

HOMEMADE: THE HEART AND SCIENCE OF HANDCRAFTS
CAROL ENDLER STERBENZ

Priceless: A Die-Cut Card



Glitter is not just for kids. Available in a wide spectrum of rich colors, fine glitter is the perfect material for glamorizing greeting cards. The glue is applied through a stencil and the glitter is sprinkled onto the glue, creating crisp and sparkling edges. Cut your own shoe stencil from acetate, sizing it fit the front panel of the card.

MATERIALS AND TOOLS

Red Shoe, a Strappy Sandal pattern
(page 697)
Bristol, 12" × 12½" (30.5 × 30.5 cm)
Striped scrapbook paper or gift wrap
Scrap paper
Envelope to fit card
Magenta glitter
Metallic flower
Satin ribbon, ⅛" (0.3 cm) wide, in lime
green
White craft glue
Spray adhesive
Masking tape
Computer with printer
Acetate (for stencil; see step 2)
Steel ruler
Craft knife
Self-healing cutting mat
Bone folder
Hole punch, ¼" (0.6 cm) diameter
Stencil brush
Craft stick

Step 1

Cut out the card.

Measure and cut the bristol to make 12" × 6" (30.5 × 15.2 cm) rectangle. Fold the paper in half widthwise.

Step 2

Make the stencil.

Photocopy the Red Shoe pattern, sizing it to fit the right front panel of the blank card. Print a test image on copy paper and check the size. Use your final pattern to cut a stencil from plastic film; refer to Traditional Stenciling in Chapter Four.

Step 3

Position the stencil.

Squeeze some white glue into a dish. Open the card flat on a clean work surface. Position the acetate stencil over the outside front right panel of the card, aligning the heel of the shoe with the fold and the sole of the shoe approximately ¼" (0.6 cm) from the bottom edge of the paper (this allowance will be trimmed off later). Use short strips of masking tape at the corners to keep the stencil from shifting.

Step 4

Apply glue through the stencil.

Pick up some glue on the stencil brush and gently stroke the bristles on a paper towel to ensure they are only lightly loaded. Use a gentle up-and-down pouncing motion to apply glue to the cutout areas of the stencil, working the glue from the outer edges to the inner area and using a craft stick to press down any edges to prevent the glue from seeping under the stencil and to ensure a crisp line.

Step 5

Apply the glitter.

Lift off the acetate stencil and set it aside.

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Pour a thick layer of glitter directly from the container over all of the glued sections on the paper. Let the glue dry completely, preferably overnight. Clean the stencil with warm soapy water. The next day, lift the card and tap the excess glitter onto a sheet of scrap paper. Carefully transfer the glitter back into the container.

Step 6

Make the die-cut shoe.

Use scissors to carefully cut away the paper that lies to the right of the glittered sole and straps, beginning at the sole of the shoe and ending at the top of the shoe and using the marked pattern as a guide.

Step 7

Laminate the striped paper to the inside of the card.

Measure and cut the striped paper so the stripes run vertically and the piece measures $6" \times 5\frac{1}{2}"$ (15.2×14.0 cm). Lay the paper, stripes facing down, on a protected work surface and apply spray adhesive, following the manufacturer's precautions for safe use. Position and press the striped paper, adhesive side down, onto the inside right panel of the card.

Step 8

Make a hang tag.

Use a computer printer to print \$ *Priceless* or any other message on a sheet of paper. Glue the message to scrap paper and trim it to $2\frac{1}{2}" \times \frac{3}{4}"$ (6.4×1.9 cm). Use a hole punch to make a hole in the hang tag. Open the card and punch a hole through the front panel at the heel area of the shoe, as shown. Fold an 8" (20.3 cm) length of ribbon in half, thread the loop through the hang tag, and tie a cowslip knot. Thread the ribbon ends from the inside of the card through the hole near the heel. Tie a double knot, leaving $3\frac{1}{2}"$ (8.9 cm) ribbon ends. Glue a metallic flower to the hang tag.

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Strappy Heel

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Spike Heel

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