

Festive Frame

Make our seasonal artwork as a unique decoration or heirloom gift

Feeling creative? Why not paint Helen Fitzjohn's gorgeous Christmas picture for the festive season? This framed illustration will look lovely on the mantle surrounded by a garland of green foliage. Using our hand drawn illustrations, trace and paint the designs in a trio of subtle shades.

Free template + download
crafts-beautiful.com

We used...

- * Paper: watercolour; Coordinations, 12" x 12", periwinkle
- * Mountboard
- * Dies: robin, reindeer, snowflake
- * Stamps, Woodware, foliage
- * Punch: holly; plier punch, star, circle
- * Ink-pads, Versacolor, laurel leaf, rose red, baby blue
- * Watercolour brush pen
- * Copper sheet
- * Picture frame, 20cm
- * Light box

1 Divide the page into three horizontal sections and draw the pot in the bottom third using the template as a guide. As the bouquet is blooming, indicate the rough contour with an oval shape.


2 Draw in the larger flowers spacing them evenly throughout the bouquet. When you are satisfied with the layout, fill the remaining gaps with leaves in various sizes. Start to paint in detail, working with a few strong colours, and add shading to make the arrangement more dimensional.

3 Using a size 20 brush, start to paint the larger flowers at the front of the bouquet as jagged loops around an invisible centre, then add the stamen in another colour. Paint in smaller flowers and berries in brights. Lastly, add the stems and leaves. For the larger ones in the background, use a lighter shade to create the impression that they are further away.

4 To finish, paint the outline of the pot in light grey. Shading the underside of the rim will make the illustration look more sculptural. Apply the wording on the pot using a brush lettering style in black

paint. Lightly draw some lines within the pot with a ruler and HB pencil for guidance.

5 Sketch the lettering in pencil. Pick up some of the black watercolour with the brush tip. Moisten and apply a little paint to

a mixing palette. Add a few drops of water to make the black a little more watery. Dip the brush in the paint, and carefully work over the sketched words. Allow to dry completely, before rubbing out the pencil lines 





Helen says...

“Take the individual designs and use to create matching Christmas cards”

Craft smart

Use a mechanical pencil as this creates a much finer line than a traditional one



ROCKIN' RUDOLPH

Create a Christmassy effect with this Reindeer Mini Dies set. £1.75, hobbycraft.co.uk



ICE & EASY

Try these Snowflake Swirls dies to embellish your artwork. £15.99, hunkydory.co.uk



Christmas Shadow Box

Handdraw and colour this festive keepsake

Designer: Helen Fitzjohn

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shown at 60%



In The Bag

Knitting abbreviations

Page 80

beg - beginning

k - knit

k2tog - knit two stitches together

kfb - knit in the front and back

m1 - make one (increasing one stitch)

meas - measures

p - purl

p2tog - purl two stitches together

rem - remaining

rep - repeat

RS - right side

skpo - slip, knit, pass over

st - stitch

sl st - slip stitch

st st - stockinette stitch

WS - wrong side

yfwd - yarn forward

yrn - yarn round needle



Rustic Charm

Learn how to embroider snowflakes onto card

Designer: Laura Strutt

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shown at 70%

