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#### Letter from the Editors

Dear Reader,

As you might imagine, the editors here at FaveCrafts love craft blogs! We continue to read an ever-growing list of blogs and discover new sources for creativity each week. Publishing guest features in the form of projects, tutorials, tips, and blog posts gives the FaveCrafts team a wonderful opportunity to share our favorite bloggers with our readers. Our goal has always been to create and nurture a vibrant and varied community of crafters, from designers and manufacturers to those just learning how to knit.

In that spirit, this Easter Craft eBook is dedicated entirely to bloggers. With the contributions of craft bloggers, we have created this fun crafting resource for Easter. We hope you enjoy reading as much as we enjoyed putting this together.

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

Our eBooks, like all our craft projects, are absolutely FREE to members of our crafting community. Please feel free to share with family and friends and ask them to sign up at our website for our free e-mail newsletter.

We hope you enjoy reading and creating!

Sincerely,

# The Editors of FaveCrafts

www.FaveCrafts.com

www.FaveCraftsBlog.com

# <u>Acknowledgements</u>

We would like to thank these bloggers for contributing to the eBook:

Megan of **Boutique Nutmeg Designs** 

Mama King of <u>4 Crazy Kings</u>

Heather of **Small Fry & Co**.

Amanda Cusick of Kitschy Coo

Anjeanette of Roots and Wings Co.

Heidi Borchers of **Inspired At Home** 

Kira of **Tangarang** 

Kerstin of duckyknits

June Scroggin of Junie Moon

Chica of Chica and Jo

Cindy Hopper of Skip to My Lou

Terri O. of Online with Terri O

Se7en

Thank you for sharing your ideas and continuing to inspire us in crafting.

**Happy Easter!** 



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# Easter Bunny Appliqué Pillow by Megan of Boutique Nutmeg Designs

Using colorful spring fabric, create a bunny appliqué pillow perfect for Easter decor. Embroidered "Hoppy Easter" completes this cute throw pillow. This project comes to us compliments of Megan Newton of <a href="Boutique Nutmeg Designs">Boutique Nutmeg Designs</a>. She sells beautiful handbags, totes and other sewn masterpieces at her <a href="Etsy shop">Etsy shop</a>.





### **Materials:**

- Sewing Machine
- Iron
- Thread
- Embroidery Floss
- Ruler
- Scissors



- Straight Pins
- 20-2" squares 4 each of 5 different colors
- 2- 10" x 10" squares solid color fabric or linen
- 3 color scrap pieces for bunny body
- Wonder under
- 1 small white pom pom
- Poly fill/fiber stuffing
- Pencil

#### Optional but Very Helpful Items

- Self Healing Cutting Mat
- Rotary Cutter

#### Instructions:

1. Begin with all of your fabric pieces cut. Then trace the bunny body pattern from <a href="the template">the template</a> on to the backside of the wonder under. Using the iron setting stated on wonder under information sheet. Iron wonder under to fabric color of your choice for the bunny body.





2. Start by cutting out the large circle, measure 3" from the bottom edge of the 10'x10" square, find the center and iron circle into place, stitch around the edge with the sewing machine.



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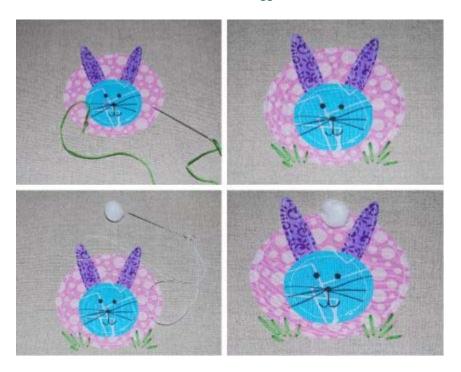
3. Iron ears in to place and stitch around, then follow with small circle for head, iron into place and stitch around. Using a black textile marker draw a cute little face on your bunny!



4. Using green embroidery thread stitch some grass around bunny body. Then using the white pompom stitch bunny tail into place.



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5. Measuring 2" from the left side edge use a pencil to sketch out "Hoppy Easter." Use embroidery thread of your color choice to stitch the letters. I used a back stitch and added a few green pieces of grass to the sides!



6. To create points: Use 2" x 2" squares, fold in half diagonally then fold again and iron flat. Pin one of each of the 5 colors to the edge of the front panel. Repeat for all 4 sides.



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7. Once all points are pinned in to place stitch down, and then remove pins. Using 2nd 10" x10" square place on top side and pin all the edges in to place. Using a ¼" seam stitch all around the square leaving a 3" opening to turn to pillow right side out.



8. Snip all corners. Then pull right side through the small hole. Continue until the piece is all right side out. Iron edges flat, then use a ¼" seam to top stitch edge of pillow. Remember to leave opening so you can fill with stuffing.



9. Once you have pillow filled to desired fullness, pin the opening shut and continue ¼" seam to sew shut.



# Easter Table Favor Cups by Mama King of 4 Crazy Kings

This wonderful Easter craft project comes to us compliments of the ever-creative Mama King of <u>4 Crazy Kings</u>. She recycles plastic snack-size fruit cups (like individual applesauce containers) to create adorable Easter favors for table place settings. Create a tulip favor cup or an Easter bunny cup cleverly hiding a lollipop. What a great idea to recycle materials for Easter crafts!



#### **Materials:**

- 1 Plastic snack size fruit bowl/cup for each guest or table setting
- Felt
- Scissors
- Craft Glue or Glue Gun
- Easter Basket Filler
- Egg for Each Cup (Either Plastic or Real. You can write each guests name on the egg with a paint pen. If using plastic fill with jelly beans, a message or stickers.)
- Lollipop (For grass basket)
- Ribbon
- <u>Tem</u>plate

Level: Moderate

Age 8 (Younger with Adult assistance)

#### Instructions:

**Bunny Hiding in the Grass** 

Grass Cup: Start with one clean snack cup. Measure five to six 2"w x 3.5"h sections of green felt for grass. Fringe along top. Hot glue works best but a good quality craft glue works as well. Overlap sections as you go. When dry trim top to desired length. Tie ribbon around middle/top of cup (you can glue gun in place.) Fill with jelly beans.



<u>Bunny Cozy</u>: Print out template (below). Cut out two bunny shapes. On one of the bunnies cut mouth detail. Cut out and Glue teeth to inside of bunny shape with mouth cut out. Run a glue bead around the edge of one bunny -- don't forget to glue the ears together. Sandwich the bunnies together. Add ear inserts and nose. I drew on eyes but you can glue on felt eyes or buttons. When dry cozy should fit over a standard size flat lollipop. I folded back the extra plastic wrapping on the lolli before I tucked it into the bunny. Stick bunny in grass cup.





**Tulip Favor Cup** 



Start with clean snack cup. Cut out 6 petals (I provided a template -- but you don't really need one.) Hot glue works best when gluing felt to plastic. To make look tulip like, glue down one petal then glue two petal on top to create a v shape. See picture. Turn to other side and repeat. Cut out a strip of green felt or you can use ribbon to create handle. Pinking shears might add a nice decorative touch. Fill with Easter basket filler and place a real or plastic egg inside. Use a paint pen to add guests name. Fill plastic egg with jelly beans or stickers.



## Fabric Easter Basket by Heather of Small Fry & Co

Heather from Small Fry & Co, the blog with the most adorable baby pictures in the blogosphere, shows us how to create a fabric Easter basket for your little one or anyone. The extensive step-by-step photos make sewing this Easter tote a snap. She even shares where to find a great tutorial for the fabric flowers adorning each side of the basket. This soft fabric basket would be perfect for an Easter egg hunt.



#### **Materials:**

- 4 circle pieces 7 1/4" in diameter. 2 out of the heavy weight stabilizer, and two fabric.
- 4 handle pieces 16x 2 1/2". 2 of these are cut from the fusible fleece and 2 of the fabric
- 1 22 x 6 1/2" piece of heavy weight stabilizer (found near the interfacing in the fabric store except it is really thick about the same weight as light weight cardboard) for the side of the basket
- 1 22 x 6 1/2 " piece of fusible fleece (also found near the interfacing) for the side
- 2 22 x 7 " pieces of fabric for the outside and the inside of the basket (can be the same or different)

#### Steps:

**Step 1**: After all your pieces are cut you want to put the piece of the stabilizer and fleece for the side of the basket together. You can fuse the fleece to the stabilizer if you want then sew around all the edges with a 1/4" seam.





**Step 2**: Take the 2 fabric side pieces and put the right sides together. Sew a 1/4" seam along one long edge. Back stitch at the start and stop. Press the seam open. Then turn the fabric right side out wrong sides together now and press the seam flat.



**Step 3**: Now take the stabilizer/fleece piece and slip it inside the fabric side piece. Pin the bottom (open) edge and sew a 1/4 inch seam. (This will have an unfinished edge but it will be sewn to another piece later. I ended up with the unfinished edge on the inside bottom of my basket which didn't bother me).



**Step 4**: Next I wanted to sew something through the middle of this piece to give it a quilted look. I marked off angled lines to form triangles. I marked these with pins and then sewed. This means you have to eyeball your seam. If you want, you can lightly draw a line with a fabric pencil.





(The stitching lines are visible in these pictures because I took the pictures after I sewed the lines) Start sewing at one end, sew down to the pin, pivot (leave needle down in the fabric and lift the presser foot and turn the fabric) and sew up to the next pin. Repeat until you get to the end. Back stitch start and stop.





**Step 5**: Bring the two ends of the side piece together with whatever side you want as the outside of the finished basket, on the inside. Pin the end and sew a 1/4" seam.



**Step 6:** Turn the side piece right side out now. I decided that I wanted to put some trim around the top of my basket. I had some bias tape that I decided to pin around the top and stitch down

with a zig zag stitch. Because the top edge is finished you don't really have to put any decoration on it if you don't want to.







**Step 7**: Cut out your bottom circle pieces. I traced a circle drawer that I had that was the perfect size. You want the bottom circle pieces to be slightly bigger around than the side piece. Put all 4 circle pieces together (fabric, stabilizers, fabric fabric has the right sides out). Sew a 1/4" seam around the outside edge of the circle, back stitch start and stop.







**Step 8**: With the wrong side of the basket side piece out, pin the bottom circle to the bottom edge (right sides together). It is important when pinning circles together to know that it is very hard to avoid some bumps and tucks. I have just come to accept these as part of the process. Sew around the edge again with a 1/4 inch seam. Remember back stitching.



I trimmed my seam allowance down as close to the stitching as I could.

**Step 9**: Make the handles. Cut out your 4 handle pieces. Fuse the fleece to the wrong side of the fabric pieces. Place the fabric pieces right sides together and sew a 1/4" seam down both sides.







**Step 10**: Turn the handles right sides out. Place a safety pin through one end of the handle piece near the top but down about a 1/2". Push the pin down inside the handle piece and scrunch the fabric, then pull down the pin and repeat until the safety pin comes out the other end. Pull on it until you have turned your handle piece right side out. Press it flat with an iron.



Fold the ends (both ends) inside about a 1/2" and press. Top stitch (1/8" seam) down each side of the handle piece.





**Step 11**: Place the end of the handle on the inside of the basket. Pin in place and sew remembering to back stitch. Find the direct opposite side of where you sewed the handle in place and pin the other end of the handle and sew as well.



**Step 12**: Finally to make the handle easier to grip fold the center part of the handle in half and pin. Sew along the existing stitching (about 2 inches). Back stitch start and stop. Tada!!! You have a basket.







The last thing to do is embellish. I made these cute fabric flowers that I found a tutorial for on <a href="Sew RitzyTitzy">Sew RitzyTitzy</a> She does an amazing job with her tutorial so I will not repeat it. I made one large flower for one side and 2 small ones for the other. After adding those I felt like the basket needed a bow so I sewed this polka dot one on. I can't decide if I like it or not. What do you think? Now you have a cute basket that your child can sit on and scrunch up and it won't break or be ruined. A great keepsake.



# Easter Chick Appliqué Shirt by Amanda Cusick of Kitschy Coo

Amanda walks us through how to create a very cool Easter chick appliqué shirt from a basic tee. While perfect for Easter eggs hunts, kids (and fun-loving adults) can wear this shirt throughout the spring.

Amanda Cusick of <u>Kitschy Coo</u> is a creator of hip clothing for babies and kids and also offers patterns for sale at her <u>Etsy shop</u>.



#### **Materials:**

- Garment to appliqué
- Template
- Sewing machine capable of zig-zag stitch
- Two contrasting scrap fabrics
- Double sided fusible web
- Tear away stabilizer
- Thread
- Button

#### **Instructions:**

- 1. Heat fuse both your scrap fabrics with double sided fusible web, with sticky side (the side without paper) facing the wrong side of your fabric.
- 2. Trace and cut the bird body from scrap one.
- 3. Trace and cut the bird wing from scrap two.
- 4. Peel off the backing paper and position on your garment.



- 5. Heat fuse the bird appliqué to your garment.
- Cut the tear away stabilizer to a size bigger than your chick (including legs and beak).
- 7. Pin the stabilizer to the underside of your garment. This picture shows your fused pieces, and the pins indicate the size of the stabilizer required.



- 8. Set your sewing to a machine to tight zigzag (I use 2.5 width and 0.5 length).
- 9. Stitch all the way around the body of the bird, with one side of the stitch on the garment and the other side of the stitch in your appliqué (binding and hiding the raw edges). The green lines in the picture show how your zigzag stitch straddles the raw edge. It helps to lessen the foot pressure of your machine so it is easier to turn around curves and it doesn't put as much pressure on the fabric causing waviness. Where you change direction or need a tighter curve, lower your needle down into the fabric, lift your foot and pivot.



- 10. Stitch all the way around your wing.
- 11. Draw your beak and legs onto the garment with washable fabric pen or tailor's chalk.



- 12. Set your machine to a wider zigzag (I use 3.5 and 0.5).
- 13. With your drawn lines at the center, zigzag stitch over the top of the lines to form your beak and legs.
- 14. Place your button for the eye and stitch securely with a needle and thread.
- 15. Rip off your tear away stabilizer.
- 16. You're done!

# Mini Cupcake Easter Baskets by Anjeanette of Roots and Wings Co.

These mini Easter baskets from Anjeanette of Roots and Wings Co. are so clever. They use cupcake liners and are just the perfect size for an individual Easter egg, whether plastic or real! Give as favors or write names on the plastic Easter eggs and use for decorative Easter place-cards.



#### Materials:

- 1 piece of patterned paper
- 1 piece of contrasting paper



• 1 king-sized cupcake liner





• 1 regular cupcake liner

#### **Instructions:**

1. Cut a strip of the patterned paper about 1 inch tall. I use the whole width of the paper and cut it to size in a bit.



2. Cut the contrasting paper about 1/4 inch taller than the patterned paper. Stack the contrasting paper behind the patterned paper, and using a good paper glue (non-buckling glue), glue them together. Glue them into a circle the same diameter as the bottom of your cupcake liner. Cut it if it is too long.



3. Slip the cupcake liner into the circle and glue into place.



4. To make the handle cut a strip of the patterned paper about 1/4 inch wide. Cut the contrasting paper about 3/4 inch wide.



5. Stack the patterned paper on top of the contrasting paper and using the same good paper glue, glue down the center of the contrasting paper.



6. Glue the bottom of the handle into the bottom of the basket. The glue will be hidden.



7. Take your regular cupcake liner and glue to the inside of the basket. You just want to glue the bottom and let the sides conform to the inside of the basket.

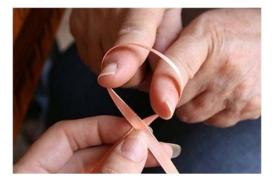


8. The inside is nicely lined and you don't see any glue.

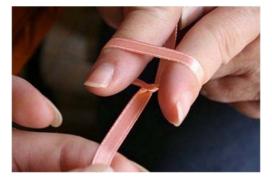




9. Now the cute little basket needs a little dressing up. My Mom showed us how to make these bows when we were little. Since she was over, I decided to use her hands to demonstrate. Take a length of ribbon (for this, I used about 8 inches) and wrap the middle around your assistant's fingers like so:



10. Cross the ribbon under their fingers. Bring the ribbon up between their fingers above and below the twist



11. Tie in a knot. Take the ribbon off your assistant's fingers and you have a nice little bow. Trim the ends if needed.



12. Attach the bow to your handle, stuff it with some grass and place a filled egg, or a chocolate bunny in it. These would be adorable filled with chocolate bunnies and set at each person's place setting at the Easter table.

# Plastic Spoons Easter Basket by Heidi Borchers for Inspired at Home

Use plastic spoons in assorted colors to create an Easter basket. The spoons are the perfect shape for painted Easter eggs that will glue flat. This great recycling project comes to us from Heidi Borchers of <a href="Inspired At Home">Inspired At Home</a>.



#### Materials:

- Plastic spoons 7 assorted colors, plus 11 spoon handles
- Aleene's Thick Designer™ Tacky Glue
- Tulip 3-D Fashion Paints for painting egg trim
- Acrylic paint brown for the basket pieces (spoon handles)
- Fabric (or scrapbook paper) for background
- Wood frame
- Mat cardboard frame with backing (to fit into frame)
- Cardboard (for glue squeegee and for basket)
- Ribbon
- Excelsior

#### **Instructions:**

- 1. Remove cardboard back from mat frame. Spread glue onto front of cardboard with a scrap piece of cardboard as a squeegee to get an even, solid coat of glue. Place fabric onto glue. Carefully press out any air bubbles. Glue mat frame to fabric covered board.
- 2. Use wire cutters to cut off spoon handles. Cut the handles close to the "cup" of the spoon. Round off edges. Carefully apply dimensional paint to the back of the cup of the spoons (the egg shape) in desired designs. Set aside to dry completely. For the basket, lay seven handles side-by-side on a piece of cardboard. Draw around the handles. Cut pattern from cardboard, then glue



the handles onto the cardboard. Let glue dry. Paint the basket and four additional handles with acrylic paint. Let dry.

- 3. Lay the "eggs", basket and basket handles onto prepared background. Glue basket into place, then the handles to form the basket handle. Note: the upper handles do not touch at the top. There is about a 1" space between them.) Glue the decorated eggs onto the basket adding glue wherever the pieces touch. Let dry. Glue pieces of excelsior around the eggs.
- 4. Tie bow and glue to top of basket. If needed, pin or weight to hold until glue dries.

Heidi's designer tip: To smooth any ragged cut edges of spoons, just rub the edges with piece of medium coarse sandpaper.

## **Easter Favor Cone** by Kira of Tangarang

This great Easter craft project comes to us compliments of Kira of <u>Tangarang</u>. Use smalls bit of spring-colored felt to create a favor cone to fill with Easter goodies. These little cones could easily be hung, such as along the fireplace mantel. You need only very basic sewing experience for this easy Easter project.



#### **Materials:**

- Felt
- Interfacing
- Scissors
- Sequin/small button/thread
- Sewing needle and coordinating thread
- <u>Pattern</u> (downloadable/printable pdf)

#### Steps:

**Step 1**: Using the cone pattern, cut two out of felt. Adhere or stitch interfacing (in the same pattern) to one of the pieces.



**Step 2**: Cut out a variety of small circles in three to four colors of felt, cut slits or tiny wedges into each circle to create flower shapes.



Layer two to three flower shapes and afix with a sequin, small button or just a knot. Stitch the flowers to one of the cone pieces.



**Step 3**: Stitch (by machine or hand) the two cone pieces together. Close the seam by overlapping at the back to create a cone shape.

**Step 4**: Cut out the handle shape using the pattern. Attach the handle at the sides with a sequin, small button or knot.



Step 5: Fill with candy on Easter morning!

# Easter Pom-Pom Chicks by Kerstin of Chimera and Duckyknits

You can't help but smile at these adorable balls of yellow wool turned into chirping Easter chicks. Fill a basket with them for silly fun Easter decor. Kerstin, who sells amazing needle-felted creations, custom dyed roving and handspun yarn in her Esty shop, walks us through this photo tutorial to turn yellow wool roving into pom pom chicks.

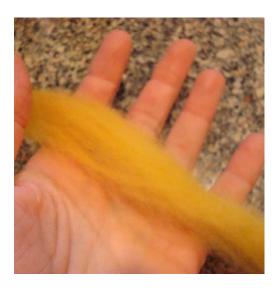


#### **Materials:**

- yellow wool roving-1 ounce will make 3 chicks
- orange felt-just a tiny scrap for the beak
- black beads -I used size E glass seed beads
- pom pom maker-or use the instructions below to make using cardboard circles
- strong string-I used cotton rug warp-you can use thick embroidery cotton or heavy string.
- sharp scissors
- thread and needle that will fit through your beads.

### Steps:

1. The first step is to prepare the roving. Split the roving lengthwise into half inch wide strips.



2. Begin to make a pom pom by wrapping the roving around the pom maker. Instructions for making a pom pom using cardboard are at the bottom of the page following the chick instructions.



3. When the pom pom maker is fairly full, close both side together and cut down the center of the fibers all around the circle







4. Cut about a 2 ft length of string and wrap around center of the pom pom, pull tightly (not so tight you snap the string) and tie a double knot, bring threads around to other side and tie another double knot. Snip off extra string close to center of pom pom.



5. Open the pom maker to release the pom pom.



6. Now you will begin trimming and shaping the pom pom. Decide which way will be up, and shear some fiber off the bottom so the chick will sit nicely. Shear off about 1/2 of fiber off the top of the chick, tapering the top to be smaller at the head.



7. You should end up with a shape something like this:



8. And you will end up with a big pile of yellow fluff like this. You can save this to use as stuffing in another project or for a wet felting project....or maybe put it out for the birds to use for nesting this spring!



9. Thread needle with black thread and knot the end. Insert the needle in the bottom of the chick and go through the center and come out at the first eye position. Sew first bead on. Then go through the bottom of the chick again and come up at the other eye position to sew on the second eye. Insert needle through bottom and center of chick and come out at beak position.



10. Cut a diamond shape out of orange felt.



11. Make one stitch in center of diamond, fold piece in half to form beak shape and stitch firmly in place below the eyes. You may need to open out the fluff of the pom pom to position it in between the fibers correctly.



12. The eyes and beak will be hard to see.



13. They seem to have sunk into the fluff, so now you need to clip the fibers around the eyes and beak so they can be seen.



14. "Cheep Cheep!"



15. If you do not have a nifty pom pom maker you can easily make pom poms just using cardboard. Cut two donut shapes out of cardboard. I just traced around my spool of twine for the outside and a spool of thread for the inside circle. No need to cut these out perfectly as they will just get thrown out in a few minutes.



16. Hold the two cardboard circles together and wrap roving around the outside edges so you get a nice thick layer all around.



17. Clip the fibers in between the two pieces of cardboard all around the circle.



18. Tie the fibers together in the center with strong string, using a double knot.



19. Cut away the cardboard and fluff up your pom pom.



20. Trim and finish the same way you would using the pom pom maker.



# Easter Egg Golf Towel by June Scroggin of Junie Moon

June Scroggin of <u>Junie Moon</u> designed this tutorial after noticing that most golf accessories are boring and/or masculine. This Easter egg golf towel is fun, feminine and practical. One side of the towel is chenille for scrubbing golf balls and clubs and the other side is for drying. Celebrate spring with this unexpected accessory, whether or not you use on the golf course.



#### **Materials:**

- 1 piece of cotton fabric (I used a mid-weight decorator fabric that's washable) approximately 20-inches square.
- 1 piece of chenille (or terry toweling) fabric in the same size
- 1½ yards of cotton twill tape ¾-inch to 1-inch wide in a color complementing your fabrics
- Thread to match fabrics
- Water-soluble marking pen
- Dritz Grommet Kit, 7/16-inch
- Metal golf towel (or shower) hanger



### **Instructions:**

- 1. Cut your fabrics into an egg shape, approximately 13-inches wide by 18½-inches in length. The smaller top part of the "egg" will be the top of your towel. I just drew a free-hand egg shape with a water-soluble marking pen.
- 2. Place fabrics with wrong sides together. Pin in place. Stitch 1/8-inch from edge to secure.



- 3. Fold twill tape in over the edge of your towel, pinning in place as you navigate around the circumference. Sew close to edge of tape (towards main body of towel). You can sew by machine or hand. I chose the latter as I wanted the stitches to be invisible.
- 4. Following grommet instructions, insert grommet at the center of the top of the towel about ½-inch away from the bottom edge of the twill binding trim.



5. Insert your towel ring and attach your pretty new towel to your golf bag. Then get outdoors and enjoy springtime with a great round of golf.

# Easter Egg Bookmark and Card by Se7en

This wonderful craft to do with your kids on Easter comes to us compliments of <u>Se7en</u>, the fascinating blog from a home-schooling mother of seven in South Africa. Step-by-step photos show you how to create and decorate two little projects in one: a decorated Easter egg bookmark and a cute eggcup card for the egg to sit in. Kids can make these cards for friends and family members on Easter.



### **Materials:**

- 1 sheet Construction paper for your card.
- 1 sheet Plain Printer Paper
- Decorating materials, we used watercolors and crayons
- Scissors and a punch
- Glue stick
- Embroidery string and beads, or ribbon
- Small photograph (optional)

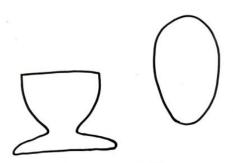


## Easter Craft eBook: Blogger Edition



### Instructions:

1. Make your own template for an egg in an eggcup or you are welcome to just print out one from the template. We printed ours out onto plain white paper for decorating. Snip them out and you are ready to go. To print out template below, click on image, save to desktop and print from desktop.



2. We folded our card so that they were ready when we were!



3. Starting with the eggcup we painted ours using watercolors.



4. Once the eggcups were dry we put glue on the backs – just in the areas marked with marker in the photograph. Then we stuck them onto the lower half of the cards.



5. We decorated our eggs next. There were spatter paints, blow paints, wax crayon and ink, watercolor on wet paper... the options are of course endless here. But I would stay away from glitter because in the next step we are going to turn them into bookmarks and you never want glitter near a book!



6. Once our eggs were dry we popped a photograph of each kid onto the back of them. Then we punched a whole in the top, some just wanted to thread a ribbon through it. And others wanted more finesse.





7. For those wanting a bit more finesse! We threaded embroidery thread through the punch hole and thread a couple of beads onto the end of the tassel.



8. And you are done! Pop your bookmark into the eggcup and your card is good to go.



# Easter Egg Window Clings by Cindy Hopper of Skip To My Lou

This project comes to us from Cindy Hopper of the popular crafting blog <u>Skip to My Lou</u>. Cindy, a mom of three who holds a bachelors degrees in art education, loves crafting and making homemade items for the holidays. Check out this great Easter project that is perfect for the kids.



### Materials:

- Roll of clear contact paper
- Paint brushes
- Acrylic Paint
- Fine Sandpaper
- Masking Tape

#### Steps:

- 1. First cut a piece of contact paper from the roll. I cut squares about 5" x 5" because that was about the size of shapes I knew I would be cutting. Take a fine piece of sandpaper and lightly sand the shiny surface of the contact paper where you will be painting. Wipe off any dust. This step helps the paint adhere to the slick contact paper.
- 2. Since we are often VERY messy when we paint I taped a piece of wax paper to the table. Tape the piece of contact paper shiny(sanded) side up onto the wax paper.



3. Paint onto the contact paper square. Since my daughter is three I encouraged her to paint using lots of colors. I knew I would be cutting out Easter eggs so it really didn't matter what or how she painted.



- 4. Allow the painting to dry completely. I think she painted about 10 of these squares.
- 5. Once the paint is completely dry take another square of contact paper the same size as your painting and peel off the paper backing. Cover your painting with the clear contact paper. Smooth out any bubbles.





6. Trace around any shape of your choosing. I used an egg and bunny for my template.



# 7. Cut out the shape.





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8. Carefully remove the paper backing. This takes some time ——make sure you are only removing the paper (the back of your painting should be sticky). If you use acrylic paint it is plastic enough that it has a tendency to peel away from the contact paper, so peel carefully! If it does peel away and it won't stick back down just put a little glue stick between the layers.



9. Once you are finished stick your silhouettes to your window.



I would encourage older kids to paint their own designs and then cut out. I can imagine huge flowers and birds! Nothing is sweeter than kid's art!

# Easter Daisy and Fabric Topiary by Chica of Chica and Jo

Crafting geniuses Chica and Jo share this project for creating a fabric and daisy topiary, perfect for Easter decorating. The project cleverly uses Styrofoam balls at the base for the topiary. Use as a table centerpiece or place in your entryway to greet guests. Get started on this project now to allow time for the grass to sprout in the pot!



#### **Materials:**

- 1 medium-sized flower pot
- 6 inch diameter Styrofoam ball
- 8 inch diameter Styrofoam ball
- Short tree branches for "trunk"
- Fabric to wrap balls and pot
- Fresh or silk daisies
- sewing machine
- needle/thread

#### Instructions:

### Prepare the base components

Before you can decorate your lovely topiary, you need to build it. Start with a medium-sized flower pot that you've filled with potting soil and planted with grass seed. Let it sit for a week or two until the



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bright green grass begins to sprout. If you're in a hurry, try looking for small pots of live wheat grass for sale in grocery or home improvement stores. You can just pop the plant out of the container and plop it into place in your flower pot.



For the Styrofoam balls that make up the topiary, you'll need one that is 6 inches in diameter and one that is 8 inches in diameter. Now get some short pieces of tree branches from the yard and use them to create the "trunk". Use one piece to connect the top ball to the bottom one, and another daisy topiary piece to connect the bottom ball to the flower pot. Make sure the sticks are long enough to poke into the Styrofoam far enough to hold it securely.



This is also a good time to decorate the flower pot. Cut a long strip of your fabric and hem the edges. Wrap the band around the flower pot and secure with a pin (or use hot glue for a permanent bond).



### Cut the fabric pieces

Now it's time to cover the Styrofoam with your pretty fabric. In order to cover a round ball with flat fabric, you'll need to do some clever sewing. To make it easier for you, we've created patterns to use for cutting out the fabric. Use our 8 inch pattern to cut 7 pieces of fabric for the 8 inch ball. Use our 6 inch

<u>pattern</u> to cut 6 pieces of fabric for the 6 inch ball.



#### Sew the buttonholes

If you're going to stick flowers in this topiary, they'll need somewhere to go! You'll accomplish this by dotting the fabric with cute buttonholes. Use your sewing machine to sew several buttonholes on each piece of fabric. To help with placement, look back at our patterns. For the 8" pattern pieces, mark half of them with the "A" buttonholes (A1, A2, and A3), and half of them with the "B" buttonholes (B1 and B2). Do the same for the 6" pattern pieces, marking half of them with the "A" and half with the "B" buttonholes.



### Sew the covers together

Take the 7 pieces of fabric for the 8" ball and sew them, right sides together, along both long sides, leaving a 3/8" seam allowance. Be sure to alternate your "A" and "B" buttonhole pieces as you go. Sew all the seams together except the last one. You should have something resembling an inside-out ball now. Flip the fabric right side out and slip it carefully over the 8" ball. Use a needle and thread to sew the remaining seam closed with a slip stitch.







Repeat this process for the 6" ball. When both balls are covered, place them back on the sticks in your topiary. Now you're ready to decorate them with flowers!

### Insert the flowers

The buttonholes in your fabric will give your flowers somewhere to enter the ball, but Styrofoam is a bit too firm for most flowers to go into without breaking. To make it easier to insert the flowers, start the



hole by inserting the handle of a paint brush into the Styrofoam at each buttonhole, and make a nice space for the flower to go.



Then trim each of your daisies so that the stem is about 2 inches long, and attach each one to a wired wood pick. Wrap the wire around the flower, holding it in place. The pick will keep your flowers straight and strong, and allow you to push them into the Styrofoam with ease. Put one flower into each one buttonhole.



The finished topiary is adorable and would look great anywhere in the home. Fresh daisies will last a day or two, so if you're doing this for a party, wait to assemble it until a few hours before guests are arriving for maximum freshness.

## **Crafty and Cushy Tattooed Easter Eggs** by Terri O

Now here is a new way to decorate your Easter eggs. Tattoo them! They are so cute and easy to make and they will last forever. You can hang them, display them or even give them as a gift. If you are already into felting then you can even turn yours into a work of art.



#### Materials:

- · Felting needle
- Felting wool
- Styrofoam eggs (the larger sizes work best)
- Felting mat (I used a dense piece of Styrofoam that came from a packing box)

### Steps:

- 1. Felting is a very simple process. First decide on which colors of the felt you want to use and what kind of design you want to create. To get started think about how you would normally decorate a real Easter egg.
- 2. Pull apart the felt and lay it in small sections on the egg.
- 3. With a quick stabbing motion insert the needle in an up and down movement to push the felt into the egg. Don't over-do it! Too much will simply create a hole in the Styrofoam and mush your felt. Move the needle all over the area. Avoid going to deep into the Styrofoam. The goal is to push it into the egg with medium force.
- 4. Work in small sections laying your felt out as you go. You can actually lay out your design on the egg as you go. Give the needle a few stabs. If you don't like it simply lift off the felt and reposition.

## Tips



- I let my 12 year old son make one. He is an experienced crafter but I recommend supervision since a large, very sharp object is involved.
- Use the felt sparingly. You can always add more for a deeper color. It is easier to add than take away.
- Don't push the needle in and out in one spot too long. It breaks down the Styrofoam and makes a dent. Less is more!
- There are a few places to find the supplies. Here is one of them. www.clover-usa.com

Terri O is an Emmy award winning television personality. Learn more about her work <a href="here">here</a>.

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