

Trash to

Treasure



28 Recycled Crafts



Trash to Treasure: 28 Recycled Crafts

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Letter from the Editors

Hello, Readers!

Looking for some clever ways to use up items around your home? If you have a overflowing stash of toilet paper rolls, Mason Jars, pop cans, water bottles, fabric scraps, and newspapers, this eBook is for you! Filled with tons of creative ways to turn your trash into treasure, this creative crafting guide will help you declutter your home, organize your living space, and even show you how to make your very own home accents using items that are in your recycling bin right now!

You can find more craft projects, great activities for kids and decorating ideas at www.FaveCrafts.com.

Our eBooks, like all of our craft projects, are absolutely FREE. Please feel free to share with family and friends and ask them to sign up at our website for free newsletters from FaveCrafts.com.

We hope you enjoy reading and creating!

Sincerely,

The Editors of FaveCrafts

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Trash to Treasure: 28 Recycled Crafts eBook

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Crafting with Tin Cans and Aluminum

Soup Can Pencil Holder

By: Eileen Hull

Recycle an old soup can into a pretty Soup Can Pencil Holder using string and a girly felt flower. This recycling craft from Eileen Hull is great for spring, and it costs almost nothing to make.

Materials:

- Soup can
- String
- Big Shot die-cut machine
- Flowers
- Layers #9 die
- Wool felt
- Large girls's headband elastic
- 2" piece of pipe cleaner
- Mismatched earring
- Glue gun



Instructions:

1. Clean out soup can. If you have one of those Pampered Chef can openers that roll the lid instead of leaving jaggedy edges, make sure to use it. Unfortunately I do not have one and proceeded to rip my finger open.
2. Dab a tiny bit of glue along the bottom edge of the can and place the end of the string over it anchoring it to the can. Wrap string around the entire can. Keep pushing down on the string so all areas of the can are covered. Dab another dot of glue at the top of the can to anchor the end of the string. (I thought the effect of the string on top of the ridges in the can was really cool. The thicker your yarn or wrapping material, the less you will notice the bumps though.)
3. Die cut two flowers from felt. Layer them in size order. Find a pierced earring in your jewelry box that you don't want. Stick the post through all of the layers of the flower. Put earring back on behind the flower.
4. Double wrap the headband around the can and use the pipe cleaner piece to secure the headband to the earring.
5. Fill can with pencils and place on your desk for a fun touch of spring!

Tin Can Organizer

By: Savannah Starr

Get your life organized with this Tin Can Organizer from Savannah Starr. Made from recycled material, crafts like this are Earth friendly and easy on the wallet. You can use this tin can craft to store anything from silverware to art supplies.

Materials:

- Tin Cans
- Collage paper
- Collage glue
- Paint Brush
- Glitter Tape
- Scissors
- Drill with drill bit & screw driver bit
- Screws
- Plywood- cut to size and painted



Instructions:

1. Apply glitter tape to tin can.
2. Brush collage glue onto can.
3. Brush collage glue onto back of collage paper.
4. Lay onto can.
5. Brush over paper with glue.
6. Repeat to cover entire can.
7. Decoupage the inside of the can too.
8. Drill hole in the bottom of the can.
9. Drill a hole in the plywood.
10. Change to screw bit.
11. Attach can to plywood with screw.
12. You have yourself an amazing tin can tabletop organizer!

Robbie the Recycled Robot

By: Suzie Shinseki for I Love to Create

Robbie the Robot from Suzie Shinseki for I Love to Create is the perfect Earth Day craft for kids! Making Robbie is a simple and creative way to learn more about recycling and our environment. And he looks pretty cute, too!

Materials:

- Materials List
- Scribbles® 3D Paint Pens (Primary)
- Aleene's® Original Tacky Glue
- Pipe cleaners
- Sequin or Rhinestone (a permanent marker easily transforms a clear rhinestone into a colored gem.)
- Empty water bottle
- Wiggle eyes
- Piercing tool or awl (to pierce holes in bottle)
- Aluminum foil



Instructions:

1. Wrap foil around water bottle, sealing seam with Aleene's Tacky Glue. Smooth foil to shape to bottle.
2. Have an adult pierce holes for arms, ears and antenna.
3. Twist pipe cleaners as desired and push ends through holes in bottle.
4. Use Tacky Glue to adhere colored rhinestones or sequins and wiggle eyes onto robot.
5. Use Scribbles® 3D Paint Pens to draw mouth and box around belly embellishments. Add dots around box. Let dry completely.

Soda Can Coasters

By: Lorine Mason

Here is a fun recycled project that is quick and easy. It is guaranteed to make people smile when they realize the coasters are constructed from soda can metal.

Materials:

- Soda cans
- Scraps of two fabrics - 1" strips
- Steam a Seam fusible web
- Felt
- Heavyweight craft interfacing
- Basic sewing supplies



Instructions:

1. Wash out the soda can, turn it over onto a dry cloth and let it drip dry.
2. Cut the can apart using craft scissors (no, not your sewing scissors) along the top and bottom edge of the can. Be careful not to cut your fingers as the edges can be quite sharp.
3. Press fusible web to the back of the metal. Using a rotary cutter, mat and ruler, cut 3-inch squares.
4. Remove the paper backing from the metal square and press it to the center of a 5-inch square of scrap cotton fabric.
5. Cut 1-inch wide strips from two complementary fabrics.
6. With right sides together, stitch the solid color strips of fabric along both sides of the 3-inch square, stitching through the scrap fabric base. Trim the strips even with the top and bottom edges of the metal square. Press the fabric away from the metal center piece. Repeat, stitching additional strips to the top and bottom edges of the 3-inch square, trimming and pressing the strips away from the center.
7. Repeat, stitching the second row of fabric strips to the outside edges of the first row of sewn strips. Trim and press the second row away from the metal center piece. You have created the top layer of the coaster.
8. Layer the following together, right sides up. The top layer of the coaster is a 5-inch square of heavyweight craft double-sided fusible interfacing and a 5-inch square of felt. Press well.
9. Sew through all layers of the coaster, stitching between the two rows of fabric strips and then again 1/4 inch in from the outside edge of the coaster fabric.
10. Trim close to the outside stitching lines using pinking or scalloped scissors.

Tuna Can Party Lights

By: Kathi Cayer for BitsyPieces

Jazz up your outdoor decorations with these fun and crafty Tuna Can Party Lights! Made from aluminum tuna cans, this recycled project is a great way to get the look you love for less. They're easy to make and fun to show off to your friends!

Materials:

- 3 Tuna Cans
- 3 Wood Screws
- 3 Wooden Dowels
- 3 Globes
- Drill with appropriate Drill Bit
- Awl (to help tap the hole in the can prior to screwing)
- Copper Colored Spray Paint
- Glass Tiles
- Misc String Beads
- Aleene's Craft Glue
- Patience!



Instructions:

1. Start out by cleaning any labels and excess glue off of your tuna cans. Since I was covering mine instead of just painting them I wasn't too worried about a few spots here and there. However, if you are going to prime and paint them without adhering any "bling" make sure they are nice and smooth.



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2. Use the awl to poke a hole in the center of each tuna can. Since this is the bottom of the can no one should be able to see any scratches or imperfections.



3. If you would like to paint your cans do that now, also paint your wooden dowels. (I didn't do this first but I believe it would have been much easier.)
4. Once dry, screw your can to your dowel. Be careful here that you are using a screw that will not split your wood. I did apply a dab of E600 glue to the bottom of each can prior to drilling just to give it a bit more stability.



5. Make sure your screw is flush with the can.
6. Now start decorating it. When I went to Home Depot to buy my dowels, I stumbled across this sheet of clearance glass tile and fell in love with it. I measured around the can and cut a strip of tiles to fit. Since I had some gaps I found some scrap pearl like beads that I had on a string and added those in between. I suppose you could even go so far as to grout these, but it would make your cans quite a bit heavier.

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7. I also found these great amber colored light globes from a discarded ceiling fan at my local Deseret Industries Thrift store and just knew they would work perfectly in the tuna cans and the colored tile.



8. I had to use clothespins to get the strips of tile to stay in place while they were drying. The tacky glue worked great. It was dry by morning and we started this project late in the evening.

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9. Just pop in a tea light and let it shine. I like the globe on mine though just for the extra fancy factor, plus it helps the candle light shine a bit more.



Wine Bottle Crafts

Tissue Wine Bottle Vases

By: Sara Rivka for Creative Jewish Mom

Turn old wine bottles into decorative vases using pretty patterned tissue paper. All you have to do to make this wine bottle craft is decoupage! Check out these fun projects with wine bottles.

Materials:

- Recycled wine and liquor bottles, spray painted with a primer, and then white
- Printed/stamped tissue paper
- Mod podge or a mixture of white glue and water
- A brush to apply the mod podge

Instructions:

1. You can choose to cover the entire bottle with tissue paper, as we did with the polka dotted versions, or cut pieces of tissue paper and decoupage that as I did with the large circles. Either way, brush some mod podge or glue onto your bottle and carefully place the tissue paper on top, gently smoothing with the brush. If you want a very smooth surface I would recommend working with fairly small pieces, as tissue paper is difficult to work with because it's so thin.
2. Set aside to dry and apply an additional coat of mod podge as a protective layer.
3. And by the way, if you don't feel like going through the trouble of painting the bottles, you can of course decoupage the tissue paper onto clear bottles.



Wine Cork Board

By: Becky Kazana

Do you keep all your old wine corks? You should! Learn how to turn old wine corks into a fabulous, rustic-looking cork board. If you love the look of this board, but don't drink much wine, you can pick up corks from Ebay and other sources.



Materials:

- Wine corks
- Cork board
- Hot glue gun and glue sticks

Instructions:

1. I recommend laying out your pattern before gluing it down. I like to do a parquet pattern to make them look more interesting and less messy.



2. After you have a design worked out, carefully hot glue each cork to the board. (I like to use an actual cork bulletin board so any gaps are less noticeable.)

Green Pendant Wind Chime

By: Jeanne Baruth for Diamond Tech

Turn old bottles into a chic outdoor decoration with this green pendant wind chime from Diamond Tech. These easy craft ideas make the perfect marriage of eco-friendly and stylish.

Materials:

- Generation Green (g2) bottle cutter
- 3 Glass Bottles in varying sizes: small, medium and large
- 8 Large Glass Beads (ranging in size from $\frac{3}{4}$ -1" a little larger than the openings of the bottles)
- 36" cotton cord

Instructions:

1. Cover the work area with craft or newspaper.
2. Collect three bottles that will nest one inside of the other: large, medium and small.
3. Measure 6" down from the top of the large bottle, 5" on the medium and 4" on the small bottle and mark using a Sharpie™.
4. Using the bottle cutter, score and separate where indicated.
5. Smooth the rough edges as instructed in the bottle cutter manual.
6. Measure and cut a 34" length of cord. Make a knot on one end of the cord large enough to hold a 3/4" bead.
7. Thread a bead onto the cord until it rests against the knot. Tie another knot 3" from the first and thread another bead onto the cord until it stops at the second knot.
8. Thread the cord up from the bottom of the smallest bottle and through the neck, until the bead is snug against the opening in the neck of the bottle. Tie another knot and slip on a third bead.



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9. Measure 1 ½" above the third bead and make a knot. Add a fourth bead, make a knot, pull the cord through the bottom of the medium bottle and up through the neck.
10. Add a fifth bead and another knot. Slide sixth bead onto the cord and make yet another knot.
11. Thread the cord through the bottom of the largest bottle and up through the neck. Knot the cord above the lip of the last bottle, add 1" bead to the cord, and knot again.
12. Measure 9" and make a knot in the cord. Create a loop by inserting a ¾" bead onto the cord, inserting the end back into the bead opening to create a loop. Secure the loop with a double knot to hold the bead in place.
13. Hang the retro chime where a breeze can gently blow them and create a relaxing, peaceful, soothing sound.

Hemp Wrapped Wine Bottle

By: Jane Bernard for Finding Fabulous

This hemp wrapped wine bottle from Jane Bernard is one of the coolest, easiest things to make with wine bottles. Recycle your empty bottles into stylish home decor using little more than glue and hemp cording.

Materials:

- Large wine bottle
- Hemp rope
- Elmers glue

Instructions:

1. I started this project with tacky glue, but quickly realized that good ole' Elmer's glue works better. It doesn't set up as quick and gives you more time to make any adjustments to your rope. I started the rope at the bottom of the bottle and glued every other time I wrapped the rope around the bottle.



2. The bottom section of the bottle is where I used the most glue. The middle I used much less. And the top where the bottle gets smaller I used more glue again to keep the rope from gaping and showing the bottle underneath.

Tee Shirt Crafts

How to Make a Tee Shirt Fringe Scarf

By: Latrice Murphy

Take an old tee shirt and transform it into this awesome fringe scarf. By following the guidelines in this How to Make a Tee Shirt Fringe Scarf tutorial by Latrice Murphy, you'll learn how to make your very own accent scarf in any color of the rainbow! This is a great way to use up those tee shirts that you no longer wear or that no longer fit. Clean out your closet and make room for more fun upcycled accessories!

Materials:

- Scissors
- Old or new t shirt

Instructions:

1. Fold your t shirt in half and cut all the way across under the arms.
2. Unfold the t shirt and begin cutting strips approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way up starting at the cut end.
3. Give each strand a tug to make it curl up.
4. Twist and fold the t shirt in half to double it up and gather the fringes together.
5. Wear it with a solid shirt for interest and a pop of color.



Bonebraid Keychain

By: Amanda Formaro

Recycled t-shirt crafts, like this Bonebraid Keychain from Amanda Formaro, are fun to make with your kids. The vibrant colors in this braided keychain are easy to achieve with a collection of unwanted tee's. You could also make this longer and turn it into a fun necklace!

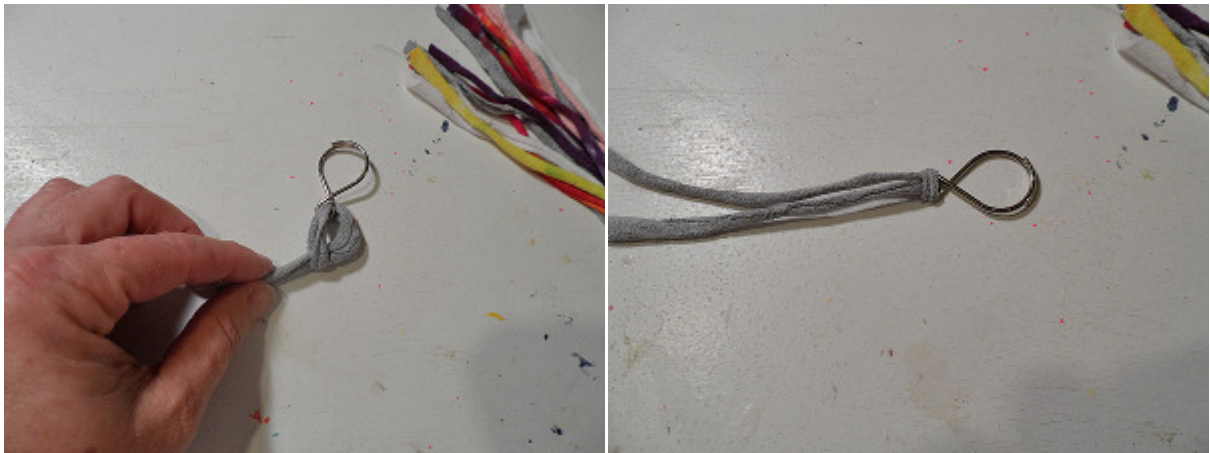


Materials:

- Recycled t-shirts, cut into long strips, about 15" long
- metal key ring
- Hot glue gun
- Scissors

Instructions:

1. Cut a long t-shirt strip in half (set the second half aside) and stretch it out. Make a lark's head knot by folding the strip in half and slipping the looped end through key ring. Now thread the two loose ends up through the loop and pull tight.

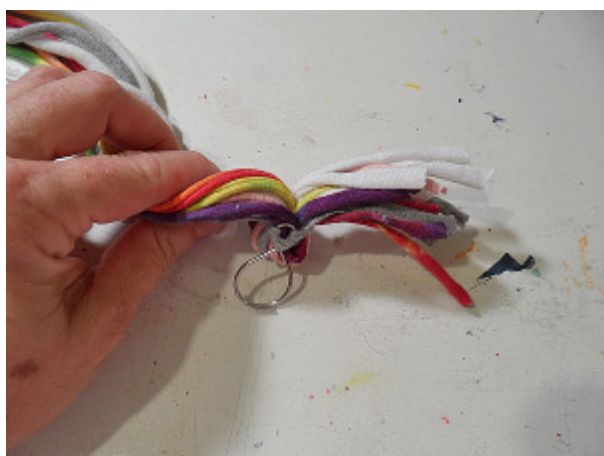


2. Take 15-16 long t-shirt strips and stretch them all out. Gather them all together, side by side. Fold the top few inches down and tie the strip that is on the key ring around all the strips.

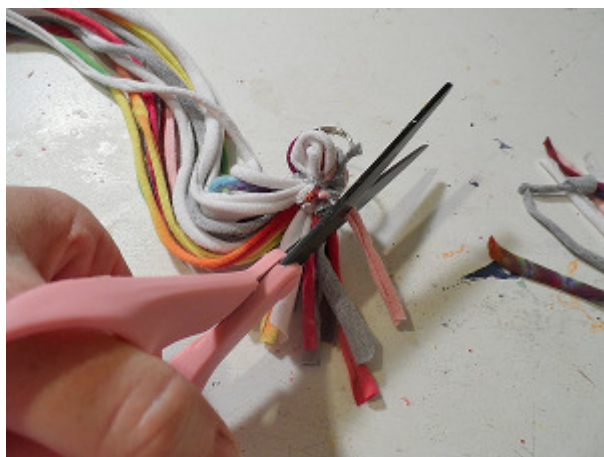
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3. Tie a knot and add a little hot glue, then tie another knot and glue again. Trim the ends of the key ring knot completely off. Turn it over and add a little glue to the strips where the bend is.

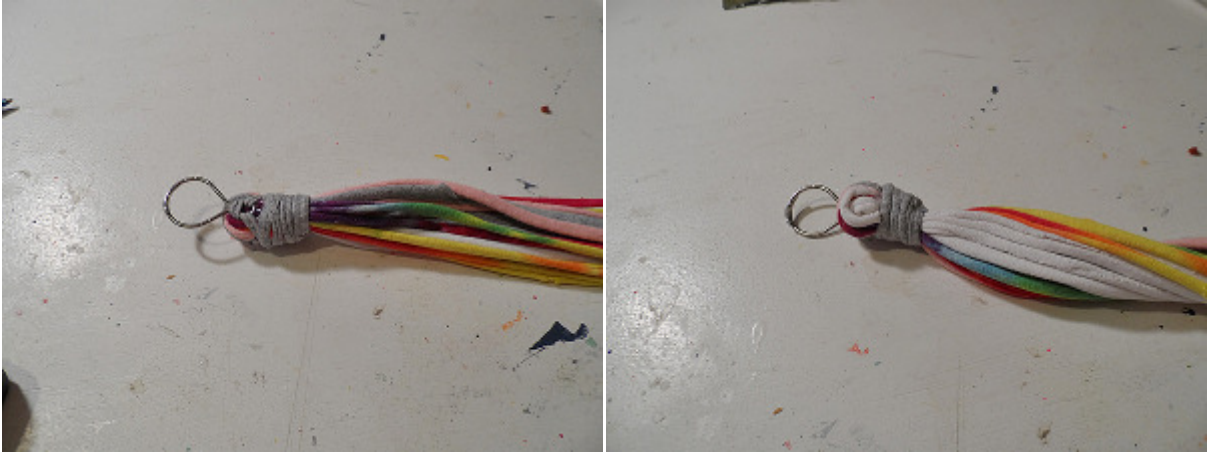


4. Trim the short ends of the strips off as short as you can.

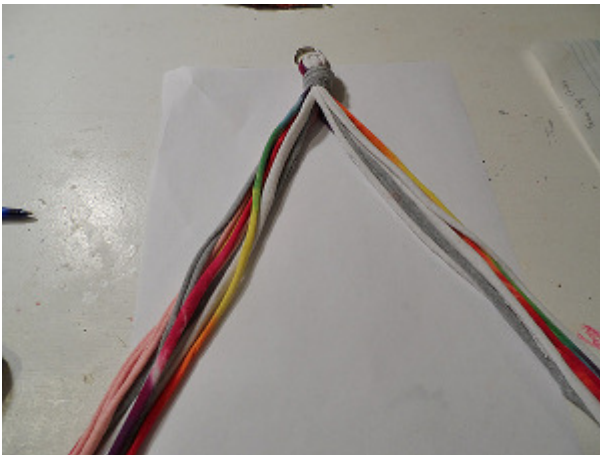


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5. Take the other half of the strip that you set aside in step 1 and using hot glue as you go, wrap it around the trimmed edges, hiding them.



6. Lay the keychain down facing right side up. Separate the strands into two sections.



7. Grab two strips from the BACK left and cross them over and add them to the strips on the right.

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8. Grab two strips from the BACK right and cross them over and add them to the strips on the left.



9. Repeat this process, working your way down until your braid is as long as you want it.



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10. Turn the keychain over. Take another strip, stretch it out and wrap it around the end of the braid, tying in a knot and securing with hot glue. Trim off the ends of the knot.



11. Trim the fringe and you're all done!



T shirt Necklace

By: Jennifer Juniper for Hope Studios

Want to make this fun necklace? Get to work cleaning your closets and save some old t-shirts and you will have "shopped" for all the supplies you will need. This thrifty jewelry craft will have all the moms wondering how you did it.



Materials:

- 100% Cotton T-shirts
- Scissors

Instructions:

1. Remove the hem from the bottom of your t-shirts, then cut 1 inch wide strips from the bottom of the shirts.



2. I worked with 15 strips for this project, you can adjust this according to how thick you'd like the necklace to be. (The strips are actually rings since you are cutting the bottom through both layers.) You will eventually double these rings, so 15 strips turns into 30.
3. Once you have cut all your strips, S-T-R-R-E-E-E-T-C-H each one. This will cause them to roll on the sides and elongate them to twice the length.

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4. After stretching, lay them one on top of the other. Try to stack with the seams together.
5. Holding your rings with the seams in each hand, twist (in a figure 8 kind of shape) to double the rings. Now the seams from both ends will all be together and the necklace will be half as long and twice as thick.
6. Using an extra strip of t-shirt, wrap the section where the seams have come together, as shown here, to bind the whole stack. Like this:



Crafting with Toilet Paper Rolls and Cardboard

Paper Tube Lavender Sachet

By: Maria Chatzi

This Paper Tube Lavender Sachet from Maria Chatzi is a great way to use up items around your home. These handmade sachets work well in your drawer or closet and make wonderful gifts for loved ones.



Materials:

- A piece of white tulle, 5.9 inches long and about 11.6 inches wide
- Four ribbons, 2.8 long each, any purple (dark or light) will do
- A piece of purple waxed jewelry string, 9,8 long
- A round bead (any color), with a hole big enough for your waxed string to go through it if folded in half
- A long embroidery needle with a large hole
- A small paper rose, color: white
- Pink glitter glue
- A small bunch of natural lavender
- A strip of purple paper tissue, 9.8 long and 2.4 wide
- Small white paper heart
- Large purple wrinkled heart (made of paper tissue or recycled handmade paper)
- A piece of white paper doily design – cut out from a paper doily you use for your cakes
- Scissors
- Craft knife
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Glue

Instructions:

1. Take the toilet paper tube and measure 2/3 of its length. Use your pencil to mark a line there, all around the tube. Using your craft knife, follow this line to cut the 1/3 of your paper tube away – you will need only the 2/3 part for this craft.
2. Make a white paper rose (or get a readymade one) and put some pink glitter glue on the edges of all its petals. Let it dry.

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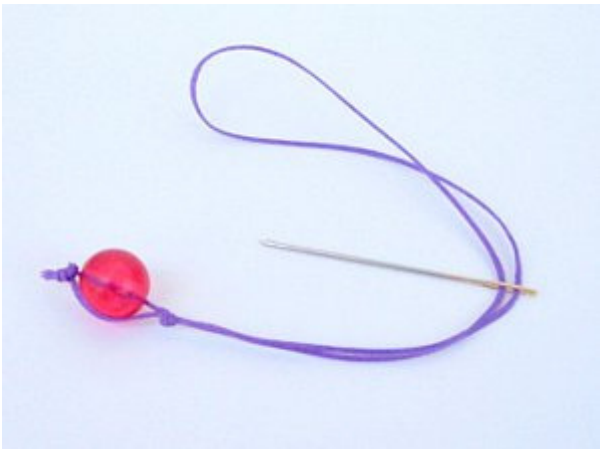
3. Fold your strip of purple paper tissue in half, lengthwise. Use your scissors to cut a fringe on the folded edge, leaving 0.5 inches free space on the other long edge.
4. With your scissors, cut out a piece of paper doily design that fits to be wrapped around your toilet paper tube. To measure the length you need, you could use a piece of string – just wrap it around your paper tube and cut it where ends meet. If you would like doily edges to overlap add 0.25 inches length to your measurements.
5. Put the purple paper tissue fringe, the doily design and the paper rose aside for a while. You will return to these later, when your lavender tube sachet is ready to be decorated.
6. Now take your tulle and wrap it around your paper tube, leaving free tulle ends on both sides of your paper tube – these tulle ends should measure the same. Make sure you secure the beginning and the end of your wrapping with some glue. Wait till the glue is completely dry before you proceed.



7. After the glue has dried, wrap and knot tie two of your ribbons on one free tulle end – like a candy bar. You should tie the ribbons securely enough to hold the tulle end but do not tie them very tightly, as there should be a small opening (like a small hole) left in the centre (for your needle with the string to pass through later on).

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8. Thread your bead (the bead should be quite larger than the small opening you've left when tying the tulle end with the ribbons) – we don't want it to slip through this hole and get out on the other side. Tie the two ends of your waxed string together in a double knot. Then secure your bead between two knots, as shown in the photo. You should be left with a loop on the other side. Pass this loop through the needle hole.

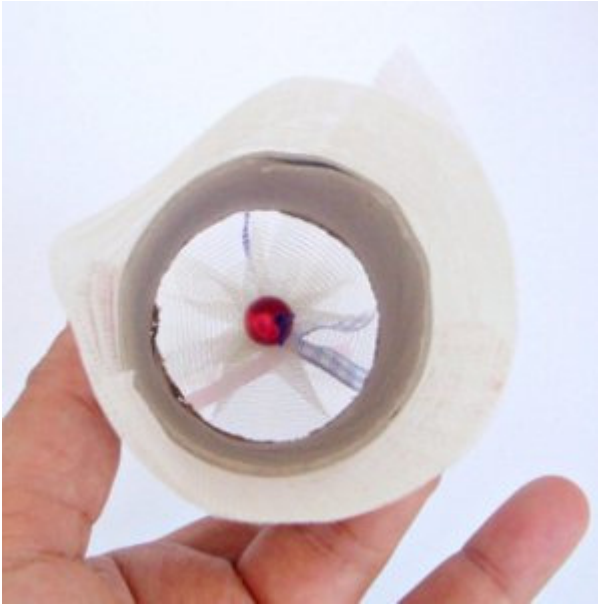


9. Now take your threaded needle and guide it, from the inside of the paper tube, to the small hole you've left when tying the tulle end with the ribbons. Pass it through this small opening and pull it out from the other side. The bead should stay inside the toilet paper tube, trapped by the tulle tied with the ribbons. The loop should be out – this is where you're going to hang your lavender sachet from. Put away the needle, as it won't be needed any more.
10. Double knot your waxed string near the hole with the bead.



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11. Hang the tube sachet from a hook and, as the bead shows from the small opening under the knots you've just made, put a good blob of glue on it (so it would remain attached to the tulle when the glue dries – this is **IMPORTANT** to do, because if you don't fill the small opening with glue the lavender you will later put in the sachet may be falling out of it whenever the bead moves down).



12. Fill your paper tube sachet with natural lavender and tie the other tulle end with the other two ribbons you've got left (same procedure as when you've tied the first tulle end). **IMPORTANT:** tie this end tightly, as you're not putting a bead here. Your sachet is full of lavender now and ready to be decorated.
13. Wrap and glue the paper doily design on your paper tube lavender sachet, over the tulle it's wrapped in.
14. Make a fuzzy flower with the purple tissue fringe strip. To create this, wrap the whole strip holding it from the edge that doesn't have the fringe. When you've finished wrapping, decide where you want to place it on the paper doily design. Then put a little glue on the bottom/back side and press it gently on the tube. Hold it there for a minute or two to make sure the glue has dried and it's secured in its place. Press the center of this fuzzy flower gently with your fingers to lower it and make space for the paper rose.
15. Glue the paper rose onto the purple fuzzy flower. Wait till the glue has dried completely before you proceed.
16. Now turn your lavender sachet to the back side, where the ends of the paper doily meet or overlap. Glue the wrinkled purple heart here and then glue the smaller white heart on it. Use the pink glitter glue to decorate the white heart. Wait till the glue hardens.

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17. Your paper tube lavender sachet is ready to hang in your closet or car or place in a drawer. It could be used both as a decorative air-freshener and a moth repellent.



Tips

- The longer the needle, the easier it would be for you to work inside the paper tube. Mine is short and it has made it difficult for me to reach the other end of the tube (which I had tied with the ribbons). I only posted the picture to show you how you should thread and secure the bead and how the string loop should go through the needle hole.
- The paper rose I used was handcrafted by my daughter Joanne. If you're interested in learning how to make paper flowers there are plenty of free tutorials online. An alternative could be a small readymade fabric rose.

Drink Carton Gift Box

By: Marisa Pawelko of Modern Surrealist LLC

Follow this eco-friendly craft design to upcycle an empty drink carton into a colorful gift box. Use to package homemade gifts of cookies or other snacks. You can even use these cartons as growing kit gifts, with soil and a seed packet.

Materials:

- Drink/Juice Carton
- Westcott 7" KleenEarth™ Scissors
- Westcott Blooms™ Titanium Hobby Knife with Safety Cap
- Westcott 12" Aluminum Ruler
- Westcott Craftworks™ Paper Edger Scissors (optional)



Instructions:

1. Rinse out the empty juice carton. Cut off the very top part of the carton using KleenEarth™ Scissors. You can begin the cut with the Blooms™ Titanium Hobby Knife. Dry the interior of the carton with a dishtowel.
2. Measure and mark 3.75" up on all 4 corners. Use the KleenEarth™ Scissors to cut down all four corners stopping at the marks. Use the aluminum ruler and hobby knife to score a straight line connecting all four marks. You will be left with a cube shaped box with 4 square flaps. Fold the four flaps inward bending along the scored line.
3. Now for the handles... Run a horizontal score line halfway across two opposing flaps. Cut the handle out of the top half of the flaps using the Blooms™ Titanium Hobby Knife and fold the handles upward along the scored line. Then cut off the excess carton around the handles. Feel free to use your imagination to cut different shaped handles to suit your preference.
4. Use the hobby knife to cut vertical slots in each of the 2 remaining flaps for the handles to pass through. Then round the corners using KleenEarth™ Scissors. Run the handles through the slots and you're done!
5. Additional Design Options: You can leave the plain carton undecorated, or you may cover it with paper, fabric and additional embellishments. You can even further customize your gift box handles and flap edges using Westcott Craftworks™ Paper Edger Scissors!

Cardboard Ribbon Spool Flowers

By: Heidi Borchers

Save those spools! Floral craft ideas don't get much more fun than this. Create your own Cardboard Ribbon Spool Flowers and glue them to a painted background. This is a great idea for anyone that loves vibrant wall art.

Materials:

- Cardboard ribbon spools (you will need one for each flower plus one for leaves and stem)
- Aleene's Super Thick Tacky Glue
- Board for background (I used Masonite from a tile sample board)
- Acrylic paints
- Brush- 1/2" wide flat
- Buttons- for flower centers
- Dimensional texture for background (I used Texture Magic)
- Notched comb for texture
- Aleene's Spray Sealer – Matte or Gloss finish



Instructions:

1. Select several different sizes and widths of ribbon spools for this project. To make each flower, carefully take a cardboard spool apart by removing the circle sides of the spool. Repeat with another narrower spool for leaf and stem.

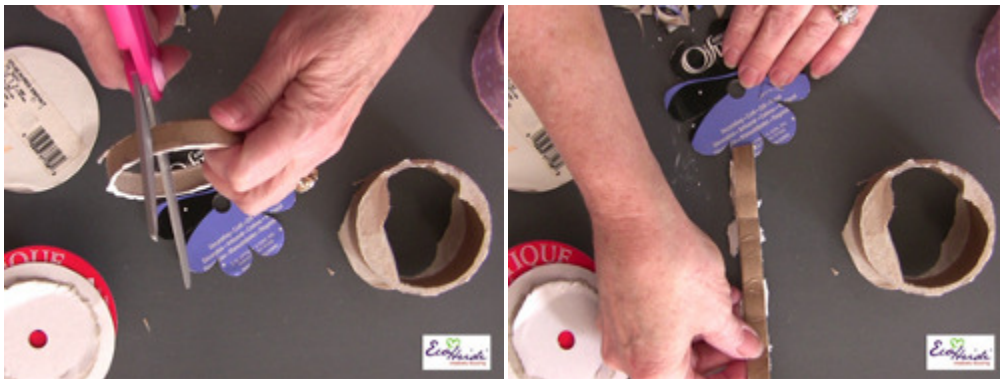


2. You will now have three pieces for each spool. To make the flower, cut the two spool circles into a flower shape.

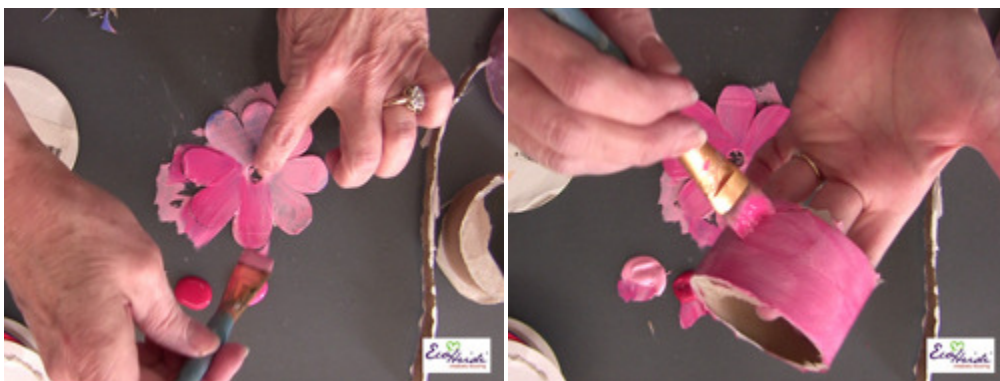
Trash to Treasure: 28 Recycled Crafts



3. With second narrow spool, cut the tube to make the stem. (The ends of the spool will be used to cut the leaves.) Smooth and press out the stem. Be sure to cut off any excess paper still remaining on the sides of the spool you tore apart.



4. Select several complementary colors of acrylic paint and brush onto each flower, leaf and stem. Let dry. If necessary, repeat with second coat. Paint the center tube of the spool for the flower.



5. Glue the two flowers back in place on the spool center with the Aleene's Super Thick Tacky Glue.

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6. For the background, I squeegeed the dimensional paint over the masonite. Use a notched comb to create the lines in the dimensional paint. Let dry.
7. Paint the background using the acrylic paints. Place the assembled spool flowers, leaves and stems onto the background.



8. Glue all pieces to the background using the Aleene's Super Thick Tacky Glue.



9. Glue several sizes of buttons for the center of each flower. To seal, spray entire piece with the Aleene's Spray Sealer. Let dry.

Eco Green Tea Light Holder

By: Maria Chatzi

Kids and adults alike will love this Eco Green Tea Light Holder. Made with 100 percent recycled items, this tea light holder is great for parties, weddings, or everyday use. Gather up those toilet paper rolls and get ready to make something beautiful!

Materials:

- An old CD
- A toilet paper roll
- Glue
- Paper bag or other non-glossy paper (I used an old envelop from my office)
- 8 small white pearls and 8 bigger ones
- A jar lid (it's diameter has to be larger than that of the ends of the toilet paper roll)
- Any kind of white doily (cotton or synthetic or paper)
- A tealight candle
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Glue
- Ruler



Instructions:

1. Take the paper you've chosen, and wrinkle it with your hands. Spread it back out again without pressing out the wrinkles you've made. Repeat once more.
2. Now take your jar lid and glue it, top side down, on the wrinkled paper. Use your ruler and your pencil to mark a circle around your lid that leaves at least 0.7 inches extra paper (you will need this later). Wait for the glue to harden and then cut with your scissors on this circle.
3. After that, glue your CD on the wrinkled paper. Wait till the glue dries and trim with your scissors.
4. Put some glue all around the side of the jar lid and turn the paper inwards (to the bottom side of the lid). Use your fingers to keep it there for a while, so that the glue will harden. Press paper in excess, to keep it under the lid when the lid's placed top side up.
5. Glue the lid on the CD, top side up.

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6. While waiting for the glue to dry, take the toilet paper roll and place it on a desk/table standing on one end. Use your pencil and ruler to mark 0.6 inches from the bottom – draw this line all around the paper roll.
7. With your scissors, cut 8 strips all along the long side of the paper roll, up to the point you reach the line you just drew. These strips should all have the same width (you should divide the circle of the paper roll end in eight equal parts, mark the eight points and then start cutting your strips).
8. When you've finished with cutting the strips, take your scissors and cut their ends so that they look like pointed leaves.
9. Open the strips a bit, bending them outwards gently. The toilet paper roll should now look like a crown.
10. Take your pencil and roll the leaves around it one by one, making them curly, till you reach the line you drew before and where you've stopped cutting. What looked like a crown before should now look like a flower.
11. Place this flower-like design on top of the lid, in the center of it. Put glue all around the inside circular base of the paper roll flower, so that it would be firmly secured to the lid when the glue hardens.
12. Glue the white pearls all around the lid, on the CD – start with a small one first, followed by a larger one. Wait for the glue to dry completely.
13. Cut 8 doily leaves, 1.8 inches long each, and glue them onto the “petals” of your paper flower candle holder, as shown in the picture. Wait for the glue to dry and and your tealight.

Various Paper Crafts

Paper Plate Gratitude Flowers

By: Heidi Borchers

Use a plain paper plate, buttons from your stash and a small piece of embroidery floss to create your own Paper Plate Gratitude Flowers from Heidi Borchers. Paper flowers are a great way to decorate your space during even the coldest winter months.

Materials:

- Aleene's Original Tacky Glue in the Gold Bottle
- White fluted paper plates
- Scissors
- Pinking shears
- Stylus embossing tool
- Wooden skewer (one per flower)
- Acrylic paint – white
- Paint brush
- Printed thank you sentiments
- Buttons – white – multiple sizes
- Embroidery floss – yellow
- Craft foam sheet (for use when embossing)
- Clothespins



Instructions:

1. Trace patterns onto center of paper plate. To create the flower petals, use the fluted edge by cutting each flute to round the edge.



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2. Then cut down each side to create petal. Cut leaves and flower center along pattern lines. Cut approximately 20 petals for each flower. Apply Aleene's Original Tacky Glue to flower center.



3. Glue outside row of petals to flower center. To create center row of petals, cut to shorten each petal. Apply glue to back of petal and glue in place over back row of petals.



4. Apply glue to end of embroidery floss. Rub between fingers to create "needle" on end of floss. Stack two buttons. Insert floss through top of one side, underneath and back up other button hole. Tie floss in knot. Cut to approximately 1/4".



5. Place cut leaves on craft foam. Draw leaf line and veins in each petal with embossing tool. Gently fold up at leaf line to add dimension to your leaves. Paint wooden skewer white. Let

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dry. Press center of leaves over skewer.



6. Apply line of glue between leaves and skewer. Fold and secure with clothespin. Print sentiments on printer (right flush). Cut into strips.



7. Apply glue to back of strip. Fold over wooden stem and align layers. Cut off excess paper. Cut along outside edge of leaves with pinking shears. Double cut with shears to create smaller zig zag pattern. Glue back of flower to stem. Let dry.



How to Make Paper Beads

By: Maria Neri

Paper beads are a great green craft and fun for all ages. Make a variety of beads and then start making some jewelry! Paper beads are also excellent embellishments for your other paper crafts.



Materials:

- Scraps of paper
- Knitting needle, metal or bamboo skewers or toothpicks
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Glue
- Optional: Clear sealer, glaze, varnish, or decoupage glue and brush

Instructions:

1. Cut paper into strips about 1/2 inch wide and 12 inches long. You can cut the strips into rectangles for tube shaped beads or into long triangles for tapered beads. Try both styles.
2. Take a strip of paper, and begin rolling it tightly around the knitting needle (or a skewer/ toothpick). Note if you are making tapered beads, begin with the wide end of the triangle. You are rolling with the “right” side of the paper showing as you roll and the “wrong” side of the paper disappearing as you roll. Hold the knitting needle firmly between your thumbs and index fingers and with a steady pressure, roll the paper around the knitting needle for one full rotation or two, dab a little glue onto the paper and continue to roll. Add another small dab of glue at the end to securely tack raw end. Hold the end down until it sticks and then slide the bead off the knitting needle.
3. As you complete beads, set each aside and let it dry.
4. Optional: When all your beads are complete you might want to coat the beads (by brushing on the sealer while the bead is on a skewer or toothpick so the bead hole will not get plugged up with sealer.) with a sealer so they are water-resistant. Once dry you can remove the bead(s) from the skewer.
5. Have fun experimenting with different sizes and shapes of beads plus vary your assortment of paper scraps. You’ll have plenty for making a pair of earrings, a bracelet or necklace.

Watercolored Coffee Filter Roses

By: Maureen Wilson

Turn plain coffee filters into beautiful roses with this Watercolored Coffee Filter Roses tutorial. Perfect for putting in a vase or attaching to a wreath, these recycled crafts are sure to add a touch of Victorian style to your decor. This is also a beautiful craft to make for Mother's Day or an upcoming birthday. Create roses in like colors for a lovely ombre effect that's sure to impress at your next family or friend gathering.

Materials:

- Free pattern for Coffee Filter Roses
- Posterboard (optional)
- Scissors
- Floral wire, 20 gage
- Cone coffee filters (4 per rose)
- Green floral tape
- Sakura Koi® Watercolors (tube)
- Paintbrush
- Bamboo skewer



Instructions:

1. First print out my free two-page Free pattern for Coffee Filter Roses (http://www.favecrafts.com/master_images/Papercraft/Coffee-Filter-Roses-pattern.pdf). If you plan on making a lot of roses, I recommend mounting the shapes on posterboard or cardstock so they're more durable.
2. Cut out the shapes and lay them out on four coffee filters as shown on the template. Trace around the petal shapes. You might want to number them... add the numbers down towards the base of the petal so they won't show.
3. I like to cut four filters at once to save time. Be certain that all of your filters are facing the right direction. I like to put my cut pieces in numbered cups for easy assembly. You could also use plastic baggies. I also like to pre-cut about 7 pieces of floral tape, each about 2.5 inches long.
4. Now it's time to assemble our rose. Start with piece #1. Poke a wire down between the right-hand petals. When you have about 5 inches of wire poking out the top, loop the wire tip

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- around and poke it back down through the bottom. Pinch the loop slightly and tug down. This loop will keep the petals from sliding up and down the stem.
5. Fold the petal inward and roll to coil around the wire. Then wrap the end of the wire loop around the base of the petal to secure.
 6. Piece #2 is added like the first. Poke the wire down between the right petals. Arrange the petal so that it fills in empty spaces between the first petal. Roll and secure with a piece of floral tape. When applying the tape, pull and stretch it to get a good, tight hold around the base. Piece #3 is added just like #2.
 7. Piece #4 needs to be separated first. Gently tear along the bottom of the petal to make a flat strip. Then wrap this around the rose and secure with tape.
 8. Next get two #5 pieces and two #6 pieces (since these pieces weren't cut on the fold, you'll have double the amount of the previous pieces). Fan out the four pieces like you would a hand of cards. Place the rose in the center and wrap the petals around the rose. Secure the base with tape. Repeat with two #7 pieces and two #8 pieces. If you'd like, you can wrap the entire stem in tape for a more realistic look.
 9. Starting with the outer petals, fan out the petals, bending gently backward from the base.
 10. Now comes the really fun part: painting your roses! I recommend using Sakura's Koi® watercolors that come in tubes. Your base color will need to be really watered down, and Koi® tube watercolors allow you to get the perfect consistency.
 11. Blend a dollop of color with about a tablespoon of water. Paint the petals, starting from the center and working outward.
 12. Add a second color while the rose is still wet. This color needs to be more concentrated than the first, so add water with a brush rather than pouring it. Run the tip of the brush along the edge of each petal to deposit the color.
 13. Have fun experimenting with different color combinations. Here's another tip: I found it's really fast to simply dip the whole rose in the base color... it takes more paint, but less time.
 14. Allow the roses to dry for about three hours. It's best to hang these to dry so the petals have good form. You can bend the wire over a towel rack. If you're in a hurry, you can use a blowdryer set on low.
 15. Once your rose is dry, you'll need to shape the petals a bit. Place a skewer behind each petal and roll backward to curl.

Crafting with Plastic and Glass

Mod Podge Mason Jars

By: Amanda Formaro

Store anything from craft supplies to silverware in these super cute and easy to make Mod Podge Mason Jars from Amanda Formaro. Recycled crafts like this are great for classrooms or craft groups, and it's an easy way to clear out your craft stash and get organized at the same time!

Materials:

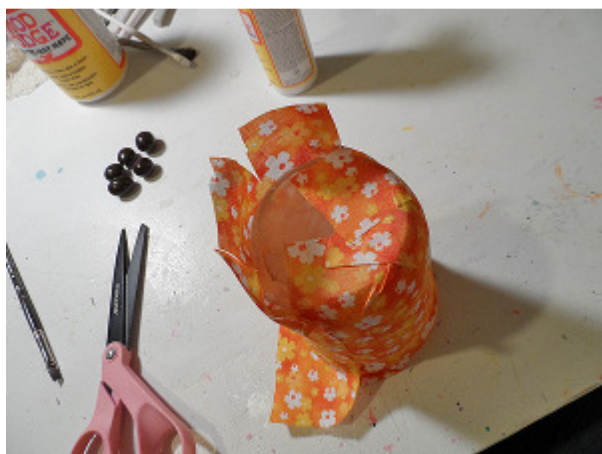
- Fabric
- Iron
- Mod Podge
- Paintbrush
- Felt
- Scissors
- Hot glue gun
- Vintage looking buttons



Instructions:

1. To figure out how much fabric you need, lay a jar onto the fabric and roll it up in it. Leave about an inch of extra fabric at both the top and bottom of the jar. Trim to fit around the jar, leaving yourself an inch or so extra. You can always trim the excess off if you need to.
2. Paint the jar with Mod Podge. Lay the jar onto the fabric and use your fingers to press the fabric to the glass. Cut slits in the fabric overage at the top of the jar to make it easier to fold inside. Add some Mod Podge to the inside of the mouth of the jar and press the fabric inside. Repeat this process for the bottom of the jar. Set these aside to dry.

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3. Cut strips of felt and hot glue them around the rim of the jar. Hot glue buttons onto the felt to embellish. Fill with pens, pencils, paintbrushes etc!



Pop Bottle Dish with Ribbon

By: Tiffany Threadgould for RePlayGround

Recycled craft ideas like this Pop Bottle Dish with Ribbon are so cheap and easy to make! With a few simple steps, you can have an adorable candy dish like this one, made by Tiffany Threadgould, for your coffee table.

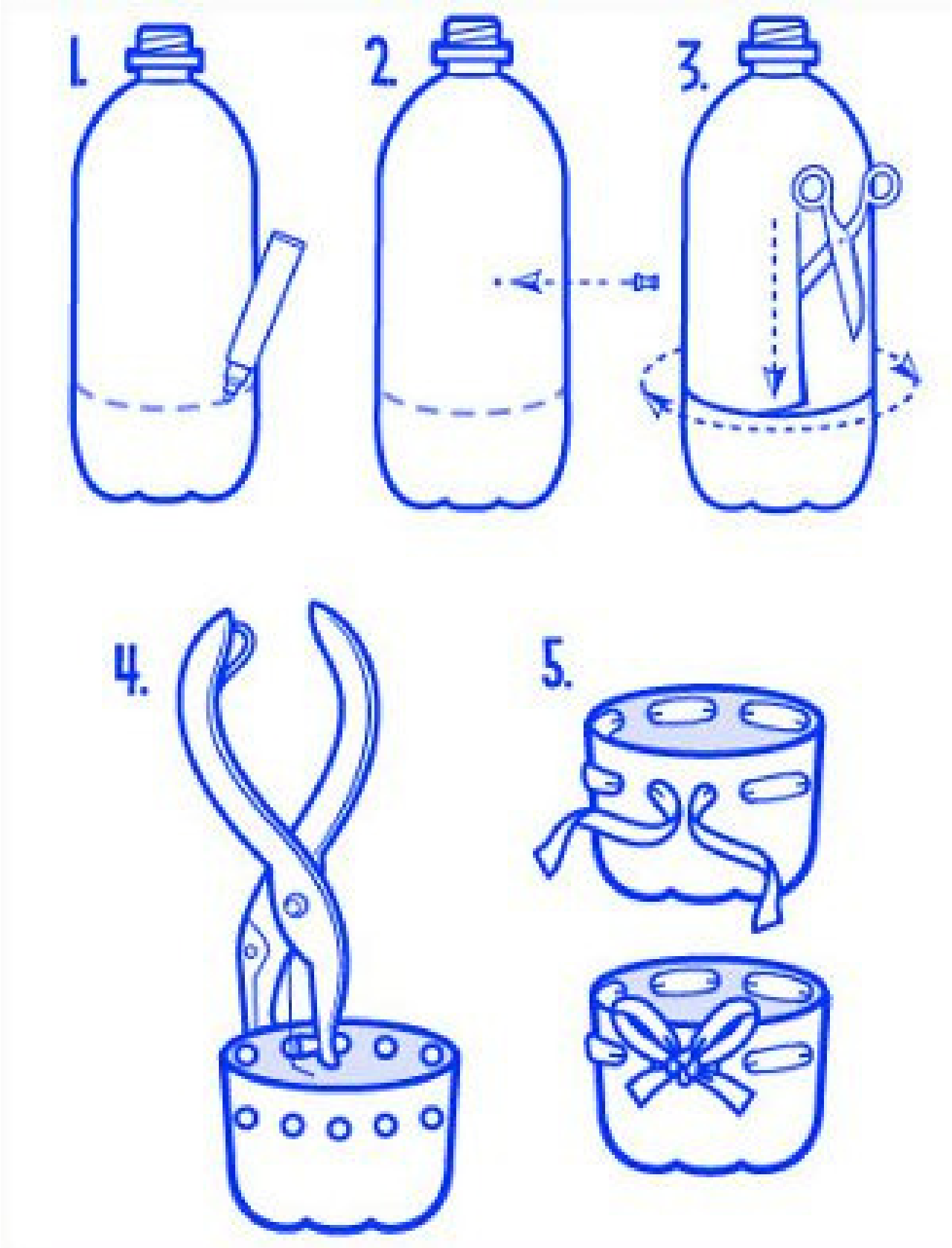


Materials:

- ribbon
- soda bottle (or empty fruit cup)
- tack
- scissors
- non-permanent marker

Instructions:

1. Start with a clean, dry bottle. Using a non-permanent marker, mark the areas of the bottle you'd like to use. It helps to cut extra and trim the bottle down. We used the bottom 2.5 inches of a 20-ounce bottle.
 2. Take a tack and poke a hole in the bottle outside the area you'd like to keep.
 3. Take your scissors and push them into the bottle through the hole you just made. Cut around your bottle separating the top from the bottom where you marked your guideline.
 4. Punch holes around the top of your container about 0.5 inch apart.
 5. Take two 16-inch pieces of ribbon and weave them in and out of the holes. End with a bow.
- (Optional: you can also use an empty single-serving fruit cup to make into a dish.)



Plastic Bottle Bathroom Storage

By: Cristin Frank from Eve of Reduction

Reuse an old plastic bottle and turn it into useful bathroom storage. This Plastic Bottle Bathroom Storage project is perfect for holding makeup, toothbrushes, or cotton balls. It doesn't take up any space on the counter so it's great for small spaces. You could also use this storage container to hold art supplies, sponges in the kitchen, or as a catch all for keys and phones when you walk through the door.

Materials:

- Plastic container - I used a large coffee creamer bottle, but shampoo bottles work great too.
- X-Acto knife
- Safety plug - I'm talking about those plastic plugs that block outlets so kids don't stick their little fingers in them. Or, if you keep your hairdryer (or whatever) plugged in, you could just do that to hold up your container.
- (Optional) Mod Podge, fabric, decorative paper - whatever you would want to dress up your bottle.



Instructions:

1. Remove the label from the bottle. Using a pencil, create an outline on the bottle of where you need to cut. If the edges are rough, you can use some sand paper to smooth them out.
2. If desired, decorate the bottom with paper or fabric and Mod Podge.



3. Attach to safety plug and get to organizing!

Trash to Treasure: 28 Recycled Crafts

Coffee Jug Planter

By: Susan Hamilton from Green eCrafts and Country Living

Recycle an old coffee container by turning it into this Coffee Jug Planter. This upcycled craft is perfect for Earth Day or Labor Day and is a fun way to reuse items you probably have around the house already. So pour yourself a big cup of coffee and get right to making this cute garden craft!



Materials:

- 1 empty, cleaned coffee container 27.8 oz (big size)
- Several 6" dried straight sticks
- 2 pieces long dried branch without leaves
- Glue sticks
- Glue gun
- Portable drill with 1/16 drill bit
- Small manual saw
- Potting soil
- Plant
- 6 dried mini roses or any dried flowers
- Chicken wire
- Needle nose plier
- Basket weave cloth
- Red ribbon

Instructions:

1. Choose dried, straight sticks from the falling limbs of a tree. Cut them 6" long with a manual saw. If the dried stick is big, you can cut it into half.

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2. Drill 5 holes on the cap and 5 holes on the bottom of the container.



3. With a warm glue gun on hand, attach the cap at the bottom. Fill in the gaps with glue, if possible. This will elevate a little bit the pot from the ground, so as not to wet the dried sticks when you water the plant.



4. With a warm glue gun on hand, attach one stick at a time on the side of the container. Fill in the gaps with glue, if possible. Attach other sticks around the container until all the sides are fully filled up. Be sure both ends of the sticks are evenly positioned at the top and bottom.



5. Fill the container with potting soil as you arrange the plant (Peace Lilly) on it. You can choose the kind of plant you like to put in the pot. In this case, I need to make a stand because this plant grows in a vine. Attach 2 dried, long branches together with a plastic tie. Stick it on the center of the pot. If possible, add more soil and then press the soil down to make the dried stick stand.

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6. Cut 1 ½ inches wide and 30 inches long of leftover basket weave cloth (any cloth of your choice will do). Glue it around the container and tie it once.



7. Choose 6 dried roses or any small dried flowers you have. Be very careful in handling dried flowers as they easily tear apart. Arrange them first in your hand as you would like them to appear when glued on the cloth. In flower arranging, there should be the tallest one which is the focal flower, add the taller one, and then the lowest one. Arrange them in vertical levels like they are representing heaven, earth, and humankind in that order. Add other roses following the same principle and cut their stems, if possible.

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8. Have a ribbon that is long enough to make 3 rounds around your 4 fingers as shown in the picture. Provide extra layer of ribbon on both ends. Carefully remove them from your fingers with your thumb holding them.



9. Tie the center with a chicken wire and twist it with a needle nose pliers. Leave an extra layer of ribbon with the same length as the other end before cutting it. Set aside and make another ribbon following the same procedure. Put the 2 ribbons together and twist the chicken wire with a needle nose pliers again. The 4 extra layers of ribbon should be hanging down and then spread out each layer. Position it first where to insert in the middle of the flowers. Cut the extra wire, apply glue, and insert it through the cloth on the center of the flowers.

Water Bottle Storage

By: Michelle for Dilly Dally & Flitter

Upcycle some water bottles into storage instead of letting them sit in landfills. You can have an organized craft room while being green if you recycle containers with water bottle storage.

Materials:

- Plastic Bottles
- Scissors
- Wine corks
- Peg hooks
- Ribbon or fabric and sewing supplies (optional)
- Pegboard

Instructions:

1. Cut off the bottom of any narrow mouth bottle.



2. Next dig up some corks around the house. I used my hand held straight edge razor to notch a star shape into the end.



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3. I then pushed my peg hook into the cork (much easier with the star cuts! trust me!)



4. I decided to dress up the ends and attached a 1.5" grosgrain ribbon... (fabric would be great too!)



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5. Insert the hook into the bottle mouth.



6. OR you can attach the hook to the pegboard and then push the water bottle onto the hook with cork.



Other Great Trash to Treasure Ideas

Missing Key Plant Markers

By: Amanda Formaro

Who would have thought that a random key could be so crafty? If you have a key you're no longer using, use this Missing Key Plant Markers tutorial from Amanda Formaro to create adorable plant stakes. This trash to treasure craft is great for kids and adults.



Materials:

- Recycled keys
- White indoor/outdoor spray paint
- Colorful Sharpie permanent markers

Instructions:

1. Spray paint the keys and allow to dry. Give them a second coat and let them dry again before turning them all over and painting the other side.



2. Write herb names with colorful Sharpies. Then trace over the words, offset just a little, with a black fine point Sharpie. You want to make sure the color shows through.

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3. Use shades of green to draw leaves in different sizes on the keys. I also used pinks, oranges and reds to add a few dots here and there just for colorful accent.



Old Jeans Bracelet

By: Amanda Formaro

Recycle old blue jeans into a funky beaded bracelet with this easy craft idea. The Old Jeans Bracelet is a simple way of recycling clothing, and it costs virtually nothing!

Materials:

- Leg of old blue jeans, any size
- Sewing needle
- Barrel clasp
- 5mm stretchable bead & jewelry cord
- Colorful seed beads
- Hot glue gun
- Scissors



Instructions:

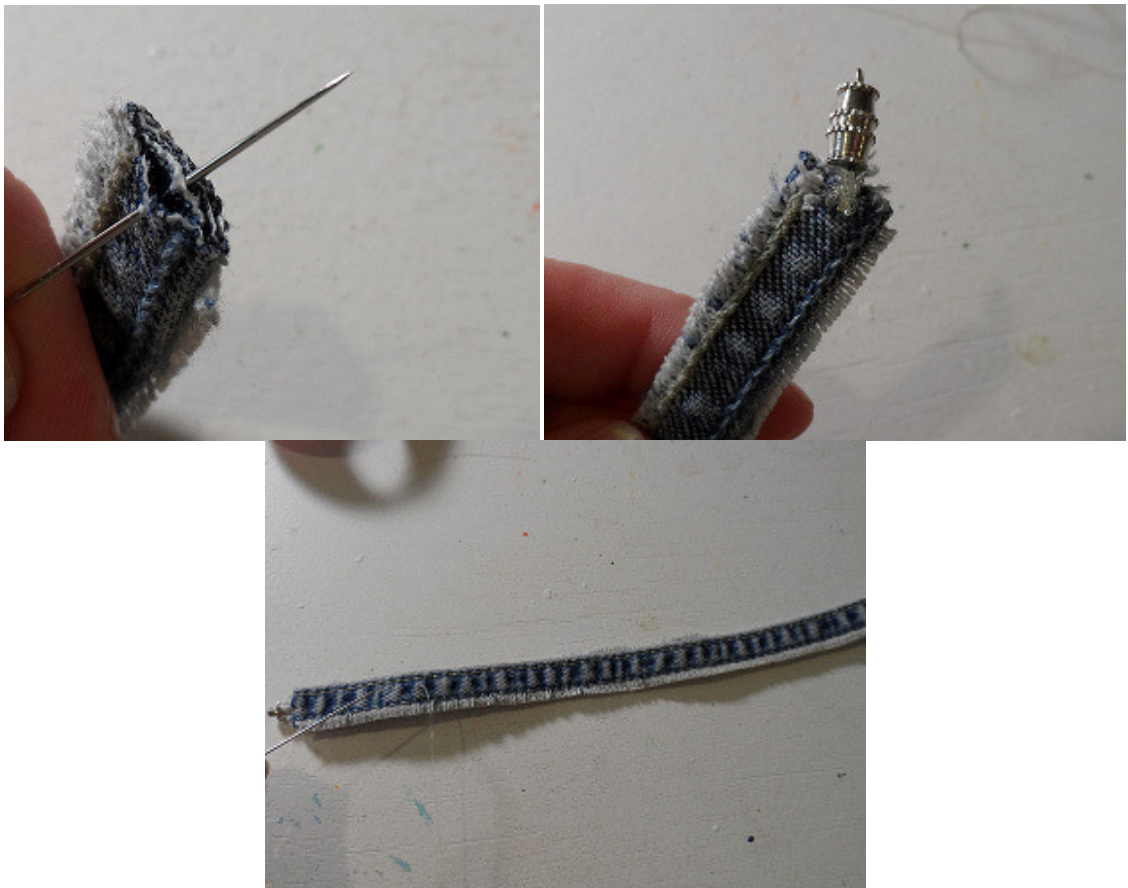
1. You will need the actual seam of the blue jeans for this bracelet. Trim to about 1/4" along both sides of the seam. Cut seam to fit wrist, keep it a little loose, like a bangle and remember to account for the clasp.



2. Pull threads along the edges of the seam to fray the denim.



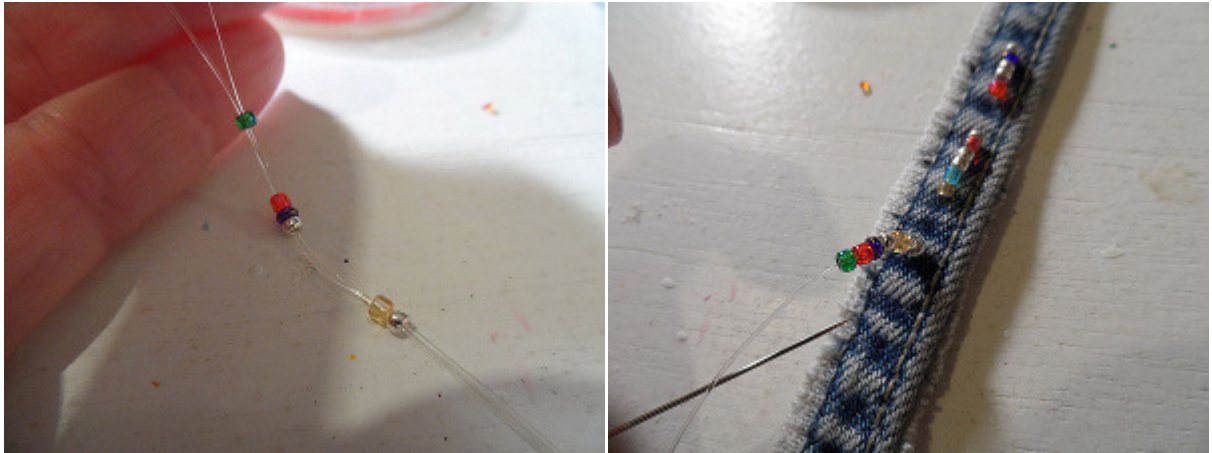
3. Thread a sewing needle with jewelry cord. From the back of the denim, run the needle in and up through the center where your clasp will go. Run the needle and cord through the loop in the clasp and sew several times, tie off. Secure clasp with a little hot glue. Repeat for the other end of the denim.



4. Thread needle through the back of the denim and pull taught. Thread 6-8 seed beads onto the needle and slide down the jewelry cord until the touch the denim. Lay the cord and beads down on the denim to gauge where to insert the needle and run the cord through to the back.

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5. Run in back up through to the front side about half an inch from where the last set ended, repeat the beading as in the first set. Continue this until you have as many beads as you like. Tie off and secure end with a little hot glue.



Hint: The easiest way to thread the beads onto the needle is to poke the needle into the bead and lift. Some beads may be too small to fit over the eye of the needle as seeds beads do vary slightly in size.



Illuminating Cake Stand

By: Jamielyn Nye for I Heart Nap Time

Here's a "bright" idea! Trash to treasure decor is always fun and inspiring, and this Illuminating Cake Stand from Jamielyn Nye is proof of that! Made from an old chandelier, this cupcake chandelier stand will be the highlight of any party tablescape!

Materials:

- Old chandelier
- Wire cutters
- Super glue
- Wooden craft circles
- Curvy plate
- Primer
- Spray paint
- Pearl trim or ribbon

Instructions:

1. First snip off all the wires with wire cutters and unscrew the top. Next, super glue wooden circles onto the legs. Then glue a curvy plate to the top.





2. Once the glue is set, take the chandelier outside and give it a good coat of primer. Then spray paint it with your choice of color...we used a dusty light pink. Once it is all dry, trim the circles with pearls or ribbon.



Recycled CD Coasters

By: Amanda Formaro

These fun Recycled CD Coasters from Amanda Formaro are a great way to put old CD's to good use. This fun collection of coasters makes a great gift and is so budget friendly. CD crafts like this are also great for group activities and craft nights with your kids.



Materials:

- Recycled CDs or DVDs
- Colorful fabric
- Sand paper
- White spray primer
- Felt
- Hot glue gun
- Sharp scissors
- Mod Podge Hard Surface

Instructions:

1. Lightly sand off the side of the CD that has a design or writing on it. You don't have to sand everything off, just take the gloss coat off. Trace a CD onto your fabric. Repeat for as many different fabrics you want to use.



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2. Spray 2 coats of primer onto the CDs, allowing for proper dry time in between coats.

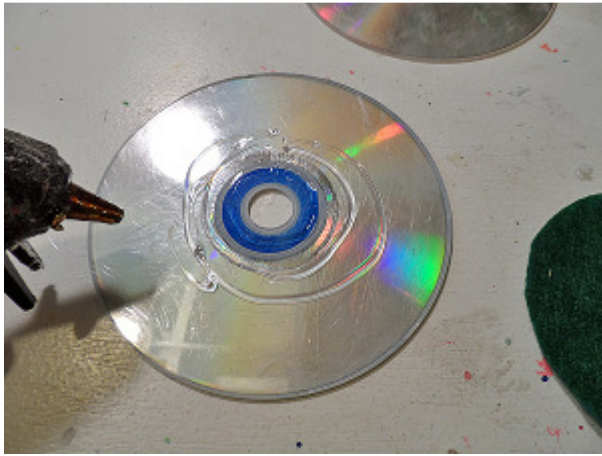


3. Cut the circles out of the fabric, cutting them a little smaller than the traced circle to allow for some "border" around your coasters.
4. For each coaster, cut a 3-inch circle from the felt.



5. When primer is dry, hot glue the felt circles to the bottom of the CDs.

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6. To the top of the CD add a coat of Mod Podge. Gently press the fabric circle onto the coated CD and press out any wrinkles or creases. Allow to dry for 20 minutes before continuing.



7. Apply two coats of Mod Podge to the top of the CD over the fabric, allow 2 hours dry time in between coats.



favecrafts

Filled with tons of creative ways to turn your trash into treasure, this creative crafting guide will help you declutter your home, organize your living space, and even show you how to make your very own home accents using items that are in your recycling bin right now!

Included in this eBook:



- Tin Can Organizer
- Tee Shirt Fringe Scarf
- Paper Tube Lavender Sachet
- Watercolored Coffee Filter Roses
- Recycled CD Coasters

