

Homemade

Christmas

Ornaments



9 Tutorials for Easy Ornaments

Homemade Christmas Ornaments: 9 Tutorials for Easy Ornaments

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Letter from the Editor

Hello Holiday Crafters,

When I was growing up, trimming the tree was a special occasion in my home. My mom would turn up the Christmas music loud enough to fill the whole house, and we would set hot chocolate boiling while she hauled out boxes of Christmas ornaments. My favorite part was hearing the stories behind each ornament; nearly all of my mother's Christmas ornaments were handmade by friends or family members. The love and care that went into making each ornament made our Christmas tree that much more personal and special.

This year, AllFreeHolidayCrafts invites you to add a handmade touch to your Christmas tree with nine adorable ornament tutorials. All of these ornaments are easy enough that you can make a whole bunch of them at once. Give them away individually as gifts, or use a whole batch of the same ornament to give your Christmas tree a cohesive feel.

Whether your style is country or modern, elegant or cutesy, you're sure to find an ornament you'll fall in love with in this collection.

Happy Crafting,

Jessica, Editor of AllFreeHolidayCrafts

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You can find more ornament tutorials and Christmas crafts at www.AllFreeHolidayCrafts.com.

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Hot Air Balloon Ornament

By Rena from The Cheese Thief

Turn a basic plastic ornament into a truly whimsical homemade Christmas decoration with this tutorial. This is one of our favorite Christmas ornament crafts. Anything unique with a touch of fantasy is a winner in our book. Find out how to make your own hot air balloon ornament with these step-by-step instructions.



Materials:

- Glue stick
- Scotch tape
- Scissors or a craft knife
- 2 Pennies or 1 nickel (optional)
- 2 pieces of string (6" each)
- 1 loop screw
- 1 Plastic ball ornament
- Basket template** - When you cut out the template, it is easiest to fold over the basket portion and cut them on top of each other. That way both pieces are exactly the same shape. You could cut

them out separately, but the pieces may not align if you don't cut them perfectly.

** An alternative if you don't want to make a the basket out of paper is to use a plastic soda bottle cap and paint it brown. Hot glue the strings to it.

Instructions:

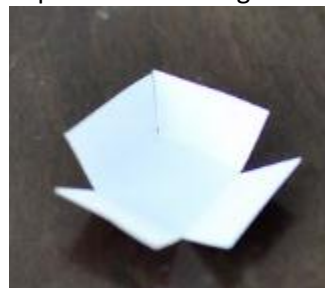
- 1) When you cut out the template, you can mark an X on the non-patterned side so you know which sides align. Fold the basket as shown:



- 2) Remove the top basket and tape a nickel, two pennies, or anything that will weigh down the basket.

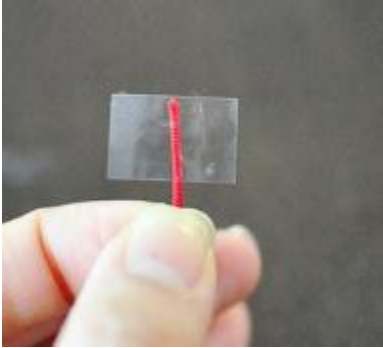


- 3) Tape one corner together.



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- 4) Attach tape to string.



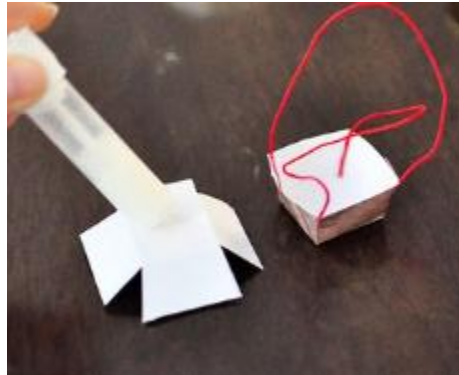
- 5) Attach string to corner that was taped in step 3.



- 6) Repeat steps 4 - 6 for opposite corner.



- 7) Repeat with other string on other two corners of basket. Make sure string is even or else basket will not be level when attached. Use glue stick on the top part of basket and place top part of basket inside the basket. This will give the inside and outside of the basket the same pattern, and it will look more finished.



- 8) Glue the "trim" strip and place around top of basket.



- 9) Remove the "cap" of the plastic ornament.



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- 10) Place the string in an "X" position on the cap of the ornament (see image):



- 11) Make sure basket is level.



- 12) Screw the loop screw into the "bottom" of the ornament (bottom of ornament is now top of hot air balloon). You may need to pre-drill a small hole if your ornament is thick.



- 13) Attach basket to ornament by placing "cap" back on.





Cut along grey lines, fold along orange lines.

Chocoholic's Dream Ornament

By Michelle Edwards from Sweet Something Designs

Craving something sweet? Save yourself the calories and learn how to make Christmas decorations that look like candy instead. This Chocoholic's Dream Ornament is so realistic, it makes us want to eat it. Create the perfect dripping chocolate effect with this homemade Christmas ornament tutorial.



Materials:

- Glass ball ornament
- Glue gun with extra glue sticks
- Pencil
- Chocolate brown spray paint
- Mod Podge
- White glitter (or glitter that looks like sugar)
- Red craft berries

- Crushed peppermint sticks or candy canes
- Checked ribbon

Instructions:

- 1) Whip out the glue gun, load it up, and keep the sticks handy, because this step will take a lot of sticks. Begin by taking the little metal hanger out of the ornament, so you can stick a pencil (eraser side down) into the ornament to keep it steady.



- 2) Next, start right along the top and glob on the glue, letting it run, working your way around the entire ornament, until you've got something that looks like this:



- 3) I use the pencils as a cooling rack and stick them wherever I can find a place until they cool. The glue looks cloudy when it's cool.



- 4) Now you are ready to paint. I highly recommend this type of spray paint, because it is a specialty paint that has the perfect shade of brown. I haven't tried regular spray paint, but this is the perfect chocolate brown.



- 5) Use Mod Podge to coat the runny area only.



6) Quickly sprinkle glitter on.



8) I added a little ribbon string and bow in the cutest check ribbon.



7) With little red craft berries and crushed peppermint sticks, I decorated the top of the chocolate ornament. I did a random gluing of the berries and candy cane; you can do as much or as little as you want.



Penguins on Skis Ornaments

By [Suzy Myers](#) from Suzy's Artsy-Craftsy Sitcom

What could be cuter than a Christmas penguin ornament? How about these Penguins on Skis Ornaments? If you love cute homemade Christmas ornaments, then these are definite must-makes. Find out how to make your own pair with this tutorial.



Materials:

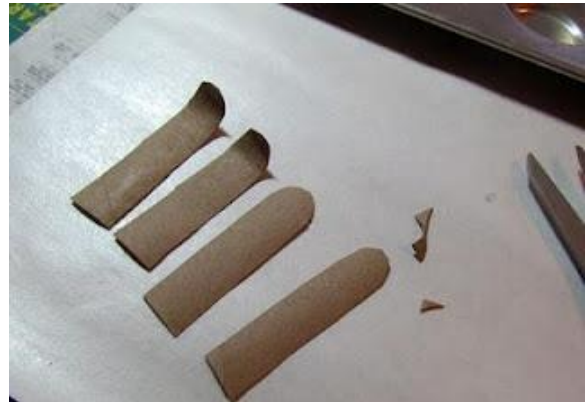
- Blown chicken eggs
- Acrylic Paint
- Toilet paper roll
- Colored cardstock for beaks, wings, feet, and earmuffs
- Round toothpicks
- Tacky glue
- Hot glue
- Ribbon
- Mod Podge
- Clear glitter

Instructions:

1) These chicken eggs were blown first. You can use the old-fashioned method of punching holes in the top and bottom of the egg, stirring the yolk with a toothpick, and blowing the contents out. I used my little

muffin pan as a drying station. It keeps the eggs from doing what they tend to do—roll around.

- 2) I began by painting each egg black.
- 3) I then cut two sets of skis from the toilet paper tube. I cut the skis about 3" long and about 3/8" wide and rounded the top end of each. Then I curved the rounded end up and painted them with acrylic paint on both sides.



- 4) Using a tiny brush and white acrylic paint, I then painted a snowflake on each ski. Then I set them aside to dry.



- 5) For the ski poles, I cut one of the pointed ends off of round toothpicks and painted them silver. An easy way to paint them without making a huge mess is to stick them into a Styrofoam ball, then when one

end is dry, reverse them and paint the other end.



- 6) Paint a white belly on each egg and two white eyes. When dry, paint in the pupils.



- 7) Cut a diamond-shaped piece of orange cardstock, fold it in half for the beak, and glue on with tacky glue.



- 8) Cut feet out of the orange cardstock and wings out of black cardstock. Glue them on using hot glue. Glue the skins onto the feet with hot glue, and glue the pole into his "hands" with tacky glue. Make earmuffs by quilling a 1/4" strip of cardstock into a tight quill and glue. Cut an 1/8" strip for the earmuff band and glue down at each earmuff with tacky glue.

- 9) Finally, make a loop with ribbon, and glue it to his head with hot glue. This will be for hanging him on the tree. If you just want him for a shelf-sitter, skip this step.



- 10) Now coat the entire thing with a good coating of Mod Podge. This will add a finished shine to him and stiffen all the cardstock. Be sure to coat everything. Once this has dried, add more Mod Podge to the white belly and sprinkle some clear glitter on for a bit of sparkle.



Brush Beard Santa Ornaments

By [Suzy Myers](#) from Suzy's Artsy-Craftsy Sitcom

These Brush Beard Santa Ornaments just go to show you that you can find inspiration for homemade Christmas ornaments just about anywhere! The bristles of an ordinary paintbrush make a perfect beard for this clever Santa Claus craft. Find out how you can make these Christmas ornament crafts for your own tree by following the tutorial linked below.



Materials:

- One 2-1/2" paint brush
- Wax paper
- Acrylic paints
- Cardstock in white, red, and green
- Quilling tool
- Ribbon
- Clear acrylic spray
- White glue

Instructions:

- 1) Begin by dipping your 2-1/2" paintbrush into white paint, coating both sides of the bristles thickly. Lay it on wax paper to dry. You will probably have to turn it over once one side is dry so that the other side can have equal opportunity. It took mine about 12 hours to dry completely.

- 2) Now, using peach-colored acrylic paint, paint the metal part of the front of your ornament. (One side will have 2-1/2" inscribed on the metal; make this your backside). It may take a couple coats of paint to get the coverage you desire.



- 3) Add two touches of red paint to the wet peach paint and blend in for color in Santa's cheeks. Paint the backside of the metal part white. Paint the handle red. This will most likely take several coats, and you will need to do both sides.



- 4) Once all the base coats were dry, I added a plaid pattern to his hat using overlapping cross-hatching and several other colors. This pattern is totally up to you. In all actuality, the hat can just be red.



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- 5) Next, I painted in the eyes.



- 6) Once all the paint is dry, it is time to add the quilled paper. Cut strips of 1/4" white cardstock. I started by making tight coils for the hat trim. Use your quilling tool to coil a strip of paper tightly. Add a dab of white glue to the end and hold for a moment to allow the coil to stay. Then glue along the rim of the hat, creating the trim.



- 7) To create his eyebrows, cut the 14" strip of paper in half and then coil it with the quilling tool. Allow the coil to loosen, then tack it with white glue. Pinch each end of your coil and shape in a U shape. Glue down over his eyes.

- 8) His nose is made with a small length of 1/4" wide red cardstock. Coil tightly, and then glue down.



- 9) Create his mustache by creating loose coils and pinching on one end. Glue down.



- 10) The ivy leaves are created with loose coils of green, pinched on each end, and then pinched again in the middle. The berries are tight coils of red 1/8" thick cardstock.

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- 11) His hair is created by cutting a 1-1/2" thick strip of white paper. Using scissors, cut a fringe, stopping the cut at about 1/8" from the top. Glue this fringe at the top of the metal piece on the paintbrush, starting with one side of his face and working your way around the back, to the other side of the face. Once the glue has dried, you can use your quilling tool to curl the individual strips of hair.



- 12) Spray the entire ornament with clear acrylic spray, and when it is dry, add a contrasting bow to the hole in his hat.



Peppermint Lollipop Ornaments

By Sheryl Hastings from Sher's Creative Space

These Peppermint Lollipop Christmas Ornaments are so easy to make from fabric and buttons, and they look like delectable candy hanging from your Christmas tree. The best part about these lollipops is that you can use them year after year.



Materials:

- 1/4 yard of red (thin) striped fabric
- 6 - 6" lollipop sticks
- 6 - 3-3/4" x 6" clear treat bags
- 6 - 14" pieces of ribbon (red, green, or white)
- 6 - 5/8" to 1" buttons (red or white)
- 1 sheet of white card stock
- Craft glue or a hot glue gun
- Heavy or metallic thread for hanger
- Red or white sewing thread
- Needles, scissors, pencil, ruler

Instructions:

- 1) Iron your fabric. Cut out 6 - 6-1/4" circles from the red and white striped fabric and 6 - 2-3/4" circles from the cardstock. You can make a pattern of these circle sizes or you can raid your kitchen cabinets and find a

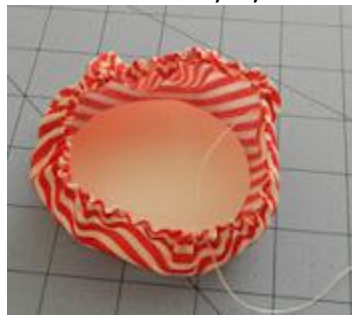
bowl or lid that will be the exact dimensions for you to trace around. Be sure to draw your tracings on the wrong side of the fabric.



- 2) Thread your needle with enough thread to go around your circle and make a knot. If you are using all-purpose thread you will want to double it so it will have more strength when you gather. Turn the outer edge of your fabric circle about 1/4" to the wrong side. Begin stitching and turning the edge under as you go. Make your stitches at least 1/4" long and 1/4" apart.



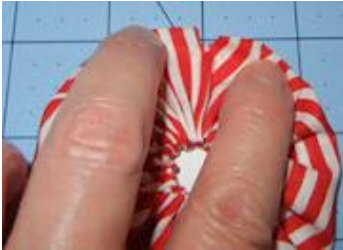
- 3) Stitch all the way around your circle. When you get to the end, begin gathering up your stitching. Slip your 2-3/4" piece of cardstock inside, then continue gathering until you have closed the "yo-yo."



- 4) You will have a tiny hole in the center. Tie off and clip threads.



- 5) Make a tiny 1/4" slit in the bottom of your yo-yo. I like to make mine so that the stripes on the back will be up and down when hanging.



- 6) Drop a dab of glue in the center of your yo-yo onto the cardstock beneath. Slip your lollipop stick up through the little slit you just made until it reaches the glue; let dry.



- 7) Run some glue along the gathered edge of the hole and place the button on top of that.



- 8) Slip the clear treat bag over your lollipop and tie in place with a piece of ribbon. Make a bow and then trim the tails at an angle.



- 9) Cut about 10" of heavy or metallic thread. Thread a large-eyed needle. Bring the needle through along the upper edge of the lollipop (about 1/2" wide stitch). Be sure to go through the fabric and the plastic because the plastic will not be strong enough to hold the ornament and will eventually break through. Tie a knot in the string so that you have about a 3" hole to use for hanging. Trim excess thread close to knot.



Easy Sew Bird Ornaments

By Melony Miller Bradley from Mel Designs

Holiday cheer will be soaring throughout your home with these Easy Sew Christmas Bird Ornaments. With a few simple sewing steps, you'll have beautiful Christmas birds that you can personalize with your own special holiday message. These felt Christmas ornaments are adorable, lightweight, and will fit in with your other DIY Christmas ornaments.



Materials:

- Fabric scraps
- Felt Scraps
- Disappearing ink fabric pen
- Ribbon
- Leftover embellishments
- 6/0 pebble bead for eye
- Holiday greeting stamps
- Pigment or solvent ink
- Fabric glue
- Sewing machine and thread
- Fiberfill stuffing
- BigShot die cutting machine by Sizzix
- Bird with Wings Bigz die from Sizzix



Instructions:

- 1) First, you will need to cut two felt birds using the Bird with Wings Bigz Die and the BigShot machine.

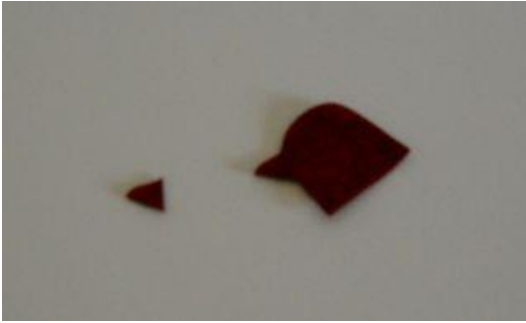


- 2) Trace or draw one wing on a piece of fabric. Use a disappearing ink fabric pen to trace.



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- 3) Use the die and smaller pieces of a wool felt to die-cut a small portion of the bird's head. You will need the beak piece, so be sure to get that onto the felt.



- 4) Cut off the beak piece and glue it onto the whole bird die cut using fabric glue. You will need a "back" and a "front" piece so make sure you do not glue them to the wrong sides of the bird shape.



- 5) Next, use solvent or pigment ink to stamp a holiday sentiment to the one side of the wing. Heat set this with an iron on a low-medium setting.



- 6) Now it's time to sew the pieces together. Start at the bottom of piece and sew with a straight stitch and a contrasting thread. You will sew 3/4 of the shape, leaving a small slit open for stuffing. Sew in a free-form fashion. The point of these birds is the really scrappy look. Sew about 1/4" or more from the edge. Your fabric will begin to slightly unravel, adding to the scrappy look of the ornament.



- 7) Lightly stuff your pieces using a small amount of fiberfill stuffing.

- 8) Once you have your stuffing in place, use the sewing machine to sew the opening closed. Cut a 6" piece of ribbon and glue it to the bird with fabric glue. Double the ribbon, and glue the other end on top of the first end on the front of the bird.



- 9) To finish, use the fabric glue to glue the stuffed wing to the bird over the ribbon ends to hide them. Glue on assorted embellishments such as old earrings, buttons, etc. Glue a 6/0 pebble bead to the bird for the eye.



Country Santa Ornament

By Wendy from Craft Goodies

If you're a fan of classic and slightly rustic-looking homemade Christmas ornaments, you'll enjoy this tutorial for a Country Santa Ornament. With his muslin beard and checkered hat, this Santa Claus craft has a purposely worn look and we love it! Learn how to make your own Christmas ornaments like this one by following these instructions.



Materials:

- a small block or piece of 1" dowel about 2" tall
- black, white, and skin-colored paints
- red ink pad
- scrap pieces of muslin, ivory felt, and something Christmassy
- a small round bead
- glue gun and scissors
- a little something for Santa's hat

Instructions:

- 1) Start by painting the block/dowel and round bead. Once that dries, add the face details to the block/dowel. Blush the top of the bead. Set that aside to dry.



- 2) Next you're going to make the beard pieces. I started with a scrap piece of muslin about 12" long and 5-1/2" wide. Tear the muslin into strips that are 1/2" wide and 5-1/2" long. You are going to need 24 strips total.



- 3) Once all your strips are torn, you are going to tie them in bundles. Lay 3 strips down side-by-side and tie a fourth strip around them in the center. You should end up with 6 bundles. Glue the bundles onto your block/dowel next.

- 4) Hold the bundles in half at the center knot and place the glue onto the knot. Start with the bottom level and glue them in this pattern:

X X
X X X

{You should have 1 bundle left!}



- 7) Get your scrap fabric of "Something Christmassy" and cut it so that it is long enough to wrap completely around the head and stand up off the piece 6-7". Run a line of glue around the top of your block/dowel and attach the fabric. Be sure the fabric overlaps in the back!



- 5) Glue on the round bead between the top two bundles:

BEAD
X X
X X X

- 6) Glue the last bundle on HORIZONTALLY under the nose to make the mustache. Place a little dab of glue on each side of the bead and push the fabric around it. Trim any weird, out of place-looking pieces if needed.



- 8) Turn the piece so that you are looking at the back of it. Open up the hat fabric so that you are looking inside it. Run a big line of glue up the fabric from block to fabric edge. Quickly fold the fabric back into glue and start pinching it together. Scrunch it good! You are creating the folds in the hat, the more you scrunch the better it looks.



- 9) Cut a scrap piece of felt so that it too will wrap all the way around the head and is 1-1/2" wide. Fold the long edges into the center and glue down. This will be the hat band.



- 10) Glue the hat band onto the head, starting and finishing in the back, and covering up the hat line.
- 11) Add an embellishment to the front, wrap some thread/yarn around the top of the hat, tie to make a hanger, and your Country Santa is ready to go!



Trendy Pillow Ornament

By Katie Kortman from Blue-Eyed Freckle

Not all homemade Christmas ornaments have to be holiday-related, or even winter-themed. We love this Trendy Pillow Ornament because it will add a touch of modern style to your Christmas decor. Learn how to make Christmas ornaments just like this by following these easy steps!



Materials:

- 2 kinds of fabric; you will need a little more than double the amount of one of the fabrics
- leather, pleather, ribbon, ricrac, trim... whatever your heart desires
- scissors, sewing machine, hot glue gun (or needle and thread)
- stuffing

Instructions:

- 1) Decide what overall size square you want, and then add 1/4" to all sides (i.e. if you want a 3" square, then it would end up being 3.5 x 3.5").
- 2) Cut 2 squares the same size (your desired dimensions)
- 3) Sew them together with a 1/4" seam (right sides together)
- 4) Trim down ONE of the sides (pick which pattern you want less of), so that the square becomes the right dimensions again (like 3.5 x 3.5").



- 5) Sew your trim/leather down on top of the seam.



- 6) Cut another piece of fabric out as the back (same dimensions).

- 7) Get your trim ready, and make sure it's a big enough loop to go over a needle-y branch.



- 8) Make a sandwich, putting the trim loop in one of the corners. PIN DOWN.



- 9) Sew around all sides, leaving a small space on one of the sides.
- 10) Turn right side out and stuff it.

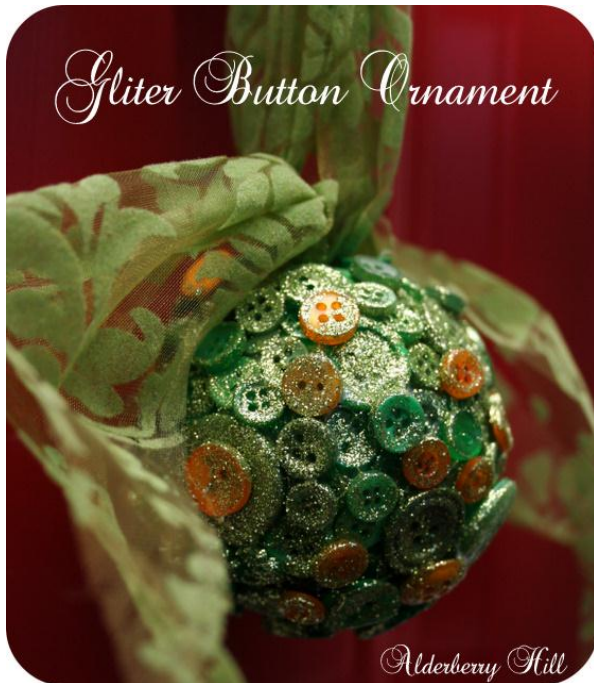
- 11) Hot glue or hand-sew the opening shut.



Buttons and Sparkles Ball Ornament

By Sarah Gill from [Alderberry Hill](#)

Isn't it amazing the things you can create with just a few craft supplies? This pretty Buttons and Sparkles Ball Ornament is a piece of cake to put together and is one of those simple Christmas crafts for kids that they'll love to make! Find out how to make your own Christmas ornaments like these with this tutorial.



Materials:

- Styrofoam ball, any size
- Assorted green and yellow buttons
- Hot glue
- Wide ribbon
- Mod Podge
- Glitter

Instructions:

- 1) Start hot gluing the buttons to the Styrofoam ball, overlapping where necessary for a layered effect. I added the yellow buttons last; I thought a little contrasting color looked nice.



- 2) Once I had the ball covered, I added a really wide ribbon for the hanger.
- 3) I painted a light coat of Mod Podge over the buttons and then sprinkled the glitter on. Glitter makes everything better!



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Included in this eBook:

- Sparkly Christmas Tree Ornaments
- Rustic Santa Ornaments
- Easy Sew Ornaments



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Suzy Myers from [Suzy's Artsy-Craftsy Sitcom](#)
Sheryl Hastings from [Sher's Creative Space](#)

Melony Miller Bradley from [Mel Designs](#)
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