

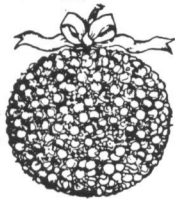


Merry Christmas from The Toy Boat

Pomander Ball

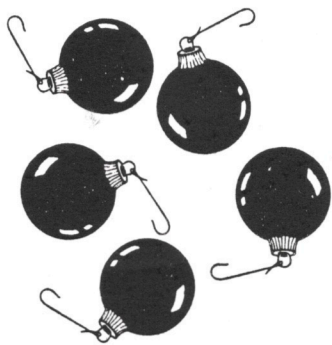
Need:

- Orange
- box of whole cloves
- cinnamon
- orris root
- ribbon
- cookie tray
- awl
- paper bag



Do:

Use the cookie tray for your work surface. Using the awl carefully poke holes into the orange. You can make a pattern or just make random holes. Push the stems of the cloves into these holes. Put the orange and the cinnamon in the bag and shake it to mix it well. Then add the orange and shake it until the spices cover the orange. Place the orange in a dry place and allow it to dry for about one month. You can tie a ribbon in an + around the orange if you want to hang the pomander, or place it in a bowl as a decoration. The ball will last a very long time. These are a nice item to put in a closet or bathroom as their citrus spices smell gives things a fresh scent.



Christmas Tree Cones

Need:

- sugar cones (for ice cream)
- Green icing
- Cake decorations and small candies
- cookie tray

Do:

Set the cones so they are sitting wide end down on the cookie sheet. Using a butter knife spread the icing over the cone. Decorate your cone with the various goodies. Let set to dry. You can make a whole forest of tiny trees.

A Counting Rope

This is a variation on a Cherokee ceremony for children. Take an old piece of rope and tie a loop from one end so you can hang your rope. Now tie 24 overhand knots down the rope leaving a little space between them. Each day untie one knot from the counting rope. You will be able to see the days pass as Christmas becomes closer.

Reindeer Crowns

Need:
card stock
scissors



Do:

leaving a 1 1/2" strip at the bottom of the page trace your hands leaving 2" between the thumbs. Cut out and strap on. (see drawing) Fun and easy!

Glitter Star Ornaments

Need:

- elmers glue
- tin foil
- glitter
- ribbon or gold thread

Do:

Draw a star on the tin foil with the glue. The line should be about 1/4th inch thick. Sprinkle the glue with the glitter. Put aside and allow it to dry for 24 hours. To remove the star gently peel off the foil. Add the ribbon.

Polymer Clay

Polymer clay, like Fimo or Sculpy make wonderful gift items. Using a few cookie cutters and a little imagination you'll be able to make gifts for everyone. Here are a few ideas and tips we have discovered about using this material. The favorite items to make are ornaments. Roll the clay between two pieces of wax paper so the clay does not stick to the rolling pin. Use cookie cutters to make simple shapes. Use a large paper clip to make a hole for the hanging string. If you make stars or hearts 1" thick and cut a hole in the center they make wonderful candle holders. Be certain you make the center hole just the right so the candle fits snugly. Otherwise it won't stand up straight.

