundland)

## GIVEAWAY

WIN A HAND DRAWN AND SIGNED ELLA JOHNSTON ORIGINAL UNICORN PRINT WORTH £15. ENTER AT [HOMEMAKERMAGAZINE.CO.UK](http://HOMEMAKERMAGAZINE.CO.UK)





# SILVERLINEC®

Mini Glue Gun  
100012

£6.02  
Inc VAT

- For ceramics, glass, light gauge metals, wood, plastic, fabric & card
- For light craft use
- Integral fold-away stand
- Includes 2 glue sticks
- Compatible with Silverline Glue Sticks 10pk (100024)

## OVER 5000 TOOLS

45W Compact Corded Nailer/Stapler 15mm  
837800

NEW

£34.60  
Inc VAT



Compartment  
Organiser  
252594

FROM  
£4.39  
Inc VAT



Embroidery  
Scissors  
704626



NEW

£1.75  
Inc VAT

Silverstorm 280W  
Keyless Multi-Tool  
955936

NEW



£48.92  
Inc VAT

Non-Slip Mat  
733246

£3.86  
Inc VAT



Mini Anvil  
595565

£4.42  
Inc VAT



China & Glass  
Markers 2pce  
508410



NEW

£1.57  
Inc VAT

Artists Paint Brush  
Set 12pce  
282606



£3.13  
Inc VAT

silverlinetools.com

FOR CRAFT HOW TO VIDEOS VISIT OUR YOUTUBE -  
YOUTUBE.COM/SILVERLINETOOLS1

Prices correct at time of print. Images not to scale. Colours may vary.

0845 4989043

JUST FABRICS

DESIGNER  
BRAND FABRICS  
AT DISCOUNT  
PRICES

www.justfabrics.co.uk

TJOCKT



www.tjockt.com

info@tjockt.com +358 40 5235144



# COLOUR POP Christmas



*Ensure your festivities pack a crafty punch*

All about colour? You'll love this hue-rrific Christmas trend. Featuring eye-popping shades and plenty of cheer, it's bound to put a smile on your face throughout the month of December. Our lovely designer Ruth Oliver is here to help you sew, paint and stick your way to a festive bonanza with five unbelievably fun makes the whole family will enjoy, including a reindeer present sack and super kitsch wreath. Oh... and be sure to say hello to Gingerbread Fred!



## SHOP THE LOOK

Hand-painted reindeer decorations,  
[sarahcampbelldesigns.com](http://sarahcampbelldesigns.com)



## SPELL OUT 'JOY'



### YOU'LL NEED:

Papier mâché letters  
Paint  
Glitter fabric, from  
[paper-and-string.com](http://paper-and-string.com)  
Glue



1 Draw around papier mâché letters onto the back of glitter fabric – remember to reverse them when necessary. We decided to spell out 'JOY' but have fun choosing a festive word or phrase to suit your home.

2 Paint the letters all over in a colour of your choice. Once dry, glue the glitter shapes onto the fronts of the letters to finish. You could also include smaller sections of glitter fabric, as we've done here with the 'O'.

# FIVE COLOUR POP UPDATES

### STICK IT

Wall stickers are an easy and affordable way to update your home – and, better still, they don't leave any damage behind! See what colourful Christmas designs you can find for an instant lift this season.

### TOY STORY

Produce the perfect trad-mod remix by painting old wooden or plastic toys in super bright shades. Add in a little tinsel and you've got something pretty fun.

### SHADE SWITCH-UP

Why not adjust your interiors to look more festive? You could re-cover lampshades, for example, with

seriously vibrant fabrics. The glow they'll emit could really change the mood of the room too.

### CHAIN GANG

There couldn't be a better way to add colour to proceedings than with some homemade paper chains. To coordinate the look with our collection, opt for both plain and patterned papers and intersperse them throughout your creation.

### BOWLED OVER

Fill glass bowls or mason jars with multicoloured fairy lights for an instant colour hit. If you're anything like us, you'll go entirely overboard, effectively turning your home into Santa's grotto.





## MAKE A KITSCH WREATH

Take long lengths of white wool and wrap around a polystyrene wreath. Layer up a little to create texture. Next, make a mix of decorations:

### WOOL POMPOMS

Using a dinner fork, take a length of wool and wrap around the prongs 25-30 times. Use a smaller piece of wool to thread through the middle prongs of the fork, then tie tightly. Slide off the fork and cut the looped sides to create the pompom. Roll in your palms to fluff up and trim if necessary. Repeat in all colours required.

### FELT TASSELS

Cut a rectangle, 8cm x 15cm, and fold lengthways. Snip into the folded side from one end to the other. Roll the strip up (still folded) and stitch at regular intervals to secure. Repeat using different sized rectangles.

### GINGERBREAD MAN

Trim two of our templates from brown felt, stitch on a mouth and add brads for eyes. Glue or stitch on glitter fabric buttons and a bow tie.

Pin the front and back of the gingerbread man together with wadding in the middle – cut this slightly smaller than the template. Stitch around the outside in a contrasting thread.

### CANDY CANE

Cut out two of the candy cane templates from red felt, then one piece of wadding slightly smaller. Sandwich the wadding between the two bits of felt and sew around. Gather thin strips of glitter fabric and glue in place to create stripes.

### CHRISTMAS TREE

Trim two trees from green felt and one pot from pink. Stitch the pot shape over the base of one of the trees. Sandwich a smaller piece of wadding between the trees and sew around the outside. Stitch or glue on small confetti or bauble-shaped decorations and add a star at the top.

To assemble, arrange the wool pompoms and tassels on the left of the wool-covered wreath. Use pins at first to see what works and, once happy, sew in place. Start filling any gaps with lots of individual pompoms, then work these around the whole wreath. Fix the festive decorations in place to finish.

#### YOU'LL NEED:

Coloured wool  
Felt  
Glitter fabric  
Pompoms in various sizes  
Wadding  
Polystyrene wreath  
Sewing kit  
Glue gun





## GATHER A GARLAND



### YOU'LL NEED:

Bright felt  
Wool or twine  
Glitter fabric  
Rotary cutter (optional)  
Needle and thread or glue gun  
Large-eyed needle



**1** Cut strips of felt, 5mm x 20cm, using a metal ruler and rotary cutter. Take 10 of the strips in a selection of colours and hold the bunch together with the ends evenly placed. Fold in half over a pen or pencil and wrap wool/twine around the strips to secure into a tassel.

**2** Trim the tassel so the ends are even and wrap a small strip of glitter fabric around the string. Create more, then thread onto a piece of wool or twine with a large-eyed needle to make a garland.



## SHOP THE LOOK

Norway spruce Christmas tree,  
[balsamhill.co.uk](http://balsamhill.co.uk)

## STITCH GINGERBREAD FRED



### YOU'LL NEED:

Felt  
Coloured buttons  
Mini black brads  
Ribbon  
Ricrac  
Embroidery thread  
Toy stuffing



**1** Cut two gingerbread man shapes from felt. On one piece, add two brads for eyes and stitch on a little mouth. Sew the two pink cheeks on, followed by a line of buttons down the body. Trim small holly leaves and red berries, then stitch together to the right. Add a little bow tie at the neck.

**2** Stitch ricrac onto the hands and feet. Pin the front to the back and sew all around the edge with a neat stitch. Leave a 2-3cm gap to lightly stuff, then close. Add a loop of ribbon at the top for hanging if required.



## SEW A PRESENT SACK



### YOU'LL NEED:

Fabric, 1m

Felt

Pompom trim



**1** Cut four rectangles, 45cm x 60cm, from pink ombre fabric. Sew two right sides together along the two long sides and one short side – this will be your outer piece. Repeat for the lining, but leave a 10cm gap in the centre of the short edge.

**2** Turn the outer piece the right way out and place inside the lining, matching up the top edges. Sew the two layers together around the top and turn out via the gap at the bottom. Iron the top edge and topstitch, then sew up the gap in the bottom.

**3** Make a sash to tie. Trim green ombre fabric, 25cm x 120cm. Fold in half and pin, then cut each end off at a 45° angle. Sew along the cut edges, leaving an 8cm gap somewhere along the seam. Trim the edges, turn, sew up the gap and press the seams.

**4** Cut out a reindeer from white and red felt, then use fabric glue to attach to the front. Hand sew pompom trim to the bottom of the sack. Bunch the top edge and tie the sash in a bow to finish.

## SHOP THE LOOK

Deer wrapping paper,  
[blankinsidedesign.co.uk](http://blankinsidedesign.co.uk)  
Traditional wooden sledge,  
[henandhammock.co.uk](http://henandhammock.co.uk)  
Winter birch twig tree,  
[balsamhill.co.uk](http://balsamhill.co.uk)



## It's time to WOW

NEED FURTHER INSPIRATION? ENJOY PAPERCHASE'S MEXICANA CHRISTMAS RANGE, [PAPERCHASE.CO.UK](http://PAPERCHASE.CO.UK)





**November  
Midweek  
Breaks from  
£50pppn  
Full Board!**

## The Manor House & Ashbury Hotels

The Only Sport, Craft & Spa  
Hotels in the UK



Our  
breathtaking  
venues boast a range of  
craft, sport & leisure facilities  
that we believe are without equal anywhere  
in the UK! Our unique craft centre offers  
17 tutored crafts including:

- Pottery
- Pottery Transfers
- Porcelain Painting
- Candle Making
- Enamelling
- Hot Press Printing
- Glass Painting
- Glass Engraving
- Jewellery
- Woodwork
- Fabric Painting
- AND MORE!

All facilities are **FREE** to residents  
with the exception of material  
costs in the Craft Centre.



**PLUS  
Enjoy our  
Hydro Spas  
for FREE!**

*"A great place for  
crafters"*

*Sheila S S - Trip Advisor*

### Additional Facilities **FREE** to residents

Sports	Racket Sports	Ranges
Bowls	Tennis	Archery
Table Tennis	Badminton	Air Pistols
5-A-Side	Squash	Air Rifles
Leisure	Family	Golf
Swimming	Funhouse	4 x 18 Hole Courses
Snooker	Gamezone	2 Combination Courses
Ten-Pin	Waterslides	18 Hole Par 3

All rooms en-suite • Full board • Child & Party discounts

**activityhotelbreaks.co.uk**  
**0800 093 4763**

## SEWING PATTERNS [www.sewingbelle.co.uk](http://www.sewingbelle.co.uk)

Full range including  
Simple Sew, Vogue, Butterick, Kwik Sew,  
Simplicity, New Look, McCall's & Burda  
**15% off your order quote SB15**



## Reads of Winchester

Your first choice for sewing  
machine sales, service and  
accessories in Winchester ~



**Bernina Elna Janome Toyota**

**[www.reads-of-winchester.co.uk](http://www.reads-of-winchester.co.uk)**  
**01962 850 950**

Why buy **STINKY** paint from  
the DIY shop when you can  
**BREATHE CLEAN**  
with EN71 ODOURLESS ZERO-VOC  
**Lakeland Paints?**



## LAKELAND paints

mineral earth pigments  
- for unrivalled quality and colour -  
[lakelandpaints.co.uk](http://lakelandpaints.co.uk) 01524 852371

**Solvent-Free - NO Heavy Metals**  
**Harmless for babies & during pregnancy**



## HOMEMAKER HERO



# get into the festive spirit with **WAYNE HEMINGWAY**

*From camping near crocodiles to car park dinners in New Zealand, Wayne's Christmases are never short of an adventure or two*

For many years, Gerardine and I split our Christmases between our parents-in-laws' houses. We would typically get a little bored and restless after a while though. We're not big TV watchers – we prefer being active and doing things outdoors.

Things changed when one of our best friends moved to Perth. The design industry tends to shut down over Christmas, so we decided to use the break to visit them in Australia. From there we got into the habit of going abroad each Christmas and we travelled all the while the children were growing up.

One Christmas Eve, we found ourselves stranded in a pretty remote part of Tropical North Queensland called Daintree. We couldn't catch our car ferry as a river had flooded, so we had to camp near some crocodile-infested water. The only place we found to stay was a secluded campsite and we couldn't get

hold of any food. The campsite's owner had a son who was roughly the same age as our eldest and he half-seriously said to us, "If your son plays my son at pool, we might be able to rustle some food up for you." They played each other, and my son started winning. The owner wasn't happy at all, so I had to tell my son to let his boy win! We were then cooked the worst fried food imaginable for Christmas dinner whilst the campsite owner delighted in getting crocodiles he had pulled from the creek out from his freezer.

The following year we hired a Winnebago and toured New Zealand. We drove to Fox Glacier on Christmas Eve to take a look. We assumed that all of the shops would still be open late enough for us to buy food to cook the next day, but by lunchtime everything had shut. We couldn't get petrol, food, water – anything! So we parked our Winnebago and spent Christmas day in a lay-by.


**"WE COULDN'T GET PETROL, FOOD, WATER – ANYTHING! SO WE PARKED OUR WINNEBAGO AND SPENT CHRISTMAS DAY IN A LAY-BY"**



ONE OF WAYNE'S MANY ADVENTURES IN AUSTRALIA

We had hardly any food with us at all, but we divided one mini pack of biscuits, one tin of beans, two slices of bread, a banana and a couple of dried cup-a-soups between the six of us!

We've shared a whole host of unusual Christmas adventures like these with our children and they're all so memorable. Each year we knew something would go wrong, and we would always find

ourselves half laughing, half wondering what on earth we were doing, but that was all part of the family fun. It's so great to look back at all of the amazing experiences we've had together. We became grandparents for the first time a few months ago and we can't wait to hear about a new generation of Hemingway adventures (and maybe partake in a few... hint hint, eldest son and daughter-in-law!). 



# THE ALL-NEW *Homemaker* ART & CRAFT BOOK AWARDS!

*Get involved and celebrate the best and brightest titles from the creative industry*



This year, we're launching the *Homemaker* Art & Craft Book Awards and we couldn't be more excited. Comprised of 20 categories, it's a chance for us to honour a variety of wonderful books that have been adored by us and the creative nation over the past 12 months. For each category there will be both a Winner and Highly Commended book, voted for by our prestigious judging panel and you lovely readers. Winners will be announced in issue 52 (on sale 9th December) where we'll also reveal *Homemaker's* Book of the Year.

## THE SHORTLISTED TITLES

### HOME SEWING

*Sew Scandinavian* by Kajsa Kinsella (CICO Books)  
*Learn To Sew* by Emma Hardy (CICO Books)  
*Modern Cross-Stitch* by Hannah Sturrock (CICO Books)  
*Sewing Happiness* by Sanae Ishida (GMC Books)  
*Half Yard Gifts* by Debbie Shore (Search Press)

### DRESSMAKING

*Lotta Jansdotter Everyday Style* by Lotta Jansdotter (Stewart Tabori & Chang)  
*The Great British Sewing Bee: From Stitch To Style* by Wendy Gardiner (Quadrille)  
*Gertie's Ultimate Dress Book* by Gretchen Hirsch (Stewart Tabori & Chang)  
*Sunday Sews* by Theresa Gonzalez (Chronicle Books)  
*Sewing Dress-Up* by Emma Hardy (CICO Books)

### EMBROIDERY

*Stitched Textiles: Birds* by Rachel Sumner (Search Press)  
*Simple Sashiko* by Susan Briscoe (F&W Media International)  
*Slow Stitch* by Claire Wellesley-Smith (Batsford)  
*Transfer & Stitch: Romantic Motifs* by Carina Envoldsen-Harris (Search Press)  
*Embroidery For The Absolute Beginner* by Susie Johns and Caroline Smith (Search Press)

### PATCHWORK & QUILTING

*Mini Patchwork Projects* by Beth Studley (F&W Media International)  
*Modern Vintage Gifts* by Helen Philipps (F&W Media International)  
*Amy Butler's Piece Keeping* by Amy Butler (Chronicle Books)  
*The Simple Simon Guide To Patchwork Quilting* by Liz Evans and Elizabeth Evans (F&W Media International)  
*Quilting Basics* by Michael Caputo (CICO Books)

### KNITTING

*Big Needle Knits* by Melanie Porter (CICO Books)  
*The Knitter's Knowledge* by Debbie Bliss (Quadrille)  
*Knitted Animal Cosies* by Fiona Goble (CICO Books)  
*Erika Knight The Collection* by Erika Knight (Quadrille)  
*The Knitted Nursery Collection* by Jem Weston (Search Press)

### CROCHET

*Modern Granny Square Crochet and More* by Laura Strutt (CICO Books)  
*Big Hook Crochet* by Emma Friedlander-Collins (CICO Books)  
*Cute and Easy Crocheted Cosies* by Nicki Trench (CICO Books)  
*Crochet Home* by Emma Lamb (F&W Media International)  
*Animal Heads* by Vanessa Mooncie (GMC Books)

### PAPERCRAFT

*Origami For Mindfulness* by Mari Ono (CICO Books)  
*Paper Home* by Esther Thorpe (Pavilion)  
*Paper Pom-poms And Other Party Decorations* by Juliet Carr (CICO Books)  
*Paper Cut Cards* by Emily Gregory (Search Press)  
*Pattern Play* by Nghiem Ta and Danielle Kroll (Frances Lincoln Children's Books)

### UPCYCLING

*Upcycling* by Max McMurdo (Jacqui Small)  
*Take A Tin* by Jemima Schlee (GMC Books)  
*Reinventing IKEA* by Isabelle Bruno (Abrams Image)  
*Crafting With Mason Jars* by Hester van Overbeek (CICO Books)  
*Furniture Makes The Room* by Barb Blair (Chronicle Books)

### BAKING

*The Italian Baker* by Melissa Forti (Quadrille)  
*Love, Aimee x* by Aimee Twigger (Murdoch Books)  
*Afternoon Tea At Home* by Will Torrent (Ryland Peters & Small)  
*Bee's Brilliant Biscuits* by Bee Berrie (Pavilion)  
*Scandikitchen: Fika & Hygge* by Bronte Aurell (Ryland Peters & Small)

### SUGARCRAFT

*Cake Decorating* by Giovanna Torrico (Murdoch Books)  
*Cakemoji* (Quadrille)  
*Buttercream One-Tier Wonders* by Valeri Valeriano and Christina Ong (F&W Media International)  
*Simply Modern Wedding Cakes* by Lindy Smith (F&W Media International)  
*100 Little Sugar Decorations To Make* (Search Press)

### GARDENING

*Botanical Style* by Selina Lake (Ryland Peters & Small)  
*Miniscapes* by Clea Cregan (Hardie Grant)  
*My Tiny Garden* by Lucy Anna Scott and Lucy Conochie (Pavilion)  
*House Plants* by Isabelle Palmer (CICO Books)  
*The Crafted Garden* by Louise Curley (Frances Lincoln Ltd)

### PAINTING & DRAWING

*Draw Like An Artist* by Patricia Geis (Princeton Architectural Press)  
*Ladies Drawing Night* by Rachael Cole, Leah Goren and Julia Rothman (Chronicle Books)  
*How To Paint A Portrait* by Tai Shen Shierenberg (Quadrille)  
*Colour And Line In Watercolour* by Glen Scouller (Batsford)  
*Botanical Painting With Gouache* by Simon Williams (Batsford)

**HOMEMAKERMAGAZINE.CO.UK/AWARDS**



## WILDCARD

*Pompomania* by Christine Leech  
(Quadrille)

*Decorate For A Party* by Holly Becker and  
Leslie Shewring (Jacqui Small)

*The Craft Companion* by Ramona Barry  
and Rebecca Jobson (Thames & Hudson)

*DIY Woven Art* by Rachel Denbow  
(F&W Media International)

*I Love Stamping* by Ishtar Olivera  
(Quadrille)

## THE BEST CHILDREN'S CRAFT BOOK

*Mini Makers* by Laura Minter  
and Tia Williams (GMC Books)

*Let's Get Crafty With Cardboard & Paint*  
(CICO Kidz)

*Little Collectors: Nature Art*  
by Jenny Bowers  
(Frances Lincoln Children's Books)

*I Can Make Dolls' Clothes*  
(Thames & Hudson)

*More Origami For Children* by Mari Ono  
(CICO Books)

## THE BEST DESIGN BOOK

*Robert Welch Design: Craft & Industry*  
by Charlotte and Peter Fiell  
(Laurence King)

*In Progress* by Jessica Hische  
(Chronicle Books)

*Modernist Estates* by Stefi Orazi  
(Frances Lincoln Ltd)

*Design: The Whole Story* by Elizabeth  
Wilhilde (Thames & Hudson)

*Smart Textiles* by Rebeccah  
Pailes-Friedman (Laurence King)

## THE BEST INTERIORS BOOK

*The Creative Home* by Geraldine James  
(CICO Books)

*The Maker* by Tamara Maynes  
(Murdoch Books)

*Interiors Inspiration: Scandinavia* by Sonia  
Lucano (Thames & Hudson)

*Dream Décor* by Will Taylor (Jacqui Small)

*The Shopkeeper's Home* by Caroline  
Rowland (Jacqui Small)



## HAVE YOUR SAY

We wanted to give you the opportunity to get involved.  
Head to [homemakermagazine.co.uk/awards](http://homemakermagazine.co.uk/awards) to cast your votes on:

**MY FAVOURITE CRAFT BOOK**  
**THE BEST COLOURING BOOK**  
**THE BEST COVER**

Voting closes on 8th November 2016.

# WIN!

Visit [homemakermagazine.co.uk/awards](http://homemakermagazine.co.uk/awards) to cast  
your votes in the reader-voted categories, and  
you'll be in with the chance of winning a selection  
of amazing prizes from our sponsors...

PRIZES  
WORTH  
**£700**

**A two-night stay for two at The Manor House Hotel\*** worth  
£300 – this break is full-board and includes use of the sport,  
leisure and spa facilities.

**A Janome XL601 sewing machine** worth £369! Fully computerised  
yet still light enough to carry to classes, this incredible machine  
weighs less than 6kg!

**A tailor and designer curve ruler** worth £34.50. This is the ultimate  
tool for designing, drawing and altering sewing patterns.

\* Terms and conditions apply. Off-peak break with dates to be agreed by hotel management.

## THE JUDGING PANEL



Annie Sloan,  
Chalk Paint® Expert



Wayne Hemingway MBE,  
Fashion Designer



Jenniffer Taylor,  
*The Great British Sewing Bee*



Polly Mason, Liberty  
Fabrics' Lead Designer



Rosie Savage,  
Homemaker Editor

## OUR PROUD SPONSORS



[i-love-dressmaking.com](http://i-love-dressmaking.com)



- The Only Sport, Craft & Spa -  
Hotels in the UK  
[manorhousehotel.co.uk](http://manorhousehotel.co.uk)



[janome.co.uk](http://janome.co.uk)

# HOMEMAKERMAGAZINE.CO.UK/AWARDS



This month in our...

# HOMEMAKER HUB

## THIS MONTH'S READER TIPS

Share your best crafty tips with your fellow *Homemakers*. Just send in your hints and a photo of yourself to [danielle.lett@aceville.co.uk](mailto:danielle.lett@aceville.co.uk)



**MICHELLE** helps you save time when making Christmas stockings on p26



**LUCY** shares her sequin-saving advice on p36



**SIOBHAN** gives you a savvy glue gunning tip on p71

## Star letter



KEELEY WON THIS CHRISTMAS CRAFTING BUNDLE, FEATURING GOODIES FROM GROVES!

These ones were inspired by the fabulous fruity project in issue 46 of *Homemaker*. I love working with bright colours and adore the tropical motifs seen everywhere this summer, so I thought that fun citrus designs would work well on a smaller scale.



WIN!

I love pincushions! Through my company, Hope & Gloria, I run children's sewing clubs in Berkshire and Surrey and they are an essential part of

our teaching kit. Children love to use novelty pincushions – they look fun and are a perfect make from a health and safety perspective.

This is the result – my totally tropical pincushions! I can't wait to use them in our clubs when we're back to school in September. Thanks for the inspiration!

**Keeley, via email**



MR JINXY ON HIS NEW CAT BED

## LONG TIME READER, FIRST TIME SEAMSTRESS

The free fabric that came with issue 46 of *Homemaker* had been sitting in my craft stash for quite some time, as I had no idea where in my home to use it! It was a bit too bright and clashed with the rest of my décor, but I suddenly had the idea to use it for my cat, Mr Jinxy, who'd been needing a new cat bed for a while.

I bought an additional issue so I had two fat quarters, and sewed three edges together before stuffing with feathers and stitching to close.

I found it a pretty easy make and a good way to ease me into sewing – I'm more of a baker and upcycler but I will certainly be adding sewing to my list of crafty hobbies now!

Mr Jinxy can't get enough of his new cushion, he's always napping on it and I can hear him purring from a mile away – *Homemaker* definitely has the Jinxy cat seal of a-purr-val!

**Siobhan, via email**





**HOMEMAKER NEWSFEED**  
facebook.com/homemakermag



3rd August 2016: We nearly broke the internet when we announced that More4 was airing a hands-on show called *Craft: I Made This*. Giving viewers a sneak peek at some of the hottest crafting trends around, this show is currently on repeat on our screens!

**Likes: 92 Shares: 38 Comments: 24**

## I FELT INSPIRED

I love to spend my evenings needle felting. I start with a strip of coloured wool, stabbing it until it starts to compact and form the shape I'm looking for. I then either make other parts separately to add later, or put the next colour on directly and keep working at it until I get the desired shape. I keep using more wool to build it up (or to cover any mistakes!) until I'm happy.

I set up my own business at the beginning of the year, with my main inspiration being nature and the seasons. Even though spring is my favourite time, as I love the feeling of fresh new growth, I'm also a sucker for the plums, reds and oranges of autumn.

**Rebecca, via email**



## READER MAKES!

I loved your floral mirror project from issue 47, so was inspired to give it a go myself! First of all, I purchased a round mirror from the pound store and then delved into my stash of felt to create the blooms.

Following the instructions, I carefully constructed various types of flowers and cut out lots of leaves. To save time, I doubled up the felt and cut two leaves at once. Then, using a glue gun, I assembled the floral mirror into a lovely design.



It took quite a few hours over several days, but I'm really pleased with the outcome. I'm now hooked on crafting felt flowers, and plan to make many more to decorate various items with. Thank you *Homemaker* for another excellent creation to add to my collection!

**Andrea, via email**



# Snap happy



Send us your pics on Twitter and Instagram  
**@homemakermag**



**@moon\_6\_pence**



**@ollieandbella\_**



**@kayleigh\_rattle**



**@sewinlovebymadia**

HAVE YOU MADE SOMETHING THAT YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE? EMAIL YOUR STORY AND PHOTOS TO **DANIELLE.LETT@ACEVILLE.CO.UK** OR CATCH US ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER OR INSTAGRAM FOR YOUR CHANCE TO BE IN THE MAGAZINE!





**Clock Making Kits  
only £12.99**



**Lampshade Kits  
from £9.99**



**Bin Making Kits  
only £12.99**



Make your own Lampshades, Bins and Clocks to match your room decor using any covering of choice with **NEED CRAFT** kits

Watch our **YouTube** videos and see how easy the kits are to make

*Dannell's*  
**www.dannells.com**

Call us  
**01296 481220**

**osmo**

Learn more  
**osmouk.com**

**ITS  
CHILD'S  
PLAY**



**WOOD WAX FINISH:** Highest quality colour and protection

✓ MICROPOROUS | ✓ NATURAL | ✓ OIL-WAX BASED | ✓ DURABLE | ✓ HIGH COVERAGE

## Thread Bear



CROCHET,  
KNITTING, QUILTING  
& NEEDLEWORK

**10% off with  
this advert  
expires 31st  
October  
2016.**

- ♥ Yarns, patterns, kits and books
- ♥ Fun classes and workshops

- ♥ Friendly advice from fellow quilters
- ♥ 2000+ Gorgeous fabrics

**350 Limpsfield Road, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 9BX**  
**020 8657 5050**

Find us on:  
**@threadbearinfo**

**www.thread-bear.co.uk**







• OUR READER MAKERS •

# LOVELY LASER CUTS

*Duo Emma and Gill craft beautiful papercut mementos for any occasion*

**T**he apple doesn't fall far from the tree' is a well-known saying, and Emma and Gill of Pogofandango exemplify this wonderfully. Luckily for these makers, the creative gene didn't skip a generation as both mother and daughter have come together to turn their passion into a successful business backed by one of Britain's top online handmade retailers. They certainly make the cut here at *Homemaker*!

## CUTTING EDGE

"We've always loved art and design," Emma tells us. "I went to university to study Textile Design at Falmouth College of Art and completely fell in love with Cornwall, so decided to stay." Having taught art for years, her mother Gill followed suit and moved to Falmouth to study Contemporary Crafts.

**"DO SOMETHING YOU'RE PASSIONATE ABOUT. WORK HARD AT IT AND BE ORIGINAL!"**

After both needing access to a much-coveted laser cutter, they pooled together to buy one. "Gill was in her final year of university and needed to use one but couldn't access any of the machines at university. I was also planning my wedding and really wanted to laser cut my invitations, but struggled to find somewhere that could help me." Setting up a studio was the perfect solution, making them extra money in the process as they offered their facilities to students. "The income from this allowed us to spend time working on our own designs and to develop a range of cards." Thus, Pogofandango was born.

But where did the name come from? "It was actually our pub quiz team name, as we thought it'd be funny to come up with something difficult


to say. When we bought the laser cutter, we were asked who the invoice should be made out to. We hadn't thought of a name, so went with Pogofandango!"

## PAPER PERFECT

Establishing a papercutting business proved to be a natural move for Emma and Gill, with their individual drawing styles forming the basis for their creative projects. "It translates really nicely – I've always loved papercutting and wanted to create wedding invitations that were a bit different, so this was the way forward for us. We start all of our cards with a drawing and design most of our ideas directly in the software itself. The tricky bit is making sure that everything joins up properly, but after a while you start to think in stencil. We send the designs to be cut, and then they're made up by hand, ready to be sent out."

Pogofandango has certainly come a long way since selling at craft fairs, wedding events and local shops, as they're now currently stocked by **notonthehighstreet.com**. "They actually approached us and invited us to join about five years ago. It was definitely the best thing we ever did," beams Emma. "Things really took off and we haven't really had time for much else. It's been so much hard work, but equally so much fun."

So what does 2017 hold for this papertastic pair? "We'll be starting our own online shop, and developing new ranges of framed papercuts, wholesale cards and wedding stationery. We hope to buy a defibrillator for our town, and we've been selling wooden heart-shaped Christmas decorations to raise the funds. Currently, we're just over half way to our target."

And finally, any advice for our *Homemakers*? "Just do something you're passionate about, work hard at it and be original!" 

Check out Emma and Gill's bespoke range of festive makes and more at [pogofandango.co.uk](http://pogofandango.co.uk)



ARE YOU A READER MAKER? TELL US YOUR STORY. EMAIL [DANIELLE.LETT@ACEVILLE.CO.UK](mailto:DANIELLE.LETT@ACEVILLE.CO.UK)



Done  
IN A DAY

• HIDE AWAY PRESENTS IN A •

# Handmade stocking

*Celebrate the festive season Scandi style with a roomy sack  
designed in traditional colours*

It wouldn't be Christmas morning without waking up to a bag stuffed full of treats perched underneath your tree. This stocking will make a wonderful addition to your festive creations, and can be treasured for many years to come. Debbie von Grabler-Crozier uses gingham fabric as well as cute hand stitches to provide a little embellishment that gives it a homespun touch. To make it even more special, you could personalise it along the cuff with the receiver's name!



## YOU'LL NEED:

Fabric: 75cm main, 30cm gingham, 75cm lining  
Thermolam wadding, 75cm  
Thin fusible interfacing, 28cm x 46cm  
Pompom trim, 50cm  
Embroidery thread  
Fray check  
Ribbon  
Button



## SCANDI STOCKING

**1** Use the template guide (see page 97) to cut out two stockings from grey fabric. Cut two heel and toe caps each from the gingham, then trim thin fusible interfacing slightly larger. Glue the rough part to the right side of the fabric, then sew the seam marked A on the template.

**2** Clip the curve, then turn the toe or heel cap the right way out. Stitch the other edge to keep both of the materials together. Trim the interfacing, then stitch the cap into place.

**3** Using three strands of embroidery thread, decorate the inner edges with a herringbone stitch. Repeat for the other stocking part to form the back. Pin the

embroidered stocking front onto Thermolam wadding. Quilt with a horizontal straight line pattern using grey thread.

**4** To make the lining there is a triple horizontal line on the pattern. Line B is the cutting line for the gingham, line C for the bottom grey lining, and line D is the sewing line. Attach gingham to the grey bottom.



**5** Make hearts with three strands of embroidery thread then, using the gingham squares as a guide, make a double cross-stitch pattern. Make sure that the hearts are aligned with the points away from the grey part of the lining. Attach pompom trim to the bottom of each lining, ensuring it's upside down.

**6** Take the lining and the corresponding outer and sew them across the top flat edge. Repeat for the other two pieces. Unfold them and match the edges. Pin the linings together and repeat for the outers, with the right sides together. Sew all around the lining, leaving a gap in the grey part. Clip the curves and turn the correct way out. Close the gap.

**7** Stuff the lining into the stocking and topstitch with three strands of embroidery thread just above the pompom trim. Turn the cuff over by 12cm. Apply fray check to the ribbon ends, allow to dry, then cut. Sew the ribbon 6cm down from the back of the cuff. Add a button to finish.





### MICHELLE SAYS:

"To save time, faintly mark the heart out on the fabric with a water soluble marker before you start."



## WHAT IS HERRINGBONE STITCH?

- Herringbone looks a little like a cross stitch, with the cross off-centre, close to the edges. The stretch makes it very good on knit fabrics.
- It's used decoratively just inside a hem edge. Pick a contrast thread for a design feature or a matching one for a subtle detail.
- Join patches in a patchwork panel with this stitch by choosing a thread colour that will stand out amongst all the pieces, as the stitch is part of the design.
- Play around with the stitch width and length to alter the look. The larger the width number on a machine, the wider the stitch will be. The smaller the length number, the closer together the stitches will form.







Carol Smillie is the face of the British Heart Foundation, who are a great source for secondhand furniture. See how she reupholsters an old velvet footstool into a vibrant storage accessory.

“My fabric and upcycling addictions are, quite frankly, getting out of hand. These are words I never thought I’d hear myself say, but it’s true! Given that it’s that time of year where we start thinking about what to gift people for Christmas, I decided my next project would be lovingly made with a dear friend in mind.

Every time she pops over for a cuppa, she’s always left in awe of the amazing fabrics I seem to amass. She’s a bit of a seamstress in training, but has always wanted to build up her own in-home haberdashery and follow in my footsteps – she must be inspired by all of the copies of *Homemaker* she flicks through when she’s at mine!

I recently went to my local secondhand shop and an old velvet footstool caught my eye. Not only would the stool serve its purpose as somewhere for my friend to put her feet up as she stitches the long winter evenings away, but she could keep any works in progress safely tucked inside, thanks to its removable lid.

Once everything was stitched together and glued on, I filled it to the brim with fat quarters and all the things my friend will ever need to make her way into the world of sewing. I simply can’t wait to present this to her – I might even add in a subscription to *Homemaker* to really top it off!

The bright fabrics I’ve used will certainly stand out from underneath the tree when she unwraps it on Christmas Day. If you’re serious about your festive motifs, you could easily swap the fabrics for something more seasonal – why not try alternating reds, whites and greens?”

## PATCHWORK STOOL



### YOU’LL NEED:

Old lidded footstool  
Fabric fat quarters, Slow and Steady range by Tula Pink  
Quilt wadding  
Felt  
Staple gun  
Fabric glue, we used Gütermann HT2



1 Remove any fitting blocks from the underside of the lid. Leave the fabric intact if it’s still in good condition. Measure the radius of the lid and add on 5cm. Cut out eight 45° triangles of fabric with sides

# upcycle with CAROL SMILLIE

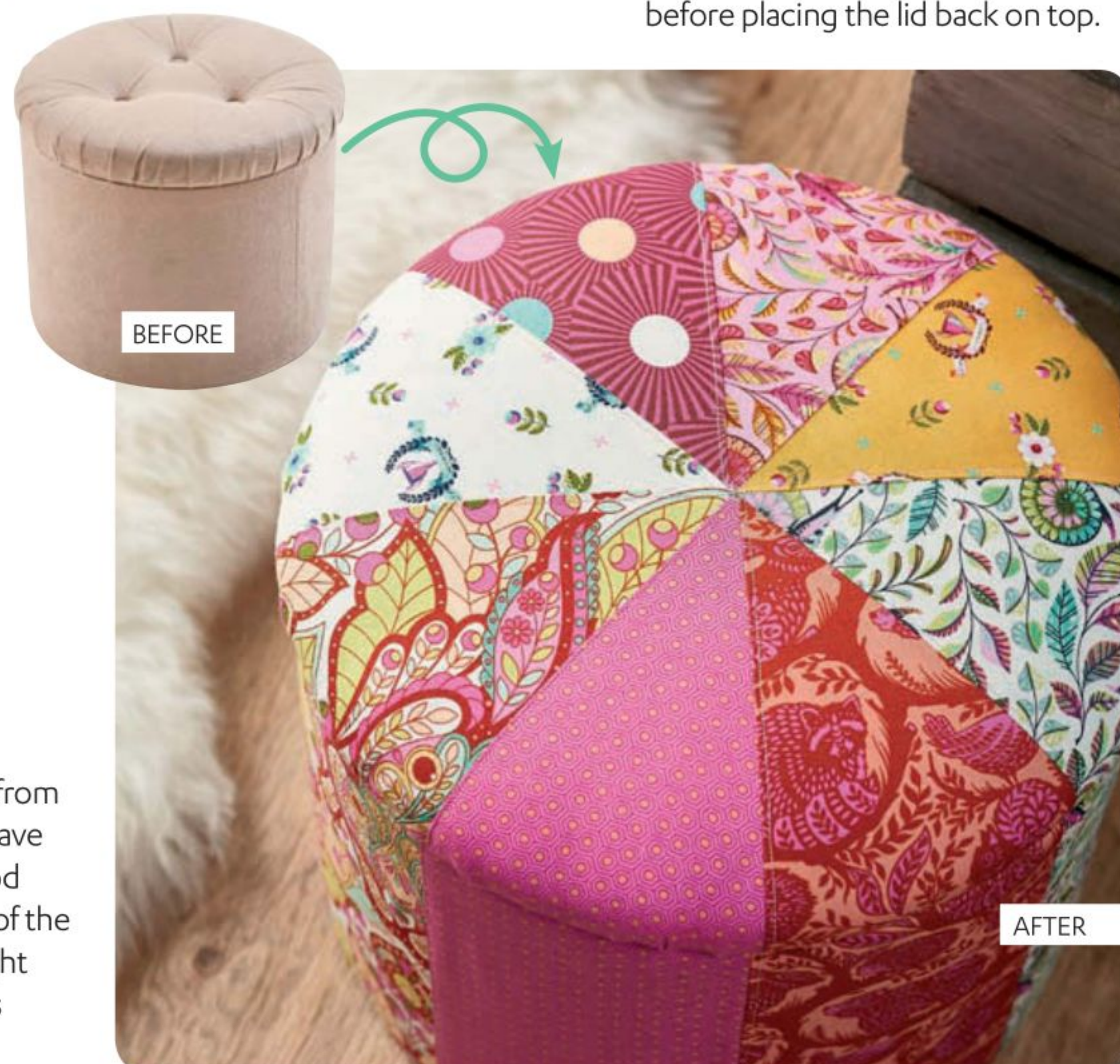
*Put your feet up on an eye-catching fabric footstool*

of this length. Sew the triangles together in pairs along the long edge with a 1cm seam allowance and press the seam to one side. Sew the pairs together to make semicircles, then press the seam to one side before stitching the halves together. Topstitch 2mm from each seam to strengthen, and press.

2 Check the condition of the padding on the lid. Add more layers of quilt wadding if required, before placing the patchwork circle on top. Pin the fabric in place, flip over and staple the excess to the underside. Start with opposite seams, then the centres of each section and finally the gaps in between, pulling the fabric taut as you do so. Cut a circle of felt large enough to cover all the raw edges and glue in place before replacing the fitting blocks.

3 Divide the circumference of the stool by eight. Add 2cm to this measurement to get the panel width. Measure the height and add 5cm. Cut eight pieces of fabric this size and join together side by side with a 1cm seam allowance. Press the seam to one side and topstitch to strengthen before sewing into a tube. Turn under 5mm on each end of the tube and hem.

4 Slip the tube over the base of the stool and line up to leave 2.5cm excess at the top and 1.5cm excess at the bottom. Check the seams are straight before stapling the excess to the underside and covering with a circle of felt as before. Pull the fabric up so it’s taut. Run a bead of fabric glue around the inside of the stool, allow it to go tacky and fix the hem to the inside. Leave the glue to dry completely before placing the lid back on top.





"THE **BEAUTY** OF THIS PROJECT IS THAT THE **FABRICS PERFECTLY** LINE UP ALL THE WAY AROUND BUT YOU COULD TWIST THE LID FOR A **MIX AND MATCH LOOK** INSTEAD"

## SHOP THE LOOK

Ceramic church with lights,  
[wyevalegardencentres.co.uk](http://wyevalegardencentres.co.uk)

BHF Furniture & Electrical shops are ideal for anyone looking for unique items on a budget. The stores are always looking for donations of unwanted household goods – anything from chairs, beds, wardrobes, TVs and small electricals. Find out more at [bhf.org.uk](http://bhf.org.uk) or call 0800 915 3000



INSPIRE ANOTHER  
TRIP WITH OUR

# Traveller's suitcase

*Turn a car boot find into a personalised present that'll wow this Christmas*

"When I caught sight of this vintage leather suitcase at my local car boot sale, I knew I had to have it," says Editor Rosie. "It was filled to the brim with books – clearly a storage solution for the seller – so it was unclear whether or not it was up for grabs. But after a few kind words, it was mine for the bargain price of £4. Yippee! I knew I wanted to turn it into a celebration of my favourite places, so Corinne relined it with fabric bedecked in my very own photographs. I'm beyond thrilled with the result – isn't it a great Christmas gift idea?"



## YOU'LL NEED:

- Vintage suitcase
- Custom-printed fabric, [spoonflower.com](http://spoonflower.com)
- Quilt wadding
- Thick card
- Lightweight fusible interfacing
- Fabric glue, Gütermann HT2
- Double-sided tape



## RELINED SUITCASE

- 1 Check the interior of your case – if the lining is already coming away, remove it completely and use as a pattern for the new fabric. If it is sound, keep it in place and create templates for the lid and base from paper.
- 2 Measure the depth of the case and cut enough strips of interfacing to line the walls. Trim fabric 4cm deeper than the

interfacing and stitch end to end to make a continuous strip. Fuse the interfacing to the back of the fabric, leaving 2cm excess either side. Press the raw edge over the interfacing on the top edge and stitch a hem if desired.

- 3 Run a narrow bead of fabric glue around the top edge of the case walls, allow to go tacky and press the hemmed edge of the lining against it. Fold the end of the strip under and glue to the beginning for a neat finish. Allow

the raw edge of the lining to lay on the bottom of the case.

- 4 Using your preferred template method, cut thick card shapes of the base and lid, then cover with lightweight quilt wadding before placing fabric on top. Trim the excess fabric, fold under and secure with double-sided tape. Run a thin bead of glue around the underside edge of each shape, allow to go tacky and fit into the case to finish.



OUR MAKER  
CORINNE BRADD



## HOW DO I GET MY PHOTOS PRINTED ONTO FABRIC?

- 1 Gather together a selection of digital photographs on your computer and see which ones work best together.
- 2 Use **[picmonkey.com](https://picmonkey.com)** to create a collage – it's free! Click 'Collage', 'Add images' and drag them into the slots. You can choose all sorts of layouts, but I went for 3 x 3. Save your creation at the highest quality.
- 3 I then headed to **[spoonflower.com](https://spoonflower.com)** for my custom fabric design. Hover over 'Create', then click 'Fabric'. From here you can upload the collage and play about with layout and the size and type of fabric you require.
- 4 Add your creation to the shopping cart and make your purchase, before keeping a watchful eye on the postman for your exciting fabric delivery!

### SHOP THE LOOK

Light-up globe, **[wildandwolf.com](https://wildandwolf.com)**  
Pine cone bauble, **[dobbies.com](https://dobbies.com)**  
Concertina lanterns, **[talkingtables.co.uk](https://talkingtables.co.uk)**





## “BEING AN ILLUSTRATOR IS A **WEIRD AND AWESOME** JOB”

*There's never a dull moment in Sam Osborne's life. We get to know the designer behind the captivating, retro designs that are popping up everywhere*



**W**hen Sam Osborne made the decision to change career from graphic designer to illustrator she had no idea quite how much success she'd receive. The Oxford-based designer now produces illustrations for magazines, stationery and books, as well as selling products on her own website. Sam tells us about how she has made her mark in the industry and where she gets inspiration for her eye-catching designs.

### **BOLD MOVE**

“Creativity has always been around me and it was second nature while growing up,” says Sam. “I come from a long line of

creatives – my dad and sister are also designers, mum is an amazing crafter and both of my grandmothers painted. In school I would always find a way to add visual elements to projects, much to my English teacher's dismay. I studied graphic design at university and then went on to work in various agencies for 10 years before becoming a freelance illustrator. Making the switch wasn't easy; while the two are related, they're actually quite different disciplines. I spent a lot of time learning about my style, building a portfolio and discovering how the industry works. Most of it was self-taught but I took online classes to give me briefs to work to and to find a community of fellow illustrators.”



## MEET THE MAKER



### SWINGING SIXTIES

Sam's work stands out through its distinctive retro style, and features geometric shapes influenced by Scandinavian design, technology and quirky details. "I take inspiration from the crisp simplicity of the modernist designs from the 1950s and 60s. However, it can come from anywhere, whether it's a film, book or somewhere I've been. I love drawing nature and I'm captivated by the colours you can find in flowers and plants." Although Sam's designs are taken from the past, she uses modern products to produce her work. "I use my iPad Pro for most of my illustrations and programmes such as Procreate and Adobe Draw are great for creating sketches and completing illustrations. Although, I still nearly always have a sketchbook with me!" Sam has even decorated her own home in a quirky sixties style and adorned it with handcrafted decorations made by other crafters. "We've tried to keep to that era stylistically, but with a few modern twists. We have many handmade items and I particularly like the collection of original prints that really stamp our style," says Sam. "Handmade creations have amazing stories attached to

them, and when you buy from a small business you are directly helping that person grow and live their life. That's a very powerful thing."


### CHRISTMAS CREATIONS

Christmas is an exciting time for Sam, who uses it as an opportunity to put her skills into practice. "I love how you can change your home to make it feel cosy and festive with just a few simple crafts. There's something about this time of the year that lends itself to crafting, plus I adore making gifts for other people." Sam sells her own products online, which includes cards, calendars and homeware, and she has produced a wonderful Christmas range. "The paper decorations kit is my favourite as it's a simple, pretty craft project with a twist on the traditional Christmas colours. They can be used as individual decorations for your tree, or placed on string to create a fun garland."

### GETTING AHEAD

Sam offers some great advice to anyone starting out in illustrating. "You need to be super focused as you'll almost certainly be freelance and running your own business. It takes dedication to put in the work and



find your style, whilst also developing relationships with people in the industry as they will be the ones buying and commissioning your work. But on the plus side, you get to wake up every day knowing you'll spend most of it drawing!" With an illustrated book on the way and a long list of companies she'd love to work with, Sam has an exciting year ahead, and we can't wait to see what we'll be swooning over next. 

## MAKER PROFILE

*Sam Osborne*

#### WHO IS SHE?

Illustrator and designer

#### WHAT'S HER CRAFT?

Illustration

#### TOP THREE CRAFTY TIPS

- Practice makes perfect – just do a little every day and you'll soon be an expert
- Trying a completely new craft will give you fresh ideas
- Share your creations with friends and family; you'll get a lovely response and maybe even inspire someone

#### FIND OUT MORE...

[sam-osborne.co.uk](http://sam-osborne.co.uk)

[instagram.com/samossie](https://www.instagram.com/samossie)





# Gold!

*Always believe in your soul  
with these golden finds*





WANT NEED  
**LOVE**

Lamé fabric in Goldfinger,  
**croftmill.co.uk**

Glitter dipped feathers and gold star paper straws, [pipii.co.uk](http://pipii.co.uk)

Series 606 One Stroke  
Sceptre Gold II Brushes,  
**[winsornewton.com](http://winsornewton.com)**

Series 606 One Stroke  
Sceptre Gold II Brushes,  
**winsornewton.com**





# WAYS WITH Sequins

*Give your tree a real touch of razzle dazzle with these iridescent makes*



## YOU'LL NEED:

Sequins, from [simplysequins.co.uk](http://simplysequins.co.uk)  
Clear glass baubles, from [christmastimeuk.com](http://christmastimeuk.com)  
Coloured felt  
Florist wire  
Cotton bud  
Embroidery thread  
Twine  
Cardstock  
Fine white Posca pen  
PVA glue



## FELT MITTENS

**1** Trace around our template onto felt and cut out. Use a single strand of coloured embroidery thread to stitch sequins to one side of the mitten, threading up through the hole and out towards the edge of each one.

**2** Snip felt, 1cm x 8cm, and fold in half to make a loop. Pin to the top side of the glove and affix the shape to a darker piece of felt. Sew a small running stitch around the outline, 1mm from the edge. Do not sew across the top of the glove but ensure the hanging loop is secured with the stitching. Trim away the background fabric to leave a 1mm border around the shape of the mitten.

## SHAKER BAUBLES

**1** Ensure the inside of a clear bauble is free from dust and remove the cap and loop. Pull the

Christmas is that one time of year we can go all-out with sparkles and not feel guilty about it, so why not adorn your tree with lashings of the stuff? Create Corinne Bradd's makes with just sequins, clear baubles, felt and card. Already have your Christmas colour scheme chosen? Do not fear, as these creations are so versatile – simply use sequins that fit your palette and craft accordingly!

cotton wool from one end of a cotton bud and insert a length of florist wire through the plastic stem. Bend the cotton bud and wire into a curve so it can be inserted in the mouth of the bauble and the remaining soft end will touch the glass.

**2** Dip the end of the cotton bud in glue and apply three or four dots to the inside of the ornament. Hook a sequin onto the non-sticky end of the florist wire and guide it to a glue spot. Repeat for the rest of the glue spots before they dry. Repeat the process to give a random scattering of sequins inside the bauble.

**3** Leave the glue to dry completely to avoid disturbing the design, then use a funnel made from paper to pour extra sequins inside. Replace the cap and loop, adding a hanging cord, and shake for an ever-changing pattern.

## GIFT TAG

**1** Cut card, 6cm x 10cm, and trim one end into a point to create a tag shape. Punch a small hole in the top. Use a ruler and white pen to draw four or five vertical lines down the tag and leave to dry.

**2** Choose large circular sequins and fix to the bottom of some of the lines. Layer up with smaller sequins to create decorative baubles. Add tiny shapes above and below the main circle to form an elegant bauble shape.



## SHOP THE LOOK

Snowy owl eco recycled wrapping paper, [blankinsidedesign.co.uk](http://blankinsidedesign.co.uk)



*Reader tip*



**LUCY SAYS:**

"Use a tray when working with sequins – it avoids them spilling all over your floor and finding them for months after!"



Done  
IN A DAY

• ARM KNIT OUR WINTER •

# Wall hanging

*Ramp up your home's cosy vibes with this hand (and arm!) made decoration*

It's got to be said, nothing quite beats decking the halls with bells, holly and tinsel in the run-up to Christmas. Well, perhaps one thing does – getting stuck in and making the decorations yourself! If, like us, you're all about channelling the minimal-yet-snug Scandi look in your homes this year, it's time to get your hands and merino wool at the ready because Chloe Hailwood has just the project for you...



## YOU'LL NEED:

Natural white merino tops, 1kg  
Mid-green merino tops, 200g  
Dark brown merino tops, 20g  
All wool is from [winghamwoolwork.co.uk](http://winghamwoolwork.co.uk)  
Heavy cotton fabric, 7cm x 30cm  
Dowel rod, 50cm  
Strong polyester thread



## FAUX FESTIVE TREE

**1** Make a slipknot big enough to fit around your wrist at one end of white merino tops, leaving a tail of 30cm. Slip the loop over your wrist and tighten. Cast on 10 stitches onto your left arm in the same way you would for regular knitting. Knit the first row, keeping in mind your arms are replicating what the needles would be doing. Use your right hand to grab the wool, loop and pull it over from the left arm and onto the right arm.

**2** At the end of the first row, gently pull all stitches off your right arm. Holding the stitch loops with one hand, transfer the row to your left arm, with the long length of wool on the right hand side. Purl this second row. Continue using the stocking stitch and repeat this pattern until you have 17 rows.

**3** Cast off and turn the knitting upside down so the stitches make a reverse 'v' shape. Following the template from our website, use duplicate stitch with green and brown wool to embroider a Christmas tree on top of the knitting. Repeat the same technique with the brown for the tree trunk. Knot the ends of the coloured wool on the reverse side to secure. Weave the ends of the white along the cast on and cast off rows to hide.

**4** Cut fabric into three rectangles, each measuring 7cm x 10cm. Stitch the first rectangle centrally

to the reverse of the knitting, along the first row. Stitch along the top and bottom to make a channel for the dowel rod. Stitch the remaining rectangles either side of the first, leaving a 5cm gap between each – this makes two points between the fabric and another two on each end to hang the knitting and distribute the weight. Thread a dowel rod through the pockets to finish.

## TOP TIP

This pattern could also make a great cushion or hot water bottle cover







### HANDY HINTS

- When ordering merino tops, check that they come as one long length
- If you're not familiar with knitting, practise with some yarn and needles first



# TRADITIONAL OR MODERN Christmas?

*Take our quiz to find out whether your style is more tartan or 21st century*

**Words by** Rosie Savage

**I**t's that time of year again. A chance to venture into the loft to dust off the decorations and set about turning your home into a festive feast for the eyes. The question is... when you open that cardboard box labelled 'Christmas', are you met with nothing but red or gold, or something a little funkier? Perhaps you're not sure what your style ought to be. Either way, have fun with our quiz and discover whether you're traditional, modern or even a little bit of both. Then turn over for the results and enjoy our seasonal suggestions.



*Want to  
make your own  
crackers this year?*

Visit **homemaker  
magazine.co.uk** to  
download these  
papers



**1. WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE THING ABOUT CHRISTMAS?**

- A)** Chestnuts roasting on an open fire.
- B)** Coordinating all of my decorations.
- C)** Making my own trivia games and jokes.

**2. WHICH TREE DECORATION SOUNDS MOST APPEALING TO YOU?**

- A)** A fairy passed down to me by my grandma. It's seen better days, but I love its history.
- B)** A gold stag named Arthur.
- C)** A neon glitter bauble that almost blinds you.

**3. WHAT'S THE BEST CHRISTMAS SONG?**

- A)** White Christmas by Frank Sinatra.
- B)** Merry Xmas Everybody by Slade.
- C)** 8 Days of Christmas by Destiny's Child.

**4. DINNER IS BEING SERVED. WHICH FOOD DO YOU GO FOR FIRST?**

- A)** Turkey. And I make sure there's plenty of gravy too.
- B)** Glazed parsnips.
- C)** Hazelnut, pancetta and orange stuffing.

**5. WHICH COLOURS ARE YOU DRAWN TO AT CHRISTMAS?**

- A)** Red, green and gold.
- B)** Purple and silver.
- C)** Candy brights.

**6. EVERYONE SETTLES DOWN TO WATCH A CHRISTMAS FILM. WHICH IS IT?**

- A)** *It's A Wonderful Life.*
- B)** *Home Alone.*
- C)** *Elf.*

**7. WHICH PHRASE APPEALS TO YOU MOST?**

- A)** May your days be merry and bright.
- B)** Merry Christmas, ya filthy animal!
- C)** Eat, drink and be merry.

**8. WHO IS YOUR FAVOURITE FESTIVE CHARACTER?**

- A)** A Nutcracker.
- B)** The man himself: Father Christmas.
- C)** A jolly snowman.

**9. HOW DO YOU WRAP PRESENTS?**

- A)** I love deep colours and shiny wrapping paper. I often finish with a holly or mistletoe flourish too.
- B)** You can't go wrong with glitzy ribbon.
- C)** I mix things up but love chalkboard paper or geometric prints.

**10. YOU'VE JUST PUT UP A GARLAND. IT IS...**

- A)** Vintage scenes from Christmases gone by.
- B)** One of those 3D foil masterpieces.
- C)** Typographic bunting spelling 'Ho ho ho'.



TURN THE PAGE FOR THE RESULTS!



# TRADITIONAL **OR** MODERN

## **MOSTLY A:** YOU LOVE A TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS



Nostalgic motifs will make a joyful and triumphant addition to your paper collection. I Love Christmas, [echoparkpaper.com](http://echoparkpaper.com)



Head to the stunning Oxburgh Hall in Norfolk for a Christmas wreath workshop on 3rd and 4th December. £40, [01366 328926](tel:01366328926), [nationaltrust.org](http://nationaltrust.org)



WYVALEGARDENCENTRES.CO.UK

## **MOSTLY B:** YOU BRIDGE THE GAP WITH TRAD-MOD FESTIVITIES



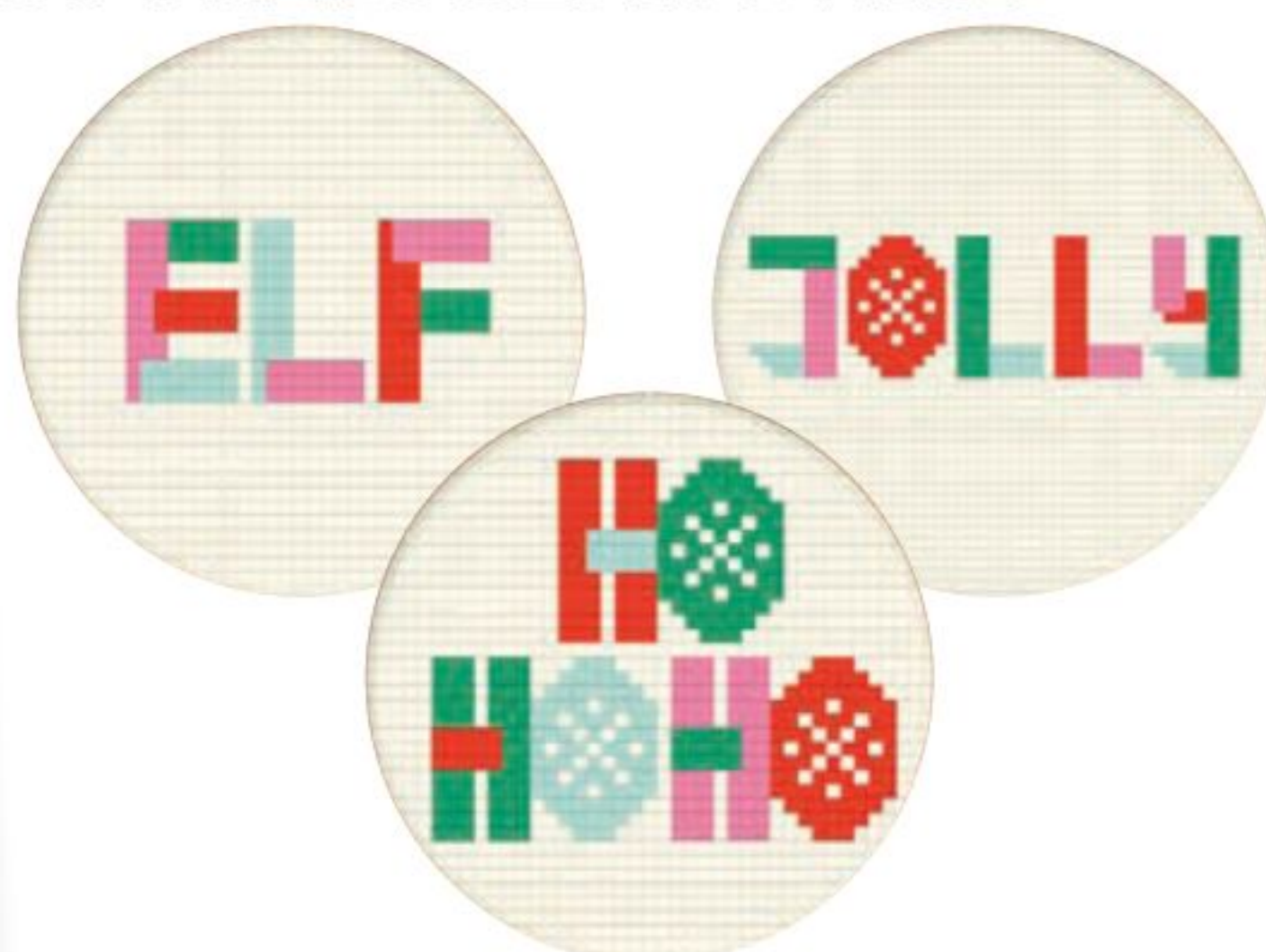
Somewhere in the middle? This trend's for you! Pair natural wood with lots of white for a Scandi sensation. White fairy lights in glass bowls look especially good.



Don't be afraid to add lots of glitz. We love this gold sparkly ribbon by The Makery. £5.95, [wildandwolf.com](http://wildandwolf.com)

HOUSEOFFRASER.CO.UK

## **MOSTLY C:** YOU'RE ALL ABOUT A MODERN TWIST



Instantly download these fun, geometric Christmas cross-stitch patterns. £5.69, [etsy.com/shop/redbeardesign](http://etsy.com/shop/redbeardesign)

Standard Christmas trees are for the fuddy-duddy. Why not experiment with an alternative tree this year? [sainsburys.co.uk](http://sainsburys.co.uk)



IDYLLHOME.CO.UK



# CHRISTMAS RESULTS...

It doesn't get much more traditional than this glass goose bauble. It'll look regal and dignified on your tree. £9, **tch.net**



If you've got a box of old Christmas cards under the bed, why not proudly display them as decorations instead? We show you how to turn them into crackers at **homemakermagazine.co.uk**



Create a beautiful aroma in your abode by baking orange slices – place them directly onto an oven rack and dry them out at 120°C for two to three hours.



Go for opulence with textured glass baubles – they can really add to a frosty Christmas look. £5 each, **tch.net**

Cut out a single Dala horse motif from this glorious gift wrap and back with thick card to make individual tags. **spoonflower.com**

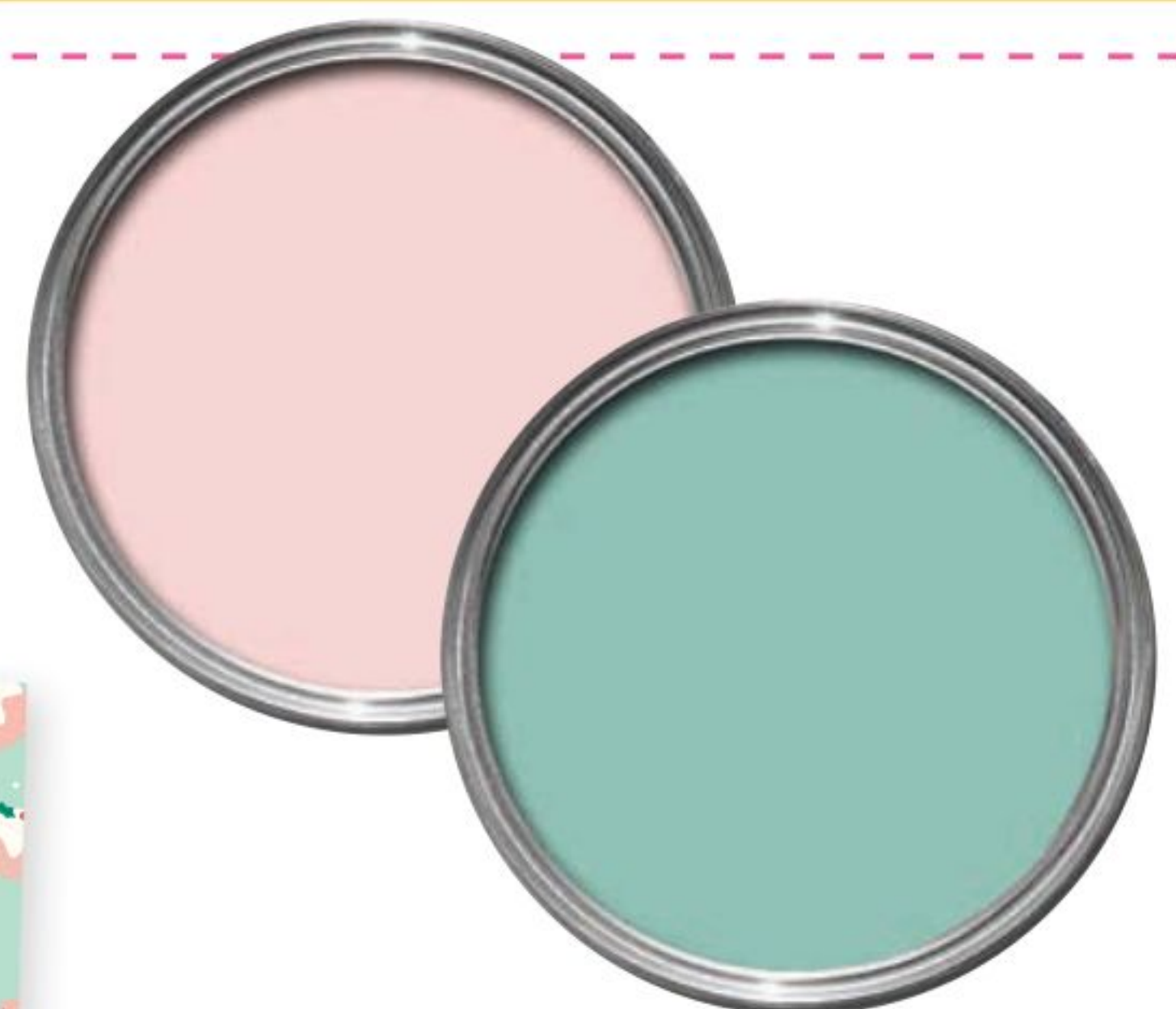


Turn to p53 to find out how to make our folded white stars. They're a perfectly simple and pretty accompaniment to this trend.



Who doesn't love a smiley, jumper-clad polar bear? This wooden bunting is a quirky alternative to traditional garlands. £5.99, **gingerray.co.uk**

Designed by Aless Baylis, this playful fabric collection is perfect for you mods. Festive Friends, **dashwoodstudio.com**



Go slightly off-piste with pink rather than red and mint instead of forest green. Colours emulsion paint in Fallen Petal and Sea Green, **diy.com**



ORDER FORM

Yes! I would like to subscribe to Homemaker Magazine

☐ UK DD £12.75 for your first 3 issues saving 15%  
(Please complete section 1)

☐ Cheque/CC – UK £58.50/ Eur/Eire £95.00/ROW £X105.00 - 12 issues

☐ Please renew my subscription using this offer - CC only

☐ I would like to purchase a gift subscription using this offer

**SUBSCRIBER DETAILS, please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS**

Title Forename Surname

Address

Postcode

Daytime No. Mobile No.

Email

**THIS IS A GIFT SUBSCRIPTION/MY RECIPIENT DETAILS ARE; please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS**

Title Forename Surname

Address

Postcode

Daytime No. Mobile No.

Email

£12.75 for your first 3 issues\*

**1 INSTRUCTION TO YOUR BANK OR BUILDING SOCIETY TO PAY DIRECT DEBIT**

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society

To the Manager.....

Name(s) of Account Holder(s)

Branch Sort Code

Bank/Building Society Account Number

Signature(s)

Date.....

Data Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of accounts

**DIRECT Debit**

Originator's ID No. **677183**

Reference Number

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society

Please pay Aceville Publications Ltd Direct Debit from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with Aceville Publications Ltd and, if so, details may be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Your full Direct Debit guarantee can be found on your confirmation letter

**2** ☐ I enclose a cheque made payable to **Homemaker Magazine**

**3** ☐ Please charge my Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Amex ☐ Switch/Maestro ☐

CARD NUMBER ISSUE No EXPIRY DATE

VALID FROM

**SIGNED:** **TODAY'S DATE:**

\*this is a UK only Direct Debit offer. Gift is only available to UK subscribers. Existing subscribers can renew using this offer. Your subscription will begin with the next available issue. Subscriptions are for a 12 month period including all gift subscriptions. Your free gift will be dispatched within 28 days of your payment being received (sent separately from the magazine). If your subscription is a gift, the gift and gift card will be sent to the donor. You can also subscribe via cheque or credit card. In the event of a gift being faulty or damaged, please contact us within 28 days of receiving the gift. This offer is subject to availability (alternative gift may be supplied). This is a limited offer and may be withdrawn at any time. Please note digital subscriptions will not include subscription gifts, or covermounted gifts.

Your details will be processed by Aceville Publications Ltd. (publishers of Homemaker Magazine in full accordance with data protection legislation. Aceville Publications Ltd. and sister companies may wish to contact you with information of other services and publications we provide which may be of interest. Please tick here if you DO NOT wish to receive such information by Post ☐ Phone ☐ Email ☐ SMS ☐. From time to time Aceville Publications Ltd. will share details with other reputable companies who provide products and services that may be of interest to you. Please tick here if you DO NOT wish to receive such information by Post ☐ Phone ☐ Email ☐ SMS ☐

Please return to: HMA – DOVETAIL SERVICES (UK) LIMITED, 800 GUILLAT AVENUE, KENT SCIENCE PARK, SITTINGBOURNE, ME9 8GU

Subscriber Benefits



You will receive every issue overflowing with the best hints, tips, advice, projects and features for the home. Not only that...

- Homemaker is bursting with top experts, from Annie Sloan to Wayne Hemingway
- Enjoy 25+ gorgeous projects every month
- Take advantage of an exclusive reader offer, tailored just for you
- Be inspired by beautiful styling ideas for your home

FIND OUT WHAT WE'RE UP TO ONLINE:

**DIGITAL EDITIONS ARE AVAILABLE\***

Available on amazon apps, kindle fire, nook, App Store, Google play

Pay today via **PayPal**™ at homemaker magazine.co.uk

Find us on...

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest

Perfect Gift Idea!

A gift subscription is the perfect present that lasts all year round





SPECIAL  
WELCOME GIFT

Subscribe

# Festive Knitting Kit **FREE**\*

WHEN YOU SUBSCRIBE TO HOMEMAKER MAGAZINE

Get creative ahead of the festive season with this fantastic bundle.

## GIFT INCLUDES:

- 1 x 400g Wendy Aran Yarn
- 2 x 100g Robin Bonny Babe Aran
- 1 x 5mm Knitting Needles
- 1 x 5mm Crochet Hook
- 3.5cm Pompom Maker
- Tailor's Chalk
- Thimble

**600g**  
OF YARN!



Thomas B. Ramsden  
& Co. (Bradford) Limited

**SUBSCRIBE FOR JUST £12.75 FOR 3 ISSUES!\***  
[HOMEMAKERMAGAZINE.CO.UK/SUBSCRIBE](http://HOMEMAKERMAGAZINE.CO.UK/SUBSCRIBE)  
**01795 414 730** Quote: **HMA49**

\*Terms and conditions apply, for further details please refer online.

Lines are open Monday-Friday 8am-8pm, Saturday 9am-1pm

LIMITED OFFER: CLOSING 13TH OCTOBER 2016





## Yet more deliciously professional ingredients for serious foodies

A wonderfully traditional Dandelion & Burdock - intense flavour for cooking, baking, desserts and more.

**[www.foodieflavours.com](http://www.foodieflavours.com)**

Our natural flavourings & extracts are suitable for vegetarians & vegans. Gluten-free, Egg-free, Dairy-free, no added sugar. Made in the UK.



Visit us at the shows or use our fast, friendly mail order service

Springwood House Designs  
29 Nichols Way, Wetherby LS22 6AD  
[www.springwoodhousedesigns.co.uk](http://www.springwoodhousedesigns.co.uk)

**FurnitureClinic**

## Leather Care & Repair Specialists

- SCUFFS & SCRATCHES
- COMPLETE RESTORATION
- COLOUR CHANGE
- CLASSIC & MODERN CARS
- DIY KITS
- NATIONWIDE SERVICE

Leather cleaning & restoration kits for DIY use or a professional nationwide repair service.

**Furniture Clinic**  
Tel: 0844 879 3691

**[www.furnitureclinic.co.uk](http://www.furnitureclinic.co.uk)**

Discover all the ideas, inspiration and crafting supplies you could ever dream of!



### AUTUMN SHOWS 2016

Stitching, Sewing & Hobbyscrafts  
Westpoint, Exeter - 22-25 September

Crafts for Christmas /  
Stitching, Sewing & Hobbyscrafts  
SECC, Glasgow - 27-30 October



Crafts for Christmas /  
Stitching, Sewing & Hobbyscrafts /  
Art Materials Live  
NEC, Birmingham - 3-6 November

Cake International  
NEC, Birmingham - 4-6 November



Simply Christmas /  
Stitching, Sewing & Hobbyscrafts  
ExCeL, London - 17-19 November



Country Homes & Interiors  
Christmas

Stonor Park, Henley-On-Thames - 25-27 November

Jewellery Making & Beading / Papercraft & Cardmaking / Festive Crafts / Demonstrations / Workshops  
Cake Decorating & Baking Supplies / Art Supplies / Knitting, Stitching & Dressmaking / Christmas Gifts

Buy tickets online [ichfevents.co.uk](http://ichfevents.co.uk) or Phone Ticket Hotline 01425 277 988

**ICHF Events**  
A Time Inc. UK Company

**SAVE UP TO £2 OFF!**

Each adult and senior ticket if ordered at least one week before the show.  
Children under 16 go FREE when accompanied by a parent



# CREATE A BIT OF *magic*

*Gather your colouring pens, a sketchpad and a little imagination: it's time to illustrate*

**H**ave you ever stumbled across a gorgeous illustration and thought: "Wow, I wish I could do that!"?

Us too. That was our exact reaction to Rebecca Jones' glorious work. Wonderfully whimsical and full of character, her drawings are something to behold. She's

designed for many a super brand

– John Lewis, Anthropologie,

Gap and Victoria's

Secret to name but a

few – and we're lucky

enough to revel in her

expertise this issue. Hear

more about her overleaf,

then enjoy an exclusive fairy

project and be encouraged

to give illustration a go.

Practice makes perfect,

as they say.







## BOOKWORMS

I've spent most of my career working as a textile designer. After graduating from art school, I worked in London for a design studio for quite a few years, before moving to Australia. Not long after my son was born, I started to become much more interested in illustration, no doubt as a result of all the time I was spending reading children's books. One of my favourite things to do with my son when he was little was to browse around the local bookshops. Luckily, Melbourne has lots of gorgeous independent book stores. In 2013 I took a few online courses that were more illustration-based, and my drawing career took off from there.

I have drawn all of my life though. As a child I would fill pages with tiny little pictures of flowers, animals and toadstools. My family has always been pretty creative too. Both of my grandmothers were painters and my mum ran her own business sculpting birthday cakes.

## PAINTERLY STYLE

I think my style has developed and changed over time. I used to do a lot of my work by drawing straight onto the computer. These days, I tend to hand paint everything and scan it in. I like to mix different media together – I use lots of ink, watercolour and pencil. Once it's on the computer I play around a little with colour and composition. I think hand painting gives a much more unique look.

Inspiration comes from being outdoors. I happen to live right in the middle of the city, but Melbourne has some beautiful parks that are close to home. Just walking around and watching the birds is refreshing for me. And when I'm feeling particularly drained, there is nothing like a weekend away in the rainforest to recharge my creative energies. I find Australian wildlife so fascinating, and so different to the flora and fauna I grew up with in England. I can happily spend hours



feeding the parrots and kookaburras, or listening to the Australian magpies sing.


## BE KIND TO YOU

Illustrating can be a lonely business. I spend a lot of time on my own, in my studio. Most of the time I love that, but it can be hard. There are times when I just can't quite get a piece to look right, and I have a deadline looming and there's no one around to help me! And there are times when my creativity just seems to desert me too. I find that as long as I don't panic, if I take a break and go for a walk, I can come back to my desk again and view my work with fresh eyes. It always helps.

I'd recommend trying to draw or paint something every day. The more you draw, the better you get. And when you are just



starting out, try not to judge your own work too harshly. Take some online classes – there are lots of really good ones, often with a wonderful community of people who can be there to support you. Start an Instagram account and when you do something you are proud of, post it! Having an online presence is the best way to find new clients and get great work.

My big dream is to illustrate a children's picture book. I create lots of art for stationery, greeting cards, posters and homewares, but I am yet to create a picture book. Other than that, I'd love to just carry on as I am, creating art that people want to buy. 

Discover more of Rebecca's work at [drawnbyrebeccajones.com](http://drawnbyrebeccajones.com)

*"I'd recommend trying to draw or paint something every day"*





TRY IT YOURSELF WITH OUR

# Fairy friends

*Hello Homemaker exclusive! Rebecca Jones has kindly created some gorgeous Liberty-clad Christmas fairies for you to colour, cut out and connect*



## YOU'LL NEED:

Thick drawing paper  
Tracing paper  
Paints, markers, pencil crayons  
and gold ink  
Scraps of Liberty fabric  
Small paper fasteners  
Decorative tape  
Gold thread  
Sewing needle



## ILLUSTRATED FAIRIES

**1** Trace our template onto drawing paper, then colour in the fairy – we've used marker pens and pencil crayons for the larger sections, a fine liner for the eyes and hair detail, and a little gold ink for her crown. With a sewing needle, make a small hole for every dot on the template. There are nine in total. Carefully cut out the pieces with scissors.

**2** Use paper fasteners to attach the arms and legs to the body. Make sure to place the arms behind the body. Cut out a small section of fabric and attach it to the fairy's body, so the top of the fabric is lined up with the dotted line on the template. Make a small crease on each edge of the fabric and tape it to the back to secure. Pleat it with your fingers and attach it to the body using decorative tape, cut in half lengthwise.

**3** Fold back the wings along the dotted lines, so they stand away from the body. To attach them, take a 4cm piece of tape, cut it in half lengthwise, and use it to tape the wings onto the back of the fairy. Pass gold thread through the hole made earlier in her crown, and use it to make a hanging loop to finish.

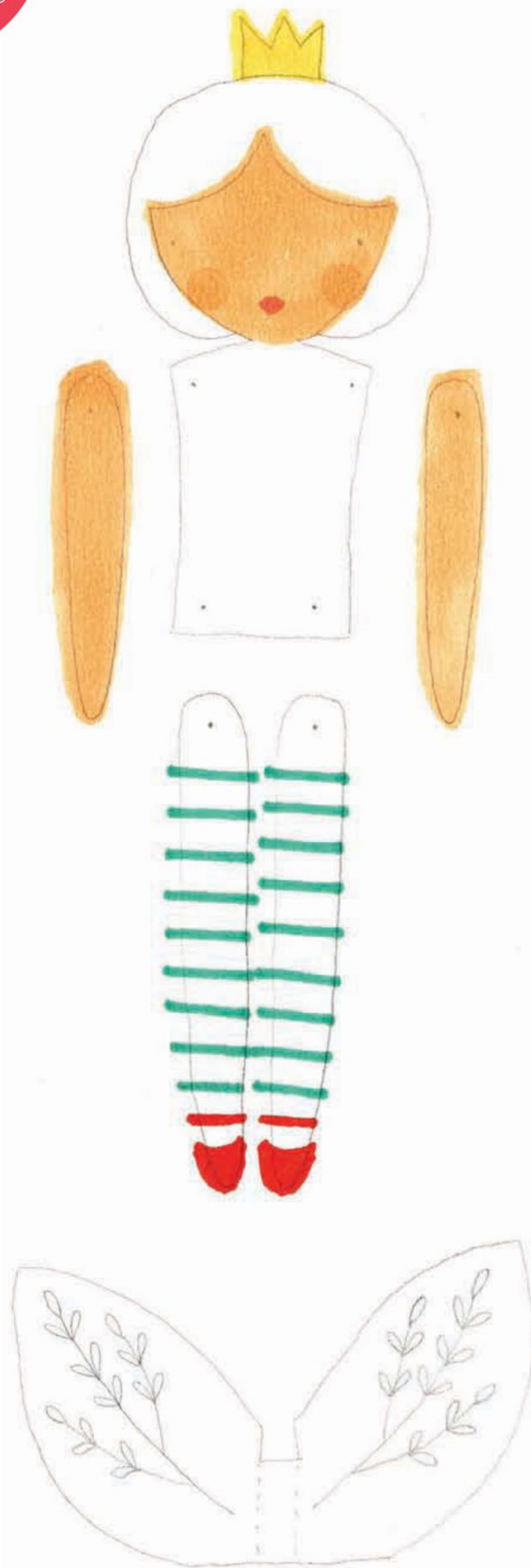
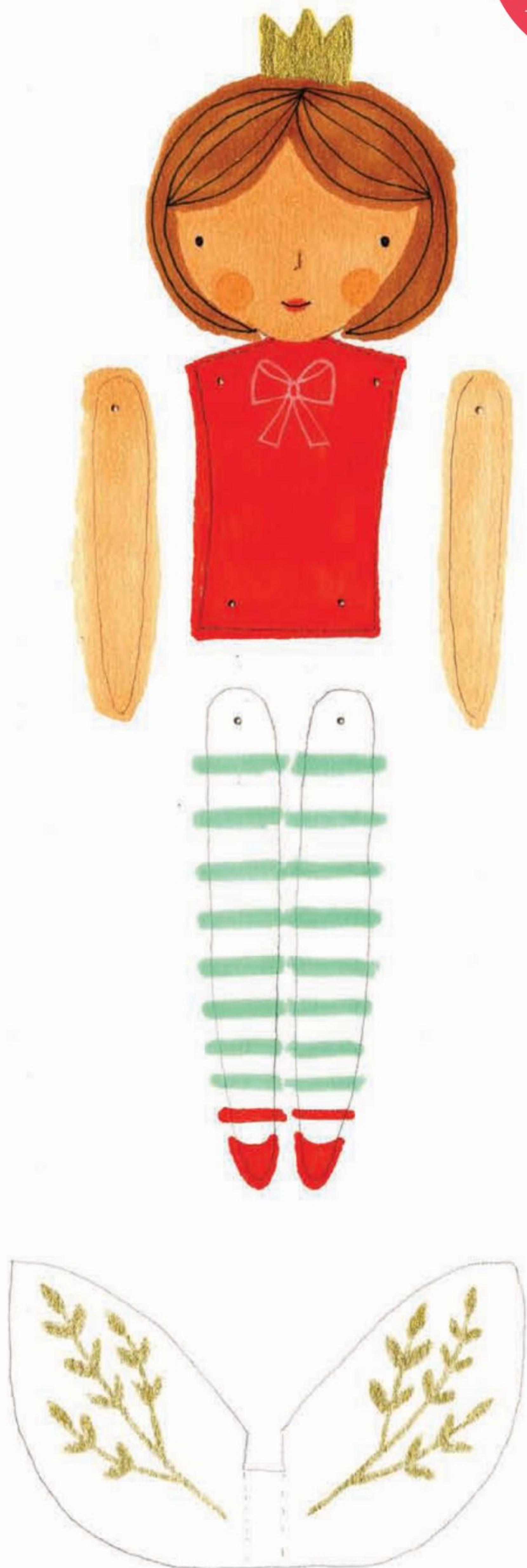




## Tip

IT'S BEST TO COLOUR OVER THE EDGES, SO WHEN YOU CUT OUT YOUR PIECES THERE IS NO WHITE PAPER SHOWING THROUGH.

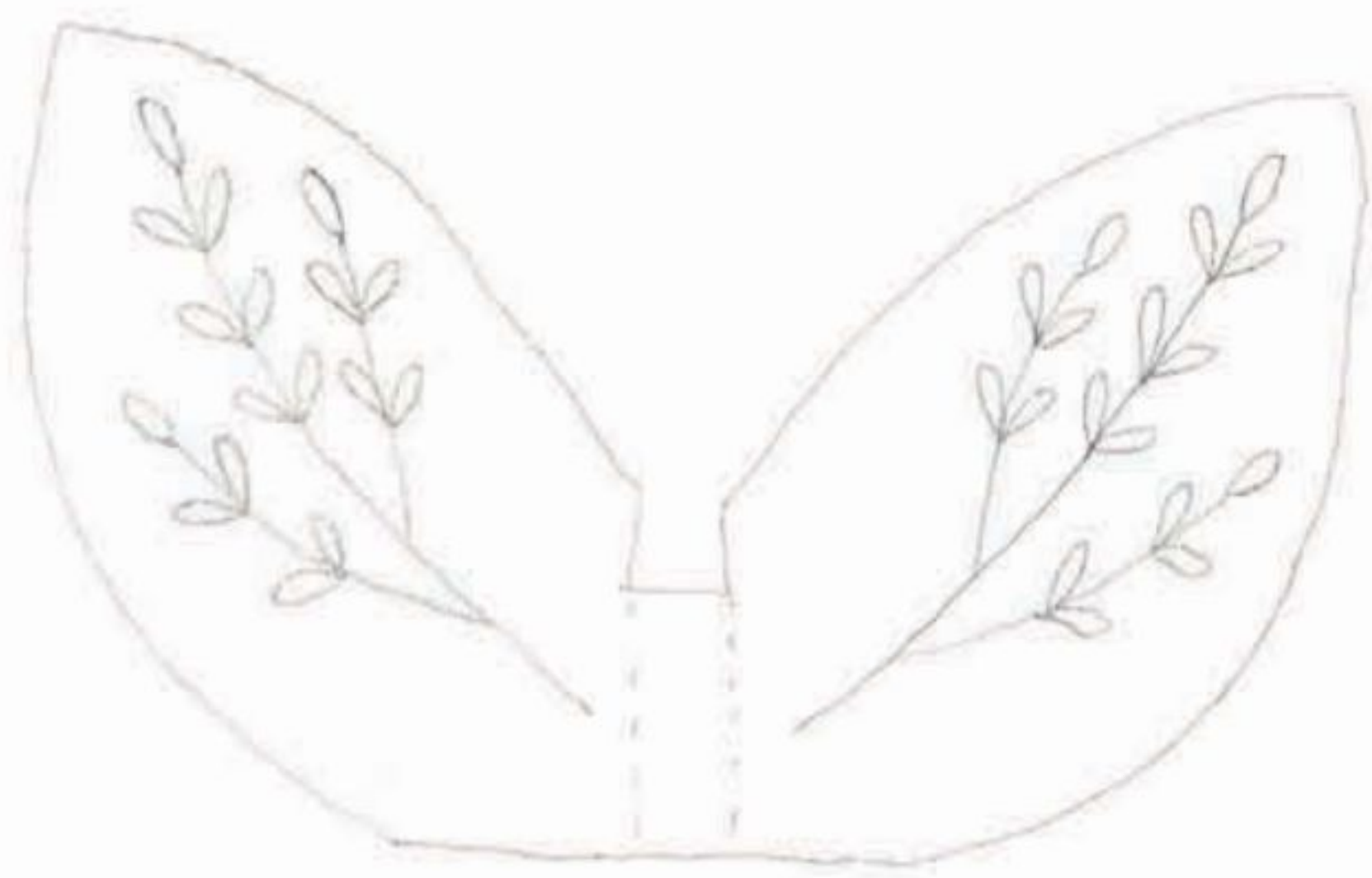




Give it a go!

REBECCA'S GOT YOU STARTED WITH THESE ILLUSTRATIONS. WHY NOT CARRY ON WHERE SHE'S LEFT OFF? ALTERNATIVELY, FIND THE BLANK TEMPLATES AT **HOMEMAKERMAGAZINE.CO.UK**.







# CHANNEL YOUR INNER SCANDI WITH A Starry branch

*Stray away from tradition with this minimalistic tree dec  
from Russell and Bawden*



For those of us who like the simpler things in life, white is the answer to all of our prayers. A perfect hue for the season, it conjures up images of snow-topped tree boughs, and features prominently throughout Nordic décor. So why not take a leaf out of our book to give your home a quick and easy update with this simple upcycled branch? By using only card, paint and wood, you can deck the halls with a contemporary twist this Christmas. Your home will soon be thanking its lucky stars it looks this good!



## YOU'LL NEED:

White card  
Tracing paper  
Branch  
White emulsion and paint brush  
Pencil  
Scissors  
Needle and thread



## PAPER STARS

- 1 Trace our star design. If you want various sizes, photocopy the design and scale it to the dimensions you require. Cut the shapes twice as you will need two for each star.
- 2 Fold one half of the star in half at its narrowest point. Press firmly to score it. Open up the star, then fold in half again in the opposite direction, then from point to point. Repeat with the second half of the star shape.
- 3 Holding one star shape above the other, with the points sticking outwards, attach by the middle narrower ends. They will slot into one another.
- 4 Paint your branch with watered down white emulsion, and wait to dry. Finish by hanging the stars with clear thread and attach at even intervals along the bough.



H  
TEMPLATES



# FESTIVE Freebies

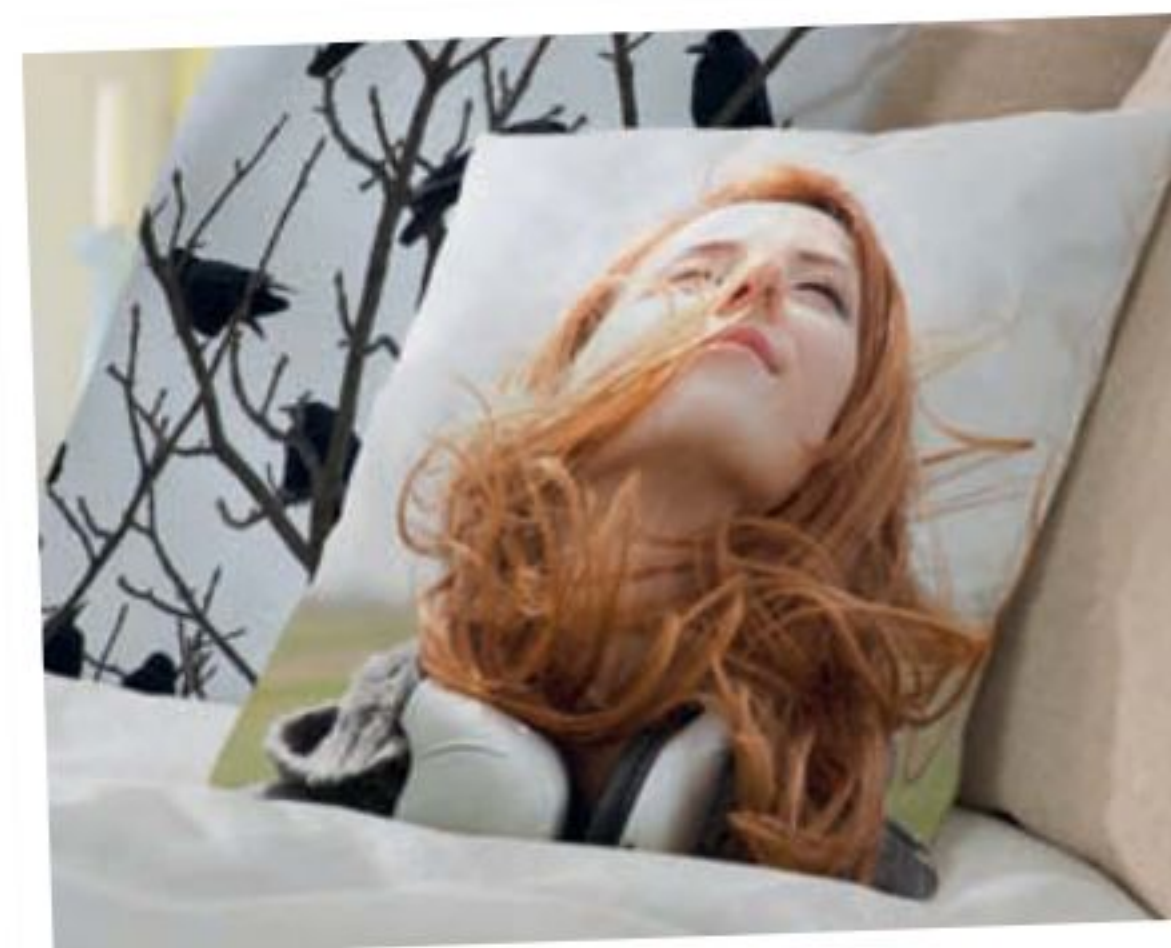
**£7,500**  
WORTH OF  
PRIZES TO  
BE WON!

We've got some amazing prizes up for grabs this Christmas. For your chance to win, go to [homemakermagazine.co.uk](http://homemakermagazine.co.uk)



## CRAFT SHOW EXTRAVAGANZA

Fancy heading to Exeter's Craft4Crafters Show? We have 20 pairs of tickets up for grabs, worth £320 in total! With demonstrations, workshops and over 130 craft businesses expected at the Westpoint Arena from 16th to 18th February 2017, you'll have everything you need to knit, sew and craft until your heart's content. [craft4crafters.co.uk](http://craft4crafters.co.uk)



## CHERISHED MEMORIES ▲

Enter this giveaway and you could get your hands on one of five vouchers from CEWE PHOTOWORLD, worth £100 each. Offering you the chance to turn your pictures into beautiful art for your home, this voucher will enable you to transform a beloved memory into a canvas, poster, calendar or even a bespoke coffee table book. What's more, CEWE PHOTOWORLD's easy to use online software means it couldn't be simpler to personalise a crafty gift for someone you love this Christmas.

[cewe-photoworld.com](http://cewe-photoworld.com)



## OH SEW SIMPLICITY ▶

Fill your sewing room this month with this haberdashery bundle from Simplicity – worth a whopping £450! Get your stitchy mitts on a Simplicity Lace 29 sewing machine, a handy storage caddy – perfect for ensuring your stash is neatly organised – and enough sewing patterns to keep you as busy as a *Sewing Bee* for an entire year. [simplicitynewlook.com](http://simplicitynewlook.com)



## ART BY ALEX FOSTER ▶

This month, three lucky *Homemakers* can add original art to their home, thanks to the talented Alex Foster. Having collaborated with the likes of Roald Dahl, Hallmark and even having his works displayed across the London Underground, we're excited to say he's given us some of his amazing works to give away, worth £507! One winner will receive two framed illustrations, a second reader will win a framed portrait and a third runner up will bag themselves a selection of his greeting cards. [alex-foster.com](http://alex-foster.com)





# WIN!

## TOP UP YOUR STASH

Never again will you be greeted with an empty craft stash as Stix2 is giving away 10 vouchers, worth £50 each, for their one-stop craft shop. Stocking an impressive range of papercrafting supplies, from card and adhesives to beads and glitter, Stix2 will bolster your creative supplies in no time. [stix2.co.uk](http://stix2.co.uk)



## PLAN TO PERFECTION ▲

We've teamed up with Unique Planners by Pirongs to offer *Homemakers* the chance to win one of 18 Life Planners, worth £27.50 each. Providing a fun and creative way to get organised, these books are completely customisable via the clever online builder. Available in A4 or A5, these diaries also come with the option to add extras including wire binding or coloured ribbons – fancy! [uniqueplanners.co.uk](http://uniqueplanners.co.uk)

## BLISSFUL GETAWAY ▼

If you're looking for the perfect place to craft yourself calm this month, we have just the place – award-winning Whittlebury Hall Hotel and Spa, set in rural Northamptonshire. We're giving you the chance to win a one-night spa break for two people worth £510, including overnight accommodation, full English breakfast, three course dinner in the Astons Restaurant and full access to the Heat and Ice Experiences, plus use of the day spa and leisure facilities – sounds like bliss to us. [whittleburyhall.co.uk](http://whittleburyhall.co.uk)



## PUT YOUR STAMP ON IT

Seven ink-aholics can get a head start on their festive making with a bundle of Christmas goodness from Stampin' Up!, worth £76. Each winner will receive a 'Stitched with Cheer' project kit and stamp set as well as crafting essentials including ink-pads, adhesives and clear blocks. What are you waiting for? Give your stash some much-needed seasonal cheer this year! [stampinup.com](http://stampinup.com)

TURN OVER FOR MORE!



## IT'S SHOW TIME!



Calling all crafters – the organisers of The Stitching, Sewing & Hobbycrafts Show are offering 25 lucky readers a pair of tickets to their brilliant exhibition, worth £500 in

total. Taking place at Manchester's EventCity from 2nd to 4th February 2017, the fair will feature over 100 stalls offering the latest craft inspiration and advice. With every hobby catered for – from knitting, cardmaking and sewing to quilting – this is the perfect event for craft lovers to stock up on supplies and get some top tips from talented experts. [stitchandhobby.co.uk](http://stitchandhobby.co.uk)



## DECOUPAGE DELIGHTS

Fancy adding more strings to your bow? We've teamed up with Gabriela Szulman to offer five readers the chance to win a half-day upcycling class for two at her South London workshop, worth £98 each. If you're a winner this month, you and a friend can learn to decoupage a glass dish, jewellery box, tray or even a pair of shoes. Once you've mastered Gabriela's crafty techniques, you'll be able to take your skills home with you – in time for Christmas crafting. [gabriela.szulman.com](http://gabriela.szulman.com)



## SPRUCE UP YOUR CHRISTMAS



Impress your guests and be the hostess with the mostess this Crimbo with a Vermont White Spruce Christmas wreath. Fully equipped with outdoor lights, this garland will bring the festive warmth to your front door, year after year – and we're giving away three, worth £109 each! [balsamhill.co.uk](http://balsamhill.co.uk)

## EXTRA Giveaways

EVEN MORE GREAT PRIZES TO BE WON!

TURN TO **PAGE 11** TO GET YOUR HANDS ON A MAGICAL **ELLA JOHNSTON ORIGINAL PRINT** WORTH £15.

JANOME HAS GIVEN US A **SEWING MACHINE** FOR ONE LUCKY WINNER, WORTH **£999**, ON **PAGE 75!**

TURN YOUR PRINTS INTO CRAFTS WITH A **POLAROID ZIP PRINTER**, WORTH **£99.99**, ON **PAGE 81.**

FLICK TO **PAGE 82** FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN **AMAZING HOCHANDA GOODIES** WORTH **£900!**

FOR ALL YOU BUDDING CRAFT ENTREPRENEURS, WE HAVE A **FOLKSY PLUS ACCOUNT** UP FOR GRABS, WORTH **£45**, ON **PAGE 83.**

## EXTRAVAGANT EXPERIENCES



There's nothing we love more than a free day out and we have two action-packed classes up for grabs, courtesy of the jolly folk from [notonthehighstreet.com](http://notonthehighstreet.com). Win yourself either a gin making day worth £95, where you will craft your own spirits, or an alpaca walk and fleece felting experience valued at £85, complete with lunch. [notonthehighstreet.com](http://notonthehighstreet.com)





# Paperchase

## CHRISTMAS GIFT WRAP + CARD COLLECTION



**Y**ou may not like Brussels sprouts. In fact, many of you probably detest them. But how do you feel about Brussels sprouts with googly eyes wearing antlers? We agree – they're completely adorable and a whole lot of kitsch. That's why we're chuffed to have Paperchase on board this month, with an array of marvellous gift wrap and card designs for you to cut out and enjoy over the Christmas season. What are you waiting for? Turn the page and feel all kinds of festive. Oh, and watch out for Santa Paws – he's too cute for words!

**PAPERCHASE.CO.UK**













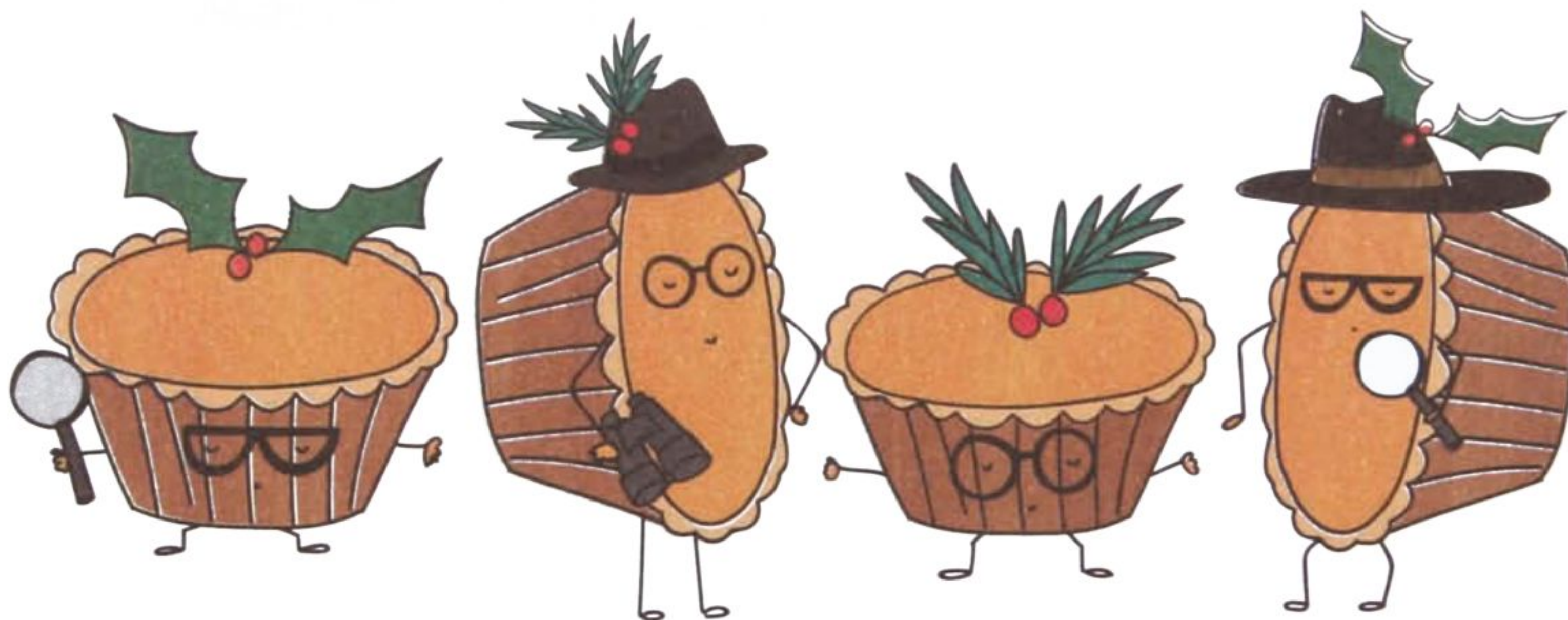








*have a beary  
merry christmas*



**MINCE SPIES**









### Springwood House Designs

Find a large selection of Christmas textiles and kits at [springwoodhousedesigns.co.uk](http://springwoodhousedesigns.co.uk) 01937 581276



### Tilly Mint Vintage

*Vintage by Nina* books by Nina Hartmann are an ideal gift. These perfect coffee table books are filled with decorative inspiration, especially for Christmas. Four titles are available including *My home with vintage & antiques* and *among vintage & friends*. Get them now while stocks last. For more information please call 07972 163299 or find us on Facebook.



### The Textile Space

The Textile Space is a place to create and make beautiful fabrics to adorn your home. Based in an 18th Century Sussex barn in Charlton, on the Goodwood Estate, it is an inspirational venue with a packed itinerary of workshops to choose from. A perfect present for any homemaker with a love of textiles.

[thetextilespace.co.uk](http://thetextilespace.co.uk) 07976 800965 or 01243 811300



### Janome

Janome have just launched their autumn 'Sewing with Style' promotion. Buy the 216-S for ONLY £99. To see the full range of offers available, visit [janome.co.uk](http://janome.co.uk) or head to your local Janome retailer.

### Foodie Flavours Xmas Pudding Natural Flavouring

A typical spicy pudding flavouring for use in cooking, baking and desserts. Suitable for vegetarians and vegans, Gluten-free, egg-free, dairy-free, no added sugar. Available at £4.95 from [foodieflavours.com](http://foodieflavours.com)



# Festive Favourites

*Homemaker's top picks for Christmas crafts and decorations*



### The Little Fabric Store

This beautiful Gardening collection, designed by Dinara Mirtalipova for Windham Fabrics, is now available at The Little Fabric Store. A fantastic choice for an alternative Christmas style or the perfect gift for keen gardeners.

[thelittlefabricstore.co.uk](http://thelittlefabricstore.co.uk) 01507 201131



### Croft Mill

Croft Mill have been selling fabrics for over 40 years. With a selection of materials from all over the world, that suit any price or project. Clothworks Christmas Prints, £6.95 per metre.

[croftmill.co.uk](http://croftmill.co.uk) 01282 859281



### The Mulberry Bush

Dress your home for the festive period with beautiful decorations made especially by you. The Mulberry Bush is bursting with crafting inspiration to help you create the perfect handcrafted Christmas.

[themulberry-bush.com](http://themulberry-bush.com) 01635 860900





# • THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF • CAKE BOY

*Eric Lanlard invites us to try his warming  
Scandinavian apple cake*

**T**his November, we're turning to Sweden to serve a winter favourite with a kick. With aesthetic appeal to match its amazing taste, this cake is sure to become the apple of your eye this season.

## WINTER WARMER

People absolutely adore an apple cake. It's the perfect choice for afternoon tea as often the desserts on offer can be too fancy or moussey. This bake is earthy and warming, and can be served heated up for winter. The recipe pairs apples with cinnamon, an amazing spice that's strongly reminiscent of Christmas – combining the two is most certainly a marriage made in

heaven. One of my favourite things about this dish is its versatility – not only can you serve it hot or cold, but you can bake it into a loaf and toast it too. I usually have mine with a sweet vanilla custard, but it's just as delicious eaten on its own.

## FULL OF FRUIT

The fruit you use in your base strongly affects both the taste and texture of the cake, so use zesty apples such as Granny Smiths. Placing these slices on top of the cake will also give a great crunch. Make sure the dried fruit you're using is nice and plump – if you find your sultanas are a bit hard, soak them in water for a couple

of hours to soften. For an added kick, I've used some apple brandy, but you can substitute this for regular brandy, rum or a good quality apple juice. For a finishing touch, brush your cake with an apricot glaze; not only does this make it look even more inviting, it's yummy and a great way to polish off a slice of your cake! It's best to bake this on the day of serving, so it comes straight out of the oven, fresh and warm. To serve, I'd pair with a light tea, such as English breakfast. Nothing too robust, as the cinnamon, apple and dark sugars would overpower any strongly flavoured tea.

## SCANDINAVIAN APPLE CAKE

SERVES 8-10



150g unsalted butter, melted and cooled, plus extra for greasing

5 firm apples, such as Granny Smith or Cox

150g light muscovado sugar

2 eggs

300g plain flour

2 tsp baking powder

1 tsp mixed spice

1 tsp ground cinnamon

½ tsp freshly grated nutmeg

200g golden sultanas

100g walnuts, roasted and chopped

4 tbsp apple brandy (optional)

Apricot glaze, to decorate



**1** Preheat the oven to 180°C (fan 160°C). Grease a 20cm diameter springform cake tin and line with baking paper.

**2** Peel and grate all but one of the apples into a bowl and combine with the sugar and cooled butter. Add the eggs and mix well. Sift the dry ingredients, then add them to the apple mixture and fold in. Stir in the sultanas and walnuts and the brandy, if using.

**3** Pour the mixture into the prepared tin. Peel and slice the remaining apple, then arrange on top of the cake in a neat circle.

**4** Bake in the oven for 50-60 minutes until golden – it's ready when a skewer can be inserted into the centre and comes out clean. The cake will be very moist, but that's normal. Leave to cool in the tin for five minutes, then transfer to a cooling rack.

**5** Brush with a little apricot glaze and leave to cool. Serve with a light dusting of icing sugar.



## RECIPE TIP

To make the glaze, use apricot jam. Heat in a small saucepan and gently warm through, then press through a fine sieve.



This recipe is taken from *Afternoon Tea* by Eric Lanlard (£20, Octopus Books). For more delicious recipes, visit [youtube.com/ericlanlard](https://www.youtube.com/ericlanlard)





**SUGARCRAFT**  
• **SKILL** •  
ROYAL ICING

• ICE AND DECORATE A •

# CHRISTMAS TREE STACK

*Because no festive season is complete without a sweet treat to dunk in your tea...*

**Y**ou may have your Christmas pudding sorted for the big day, but have you thought about the finer, biscuity details? With the festive period bringing more people to your home for catch-ups and cuppas (hooray!), you'll want to ensure your snack stash is fully stocked. Luckily for us, *Christmas Cookies To Make & Bake* has no shortage of tasty morsels to inspire us in the kitchen – we particularly love this biscuit tower.



## STAR BISCUITS



### YOU'LL NEED:

120g butter  
120g caster sugar  
180g plain flour  
1 egg, separated

### FOR THE ROYAL ICING

2 fresh egg whites  
500-600g icing sugar, sifted

### TO DECORATE

500g green ready-to-roll fondant icing  
50g apricot jam, melted  
Royal icing (see above)  
Green food colouring paste  
Edible silver balls and sprinkles of your choice

### EQUIPMENT

Star-shaped cookie cutters in various sizes  
Two prepared baking sheets  
Disposable piping bag  
Stand mixer with paddle attachment, or a mixing bowl and electric whisk



**1** Preheat the oven to 180°C. Put the butter, sugar and flour in a large mixing bowl. Rub together until the mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs, then add the egg yolk. Bring everything together to form a smooth dough.

**2** On a clean, lightly floured work surface, roll out the dough into a large rectangle about 4mm thick. Cut out star shapes in descending sizes. Bring the trimmed dough together and roll out again to cut as many cookies as possible. Arrange the cookies on the baking sheets, with the larger cookies on one sheet and the smaller ones on another.

**3** Bake the larger cookies in the preheated oven for 8-10 minutes, and the smaller ones for 4-8 minutes, until golden and firm. Leave to cool on the baking sheets for 10 minutes or so, before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely.

**4** Roll out the fondant icing and cut into stars the same size as the cookies. Once the cookies are cold, brush with the melted apricot jam and position the matching fondant star on top. Push gently to secure, taking care not to break the cookies.

~~~~~ The crafty cook's kitchen ~~~~~



CAKE DECORATING SPRINKLES,  
£1.79, [LAKELAND.CO.UK](http://LAKELAND.CO.UK)



STAR COOKIE CUTTERS, £1.50,  
[TESCO.CO.UK](http://TESCO.CO.UK)



RENSHAW READY TO ROLL  
ICING, £1.80,  
[HOBBYCRAFT.CO.UK](http://HOBBYCRAFT.CO.UK)



**5** For the royal icing, place the ingredients in the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with a paddle attachment and beat for 5-7 minutes, until white and thick. Alternatively, use a mixing bowl and hand-held electric whisk. Beat the egg whites until foamy and whisk in the sugar. If you're not using the icing immediately, cover with cling film, pressing it into the surface to prevent it from drying out. Refrigerate until needed.

**6** Tint the royal icing green with the food colouring and spoon it into a piping bag. Outline the cookies with a green line. Decorate the edges of each star with silver balls, gently pushing them into the piped green icing to secure.

**7** When the icing is dry, stack the cookies on a serving plate, with the largest cookies positioned at the base. Scatter over the silver balls and sprinkles to finish.



For more delicious bakes, see *Christmas Cookies To Make & Bake* (£9.99, Macmillan). *Homemaker* readers can receive a copy for £7.99, including postage, by telephoning Macmillan Direct on **01256 302699** and quoting reference **HS4**.





## knitted home with **ERIKA KNIGHT**

*Delight and amaze this Christmas with a pair  
of traditional knitted cushions*

I must confess that the thought of Christmas knitting projects leaves me in a cold sweat as the pressure of a deadline and the expectation of a handmade gift is just too much for me! I always begin my planning early on in November with the very best intentions to create handcrafted gifts for all my loved ones, as well as making edible organic tree decorations and origami table place settings.

But somehow life seems to get in the way, and by mid-December I'm panic buying in the pre-Christmas sales and furiously making my fail-safe pompoms to adorn every corner of the house. Here's a handy hint: just add fairy lights and a sprig of seasonal greenery for an instant festive vibe! So, simple, achievable projects are the order of the month. These classic cushions have knitted fronts with a contrasting felt back, so really it's just an easy square of knitting and a small amount of yarn required, making it a great stash buster too. Choose a few different designs to suit the tastes of your lucky recipients – and to keep your interest, as you may be knitting several of these as the nights draw in.

A favourite of countless designers, the Scottish houndstooth check is a modern classic. Its bold graphic quality, whether on a large or small scale, gives this design a timeless appeal. The English pinstripe characterises British culture, and will look great in most interiors. Add a rosette or button detail to customise and fill with a feather cushion, for ultimate plumped up, voluptuous appeal under the Christmas tree.

[erikaknight.co.uk](http://erikaknight.co.uk)



### YOU'LL NEED:

#### HOUNDSTOOTH CUSHION

Yarn, Erika Knight for John Lewis DK, 2 x 50g of A black; B ecru

4mm needles

Feather cushion pad, 45cm square

Black felt, 50cm square

Chunky black zipper, 40cm

Sewing needle and  
matching thread

#### CORSAGE

Tweed fabric

Medium button

Safety pin

#### STRIPED CUSHION

Yarn, Erika Knight for John Lewis DK, 3 x 50g of A black; 1 x 50g of B ecru

4mm needles

Feather cushion pad, 45cm square

Red felt, 50cm square

Chunky black zipper, 40cm

Sewing needle and  
matching thread

Large buttons, two

#### TENSION

22 sts and 25 rows to 10cm over  
colourwork pattern using 4mm.  
Change needle size, if necessary,  
to ensure the correct tension.

#### SIZE

45cm square

### NOTE

The houndstooth pattern is given as both row-by-row instructions and in chart form. Find the chart at [homemakermagazine.co.uk](http://homemakermagazine.co.uk). Work the houndstooth and stripe patterns using the Fair Isle technique, stranding the yarn not in use loosely across the back of the work. Do not carry the yarn over more than three stitches at a time, but weave it under and over the colour being worked.





## HOUNDSTOOTH CUSHION

### FRONT COVER

Using 4mm needles and A, cast on 105 sts.

P1 row.

Beg with a k row, work in st st and houndstooth patt as foll:

**Row 1 (RS):** K3 A, k2 B, \*k8 A, k2 B; rep from \* to last 10 sts, k8 A, k1 B, k1 A.

**Row 2:** P1 A, \*p8 A, p2 B; rep from \* to last 4 sts, p4 A.

**Row 3:** K1 A, \*k5 B, k1 A, k1 B, k3 A; rep from \* to last 4 sts, k3 B, k1 A.

**Row 4:** P1 A, p3 B, \*p2 A, p2 B, p1 A, p5 B; rep from \* to last st, p1 A.

**Row 5:** K1 A, \*k5 B, k2 A, k2 B, k1 A; rep from \* to last 4 sts, k3 B, k1 A.

**Row 6:** P1 A, p5 B, \*p2 A, p8 B; rep from \* to last 9 sts, p2 A, p6 B, p1 A.

**Row 7:** K1 A, k7 B, \*k1 A, k9 B; rep from \* to last 7 sts, k1 A, k5 B, k1 A.

**Row 8:** P1 A, p4 B, \*p2 A, p8 B; rep from \* to last 10 sts, p2 A, p7 B, p1 A.

**Row 9:** K1 A, k8 B, k1 A, \*k9 B, k1 A; rep from \* to last 5 sts, k4 B, k1 A.

**Row 10:** P1 A, p1 B, \*p7 A, p3 B; rep from \* to last 3 sts, p3 A.

**Row 11:** K1 A, \*k1 B, k2 A, k2 B, k5 A; rep from \* to last 4 sts, k1 B, k3 A.

**Row 12:** \*P2 A, p2 B, p5 A, p1 B; rep from \* to last 5 sts, p2 A, p2 B, p1 A.

**Row 13:** K1 A, \*k3 B, k1 A, k1 B, k5 A; rep from \* to last 4 sts, k3 B, k1 A.

**Row 14:** P1 A, \*p2 B, p8 A; rep from \* to last 4 sts, p2 B, p2 A. Rep last 14 rows until work measures 45cm, ending with WS facing for next row. Cut off B.

P1 row in A.

Cast off.

### CORSAGE

Cut a strip of fabric, 2.5cm x 150cm (if necessary, piece strip by stitching flat overlapping seam), leaving a tail approx. 20cm long. Make a rosette or star shape by folding strip out and back onto itself into centre, holding it in place with your thumb, until six looped points have been folded. Secure loops at centre with a stitch and leave another tail approximately 20cm long at back.



Sew a button to centre front of corsage and sew a safety pin to back.

## STRIPED CUSHION

### FRONT COVER

Using 4mm needles and A, cast on 105 sts. P1 row.

Beg with a k row, work in st st and stripe patt as foll:

**Row 1 (RS):** K8 A, k1 B, \*k7 A, k1 B; rep from \* to last 8 sts, k8 A.

**Row 2:** P8 A, p1 B, \*p7 A, p1 B; rep from \* to last 8 sts, p8 A.

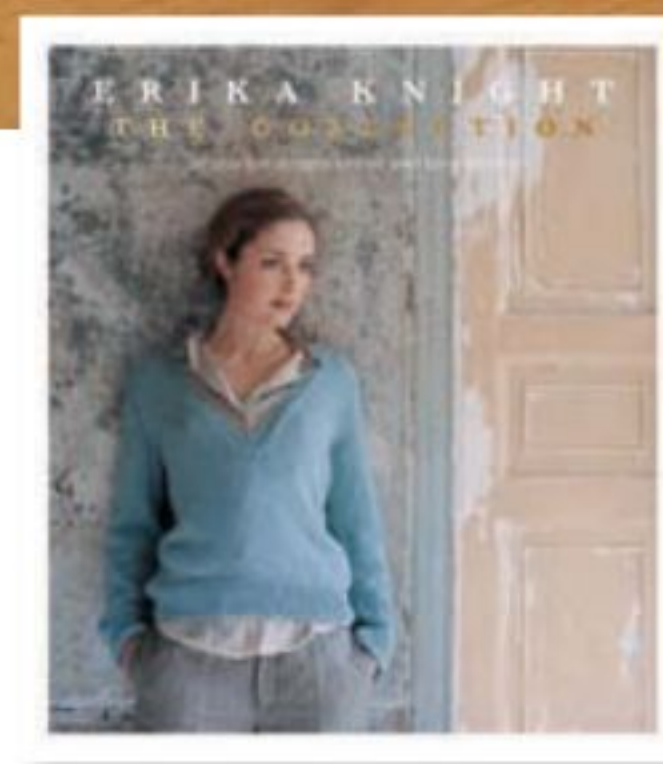
Rep last 2 rows until work measures 45cm, ending with WS facing for next row. Cut off B.

P1 row in A.

Cast off.

### TO FINISH BOTH COVERS

Weave in any loose yarn ends. Lay work out flat and gently steam. Cut out a piece of felt, 48cm square, for back of cover. Sew zipper in place along top of cover, taking a 1.5cm seam on felt and stitching close to edge of knitting, then sew other three seams. Cut a felt strip, 1.5cm x 23cm, and fold in half lengthwise. Stitch along each long edge, close to fold and raw edges. Trim close to stitching, and loop onto zipper puller. Pin corsage to houndstooth cushion. Place one large button at the centre of each side of the striped design and stitch together through cushion.



*Erika Knight The Collection*  
by Erika Knight (£18.99, Quadrille). Photography by Katya de Grunwald.

FOR A FULL LIST  
OF KNITTING  
ABBREVIATIONS,  
PROJECTS AND  
IDEAS, VISIT  
**LETSKNIT.CO.UK**

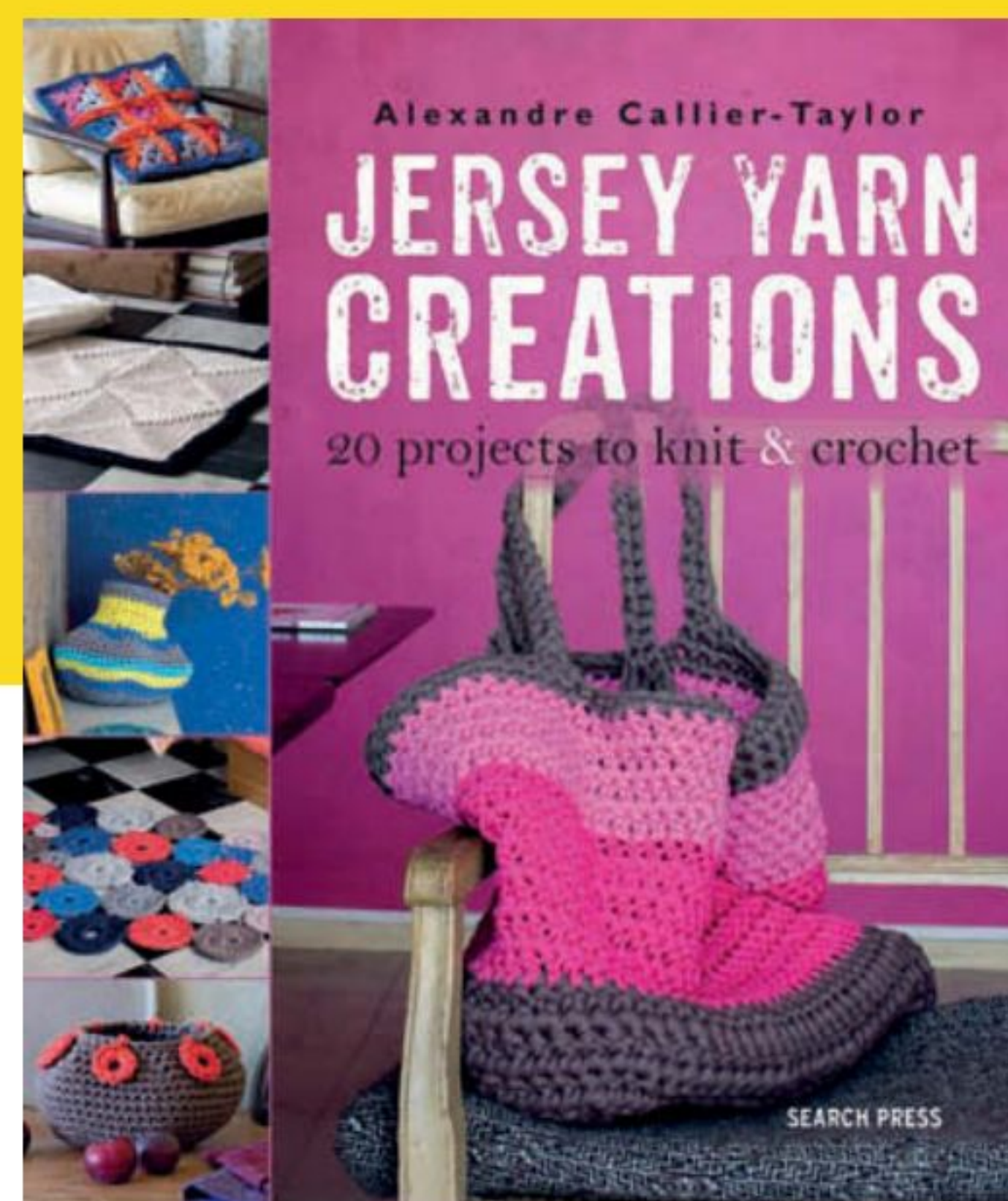


# FREE

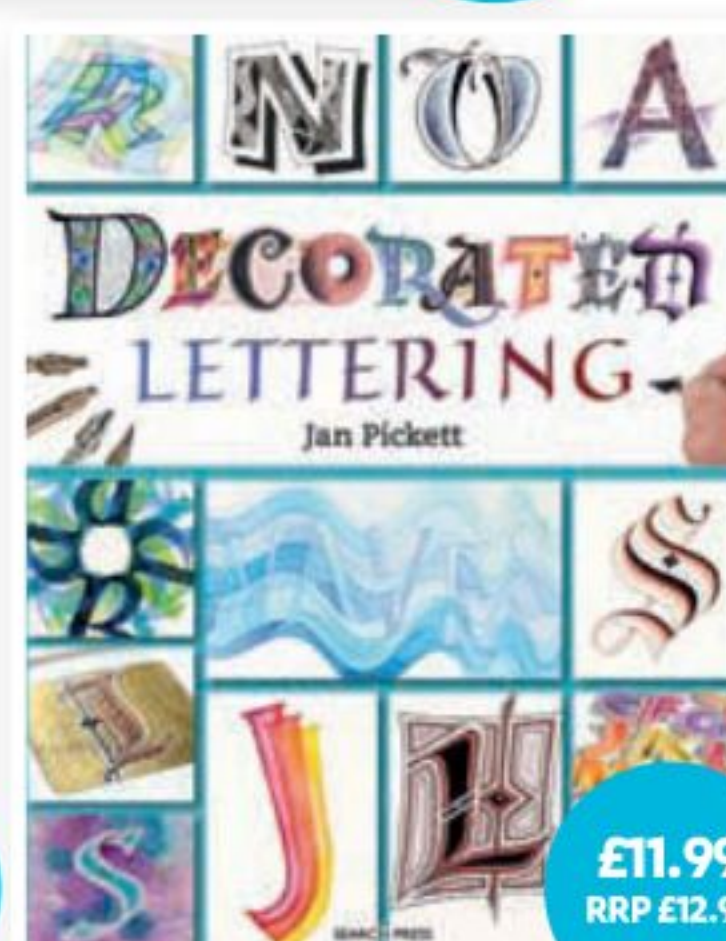
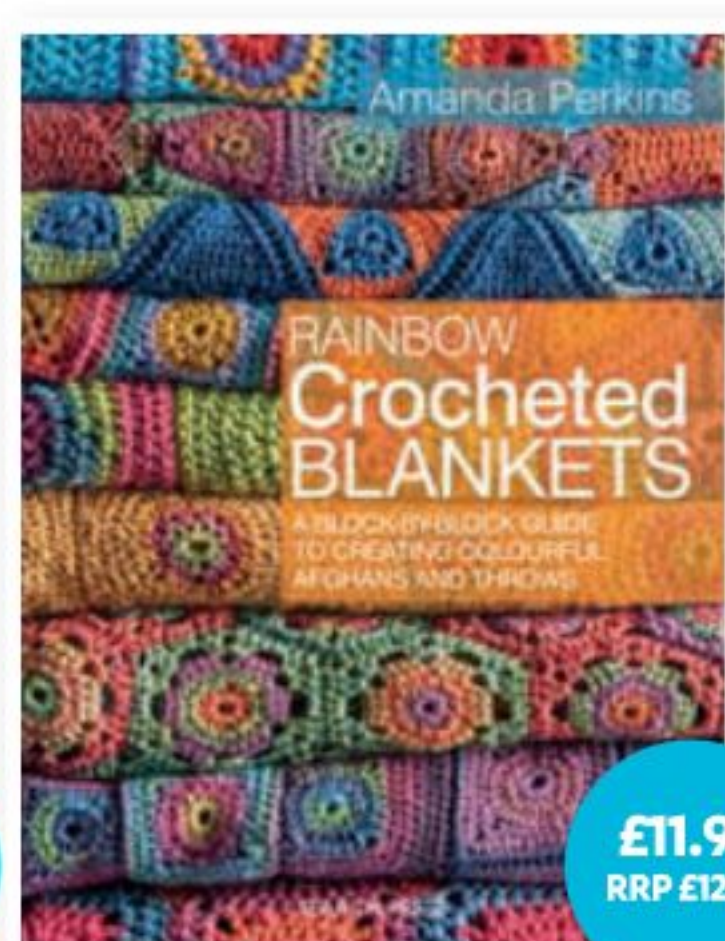
## JERSEY YARN CREATIONS

### BOOK FOR EVERY READER!

Here at **Homemaker** we have arranged a **FREE\*** copy of *Jersey Yarn Creations*, worth **£7.99**, for every reader. Expert textile designer Alexandre Callier-Taylor has created 20 modern and stylish designs that make use of the slightly elastic but robust quality of jersey yarn, including pots, rugs, pillows, bags and mats. With clear step-by-step knitting and crochet instructions, this book is ideal for crafters of all abilities looking for new ideas and inspiration.



▼ **PLUS, GREAT SAVINGS ON THESE BOOKS!** ▼



## HOW TO ORDER

Simply complete the coupon below and either fill in your credit card details OR send a cheque or postal order for the correct amount (made payable to 'Search Press Ltd') to **Search Press Ltd, Wellwood, North Farm Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN2 3DR.**

| Title                              | RRP               | Offer Price | Quantity | Total |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|----------|-------|
| <b>FREE*</b> Jersey Yarn Creations | <del>£7.99</del>  | <b>FREE</b> | 1        | £0.00 |
| Decorating Christmas Cakes         | <del>£12.99</del> | £11.99      |          |       |
| Half Yard Home                     | <del>£9.99</del>  | £8.99       |          |       |
| Half Yard Heaven                   | <del>£9.99</del>  | £8.99       |          |       |
| Rainbow Crocheted Blankets         | <del>£12.99</del> | £11.99      |          |       |
| Merry Christmas Sweaters           | <del>£9.99</del>  | £8.99       |          |       |
| Quilted Covers & Cosies            | <del>£7.99</del>  | £6.99       |          |       |
| The Cross-Stitch Garden            | <del>£12.99</del> | £11.99      |          |       |
| Decorated Lettering                | <del>£12.99</del> | £11.99      |          |       |
| Pretty Knitted Hands               | <del>£12.99</del> | £11.99      |          |       |

MY DETAILS ARE: please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS

|                 |         |         |
|-----------------|---------|---------|
| Title           | Initial | Surname |
| Address         |         |         |
| Postcode        |         |         |
| Contact tel no. |         |         |
| Email           |         |         |

☐ I enclose a cheque made payable to 'Search Press Ltd'

Please charge my Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Switch/Maestro (Issue No.)

CARD NUMBER

EXPIRY DATE

SECURITY NUMBER (on back of card)

SIGNED :

TODAY'S DATE:

SEARCH PRESS LIMITED

Homemaker

Postage \*£4.99

TOTAL £

### Terms and conditions and your data protection preferences:

\*UK postage costs £4.99. Orders must be received by 31st October 2016. Postal orders must be submitted with a completed coupon and a cheque or postal order for the correct amount to cover postage. Only one free book per reader, multiple applications will not be accepted. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. Offer subject to availability. In the event of a title being unavailable, we reserve the right to send an alternative title or will manufacture to order. We can only provide refunds for damaged or faulty goods. Open to UK residents only. Please allow 28 days for delivery. Your details will be processed by Search Press Ltd/Aceville Publications Ltd (publishers of Homemaker magazine) in full accordance with data protection legislation. Search Press Ltd/Aceville Publications Ltd (publishers of Homemaker magazine), and sister companies may wish to contact you with information of other services and publications we provide which may be of interest. Please tick here if you DO NOT wish to receive such information by Post ☐ Phone ☐ Email ☐ SMS ☐ From time to time Search Press Ltd/Aceville Publications Ltd (publishers of Homemaker magazine) will share details with other reputable companies who provide products and services that maybe of interest to you. Please tick here if you DO NOT wish to receive such information by Post ☐ Phone ☐ Email ☐ SMS ☐ See [www.searchpress.com](http://www.searchpress.com) for full range of titles.



BE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE  
ON BIG PROJECTS WITH OUR

# Chair makeover

*This is a before and after you can't help but be in awe of*

**T**his chair was in a sorry state. It was badly damaged, two of its legs had been broken off and the fabric was, well, outdated at best. But our upcycling experts, Amanda Walker and Jonathan Smith, worked their renovation magic. "The back leg was a fairly simple curved shape and could be remade relatively easily," they explain. "But the front cabriolet leg posed more of a problem. We did not have the skills or tools to recreate this so we cut off the other good leg and replaced both with plain straight legs. You can find cabriolet legs online, but it proved impossible to find ones exactly the right length. We were still really pleased with the outcome – doesn't it look 10 times better?"





## YOU'LL NEED:

Old armchair  
 Paint in Duck Egg Blue  
 by Rust-Oleum  
 Fabric, we used Claude Fabric  
 in Pervenche from  
**justfabrics.co.uk**  
 Yellow braid  
 Softwood  
 Multi tool  
 Electric sander  
 Paintbrushes  
 Electric jigsaw  
 Drill, drill bits and countersink bit  
 Screwdriver and wood screws  
 Hot melt glue gun  
 Staple gun  
 Hammer and short panel pins  
 Dowel rod  
 Glasspaper, medium and smooth  
 PVA glue  
 Wood filler

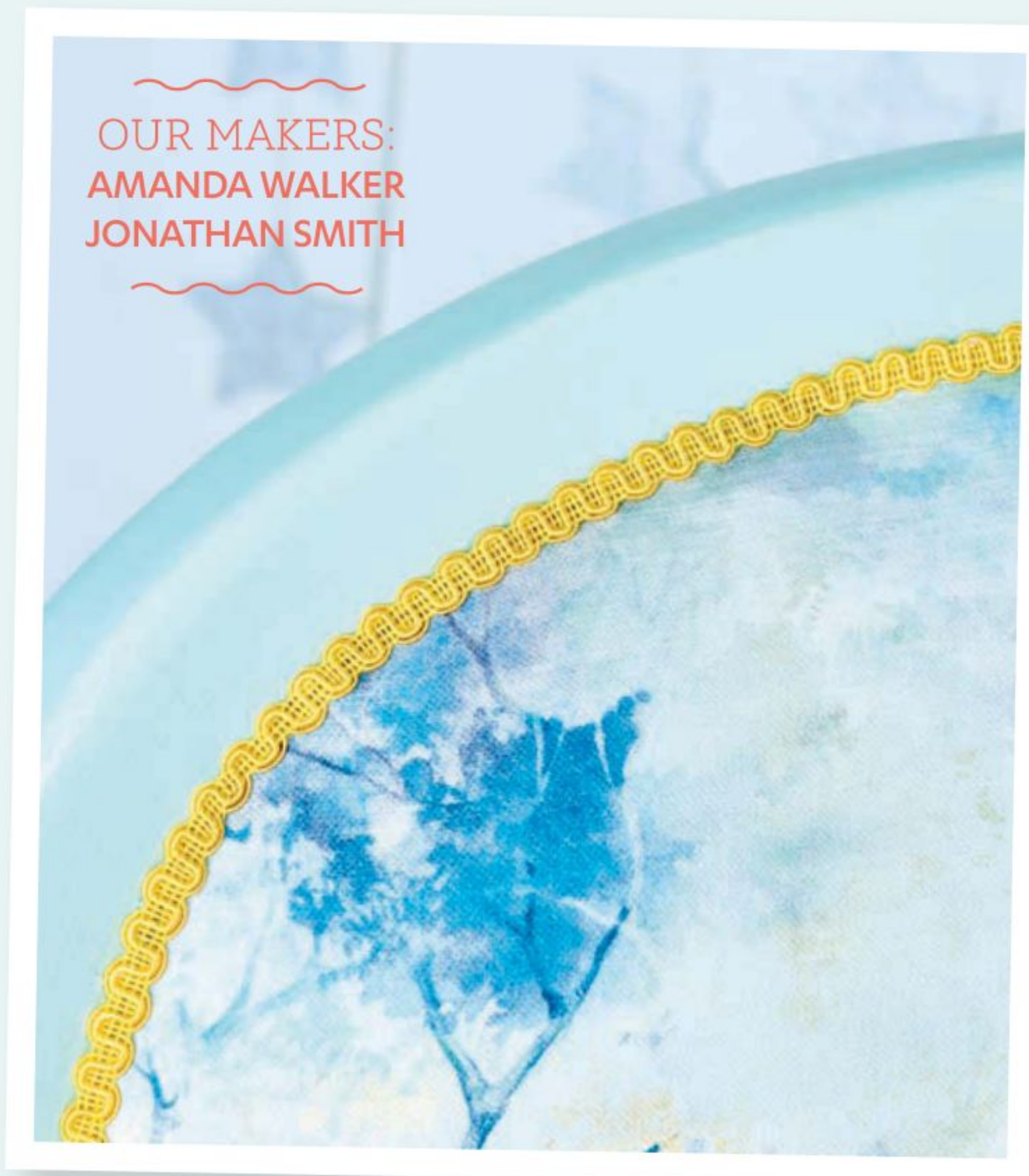


## REMOVE THE OLD UPHOLSTERY

In this case, it was held on with hundreds of small staples and proved quite difficult and time-consuming. An old screwdriver or chisel is normally fine, but these staples were too small so a bradawl was used. It proved easiest to rip the covers off with as many staples as possible, then remove any remaining ones. Underneath, the covers, padding, foam and springing were in reasonably good order so we left them. The old covers were kept to use as a template when cutting the new fabric pieces.

## ASSESS THE WOODWORK

The remains of the two broken legs were cut away with a multi tool; the thin vibrating blades are ideal for this sort of job. A cardboard template was taken from the remaining good rear leg and this was used to draw



OUR MAKERS:  
**AMANDA WALKER**  
**JONATHAN SMITH**

around onto a piece of softwood the same thickness as the leg. An electric jigsaw was used to cut out a new leg. The rough sides and sharp corners were sanded with an electric orbital sander. The end of the leg was slightly rounded to match the existing leg. The two new front legs were made with square section softwood. These were cut to length and sanded, as before.

## ATTACH NEW LEGS

This was done using dowel joints and screws. To make the dowel joints, the legs were

carefully clamped into position. A hole, the same diameter as the dowel rod, was drilled through the leg and into the framework of the chair. Pieces of dowel were then cut slightly longer than the hole, before being covered in PVA glue and tapped into position. To ensure that the dowels slide into the holes easily, scrape some grooves along the length of the dowel with a sharp point. This allows any trapped air and excess glue to escape. For added strength, some screws of appropriate length were screwed in after pilot holes and countersinks had been drilled. The screwheads and any gaps were then filled with wood filler.

## PAINT THE CHAIR

Once the wood filler was dry, the whole area was sanded, along with the excess dowel rod. The rest of the painted area of the chair was hand sanded using medium and fine glasspaper to provide a good key for the new paint. The chair was then given two coats of Duck Egg Blue paint.



BEFORE

## UPHOLSTER WITH NEW FABRIC

**1** The old pieces of upholstery were placed onto new fabric; the pattern was fairly abstract but we chose colourful parts to use for each piece. The seat piece of fabric was positioned on the chair, then stretched and stapled to the frame of the seat, making neat folded corners at the front two esdges.

**2** As the fabric wasn't taken underneath the chair along the front, the raw edges of the fabric were turned under and stapled in place. At the back and sides, the fabric was slid through between the seat back and base of the arms of the seat, again secured in place with a staple gun.

**3** Next, the arms were covered; the front and base edges were turned under and stapled as before, being careful to position the staples right on the folded edge.

**4** The back of the chair was then recovered. It was curved, so it was important that the fabric had been cut and folded accurately. The folded edge was pressed to make sure it stayed constant. The centre top was stapled first, then stretched and stapled from this point down to the seat. The other side of the back was completed in the same manner.

**5** To finish, a yellow braid was stuck around all the visible folded edges to cover the staples. The end of the braid was anchored with a small panel pin and a hot glue gun was used to stick the leftovers.

## Reader tip



### SIOBHAN SAYS:

"If you're left with any glue gun strings on your project, use a hair dryer on a high setting once you've finished your project – the glue strings will pull right off!"



## SHOP THE LOOK

Winter birch twig tree, [balsamhill.co.uk](http://balsamhill.co.uk)

Faux fur rug, [modern-rugs.co.uk](http://modern-rugs.co.uk)

Baubles, silver snowflakes and tea light holders, [tch.net](http://tch.net)

Confetti champagne flutes, [dobbies.com](http://dobbies.com)

Star garland, [pipii.co.uk](http://pipii.co.uk)

TAKE LOTS OF  
PHOTOS OF THE  
CHAIR FROM ALL  
ANGLES BEFORE  
YOU START WORK  
AS A REFERENCE  
POINT FOR THE  
RE-UPHOLSTERY



# Frenchic

## Furniture Paint®

has no hidden nasties and is an all natural, environmentally friendly, chalk and mineral paint.

Choose from 40 fabulous colours. The Frenchic oval and wax brushes are hand-crafted in Italy, are of the finest quality and available nationwide from these stockists and more.



[www.frenchicpaint.co.uk](http://www.frenchicpaint.co.uk)

#paintslikeadream #everythingtoysafe #thehealthierchoice #hastobeFrenchic



**Specialising in vintage furniture and textile decoration to embellish the modern home**

Brush & Needle are established stockists for Frenchic chalk and mineral paint

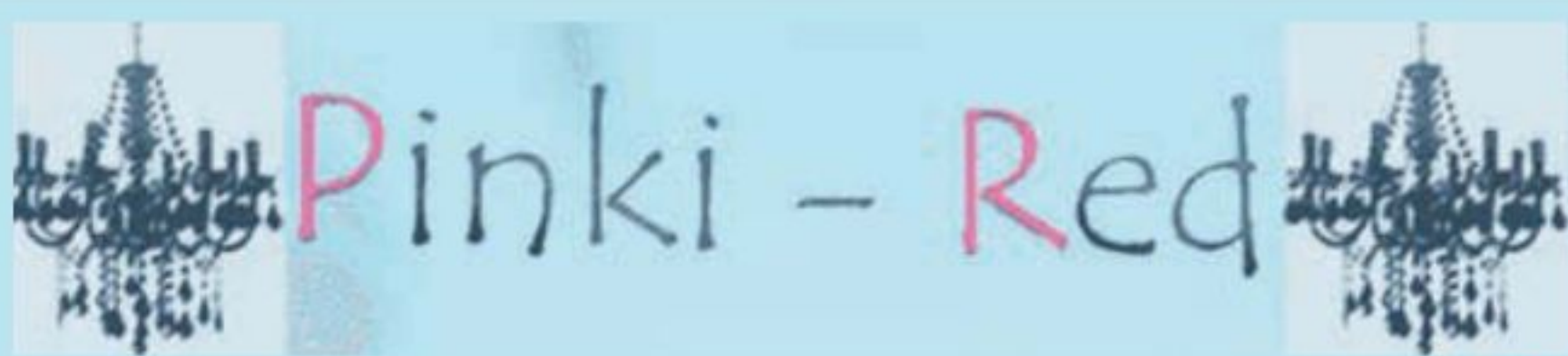
They are non-toxic and can be used safely on childrens furniture and toys.

You will be introduced and use these amazing products by a qualified painter and decorator and college lecturer with over 20 years in decoration. Once you start you will be painting and transforming everything that stands still long enough!

**Furniture painting and techniques  
Sewing for the home workshops**

Workshops run at weekends-monthly.  
Arranged as enquiries grow.

Unit 7, Niagara Road, Sheffield S6 1LU | TEL 07980 915 171



We are a shabby chic shop located in Lymington in the New Forest. We paint your furniture and offer accessories to complement the finished look in your home.



07938054286  
13-14 St Thomas Street, Lymington,  
Hampshire, SO41 9NA

[www.pinki-redshabbychic.co.uk](http://www.pinki-redshabbychic.co.uk)



Official stockists of  
Frenchic® Furniture Paint,  
Sophie Allport China and  
Vintage by Nina books.  
We offer an eclectic mix of  
antiques, vintage inspired  
and lovingly upcycled items  
for your home and garden.



# Wooden Tops

FURNITURE

- \*Preloved Vintage, Retro & Antique Furniture - Bought & Sold
- \*Commision work undertaken
- \*Soda Blasting Specialist
- \*Frenchic Paint Stockist & Painting Tutorial Workshops



Find us on Facebook and Instagram  
[www.woodentopsfurniture.co.uk](http://www.woodentopsfurniture.co.uk)

01656 856520 | 14 Queens Court, Bridgend Ind Est. CF31 3TQ



Tilly Mint Vintage, Emporium 7, Dagfields Craft & Antique Centre  
Crewe Road, Walgherton, Cheshire. CW5 7LG Tel: 07972 163299



WIN!

# WIN A **JANOME** *sewing* MACHINE!

*Revolutionise your embroidering with  
the brand-new MC400E*

Worth  
£999!

Whether you're looking to update your existing machine or to kickstart your sewing adventures, we have just the prize for you this month. We've teamed up with our friends at Janome to offer *Homemaker* readers the chance to get their hands on a state of the art MC400E model.

Not only will you be one of the first to own this sought-after piece of kit, you'll be able to personalise, embellish and monogram home décor items, clothing and Christmas presents in a jiffy. With an embroidery speed of up to 860 stitches per minute as well as 160 built-in embroidery designs, this sewing machine will have you whizzing through your list of festive crafty makes at lightning speed. And that's not all – the MC400E also comes equipped with a host of time-saving functionalities including an LCD colour touchscreen, built-in needle threader, automatic thread cutter and a bobbin thread sensor. Embroidery will never be the same again!



- Built-in embroidery system
- Embroiders up to 200mm square
- Contains 160 designs, plus six monogramming fonts
- LCD colour touch screen
- On-screen design editing
- Easy set bobbin
- Start/stop button
- Auto needle threader
- Auto thread cutter
- Single colour sewing
- USB port for importing designs
- Instruction book and DVD

Find out more about the Janome embroidery machine range by visiting [janome.co.uk/products](http://janome.co.uk/products) or calling 01616 666011. Receive a free demonstration from your local retailer by searching [janome.co.uk/retailer-search](http://janome.co.uk/retailer-search)

DON'T DELAY, VISIT **HOMEMAKERMAGAZINE.CO.UK** TO ENTER TODAY!



Done  
IN A DAY

• STITCH OUR •

# Festive hoop

*Get thready to craft the trendiest Christmas gift this winter*

There's nothing we love more than giving a friend or family member one of our festive makes. From choosing the materials to identifying the colour scheme, crafting something from scratch can be the perfect way to make something seasonal, yet special. Put a personalised Crimbo stamp on your present making this year with this fabulously on point project from Chloe Hailwood. Just don't be surprised if everyone you know wants you to make one for them, too!



## YOU'LL NEED:

Plain linen in Ecru, 23cm square from [fabricrehab.co.uk](http://fabricrehab.co.uk)

Embroidery hoop, 20cm

Embroidery threads in white, red, mid-green and lime green

Carbon paper, 20cm square

Washi tape



## TOP TIP

Keep thread lengths short to avoid tangles!

## EMBROIDERY HOOP

**1** Download the corresponding template from the *Homemaker* website. Lay carbon paper ink side down on top of linen. Use a small amount of washi tape to hold in place before laying the template on top and taping again. Carefully trace over the template design before gently removing both the template and carbon paper, revealing the design printed onto the linen. Secure the fabric in an embroidery hoop.

**2** Ensure the design is central and the fabric is kept taught. Work from the centre outwards. Start by embroidering 'Merry Christmas' with red thread and a small backstitch. Follow the exact lines of the print. Next, using a larger backstitch, add the fir leaves using mid-green thread – make just one large stitch for each needle of the leaf. Work the mistletoe leaves in lime green using large stitches for the stem and small stitches for the leaves.

**3** Use white thread to embroider the stars – this needs just one large stitch over each line of the star. Continue using the white for the mistletoe berries, making French knots. Bring the needle up through the dot from the template and hold the point close to the linen. Wrap the thread around the point twice and push the needle back down through the fabric to make the knot. Embroider the fir berries in this way with the red. Trim the excess fabric from around the hoop to finish.







### GIFT IDEA

Why not put together an embroidery craft box, containing all of the key materials for this make, and give it to a thread-loving friend? You could even pop an issue of *Homemaker* in there as an extra treat!



• STAY ORGANISED WITH A HANDY •

# Sewing kit

*Keep your haberdash essentials neatly together  
with our on-the-go roll*



The festive season can be hectic. Gifts and decorations are being stitched up left, right and centre, with projects as far as the eye can see spread across your sewing room table. So to make things easier this season, we've had Corinne Bradd stitch up this organiser. For on-the-go or at home, never again will you misplace your trusted threads and tape measure. Lovingly stitched together using Sharon Holland's Tapestry fabric collection, you'll wonder how you ever went without it.



## YOU'LL NEED:

Patterned cotton fabric, we used the Tapestry collection, from [artgalleryfabrics.com](http://artgalleryfabrics.com)

Felt sheet

White elastic, 12mm wide

Sewing supplies, from [korbond.co.uk](http://korbond.co.uk)



## SEWING ROLL

**1** Cut felt, 18cm x 27cm, then trim two pieces of fabric the same size. Place one to one side and lay the other face up on the felt. Tack in place around the edges and mark a faint line 6cm from one short edge. Cut three 10cm lengths of wide elastic and stitch one end of each to the pencil line, sewing through both layers. Sew the other ends to the edge of the panel, then stitch the centres down to make pairs of loops. Cut a 2cm strip of fabric, fold under 5mm on each long edge and topstitch over the pencil line to cover the raw ends.

**2** Trim fabric, 16cm x 22cm, and fold in half, right sides together, to make a panel, 11cm x 16cm. Sew around the three edges, leaving a small gap on one side. Turn out

through the gap, fold in the raw edges, slip stitch and press. Pin the left edge of the pocket to the fabric layers, close to the vertical strip. Lay your tools in a line and tuck the pocket down between each one, pinning to make divisions. Remove the tools and topstitch the pinned lines. Neatly pleat the bottom edges of the pocket so they lay flat, then topstitch.

**3** Make smaller pockets in the same way from fabric, 8cm x 11cm, and stitch to the right-hand edge of the fabric layers. Use pinking shears to cut three 7cm wide rectangles of fabric, making each one 1cm shorter than the last. Place together and tack the top edges to the edge of the fabric layers. Pin the leftover rectangle of patterned fabric behind the layers, facing out.

**4** Snip several 3cm wide strips of fabric and join end to end to make binding. Sew the binding to the outside of the sewing roll, right sides together with a 5mm seam allowance. Mitre the corners and overlap the ends neatly. Fold the binding to the inside, tuck under 5mm on the raw edge and slip stitch in place, covering all raw edges.

**5** Create two more 3cm wide lengths of fabric, join end to end and crease in half lengthways. Open out and press the edges to the middle before refolding. Slip stitch the folded edges together, tucking in the short raw ends. Stitch the centre of the ribbon to the centre back of the roll so it can be tied around the closed fabric.





## What's in the pockets?

- Korbond Polyester Thread, 100m
- Creations Stitch Unpicker
- Korbond Tape Measure
- Korbond Machine Bobbins
- Korbond Needle Compact

Available from various online retailers and local supermarkets, [korbond.co.uk](http://korbond.co.uk)



*capturing the moment with*

# PHOTO PRESERVING

*We show you how easy it is to take your own photos, edit them and create something special*

**W**e conducted a quick survey recently and found that 93% of *Homemakers* use their smartphones to take photos of their crafts, which comes as no surprise – you are a talented bunch after all! And we're sure you'll want to show off what you've made with pride too, so why not elevate these photos to the next step by creating a memento to be cherished? Here we show you how to display your pictures using just an embroidery hoop, mini pegs and wire. Plus, we speak to famed photographer and blogger Emily Quinton about what makes a gorgeous photo and how to achieve shots like hers. We've also handpicked our top six must-have photo editing apps and have a Polaroid Zip Printer up for grabs... we're ready for our close up!



© EMILY QUINTON, MAKELIGHT.COM

## YOUR APP STASH



A tried and tested favourite in the world of phone photography, Instagram can beautifully enhance your work with its large selection of filters, whatever your level of expertise. **instagram.com**

Protect your images from being used without permission with PhotoMarkr, a handy app which lets you apply watermarks and logos to your work – ideal for anyone who has their own craft shop or business.

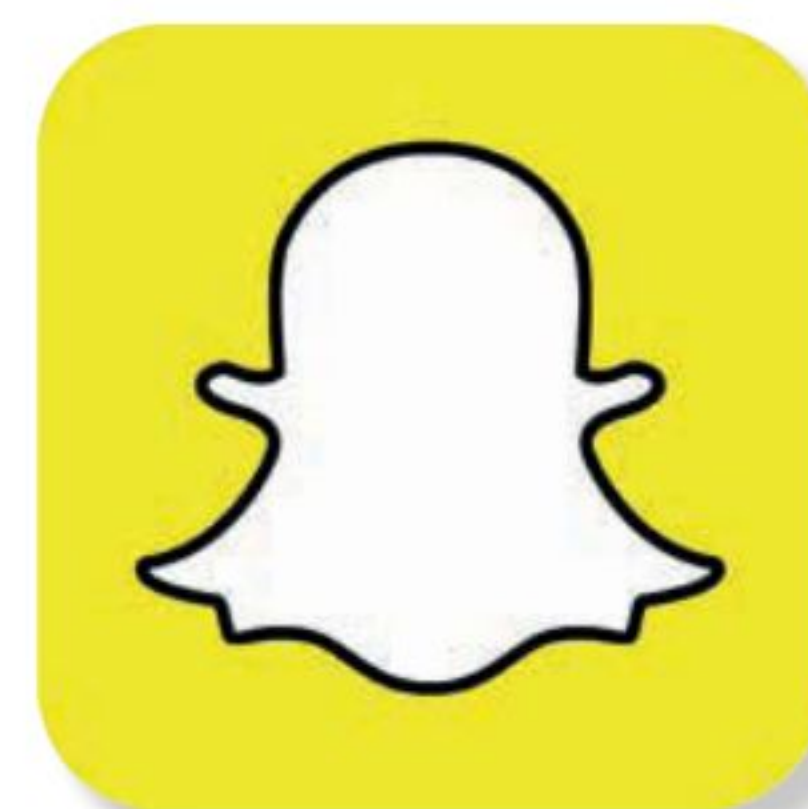
**imangistudios.com**



Snapseed is an easy-to-use editing app with a wide variety of filters and effects to choose from to brighten up your images. One of its biggest draws is its healing tool which can remove any unwanted flaws from your photos. **snapseed.com**

Hailed as the next big way to market yourself, Snapchat allows its users to update their 'story' timeline with real life updates – perfect if you wish to show off your crafty works in progress!

**snapchat.com**



Get in on the typography trend this season and download Pic Lab HD to add inspirational quotes to your images using a range of fonts.

**museworks.co/piclab**



Import your photos into Pic Collage to add all sorts of fonts, stickers, borders and frames. You can also choose from a large library of templates to create themed collages. **pic-collage.com**



All of these apps are available on both iPhone and Android and can be found at **itunes.apple.com** and **play.google.com**





WANT NEED  
LOVE

## Homemaker CHATS TO EMILY QUINTON

**I love how photography enables us to really see the world.** Taking photographs helps you to notice light, colours, textures and details in everything, even when you're not shooting. I love being able to make time stand still and really capture those precious moments that we can return to again and again. I first fell in love with photography as a child when my dad would let me take images with his SLR camera – I loved the smell of its leather case, the sound of the shutter, and seeing the world through the viewfinder.

**The iPhone has really changed photography and how we document our lives.** I absolutely love that I have a camera in my pocket all the time. The editing app PicTapGo has been my favourite for a while and I still keep coming back to it. It's easy to use and achieves a style that I love. I also like using Mosaico to plan my Instagram gallery in advance – I don't plan every image that I post, but I love having the opportunity to do so with this nifty app.

**Backgrounds are really important – a piece of old wood, linen and some card will really help your photography.** I always recommend that people get

an old shoe box and fill it with props that tell their story. If they go to the box whenever they want to take a photograph, they'll find things that are an important part of who they are and what they want to create.

**Always use natural light. Find the windows in your home or studio that work well for you and shoot your images next to these windows.** You will probably find that one side of your home works better in the morning and one in the afternoon, so be aware of this. If you're outside, take images in the morning or late afternoon, particularly in late spring and summer. If you're struggling with dark shadows on your pictures, use a reflector to bounce the light back onto your image and soften the shadows – if you don't have a reflector, you can use a white piece of card.

### Emily's top tips

- Practise every day – this is the only way that you'll improve.
- Use natural light as this will dramatically improve your photography.
- Think about colour in your images – don't use too many in a shot and pay attention to how the different tones are working together.

To find out more about Emily Quinton and to book yourself on one of her photography workshops, visit [makelight.com](http://makelight.com)

## MAKE AN EMBROIDERY HOOP PHOTO FRAME

WITH NATALIE, OF [NATALME.COM](http://NATALME.COM)



**1** Brush your hoops and miniature pegs with wood stain, or paint, depending on your desired style, then leave to dry.



**2** Attach the miniature pegs with a glue gun to the outer rim of the hoops, evenly spaced apart.



**3** Wrap wire around the hoops and layer them, from largest to smallest.



**4** When happy with the placement, attach your photos and hang up.

FOR A FESTIVE TOUCH, WHY NOT USE METALLIC EMBROIDERY THREAD INSTEAD OF WIRE?

## WIN! A POLAROID ZIP PRINTER



One lucky *Homemaker* can turn their snapshots into crafts by printing them straight off their smartphone with the Polaroid Zip Printer, worth £99.99 from [argos.co.uk](http://argos.co.uk)! Enter at [homemakermagazine.co.uk](http://homemakermagazine.co.uk) for your chance to win.

Argos



WIN!

# WIN A SIX PENNY Memories BUNDLE!

*Satisfy your stitchy cravings with this incredible giveaway from Hochanda*



Worth  
£900

Drum roll please... we've got 10 incredible craft bundles up for grabs this month, worth an amazing £90 each. Each set includes a plethora of products from Six Penny Memories. First up, the books. There are five titles featuring over 60 projects for you to enjoy, from a Medallion quilt to a festive advent calendar. The unique, quirky style of these how-tos is inspired by the Beamish Museum in County Durham. Six Penny Memories creators Debbie and Kim wanted to steer away from convention with their sewing books, so they also write under the pseudonyms of Florrie and Betty who just happen to be adorable dolls. From there, you've also got *Betty's Poem & Pattern Book* – sweet rhymes are accompanied by hand-drawn designs which can be stitched – and two wooden embroidery thread organisers. If that wasn't enough, you'll also get your hands on a set of A5 greeting cards – featuring Florrie and Betty as they adventure around the museum, these cards are blank so you can write whatever message you like.

Watch online at **hochanda.com** to see Six Penny Memories and other fantastic brands in action.



## WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- Five books featuring over 60 projects: *Colliery Days*, *Shopping Days*, *Sewing at the Farm*, *Sewing at the Manor* and *Sewing for Christmas*
- *Betty's Poem and Pattern Book*
- Wooden butterfly thread organiser
- Wooden salt box thread organiser
- Six Florrie and Betty greeting cards

DON'T DELAY, VISIT **HOMEMAKERMAGAZINE.CO.UK** TO ENTER TODAY!





## start preparing for Christmas with **CAMILLA WESTERGAARD**

Our **Folksy** favourite helps you get your online shop ready for the festive season

**W**hen it comes to Christmas, it's good to be prepared – even if it feels wrong crocheting baubles in the sunshine! Here at Folksy, we begin working on our festive gift guides in September, so to get as much promotion and be seen by as many shoppers as possible, your products need to be designed, made, photographed and listed early. Plus if you start planning and marketing now, you'll be able to tick everything off your to-do list, leaving you time to sit back, drink tea and dream about gingerbread ice cream. Just follow our six-step countdown to Christmas...

### PLAN YOUR PRODUCT RANGE

Begin by deciding on your Christmas wares. Not everything needs to be festive or new – your stock could comprise of a couple of new products, your bestsellers and some stocking fillers. Try to cover a variety of price ranges too, so there's something for shoppers looking for Secret Santa presents as well as more expensive, one-of-a-kind gifts.

### MAKE, MAKE, MAKE

Once you have your range sketched out, make as much as you can in advance. The Christmas shopping season kicks off at the beginning of November, so if you have most of your products made and ready to go before then, you'll be free to focus your efforts on promoting, packing and posting.

### MARKET YOURSELF

Sit down with a calendar and work out if and when to run any Christmas promotions. Discounts can be a great way to get people into your shop and spread your orders over a time frame that suits you. For example, if you offer personalised products, you'll need extra time

to create them, so you could run an early bird Christmas discount to encourage shoppers to order earlier in the season. How about Black Friday on 25th November? Other ideas include creating festive graphics to share on social media, a Christmas countdown with offers such as free shipping one day and gift wrapping on all orders over £50. Schedule as much as possible, send out a festive newsletter, and if you have a blog, plan your posts and how you'll share them.

### FESTIVE UP YOUR PHOTOS

Could you style and photograph your products to make them look more seasonal? A mince pie or holly leaf might be all that's needed. Your products might be more appealing to bloggers and Pinterest users if they look more festive.

### SEO YOURSELF

With so many shoppers online looking for Christmas gifts, it's worth checking that your products and shop are coming up in searches on Google. Can you make your titles and descriptions more relevant for the festive period? For example, lots of people will be looking for stocking fillers, so add that to the title and description or even create a new stocking filler collection.

### CHECK YOUR POSTAGE

Shoppers won't order from you unless they're sure their order will be delivered before Christmas, so be clear about the shipping times on each listing and state your last shipping dates. If you can post something the same day, do it, and grab late sales by offering last-minute delivery. Bear in mind that expensive shipping is one of the main reasons shoppers don't go through with transactions – so try to keep all postage costs as low as possible. 📦



CROCHET BAUBLE BY FLOURISH & FLY,  
[FOLKSY.COM/SHOPS/FLOURISHANDFLY](https://www.folksy.com/shops/flourishandfly)



KNITTED THINGS BY LOVE LOTTIE KNITS,  
[FOLKSY.COM/SHOPS/LOVELOTTIEKNITS](https://www.folksy.com/shops/lovelottieknits)



GLASS BAUBLES BY CORRINA FIELD FROM DAKINI,  
[FOLKSY.COM/SHOPS/CORRINAFIELDHANDMADE](https://www.folksy.com/shops/corrinafieldhandmade)





## at work with **LAUREN ASTON DESIGNS**



**"G**o big or go home" is a phrase the youngsters say, and no one has taken this on board more than Lauren Aston Designs. Armed with her giant balls of wool and metre long knitting needles, she's got cosiness down to a tee. We absolutely adore being snuggled up in a warm blanket as we read a book, and her gorgeous knits are perfect for just that. We find out how she got her big break, and why independent business is the way forward.

**My grandmother taught me to knit when I was 11 – I went on to make some terribly short and wonky scarves!** The thing I always struggled with was how long it would take to make something, so I started to increase my needle size. From 8mm to 12mm then 15mm, I found I just loved the look, effect and speed of chunky knitting. I studied fashion throughout school, and finally went to Winchester School of Art where I specialised in knitwear, really learning the art of knitwear and design.

**I was looking for a job that inspired me but really struggled to find anything until I visited the Contemporary Craft Festival in 2014.** I saw the passion and enthusiasm of the makers and knew that was what I wanted in a career. When I first set up my business, I decided to hand knit and it had to be chunky so that it wouldn't take months to make one blanket. I went on a mission to find the biggest yarn possible.

The knitting is now super quick but the compromise on time comes afterwards, as each item needs to be meticulously hand processed to bond the fibres.

**All of my wool is already dyed – I get to choose from over 100 gorgeous colours, so you can imagine my excitement every time I order.** Over the last 18 months I've slowly introduced more and more shades as I've built the business, which seems to have worked well. Because merino wool is such a beautiful material, it does come with a high price tag so I have to be careful with my wool orders and colour selection.

**I think knitting, especially giant and novelty knitting, has become so popular because it's so unusual.** It has both quirk and quality, which makes it really special. Every trend gets recycled and updated at regular intervals and it's so thrilling that this is happening to knitting right now and that it's fashionable again.





## MEET THE MAKER



### Christmas starts in February for me.

I give myself January off to recover, then start designing the new collection, knitting up samples, writing out patterns for my knitters, taking photos and then making stock. October to January seems to be the pinnacle, especially for blankets and Christmas knits like stockings, so I stock build like crazy over the summer to make sure I'm prepared and can keep lead times to a minimum. Festive stockings and the natural white Woolacombe blankets just fly out – the chunky white is so perfect and cosy. This year I have plenty of new seasonal lines though, like Santa sacks and Christmas hats, so I'm hoping they'll do well!

**I made 250 Santa hats for notonthehighstreet.com's Christmas press event and only had a week to knit all of them!** They were miniature hats and such a blast to make, but it was total craziness for six days with a few 4am bedtimes to ensure they were all out on time. I don't often have projects like that so it was such a fun change and I felt a brilliant sense of satisfaction once it was done.

**I absolutely love what I do and I'm so proud of what I've accomplished in 18 months.** It's been difficult, but that's how you know it's worth it. I spend almost every waking hour working on



my business, whether it's knitting, social media, updating the website or replying to emails. It's nonstop but the struggle and hard work really makes it so much sweeter.

**A feminist through and through, I look around and see so many women nailing it these days.** I feel so lucky to live in a time where women are becoming such a force of influence and strength. Small businesses are bringing back the importance of the independent over corporate – individuality is more important than ever and that's so exciting. All these things push me to work harder and pick myself up when I get knocked down in both my personal and business life. 

[laurenastondesigns.com](http://laurenastondesigns.com)



## Quick Fire

### FAVOURITE COLOUR OF WOOL?

For fun days, bright pink. And light grey for sleepy days.

### FAVOURITE GIANT KNIT?

A giant teapot cosy I did for the National Theatre's production of Alice in Wonderland.

### FAVOURITE KIT THAT YOU SELL?

The large 'Knit Your Own Blanket Kit' – when someone orders 5kg or more you know they're going to make an amazing blanket!

### WHAT DO YOU DO TO UNWIND – DO YOU KNIT IN YOUR SPARE TIME?

I don't get too much time so when I do, I like to make the most of it. My favourite things are walking the dog on the beach and going out with good friends for great food.





# HOST A stylish soirée

When it comes to styling, we're approaching the perfect time of year to really let your imagination run wild. Christmas is all about parties and celebrating the year gone by, and after spending hours preparing scrumptious food and drink, you'll want to serve it on a well-presented table full of sparkle and glamour. This year, why not make a real talking point by adding foliage to your tableware? Wrap your napkins in fresh blooms, create a beautiful centrepiece, or encase your candles in luscious greenery. There's no shortage of plants that will look great in December (think gypsophila and poinsettia), that can produce a sophisticated and stylish look, to spruce up dull crockery.

## TIPS FOR YOUR TABLE

Naturally, you'll want to complement your carefully prepared Christmas dinner with an atmospherically dressed table. A few candles, fresh flowers and pieces of luxurious tableware will soon

create a lovely scene. But if you'd like some more ideas, read the tips from **funnyhowflowers** [dothat.co.uk](http://dothat.co.uk) and **thejoyofplants** [co.uk](http://co.uk)

**1** Choose two or three colours that you already display throughout your home and bring them together.

**2** Don't forget that you can have too much of a good thing! One impressive object usually works best – such as the amaryllis flower that thrives in December – and it can be used as a lovely centrepiece.

**3** Use ribbons and cushions to bring out the colours of your chosen flowers. Creativity doesn't need to end with the table!

**4** Azalea is the houseplant of the month for December, with a striking range of colours and sizes on offer. Place these around the room in pots to bring the space to life.

**5** Finally, don't forget sit back, relax and to enjoy yourself – it's Christmas after all!





## SERVE YOUR BUBBLY IN STYLE

Have a go at this gorgeous technique from our friends at [thejoyofplants.co.uk](http://thejoyofplants.co.uk)



### YOU'LL NEED:

Eucalyptus leaves  
Gypsophila  
Gold spray  
Old newspaper  
Champagne glasses



- 1 Trim away any dry or damaged leaves from the eucalyptus branches.
- 2 Spray the leaves and gypsophila with gold spray, using newspapers or an old mat underneath.
- 3 Once everything has dried thoroughly, wrap the foliage around your glasses or napkins, to create rings.
- 4 Add more gold spray onto napkins and bases of the glasses.
- 5 Get a gold and pastel linen tablecloth, then be creative and scatter branches of golden eucalyptus leaves over it for a chic look.





# Homemaker

## Q&A

Each issue we round up the best in the business to answer your homemaking woes, so if you've got a query you'd like help with, tell Deputy Editor Kayleigh at [kayleigh.rattle@aceville.co.uk](mailto:kayleigh.rattle@aceville.co.uk)

HARRIET CARTER, JUNIOR BUYER FOR POUNDLAND, [POUNDLAND.CO.UK](http://poundland.co.uk), SHOWS YOU HOW EASY IT IS TO HAVE YOURSELVES A GLITZY LITTLE CHRISTMAS FOR NEXT TO NOTHING.



# Q

# A

*I adore going for the traditional gold and white look for Christmas but, as we've just moved house, we're on a tight budget. Are there any ways I can achieve this luxurious feel without breaking the bank?*

**DEANDRA REYNOLDS**

"It's so easy to decorate both your tree and home stylishly with Poundland's beautiful Christmas range. We particularly recommend our elegant Festive Glamour theme, with base notes of soft gold, white and copper. Achieve a beautiful tree for no more than £15 by taking two packs of our battery-operated clear lights, wrapping them around the tree and adding eight large baubles. Fill the rest of your tree with a selection of decorations (available in a variety of shapes and sizes) to add lots of colour and interest to your tree. You can use any spare adornments to create a centrepiece by placing baubles and a set of our micro LED lights in a glass bowl. Gold tinsel and beads are great for adding an eye-catching statement to your home; simply wind them around your banister, candles and ornaments. Finally, make use of any leftover empty boxes from your move by covering them in our wrapping paper and stacking them around your home. Use these little tricks to inspire you this season – it is possible to create a luxurious festive feel on a budget!"



CLAIRE HARRIS, MD AND FOUNDER OF TALKING TABLES, [TALKINGTABLES.CO.UK](http://talkingtables.co.uk), HELPS ONE READER TO GET CRAFTY BY THE DINNER TABLE.



# Q

# A

*I really love crafting centrepieces but find the Christmas table gets too crowded once the food is laid. I'd like alternative ideas for decorating around the table, do you have any suggestions?*

**ARTEMIS DUBOIS**

"Why not create a personalised advent calendar wall as a backdrop to your Christmas table, which can be enjoyed from the first of December right up until the big day? Hang a birch branch on an empty wall, wrap with foliage and fairy lights, then tie different styles of ribbons at varying lengths to suspend your gifts. Gather a selection of envelopes, kraft bags and miniature boxes to decorate with washi tape, present labels and small wooden pegs. The possibilities for filling your daily gift packages are endless – from chocolate coins to hair clips, mini toy figures, vouchers or even tickets to an event. Number each gift and choose on the day whose turn it is to open something, or write a family member's name on each one. Consider including a few extra presents for unexpected visitors, plus a few empty ones to ensure your branch doesn't look empty by the 25th. You could make it even more enticing with homemade gingerbread men, baked and decorated by the little ones."



NADIA MCCOWAN HILL, RESIDENT STYLE EXPERT AT WAYFAIR, [WAYFAIR.CO.UK](http://WAYFAIR.CO.UK), HAS SOME TIPS FOR A RUSTIC CHRISTMAS.



Q  
A

*Do you have any ideas on how to dress my dining room this Christmas? I tend to prefer a more subdued feel over traditional bright colours.*

**NICKI POTNICK**

“This year Christmas is all about keeping it natural – think pine cones as placecard holders on the dinner table, tree trunks as candle holders and plenty of green spread around the room. It’s lovely to bring a bit of the outdoors in, especially in winter when we’re spending so much time cooped up inside. Why not collect these natural beauties yourself next time you’re going for a winter walk? Pair them with a jute tablecloth or runner for a truly rustic look. You can also glam it up by adding some accents in a warm gold or copper. I would suggest keeping the overall look and feel light and airy. Not only is the minimalist Scandi look on trend this year, it’s also great to give your eyes a rest after all of the glitz and glam that’s prevalent during the festive season.”



LEADING BRITISH FLORIST LAURA LEE HAS COLLABORATED WITH KENNETH TURNER LONDON, [KENNETHTURNER.COM](http://KENNETHTURNER.COM), AND HAS SOME TOP TIPS ON HOW TO REUSE GLASSWARE THIS SEASON.



Q  
A

*As much as I love candles in winter, I hate how much glass is wasted once you’ve used them. Do you have any suggestions on what I can do with them afterwards?*

**JACK KELLY**

“Nothing beats a gently flickering candle during winter. Beautifully scented ones are a must for creating the right ambience, but it’s always such a shame to ditch the glass once the wax has burned. We’re all more conscious of recycling these days, and I’ve worked with Kenneth Turner on their new candle collection with exactly this in mind. The pretty glass vases look lovely when lit, but can also be used afterwards to hold tea lights, or as a hurricane shade for small pillar candles. They look great as a vase for flowers too – try filling them with dried lavender and placing in a bedroom, or use dried cloves, cinnamon and star anise for the kitchen. You can use them as a handy match holder on the mantelpiece for lighting fires, or you can even line them with moss and dried leaves and plant hyacinth or narcissi bulbs for the spring. The wax from the candles burns really cleanly so you won’t have to spend ages cleaning the vase before re-using, either.”





Est. 2000 | Devon



Ingredients from us,  
handmade by you

Soap Making Supplies  
Natural Salts & Powders  
Colours & Pigments  
Candle Making Supplies  
Fragrance & Essential Oils  
Dried Botanicals  
Cosmetic Bases & Moulds

[sales@thesoapkitchen.co.uk](mailto:sales@thesoapkitchen.co.uk)

Tel: 01237 420 872

[www.thesoapkitchen.co.uk](http://www.thesoapkitchen.co.uk)

**Advertising in Homemaker  
magazine means:**

**You'll reach  
more customers than  
any other Home Craft  
based magazine**

**You're more likely to  
get a response and it  
will cost you less to  
reach the optimum level  
of readers**

**For information about our readership and how we can deliver real  
response for you, email: [advertising@homemakermagazine.co.uk](mailto:advertising@homemakermagazine.co.uk)**





free  
gift!

# Coming NEXT ISSUE

• OUT 14TH OCTOBER •

*Our second Christmas Special is positively packed with festive fun and how-tos – don't miss out!*

PATCH TOGETHER  
TREE COASTERS

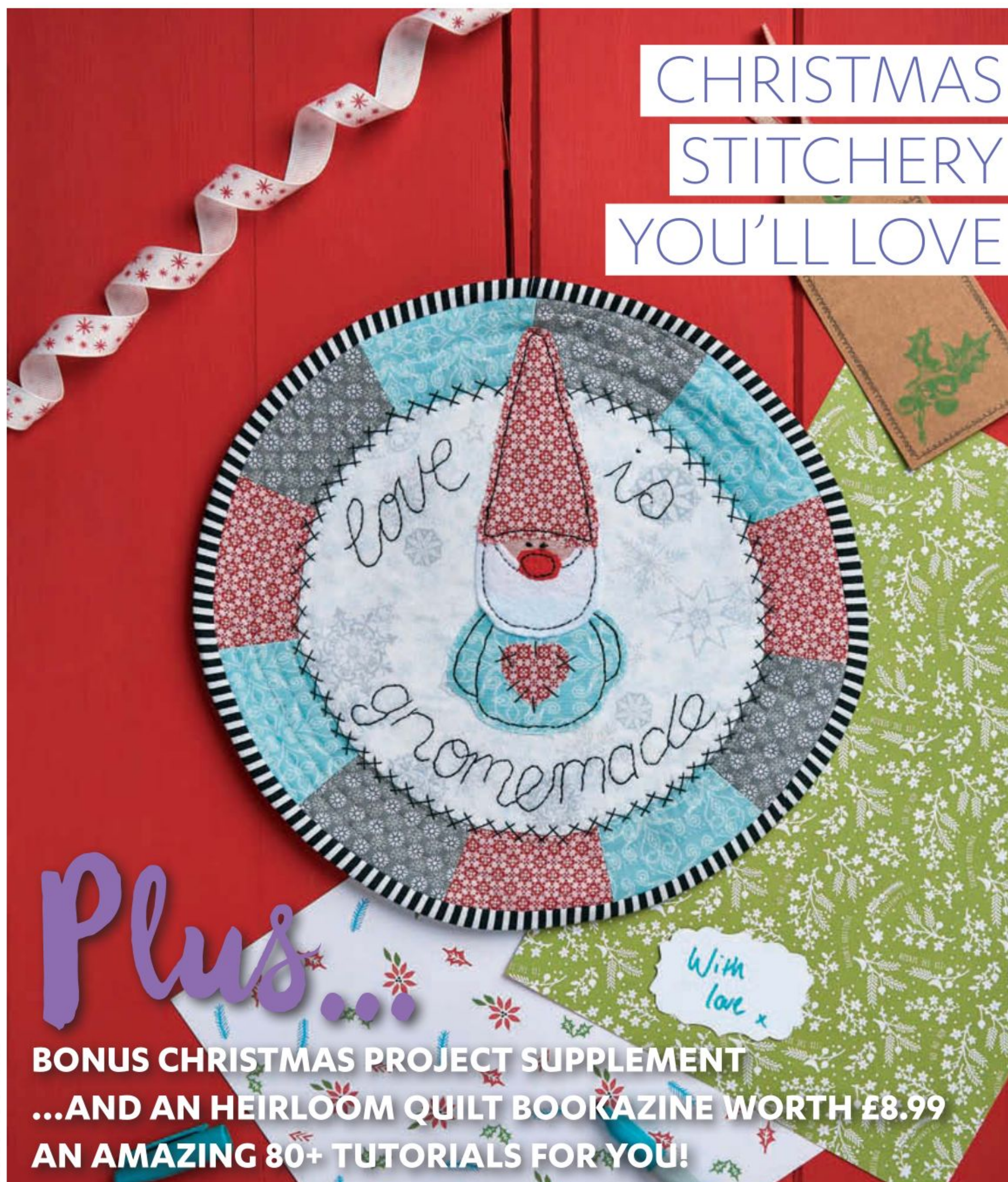


STITCH SWEET  
STOCKING  
BUNTING



SUBJECT TO CHANGE

CHRISTMAS  
STITCHERY  
YOU'LL LOVE



Plus...

**BONUS CHRISTMAS PROJECT SUPPLEMENT  
...AND AN HEIRLOOM QUILT BOOKAZINE WORTH £8.99  
AN AMAZING 80+ TUTORIALS FOR YOU!**





free gift!

# Coming NEXT ISSUE

• OUT 14TH OCTOBER •

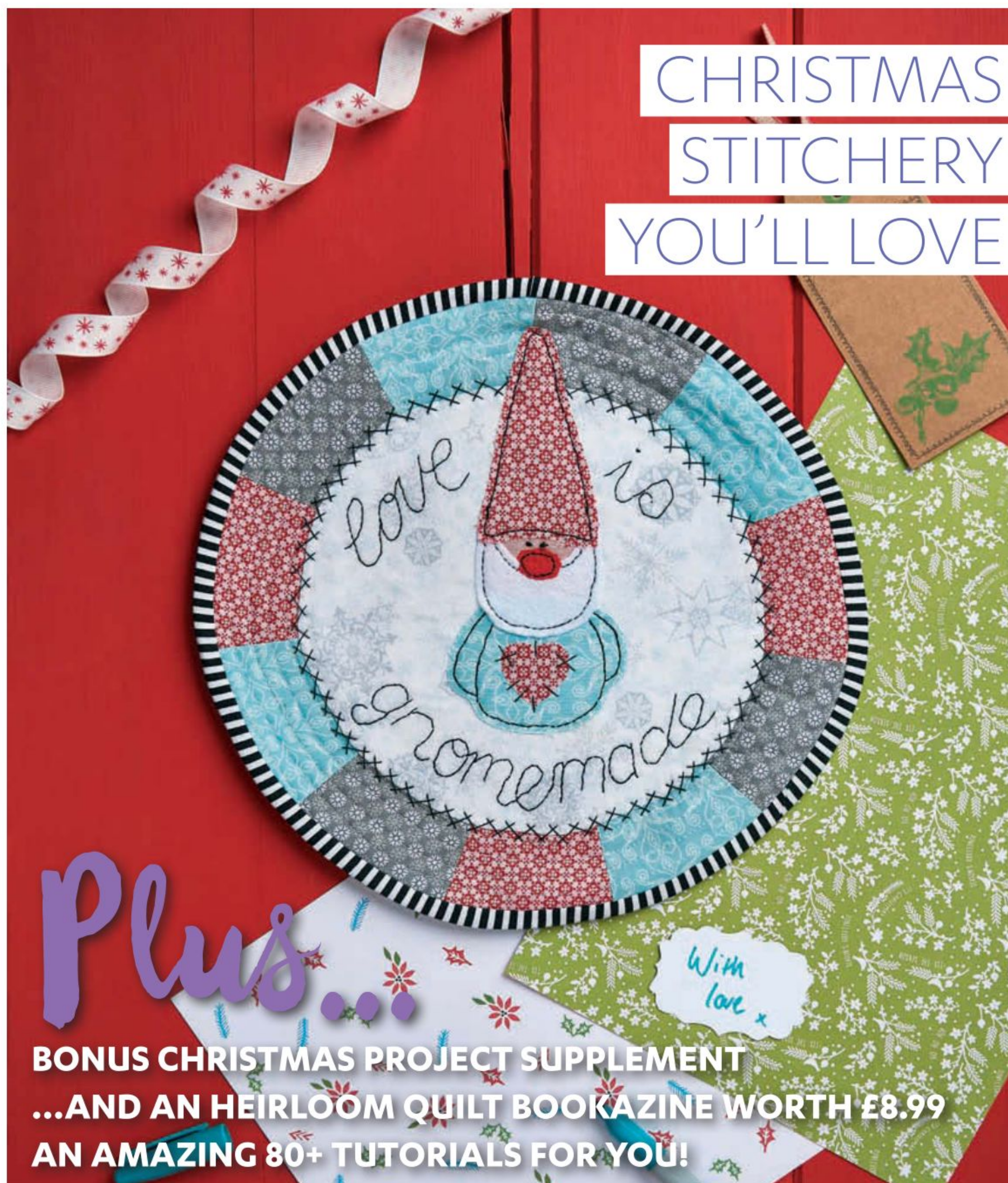
*Our second Christmas Special is positively packed with festive fun and how-tos – don't miss out!*



PATCH TOGETHER  
TREE COASTERS



STITCH SWEET  
STOCKING  
BUNTING



CHRISTMAS  
STITCHERY  
YOU'LL LOVE

Plus...

**BONUS CHRISTMAS PROJECT SUPPLEMENT  
...AND AN HEIRLOOM QUILT BOOKAZINE WORTH £8.99  
AN AMAZING 80+ TUTORIALS FOR YOU!**





# Bright idea: CHOOSE CANDY

*Sweetie shades are a wise move for Christmas*

Candy-like hues will steal your heart this season. It all started with pale pink – the shade glided seamlessly into festive palettes for 2016, making others follow suit. And we couldn't be more grateful for this shake-up. An expert in our new favourite colour combination is Natalie Lea Owen; we particularly love this illustrated card of hers. So if you don't have time to make your own stationery this Christmas, be sure to check out her merry and bright collection.

[natalieleaowen.co.uk](http://natalieleaowen.co.uk)



# WORKSHOPS & courses

*'Tis the season to get crafting with our selection of workshops*



## FESTIVE MOSAICS

**THE STITCH MOUSE, EPSOM**

Create stunning and unique tiled decorations for your home with Tiffany Gregory's workshop. Taking place on 5th November, you'll learn the hands-on art of cutting, sticking and grouting mosaic tiles to form your very own gorgeous Christmas tree, heart or star. All materials are included in this three-hour session which costs £45. [thestitchmouse.co.uk](http://thestitchmouse.co.uk)

## MAKE A MERRY MILK JUG

**THIS ART OF MINE, MAIDSTONE**

Why not spend the morning of 5th November handcrafting a beautiful ceramic milk carton? The talented crafters at This Art of Mine will show you how to use 3D sculpting glaze and stencils to make a design that's perfect for your own home, or as a gift for a loved one. [thisartofmine.co.uk](http://thisartofmine.co.uk)



## 3 OF OUR Top CRIMBO CLASSES



## CREATE CUTE CANDLES

**EBBERSTON STUDIOS, SCARBOROUGH**

Give Christmas a homemade touch this year by making a range of soy wax candles on 26th November. This workshop will teach you how to create a variety of shapes including teacups, Kilner jars, tin cans and even cupcakes – you'll have your Christmas presents sorted in no time. [facebook.com/ebberstonstudios.co.uk](https://facebook.com/ebberstonstudios.co.uk)

## LEARN TO LINO PRINT

**TEA AND CRAFTING, LONDON**

Join textile artist and printer Laura Felicity Milligan on 20th November to learn the ultimate Christmas craft as she demonstrates lino printing onto cards and stockings. Once you've got your new skill down, you can replicate the process onto many more materials including tea towels and tote bags. [teaandcrafting.co.uk](http://teaandcrafting.co.uk)

## WHAT A CRACKER

**HOMEMADE LONDON, MARYLEBONE**

Learn all there is to know about making time-honoured festive favourites on 11th November. Find out how to craft and personalise your own Christmas crackers, as well as how to make paper hats and trinkets to go inside them. [homemadelondon.com](http://homemadelondon.com)



# SHOPPING GUIDE

## .PAINTERS.

A Cornish Treasure Trove of art and craft materials including fabric, chalk paints, lampshade kits, glass paints and much more!



7 Fore Street, Liskeard, Cornwall PL14 3JA  
www.craft-box.com 01579 347237



Your task lighting specialist. With probably the best choice of task lamps available in one place. Free P&P and excellent customer service



**Craft Lamps**  
www.craftlamps.co.uk  
01373 454448

## Creative Needles

Haberdashery Sewing Supplies Needlecraft



Beautiful yarns ideal for Knitting & Crochet.

Sirdar, Katia, Stylecraft, King Cole & lots more.

Patterns & Hooks 3-12mm  
'Crochet Unraveller' £5.99

Harts Barn Craft Centre,  
Longhope, Gloucestershire GL17 0QD



01452 831725

www.creative-needles.co.uk

## D&S Sewing Machines



The shop is devoted to sewing, patchwork and quilting. We offer a range of sewing machine classes for all ages and all abilities.

175 Queen Street, Newton Abbot TQ12 2BS  
Opening Times: Monday - closed  
Tue to Fri - 9.30 to 5pm Saturday - 9.30 to 4pm

01626 369840

www.dandssewingmachines.com



**Skin Damage?**

**You need**

**DERMA GUARD**

... the skin protection lotion ... discover the difference ... your hands will love it!

**250ml Pump Dispenser Bottle £6.50**  
**500ml Pump Dispenser Bottle £12.00**

Order now. POST FREE!

Mail order: The Skin Care Company Ltd.

St Asaph LL17 0HH

To order call FREE on

0800 917 2219

web order page www.dermaguard.com

Card Making and DIY Wedding Invitation Supplies



- General Craft Supplies • Floral Products
- Card Embellishments • Bridal Supplies
- Baby Embellishments
- Card & Paper Supplies
- Seasonal Items • Special Offers

Visit [www.e-crafts.co.uk](http://www.e-crafts.co.uk)

or call 01384 230000

## Fabrics Plus

Patchwork & Quilting Fabrics inc Jelly Rolls, Fat Quarters, Charm Packs etc. Daywear and Bridal Fabric, Large Range of Haberdashery, Knitting Wool & Patterns, Sewing Patterns



www.fabricsplus.co.uk 0117 3293857

19 Badminton Road, Downend, Bristol, BS16 6BB

## MAGIC MOMENTS

For all your sugarcraft and cake decorating needs



449-451 Ashley Road, Parkstone, Poole BH14 0AX  
Tel: 01202 716286

Visit [www.magicmomentssugarcraft.co.uk](http://www.magicmomentssugarcraft.co.uk)  
for further information or call  
01202 716286



## The Cheap & Shop Tiptree

Thousands of Dress Fabrics always in stock. Patterns from Simplicity, New Look, McCalls, Burda, Vogue, Butterick and Kwik Sew, plus all of your Haberdashery needs to complete any project.

Mail order service available

108 Church Road, Tiptree, Essex CO5 0AB  
01621 815576

info@thecheapshoptiptree.co.uk  
www.thecheapshoptiptree.co.uk

For more information call 01206 505 476 or visit the website at [www.homemakermagazine.co.uk](http://www.homemakermagazine.co.uk)



# Homemaker's hand-picked selection of Essential Suppliers



## The Corner Patch

*A little corner of patchwork heaven*

Fabric, wadding, threads and haberdashery  
Workshop & Classes for all Abilities

Opening Hours: Tue-Sat, 10am-5pm  
Late Night Wednesday until 8pm

12, High Street, Eccleshall, Stafford ST21 6BZ

Tel: 01785 859360

e-mail: [jane@thecornerpatch.co.uk](mailto:jane@thecornerpatch.co.uk)

[www.thecornerpatch.co.uk](http://www.thecornerpatch.co.uk)

## The Knitting Habit



The Knitting Habit is an independent retail store in the historic market town of Alton in Hampshire. We offer a vast range of yarns and haberdashery

**The Knitting Habit**

8 Market Street, Alton, Hampshire GU34 1HA

01420 541977



*The Little Fabric Store*

100% Cotton Fabrics - Moda - Dashwood  
12 New St. Louth. Lincolnshire. LN11 9PU

01507 201131

[www.thelittlefabricstore.co.uk](http://www.thelittlefabricstore.co.uk)



Now with  
more pages  
than ever!

**Try 3 for  
£13**

**PaperCrafter**

Only £5.99 per issue!

Free cover-mounted papercrafting kit  
with EVERY issue

[www.papercraftermagazine.co.uk](http://www.papercraftermagazine.co.uk)



## KELTRA CRAFTS

We are Stockists of  
crochet, knitting,  
sewing, haberdashery,  
wool and patchwork  
and quilting fabrics.  
We run classes and  
workshops 6 days a  
week, these include  
sewing/patchwork  
and crochet classes.

Call us on

01506 650852 /07795188747



Email: [Keltracrafts@gmail.com](mailto:Keltracrafts@gmail.com)

Join the world's busiest online crafting community..

## busymitts

...with over 28,000 projects to inspire you  
plus lots more!

- ▲ Create your own personal profile
- ▲ Add projects to your portfolio
- ▲ Get inspiration and bookmark projects
- ▲ Meet like minded crafters and make friends
- ▲ Comment on your favourite projects
- ▲ Keep in touch with private messages
- ▲ Projects include: Knitting, Papercrafting,  
Sewing, Crochet, beading and lots more!
- ▲ 9009 members so far, and increasing..

[www.busymitts.com](http://www.busymitts.com)



Fabulous NEW Craft Kits



[www.leicestershirecraftcentre.co.uk](http://www.leicestershirecraftcentre.co.uk)

01858 466692

[create@leicestershirecraftcentre.co.uk](mailto:create@leicestershirecraftcentre.co.uk)

We supply wood, papier mache, MDF &  
galvanised products ideal to decorate yourself.  
Items include boxes, trays, chests, shapes & letters.



*BoxyLady.co.uk*

[www.boxylady.co.uk](http://www.boxylady.co.uk) orders@boxylady.co.uk

On-line stockists of **Liberty** Tana Lawns,  
Liberty Needlecord, Jersey and Lifestyle.  
Also haberdashery, 'indie' dressmaking  
and crafting patterns



*sewbox.co.uk*

For amazing offers visit  
[Sewbox.co.uk](http://Sewbox.co.uk)

For more information call 01206 505 476 or visit the website at [www.homemakermagazine.co.uk](http://www.homemakermagazine.co.uk)



LIMITED  
STOCK AVAILABLE

Subscribe

# FREE\* KILNER LEMONADE SET

WHEN YOU SUBSCRIBE TO *Homemaker*



**S**queeze some sparkle back into your day with some freshly pressed lemonade. This 7-piece set contains a recipe booklet to help get you started. The lemon inspired jars with decorative lids, handles and straws will also complete that just made look.

**Gift includes:** 2 x 400ml Lemonade Decal Handled Jars, 2 x Reusable Straws, 2 x Decorative Lids, 1 x Recipe Booklet

**SUBSCRIBE FOR JUST £12.75 EVERY 3 ISSUES!\***

[WWW.HOMEMAKERMAGAZINE.CO.UK/HMA49HA](http://WWW.HOMEMAKERMAGAZINE.CO.UK/HMA49HA)

**01795 592 967 Quote: HMA49HA**

Lines are open Monday-Friday 8am-8pm, Saturday 9am-1pm. \*Terms and conditions apply, for further details please refer online.

**LIMITED OFFER: CLOSING 13TH OCTOBER 2016**



# Homemaker templates

*All you need to make your projects perfect!*

## WHERE DO I FIND THEM?

- 1 To download our full-sized templates for the makes featured in this issue, visit **homemakermagazine.co.uk** and click on the 'Free Downloads' tab.
- 2 Click on the Issue 49 templates. The pattern folder will begin downloading automatically onto your computer. Follow the instructions to start printing your templates.
- 3 If you haven't already, please register or else you won't be able to download our craft templates! Once you've created an account, you can access our expansive archive of free downloads for endless making.



### FAIRY FRIENDS

PRINT OUT AND COLOUR THESE WHIMSICAL FAIRY DRAWINGS

PAGE 49



### STARRY BRANCH

SCORE AND FOLD TO MAKE THESE PAPER STARS

PAGE 53



### WALL HANGING

USE OUR GUIDE TO ARM KNIT A GORGEOUS WOOL TREE

PAGE 38



### GINGERBREAD FRED

STITCH OUR CHARMING FELT GINGERBREAD MAN

PAGE 16



### GEOMETRIC BAG

USE OUR CHART TO MASTER THE CROCHET GIFT BAG IN YOUR SUPPLEMENT



### KITSCH WREATH

MAKE OUR VIBRANT CHRISTMAS ADORNMENT

PAGE 15



### HANDMADE STOCKING

CREATE A SCANDI-INSPIRED PRESENT HOLDER

PAGE 26



### FESTIVE HOOP

SAY 'MERRY CHRISTMAS' WITH OUR EMBROIDERED MAKE

PAGE 76



### PRESENT SACK

APPLIQUÉ A REINDEER ONTO A DRAWSTRING BAG

PAGE 17

LOG ON • DOWNLOAD • PRINT





# Christmas painting with ANNIE SLOAN

*Step into the magical world of Narnia*

In a world of mass production, there's something so special about objects that have been made with skill and love. When I create I feel grounded, it brings me joy and gives me a real sense of purpose. I find that at Christmas time there is something extra special about making; be it a fragrant wreath that I hang on the door of my shop or a stencilled table runner where I can place my annual glazed ham, eagerly waiting to be carved next to the turkey on Christmas Day.

A kindred spirit who shares the same ideas is the lovely Deborah Meredith who runs Tea and Roses in Bridgnorth, Shropshire. A supremely talented individual, I've long been an admirer of Deborah's work, which stems from her fascinating background in art. Having completed a degree in Conservation and Restoration, her knowledge of historic, decorative craft is vast. She even worked on stone conservation at Lincoln Cathedral!



"THE WAY DEBORAH DRAPED PAGES OF **THE BOOK** AROUND THE SIDES OF HER DISPLAY WAS **CHARMING**"


After moving to a working farm in rural Shropshire, as you can imagine, life was quite busy as she looked after the animals and her own growing family. As her little ones grew bigger, Deborah found that in her precious free time she rekindled her creative spark, setting up stalls at craft fairs,

which organically grew into a small shop space, followed by a larger shop... the wonderful Tea and Roses.

All year round the shop is beautifully laid out with Deborah's stunning painted furniture, vintage ceramics and bohemian homewares. There's even a tearoom with homemade cakes and a roaring fire. And it's at Christmastime that it really blooms. The large

window at the front is totally transformed with a festive theme each year, and the whole shop becomes a masterpiece filled with tasteful décor. The shop is a hive of activity as Deborah hosts workshops with my paint and products, teaching the locals how to create a keepsake box or painted decorations.

One of my favourite displays was *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*. Using a gorgeous neutral colour palette that included Paris Grey and Old White combined with sparkling silver and crystal clear glass, her shop became an enchanting Narnia scene. The way Deborah draped pages of the book around the sides of her display was charming, and the little details such as a box of Turkish Delight on the Old White washed sleigh really created a sense of wonder for young and old alike. The thought and care that she puts into her work truly came to life.

For both Deborah and I, especially at this time of year, life can move pretty quickly. I encourage each and every one of you to stop, slow down and enjoy the festive period. Take the time to create something beautiful for you and your loved ones. This year you will find me happily painting tiny little dollhouse furniture with my granddaughter, Willow, which we will thread together to hang on our tree. 



All Annie Sloan products are available exclusively from over 300 hand-picked independent stockists throughout the UK and Ireland. Most are trained by Annie herself to run accredited furniture painting and associated workshops and can provide expert advice. Find one near you at [anniesloan.com](http://anniesloan.com)

Learn more about Deborah's shop at [teaandroses.co.uk](http://teaandroses.co.uk)



# What's your next sewing project?

## Shop for it!


**KORBOND**  
CARE & REPAIR


Choose KORBOND, UK's leading brand for all your essential tools for sewing and creative projects. Reliable, affordable and easy to find!\*


Creations<sup>®</sup>  
by KORBOND


**korbondgroup** 60 years\*  
quality, value & customer excellence

Follow us on social media to keep up to date with the latest news, inspiration and offers...

 [www.facebook.com/korbonduk](http://www.facebook.com/korbonduk)

 [@korbonduk](https://twitter.com/korbonduk)

 [www.pinterest.com/korbonduk](http://www.pinterest.com/korbonduk)

 [www.sew.korbond.co.uk](http://www.sew.korbond.co.uk)

No matter how big or small we would love to hear about your latest project!

\* Store locator available on our website.





AUTUMN 2016

# Sewing with STYLE



**MODEL 216-S**

- 14 Stitches
- Auto 4-step buttonhole
- Variable stitch length
- Convertible free arm
- Quick change snap on feet

**DAZZLING  
OFFERS!**

**£99-£999**

## WORCESTERSHIRE

Creative Hands 2, Worcester – 01905 24940  
Inkberrow Design Centre, Redditch – 01527 69100  
Topstitchers, Kidderminster – 01562 822 698

## YORKSHIRE

Arcade Sewing Machines, Huddersfield – 01484 429 808  
C & G Sewing Machines, Bradford – 01274 306352  
Electra (DA) Company, Doncaster – 01302 340 369  
Flynn's® Browns of York, York – 01904 561234/611166  
Knit & Stitch, Doncaster – 01302 366 022  
Knit & Stitch, Rotherham – 01709 817 944  
Lennox Sewing Machines, Rotherham – 01709 377 797  
MKC Services, Leeds – 0113 245 3156  
Sewing Centre, Scarborough – 01723 363 167  
White Rose Sewing Machines, Harrogate – 01423 503767  
Woodseats Sewing Machines, Sheffield – 0114 255 2822

## ISLE OF MAN

Joan's Wools & Crafts, Onchan – 01624 626 009

## IRELAND

Sew N Knit Belfast, Belfast – 0289 045 6015  
Sew N Knit Lisburn, Lisburn – 0289 267 0908  
Singer Sewing Centre, Ballymena – 0282 564 0034

## SCOTLAND

David Drummond, Edinburgh – 0131 539 7766  
ESC Sewing Machines, Keith – 01542 887 000  
N.J. Sewing Machine Services, Brightons Falkirk – 01324 711 333  
Pemberton's Sewing Machines, Stirling – 01786 462 993  
Quilt Creations, Inverness – 01463 719 369  
Sew Materialistic, Ayr – 01292 285 801  
The Stitchery, Glasgow – 0141 237 9690

## WALES

Calico Kate, Lampeter – 01570 422 866  
Clifford's Sewing Machines Ltd, Swansea – 01792 655 928  
J & B Sewing Machine Co Ltd, Cardiff – 01633 281 555  
J & B Sewing Machine Co, Ltd, Newport – 01633 284 646  
Quay Street Sewing Centre, Haverfordwest – 01437 762 355  
Sewing Machines Direct, Wrexham – 01978 851 235

The 'Sewing with Style' offers are available from Janome sewing machine retail outlets nationwide. Promotion starts 3rd September 2016 to 24th December 2016. (All offers subject to stock availability.)

AVON  
BEDFORDSHIRE  
BERKSHIRE  
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE  
  
CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
CHESHIRE  
  
CORNWALL  
DERBYSHIRE  
  
DEVON  
  
DORSET  
  
DURHAM  
ESSEX  
  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE  
HAMPSHIRE  
  
HEREFORDSHIRE  
HERTFORDSHIRE  
  
KENT  
  
LANCASHIRE  
  
LEICESTERSHIRE  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
LONDON (GTR)  
  
MANCHESTER (GTR)  
MERSEYSIDE  
NORFOLK  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE  
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE  
OXFORDSHIRE  
SHROPSHIRE  
SOMERSET  
SURREY  
SUSSEX  
  
TYNE & WEAR  
WARWICKSHIRE  
  
WILTSHIRE  
WEST MIDLANDS

Direct Sewing Machines, Bristol – 0117 977 8216  
Tudor Rose Patchwork, Oakley, Bedford – 01234 824 983  
Sew Devine, Reading – 0118 926 8664  
Alans Sewing Machines, High Wycombe – 01494 527600  
Threads and Patches, Milton Keynes – 01908 649687  
Sew Creative Ltd, Cambridge – 01223 350 691  
All Fabrics, Stalybridge – 0161 478 8236/01706 624 651  
Jaycotts, Chester – 01244 394 099  
J & P Sewing Machines, Warrington – 01925 633 831  
Phil Morton Sewing Machines, Macclesfield – 01625 433 131  
The Sewing Studio, Redruth – 01209 216 942  
Elegance, Derby – 01332 382 292  
Ilkeston Sewing & Janome Centre, Ilkeston – 01159 307 664  
Exeter Sewing Machine Company, Exeter – 01392 275 660  
Hulu. Modbury – 01548 831 911  
Soft Touch Needlecrafts, Tavistock – 01822 617 673  
Hansons Fabrics, Sturminster Newton – 01258 472 698  
Paulines Patchwork Ltd, Dorchester – 01305 261 022  
So N Sews, Weymouth – 01305 766 411  
UK Sewing Machines, Darlington – 01325 463 630  
Home of Sewing by Regent, Ilford – 0208 478 0669  
Superstitch Machine Co, Leigh on Sea – 01702 478830  
Cotswold Sewing Machines, Stroud – 01453 763660  
West End Sewing Centre, Cheltenham – 01242 244025  
Eastleigh Sewing Centre, Eastleigh – 02380 650 808  
Hampshire Sewing Machines, Fareham – 01329 280499  
Reads of Winchester, Winchester – 01962 850 950  
Badder Fabrics, Hereford – 01432 379 137  
Parrs Sewing Machines, Hereford – 01432 353 951  
British Sewing Centre, Borehamwood – 0800 888 661  
Chicks Embroidery, Letchworth – 01462 670 007  
Hobbysew, Hemel Hempstead – 0800 077 6711  
Rebecca Woollard Sewing School, Hatfield Heath – 07887 654 717  
Rona Sewing Machines, Waltham Cross – 01992 640250  
Sewfine Sewing Machines, Watford – 01923 693 734  
Ashford Sewing Centre, Ashford – 01233 620948  
Barcham Sewing Centre, Whitstable – 01227 264 271  
Maidstone Sewing Centre, Maidstone – 01622 670 254  
The Sewing Shop, Canterbury – 01227 457 723  
The World of Sewing, Pratts Bottom – 01689 638 638  
The World of Sewing, Tunbridge Wells – 01892 533188  
Etty-Lilly, Bolton-Le-Sands, Carnforth – 01524 734 713  
Hobkirk Sewing Machines, Blackburn – 01254 693555  
Hobkirk Sewing Machines, Bury – 0161 764 4450  
Lestan Sewing Machines, Nelson – 01282 614 511  
M & S Sewing Machines, Heywood – 01706 624 651/01706 366 943  
Sew-Knit (Dalby & Jones Ltd), Preston – 01772 254 558  
Cresswell Sewing Machines, Leicester – 07979 798 010  
The Sewing Café, Hinkley – 01455 698 034  
Couling Sewing Machines, Lincoln – 01522 521841  
Seweezy, Gainsborough – 01427 614 570  
Lewisham & Deptford Sewing Machines, Deptford – 020 8692 1077  
Redgewell Sewing Machines, South West London, 020 8337 3444  
Sewing & Craft Superstore, London – 020 8767 0036  
SM Sewing Machines Ltd, London – 07850 310 518  
The Sewing Centre, Battersea – 020 7228 3022  
Wimbledon Sewing Machine Co Ltd, London – 020 8767 4724  
Bamber Sewing Machines, Manchester – 0161 707 7786  
R. Bullock & Son Ltd, Wigan – 01942 247 836  
Affordable Sewing, Moreton, Wirral – 0151 677 7755  
Sewing & Knitting Centre, Southport – 01704 534 688  
Sew Creative, Norwich – 01603 305 888  
Sewing Machine World, Kings Lynn – 01553 773362  
Sew Northampton, Northampton – 01604 637200  
Cresswell Sewing Machines, Nottingham – 0115 926 7572  
Witney Sewing Machine Centre, Witney – 01993 704535  
Witney Sew & Knit Centre, Witney – 01993 702 772  
Sewing Machine Centre, Shrewsbury – 01743 343 902  
Bredons Sewing Machines, Taunton – 01823 272 450  
Monkton Elm Garden Centre Ltd, Taunton – 01823 412 381  
C & A Supply Co. Ltd, Cranleigh – 01483 267 777  
Redgewell Sewing Machines, Worcester Park – 0208 337 3444  
Brighton Sewing Centre, Brighton – 01273 621 653  
Clothkits Ltd, Chichester – 01243 533 180  
Eclectic Maker, Worthing – 01903 681000  
Hastings Sewing Centre, Hastings – 01424 423 108  
G Tully Sewing Machines, Sunderland – 0191 565 7995  
Sewing Machine Sales, Whitley Bay – 0191 252 5825  
Coventry Sewing Centre, Coventry – 02476 257266  
Harry and Floss, Alcester – 01789 400 747  
Leamington Spa Sewing Machines, Leamington Spa – 01926 338 749  
Cotswold Stitchcraft, Malmesbury – 01666 823 245  
West Wilts Sewing Machine Co, Trowbridge – 01225 753 792  
Brewers Sewing Machines, Wolverhampton – 01902 458 885  
D C Nutt Sewing Machines, Walsall – 01922 497 603  
Frank Nutt, Kings Heath – 0121 444 3978  
L & M Nutt, Sutton Coldfield – 0121 373 5497  
S Nutt Sewing Machines, Birmingham – 0121 327 2828

[www.janome.co.uk](http://www.janome.co.uk)

# JANOME

The world's leading sewing machine manufacturer