

Iris Folding Masterclass

Join Colette Smith as she talks us through this addictive technique

Anything to do with paper construction is so on-trend at the moment, from paper cutting right through to origami. One of the techniques in the paper construction range is iris folding. This technique has been around for quite some time and is great for using up scraps of paper. Coloured strips are folded over along the length, and then smaller pieces laid and secured onto card with an aperture cut from it. The pattern is created following guidelines on a template which is temporarily secured to the aperture card. Once the template is removed, you are left with a beautiful design. I have come up with a simple circle design which is great for those new to the technique, but also fun for experienced crafters. It's also a handy way to use up paper scraps from your stash.

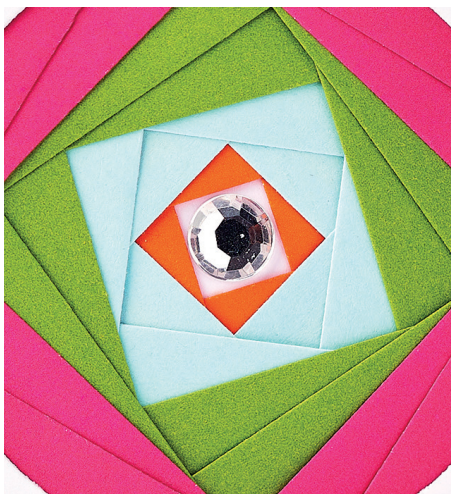
We used...

- * Paper: pink, green pale blue, orange, white, striped
- * Cardstock: white (heavy weight); black
- * Dies: circle, 5.5cm
- * Tape: low tack, Scotch tape
- * Alphabet stickers/die-cuts
- * Gems



Colette says...

“Make sure the folded edge of the strips lay up against the inner line of the numbered section. This will give a neater look”



Free template + download
crafts-beautiful.com



COLETTE'S TOP TIPS


- * Use a bone folder when folding the strips of paper; this will give a perfect crisp edge.
- * You can use thicker paper if you wish, but this will make the project very bulky, therefore cut narrower strips and don't fold them in half.
- * Don't worry about the design becoming messy as you stick down the strips. This will be the reverse of the finished design so all will be hidden when mounted.
- * When you gain a bit of confidence, try designing your own templates. You could use a basic template such as a square and a shaped aperture.
- * Prepare all your bits of sticky tape and strips of paper beforehand to save a bit of time.

Joy Card

1 Cut a piece of heavy weight cardstock, 8.5cm x 15cm. Die-cut a circle centrally at the bottom of the card. Print the template, then attach face side up so it can be seen through the aperture. Hold in position using a strip of low tack tape.

2 Trim several strips of paper, 1.5cm deep and fold (about a third) over along the length. Starting with the pink, tear strips off the length and following the numbered template, lay down the strip and secure in place with tape.

3 Continue until all the numbers are completed; numbers 1-8 in pink, 9-16 in green, 17-24 in pale blue, 25-28 in orange. Finish with a small square of white over the iris and secure. Remove the template.

4 Snip a bauble top and a narrow strip in black card. Adhere to the top of the bauble. Cut scallops along a piece of stripe patterned paper, 4.5cm deep, and fix to the top of the bauble panel. Add black lettering to spell 'JOY' along with two gems. Fix the panel to a white card blank, 9cm x 15cm. 

Craft Shop



STYLE SHEETS

Always use quality materials for iris folding. Origami papers from £7.99,

foldedsquare.com

STICKY STUFF

Have a selection of tape to hand, Scotch Crystal, £1.92,

postshop.com



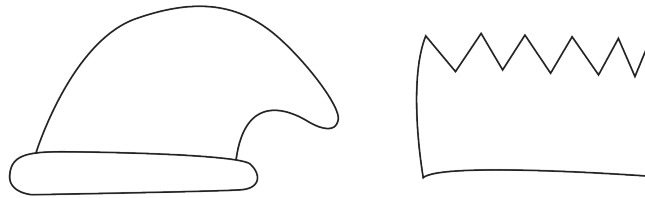
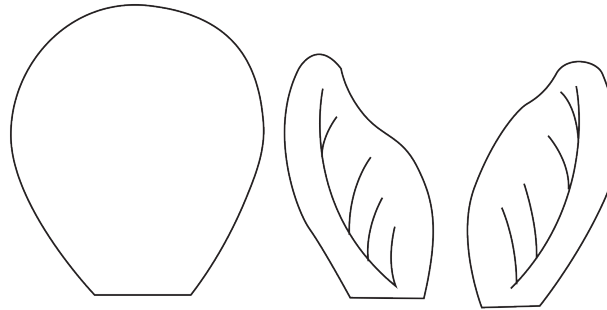
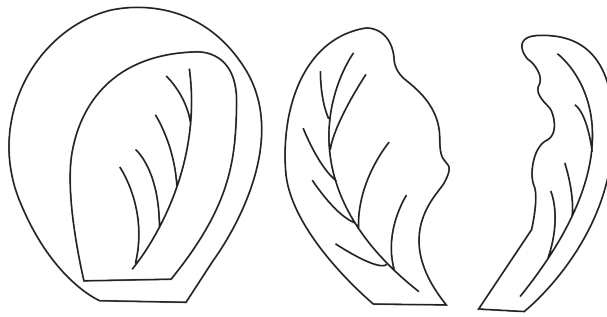
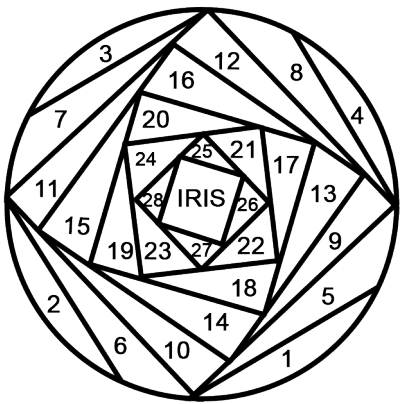


Iris Folding Masterclass

Upgrade your skills with this intricate design

Designer: Colette Smith
Page 38

shown at 100%

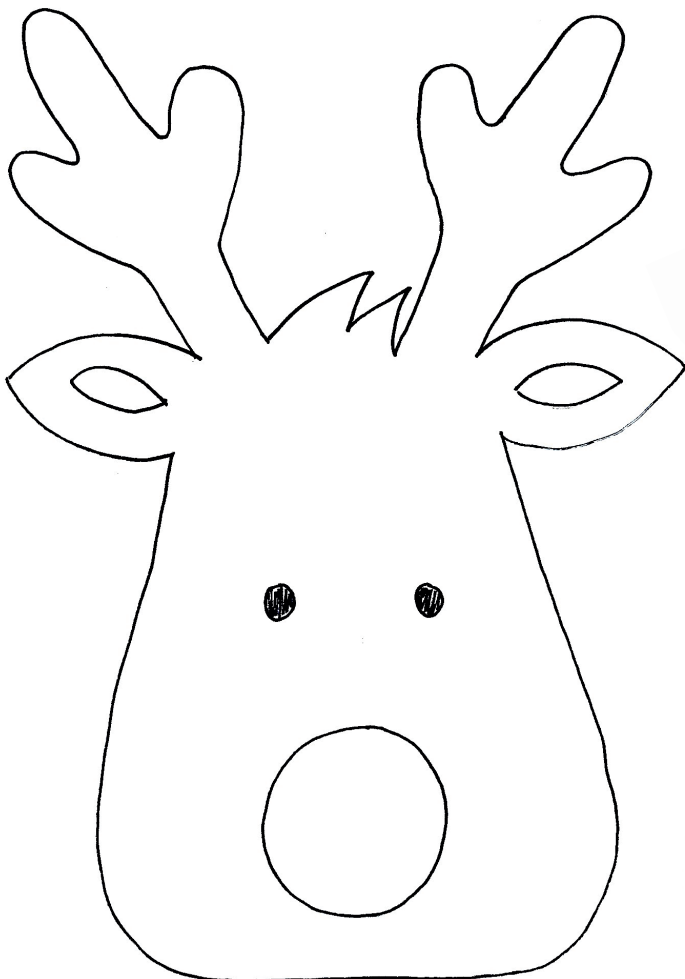


Brussle Sprout Garland

Live up the party with this fun decoration

Designer: Caroline Letten
Page 70

shown at 70%



Sew Handmade

Get ready for the arrival of santa with this cute set

Designer: Sophia Palmer
Page 73

shown at 80%

