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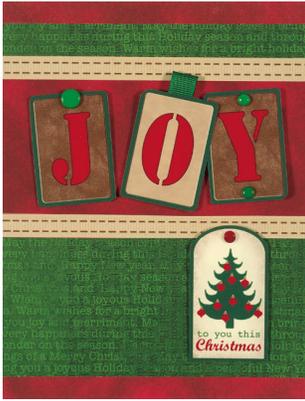
Deck the Halls with Handmade Christmas Cards! Fa-la-la-la-la la-la-la-la

What a fun article on how to make Handmade Christmas Cards! Here is where we found it for your future reference:

<http://www.paperwishes.com/scrapbooking101/articles/quick-and-easy-christmas-cards.html>

Quick and Easy Christmas Cards

Depending on how many people you've got on your Christmas card list, the thought of handcrafting heartfelt greetings can be a bit daunting. Don't worry—I've got a few different options for addressing the Christmas card situation! You can make lots of different designs, mass-produce the same design and even create photo holiday cards that you design online, then print and mail. Let's take a look at all the options!



Option #1: Create different cards for different people

It's actually not as difficult as it might seem! My trick is to use the same basic card layout, but use different patterned paper as the background, and a different focal. This way, every card will be different and unique but I can still make them quickly and easily by using the same basic design.

I start with coordinating collections of papers and embellishments to make it really easy. One shortcut is matching Christmas papers, Instant Card Art and a Creative Kit—all of which are designed to go together so I know the colors and images will match. On this card, I've simply alternated strips of red "texture" paper with green words paper and put a "Joy" punch-out focal in the center of the card. I embellished the word with brads and ribbon. The tag toward the bottom of the card completes the message.

For a different version of this same layout, simply use different strips of paper and choose a different punch-out as a focal.

Supplies used:

Christmas Instant Card Art

Christmas Creative Pack

Christmas Creative Kit

Christmas Ribbons



Option #2: Mass-produce the same design

If you'd rather not create a unique card for everyone you know, there's another option. It's perfectly acceptable to mass-produce your cards, using the same paper and embellishments for each one. This will allow you to quickly create a large number of cards and you can do it assembly-line style.

I made this adorable card in no time using bulk paper and cute decorated brads. Not only is using the same materials and design for multiple cards a great way to save time, but buying your supplies in bulk can also reduce the amount of money you spend creating your holiday cards.

Mass produced cards provide the personal touch of a handmade card but because you are using the same design for each card, it's easy to create many cards quickly. This is a great solution when you're strapped for time and ideas!

Supplies used:

Brown Swirl Border paper

red glimmer paper

Gingerbread Man Brads

Christmas Ribbons



Option #3: Stamp your design

Stamps are a perfect tool for mass-creating cards, and stamping isn't difficult. All you need are stamps, an acrylic block (if you're using clear acrylic stamps) and an ink pad. If you're just starting stamping, I'd advise choosing one versatile design like holly or a Christmas tree and a black ink pad. Stamp sets, like our Christmas Art are great because you get a variety of images plus sentiments like "Merry Christmas" and "Celebrate".

To stamp, simply peel the acrylic stamp off the liner sheet and place it onto the acrylic block. It will cling to the block. Tap the stamp onto an ink pad, then stamp onto your paper. You can then embellish the stamped design with brads or other embellishments. When you're done with the stamp, clean it with soap and water and place it back on the liner. Easy!

Supplies used:

Christmas Art Stamps

Acrylic block

Christmas Creative Pack

Black ribbon

Black ink pad



Option #4: Create your Christmas cards online

Okay, here's the really fast and easy solution to holiday card making: Going digital! That's right, you can simply choose a design from the library of Christmas card layouts, then drag and drop your photo into the designated photo space, type your journaling and you're set! The cards will be professionally printed onto heavyweight paper and mailed to you. How easy is that? (And no, it's not cheating to make your card online—it still counts as "handmade" in my book!)

Around the holidays nothing says you truly care like sending your friends and family a handmade card. This means creating a large number of cards all at once. And while the time and effort you put into it will be greatly appreciated and admired (trust me!) it can seem like a daunting task. But, by organizing your time and supplies creating gorgeous handmade cards doesn't have to become an overwhelming endeavor.

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