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Get into the Christmas mood!



St Nicholas and Schmutzli

The little St Nicholas and his companion Schmutzli are stitched together with scraps of felt (an old sweat shirt could be used, too) and a wooden bead or a nut for the head, and some wool from a fence or acrylic filling or unravelled wool, with liberal use of glue, for the beard. They look great as table decoration or on the Christmas tree.



Christmas cards

It is this time of the year again. Here are some suggestions for Christmas Cards. We used thick paper (at least 130g/sqm); it comes in A4; one sheet makes 2 cards if cut in half and folded. Carefully glue special Christmas material or other glittery, festive material (op shops are great!) on to the card and decorate with stars of all sorts or with natural material, such as star anise, poppy capsule lids, cinnamon sticks, seeds - there is no limit! If you choose dark paper, you can write in gold or silver - or use an insert paper.

Salt dough Santas



Salt dough:

- 2 cups flour
- 2 cups salt
- half a cup water (or a little more)
- 1 ts wallpaper paste

Shape figures, let them dry slowly (you might have to cover them loosely with a bit of plastic), then paint and decorate them.

Ds Wiehnechtchingli isch hüt cho,
 luegit, d Cherzli brönne scho.
 Ds Glöggli lüütet: Gling, gling, gling...
 Chömet! Chömet! Liebi Ching.
 Es Glöggli han I ghöre lüüte.
 Was söll ächt das für üs bedüte?
 Es rüeft is mit sym fyne Klang
 zum Wiehnechtsboum,
 zum Wiehnechtsgsang.



Nativity Scene

And how about creating your very own nativity scene? Off-cuts from a building project or small bits, sawn off from a garden stake, are the core of the figures, and a nut for a small head (or a polystyrene ball, if you use 4x2 bits of wood). Wrap them in a scrap of stretchy material (e.g. old T-shirts); a piece of wire can serve for arms in small figures, fastened to the body by glue and tape; for bigger figures you can nail pieces of wood to the body - and then the fun starts when you find material to clothe them! Wide shiny ribbons for small angels, net curtain bits for bigger ones, threadbare jeans for Mary's dress, an old sock for a small Joseph..

Colour in a Christmas tree

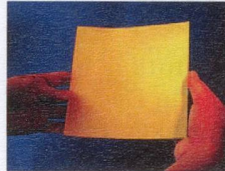


How to make a 3-D Star



What you need:

- 2 yellow paper squares with a side length of approx. 10cm
- Scissors
- Adhesive



Take a square



Fold the paper along the two central diagonals. Then open it again. Then turn the paper around.



Fold the paper along the two central diagonals. Then open it again.



Now cut the vertical and the horizontal crease mark approximately halfway up to the center.



Turn the sheet and fold the new corners so they touch the crease mark.



To make the star points glue one triangle half to the other.

Glue the two star halves together. Now you have a 3D star!



Angels

Cut out the angel pattern, slot the slot (x) into the slot (y) - and that's it. You can write your Christmas greetings onto the angel (while it is still flat!), and you can decorate it. They look also nice in foil.

