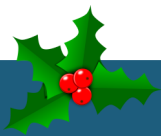




CHRISTMAS CRAFTS





CRAFT

FESTIVE EGG BOX DECORATIONS

WHAT DO I NEED?

Empty egg box	Glue	Dark pen or pencil	Paint brush
Coloured paint	Scissors	Coloured paper or card	



1

Cut three of the cups from the egg box, making the edge as neat as possible.



2

Paint the three egg cups with the colour of your choice—for example, green for a tree, red for Santa, brown for a reindeer or white for a snowman.



3

Stack the three egg cups on top of one another. To get extra height you can pop some crumpled up paper or cotton wool between layers.



4

Add on some features such as a face, arms and a hat for the snowman or a star and some baubles made from coloured paper for the Christmas tree.



5



Our reindeer has a red nose like Rudolph and big antlers.

6



Our Christmas tree is covered in circles made from coloured paper but you could decorate yours any way you like. Our star has been attached on a cocktail stick.

Egg boxes are usually made from recycled paper and cardboard.

Create your own festive scene with other ideas such as Santa with some elves, or Rudolph and all the other reindeer.



CRAFT

CHRISTMAS GIFT WRAP



WHAT DO I NEED?

Brown parcel paper
(or any scrap paper)

Scissors

Paint brush

Coloured paint

Dark pen or
pencil



1



Cut the brown paper to the size of gift wrap you want to make.

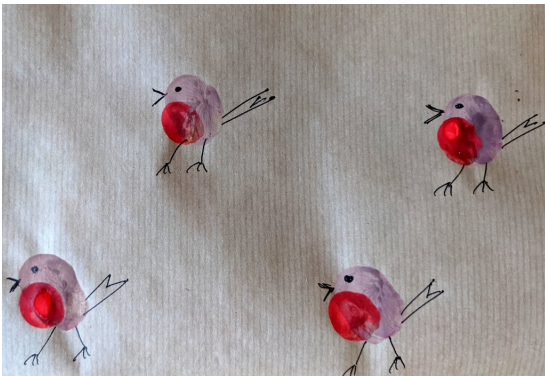
Dip your finger in some brown paint and make evenly spaced fingerprint marks over the paper.

2



Dip a clean finger into some red paint and overlay a red fingerprint mark over each brown one—to create a robin's red breast. Allow to dry.

3



Use a dark pen or pencil to add an eye, beak, tail and legs to each robin.

4



Your gift wrap is now ready to use, so when you are ready—wrap up your present.



5



You could create a different design using different colours. We made gannet paper using white and yellow paint.

6



Optionally, you can forage for some eco-friendly materials to embellish your present—for example, twine, pine cones, springs of holly or other festive greenery.



Brown parcel paper is normally made from recycled materials and is easy to recycle or compost after use.



Creating your own gift wrap gives your present the personal touch.



Using natural decoration such as foliage and twine helps avoid generating waste that ends up in landfill.



POPCORN GARLAND

DRIED ORANGE SLICES

CINNAMON STICK BUNDLES

PINE CONE TREES



CRAFT

4 CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

WHAT DO I NEED?

Oranges	Knife	A large tray
Cinnamon sticks	Popcorn	Needle, thread and scissors
Ribbon or twine	Pine cones	White paint and a fine paint brush



1



Firstly, to make a popcorn garland, tie a knot in the end of your thread. Thread the needle and begin to thread the popcorn pieces onto the thread by passing the needle through the centre of each piece.

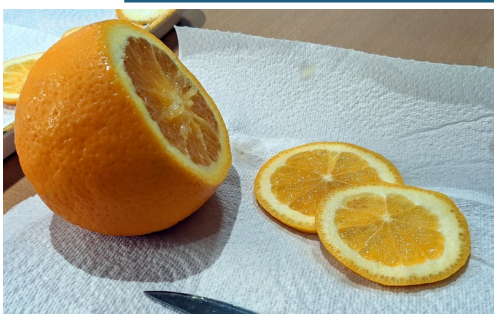
2



Keep threading on the popcorn pieces, gently pushing them closely together. Optionally, you could intersperse the popcorn with dried cranberries, bay leaves or other natural items. Finish off with another knot.

3

To make dried orange slices, take a couple of large oranges. With great care (and adult supervision for children) use a sharp knife to cut thin, even slices (about 2 or 3 mm thick).



4

Dab each slice with a cloth or kitchen roll to remove excess moisture. Lay each slice flat on the tray (which can be lined with absorbent paper). Once you have all your slices laid out flat, place the tray in a warm dry place, like an airing cupboard, for couple of weeks, until slices are dry.





5



To make the cinnamon stick bundles, wrap your twine, wool or ribbon tightly around five cinnamon sticks. Start and finish off with a knot or bow.

6



You can add embellishments of your choice— from a simple loop for hanging the decoration up, to a bow or a festive feature like the piece of star anise in the photo.

7



To make the pine cone trees, simply take a few clean, dry pine cones and add 'snow-tips' using white paint. Optionally, add on additional colour or decoration, such as a paper star at the top.

8



You can either use the pine cone trees as they are or you could attach a loop of thread and hang them on the Christmas tree. Alternatively, make a stand from a cork or small piece of wood.

These decorations can be added to wreaths or Christmas trees, as well as placed on surfaces like window sills and mantle pieces. Have fun making them!





CRAFT

CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

WHAT DO I NEED?

Brown paper, used gift wrap or any scrap paper

Glue

String or ribbon

Toilet roll tubes or cut-down kitchen roll tubes

Cracker snaps (optional)

Paper and pen

Tissue paper or newspaper

Other fillers of your choice



1

Cut the brown paper or gift wrap to the correct size by lining up three cardboard tubes along the paper and making sure the paper will cover them in both length and width. Allow around 3cm overlap for width around the tube.



2



Once your paper has been cut to size, line up three cardboard rolls inside it again. Then glue along one long edge of the paper before rolling it over to stick onto the other long edge of paper.

3

Your three tubes are now wrapped snugly within a tube of paper—with the ends still open. If you are adding in a cracker snap, do that now by feeding it through the tubes and securing with a dab or two of glue.



4

Now, to make the cracker shape—pull the cardboard tube from one of the ends slightly away from the centre roll (without removing it completely). Slightly crease and twist between the two rolls.





5

Take a piece of string or ribbon and tie it around the creased twist. Make a bow and remove the end cardboard tube completely.



6

Now you can fill the cracker from the untied end with what ever you want to put inside. This could be paper hats made from tissue paper or newspaper, slips of paper with a fact or joke or homemade sweets.



7

Shake the contents into the centre tube then repeat steps 4 and 5 to twist the second end, tie with a string or ribbon bow and remove the end tube.



8

If the ends are unequal, use scissors to even them up. Optionally, add some embellishment to the centre of the cracker.



Note: you can make as many crackers as you want but you will need two more inner tubes than the total number of crackers. So if you want to make six crackers, for example, you will need eight tubes.



MERRY CHRISTMAS!