

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS FROM CARDS

By Louise Oldham

The following are hints from my experience of making many of these ornaments. Choose cards that are hardy enough to hold their shape and that have solid backgrounds or have scenes that are small enough to show up within the triangle.

Jar lids make great templates for the circle. Just have to find the right size. The lid is easier to hold than a paper or plastic template. Small scissors are easier to use when cutting out the circles.

Make a template out of cardboard for the triangle then transfer to the plastic lid of a container. The plastic template will hold up to the folding of the circle edges better than cardboard. The triangle drawn at the top of the instruction sheet is more accurate than the one on page 2 of the instructions.

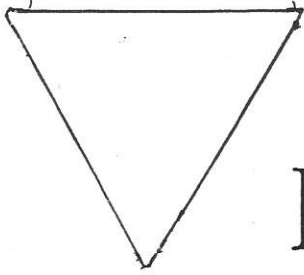
When folding the circle edges over the triangle think about the orientation of the finished fold. Half of the folded triangle circles will go together with the point of the triangle facing upward and half will orient facing downward. The top five triangles face upward, the bottom five face downward and the middle ten triangles alternate. I like to orient the triangles so all scenes are viewed right side up.

A small glue gun gives better control than a larger one. Glue the top first five triangles inserting the hanging cord so it can be glued from the inside. A nine inch piece of cord works well after inserting and leaving about a one to one half inch tail hanging down inside. Then glue the bottom pieces, and then the middle strip. Lay out all rows before gluing so you know how the triangles will appear on the ornament. Don't worry if the edges of the triangles don't meet precisely together. The glitter glue will cover this up. Use a generous amount of glitter glue since it will shrink when drying. Use a small vase or other container to rest the glitter glue bottle upside down while using. Hang ornament to dry.

Use a large "nest" of glue in the intersections for the beads. Tweezers work well in placing the beads. Hang ornament to dry. Usually takes a day or so. After completely dry wrap in wax paper and tie with decorative wire. This keeps the ornaments from sticking to each other or other surfaces.



Crafts



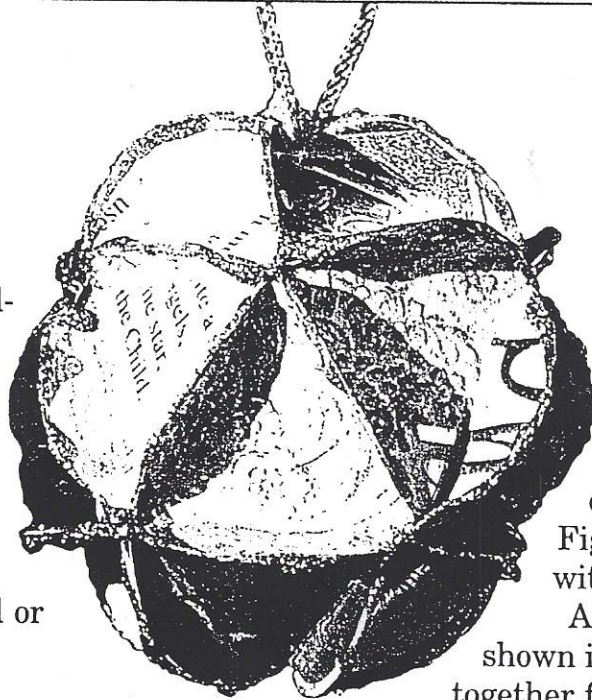
Elegant Ornaments Recycle Cards

by Alma Barkman

Are you looking for ways to recycle all those beautiful Christmas cards you hesitate to throw away? Why not use them to make attractive ornaments for your tree? The colors and sizes are limited only by the scope of your imagination. The directions given here are for a ball approximately 3" in diameter.

Materials

- piece of lightweight cardboard for templates
- used Christmas cards
- glue gun and gluesticks
- yarn, cord, or narrow ribbon for hanger
- $\frac{3}{16}$ " craft beads, gold or silver
- glitter fabric paint, gold or silver



Directions

Draw a circle $1\frac{3}{4}$ " onto the cardboard. See Figure A. Using it as a template, cut out 20 circles from the used Christmas cards. Keep in mind the color and design you want. Five circles form the top of the ball, five form the bottom, and 10 go around the middle.

Draw a triangle to use as a template. It should have three equal sides of $1\frac{1}{2}$ " as in Figure B. Using it as a guide, fold the pattern side of each circle upward, as shown in Figure C, creating triangles with "flaps."

Assemble five triangles as shown in Figure D, and glue flaps together for the top of the ball.

Repeat for the bottom of the ball.

Assemble 10 triangles together as shown in Figure E, and glue flaps to join them.

Join the first flap to the last, creating a circle.

Glue top and bottom that you already have assembled to this circle, creating a ball shape.

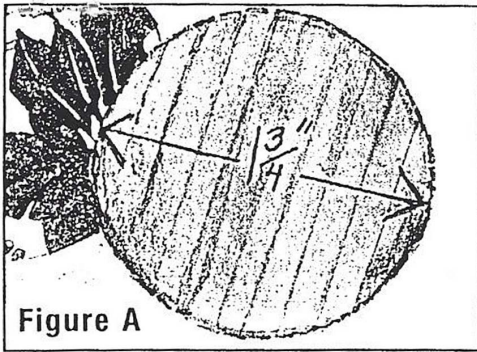


Figure A

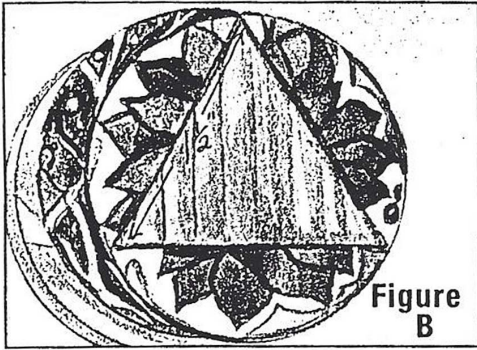


Figure B

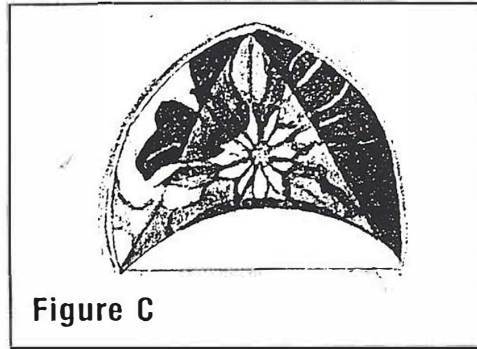


Figure C

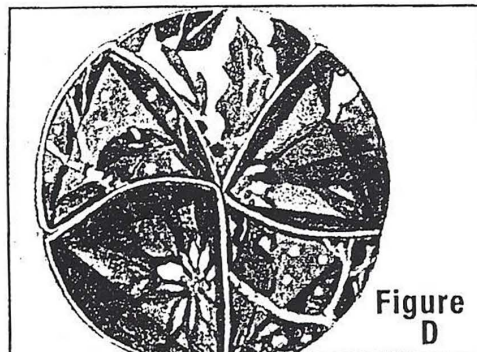


Figure D

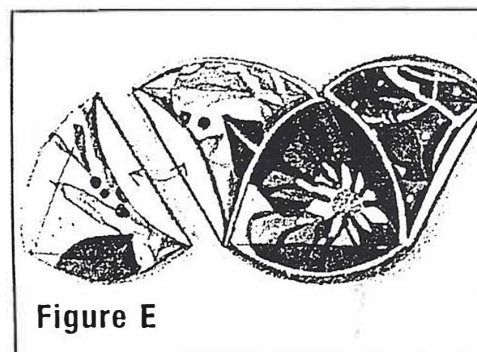
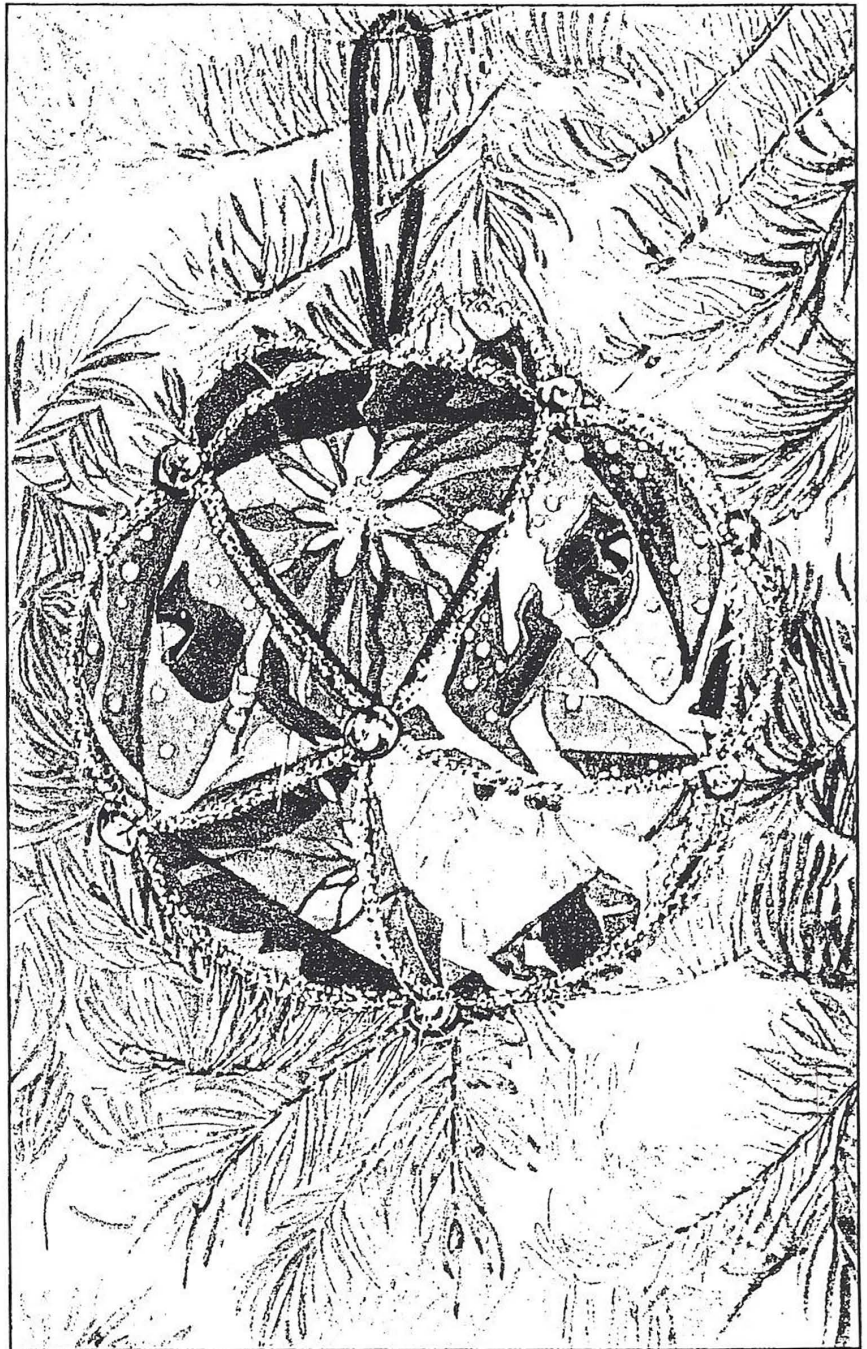


Figure E



Make a loop of yarn or ribbon and glue it to the top of the ball for hanging.

Run a bead of glitter paint along the edge of all the flaps. Let paint dry.

Glue a bead at every "intersection."

Consider making several of these to give as small tokens of friendship during this festive season.

Illustrations by Carlotta Tormey

Alma Barkman is a freelance writer from Winnipeg, Canada.









PROJECT DETAILS

Time: 2 hours for construction and gluing edges, 24 hours drying time, apply beads, 24 hours drying time

Cost: around \$15

Supplies: plastic caps and plastic lids for templates, small glue gun, small scissors, tweezers, 3/16" craft beads, glitter fabric paint glue, cording, yarn, narrow ribbon for hanger, used Christmas cards, waxed paper, decorative wire

THESE ARE ALL OF LOUISE'S DIRECTIONS. ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES IS THE SAME PROJECT FROM ANOTHER WEBSITE.

HERE IS ANOTHER SET OF DIRECTIONS FOR THE SAME PROJECT.

KeepingupwiththeTimes.com

<http://www.keepingwiththetimes.com/?s=handmade+christmas+globe+ornaments>

Handmade Christmas globe ornaments

December 10, 2011 by [Barb](#) 52 Comments

Once again this year I made a few more paper globe ornaments. I have this thing for paper . . . and instead of scrapbook paper I'm using Christmas cards from Christmas's past.

What a great way to put these treasures to use and to honor the people who have taken the time to send cards to me over the years. These are just so simple to make (see tutorial at end of post) and they give me so much pleasure. I'm hoping they become cherished heirlooms someday.

You can add sparkle to the edges, a tassel, just anything you can think of. Here I've added little red and gold gems just to give it a bit of bling.

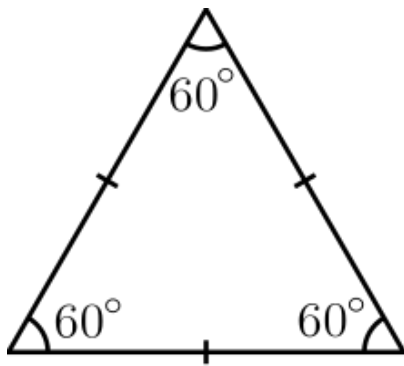


Use a punch to cut 20 – 2 inch circles.

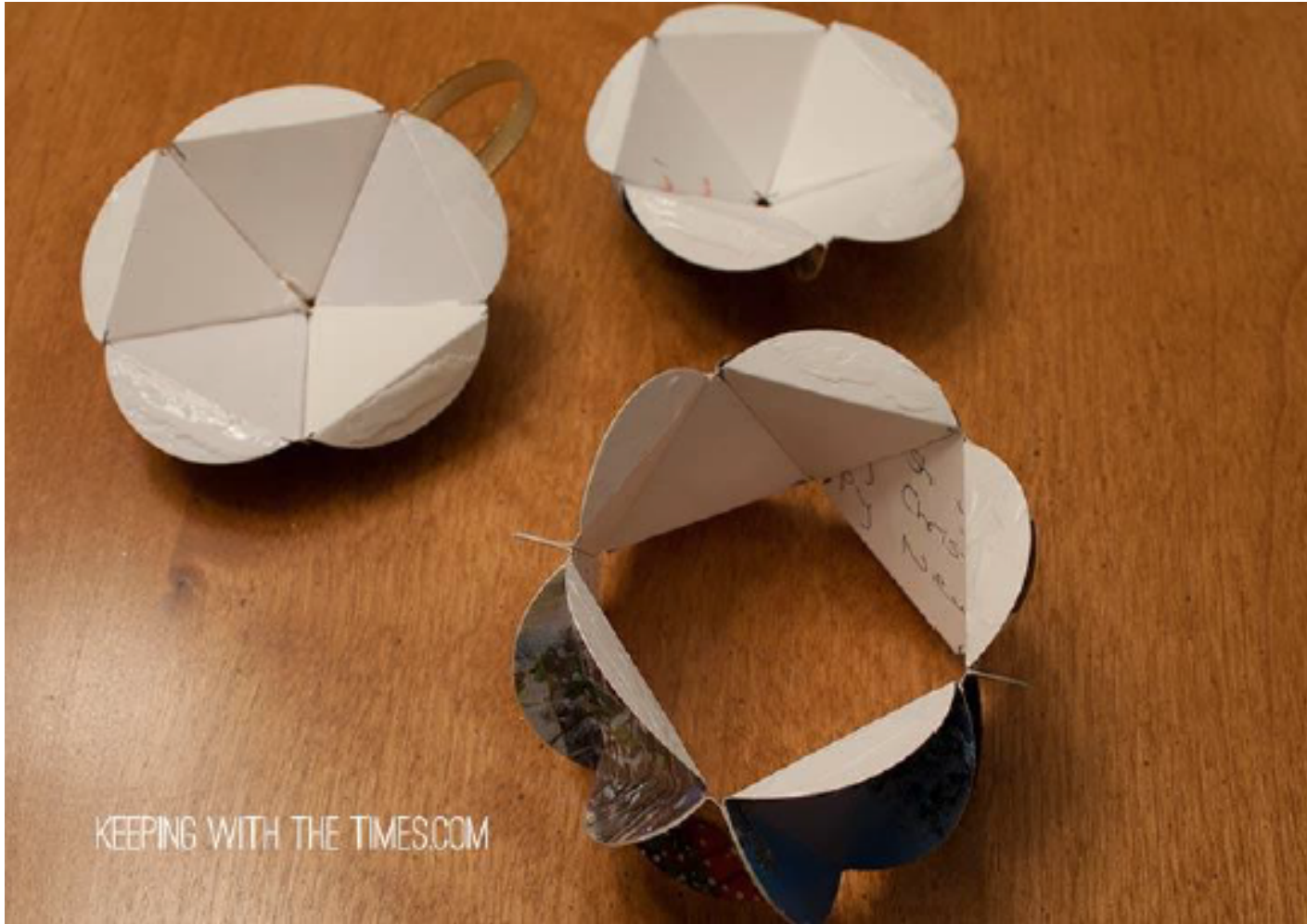
Make an equilateral triangle out of brown cardstock that is $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches on all sides. The angles of an equilateral triangle are 60 degrees.

Use it to make three marks on your circle to use as a guide for folding.

Score, and then fold up the three sides of your circle. You can use a bone folder and a ruler to score, but I use my small paper cutter with the blunt folding blade – but use it ever so lightly or you will cut through the paper.







KEEPING WITH THE TIMES.COM