Velvet Pumpkins with CBTV Live

Chapter 1 - Chapter 1
Velvet Pumpkins
- Hi. Hi everybody. It's faith room creative bug coming at you live like we do every Tuesday and Thursday. And today I'm working with everybody's favorite nineties formal wear fabric, crushed velvet. I'm making velvet pumpkins. And for this project you'll need gourd stems. I got these by snapping 'em off of Gord. We have some beautiful decorative gords on our table downstairs where we eat lunch and one day they didn't have any stems and everyone kind of eyed them nervously because I had stolen them all. It's very difficult. You have to have very strong thumb snap 'em off or you can find them on eBay or Etsy. You can buy like a whole batch of stems. So get the stems. Maybe only take stems from pumpkins, you know, not strange pumpkins. Also, I would say I've seen a lot of velvet pumpkins and the most convincing velvet pumpkins are the ones that have proportionately sized stems. So don't get big old stems from a pumpkin and put it on your teen little velvet thing. 'cause then everyone will know that they're not even real. You also need some button thread. This is, it needs to be nice and thick. So the button thread is good. You need some rice and get yourself a quarter yard of crushed velvet and also some polyfil stuffing and a hot glue gun. This is actually my friend Amber's, she left it here. Sorry Amber, that I have her glue gun. I haven't sent it back yet, but I will do so shortly. I'm stealing glue guns, stealing pumpkin stems. I, I have some atoning to do. Now we're going to cut ourselves an ugly circle out of the velvet. And like I said, I think it's good for it to be proportionate to the pumpkin stem that you have snapped off. So I'm just tucking it up to eyeball it. So this tells me I need a shape about this big. I'm gonna draw it first and then cut because this is a little bit of a squirrely fabric. It's easy for it to get away from you. And I'm gonna kind of make it bean shaped. So let's, I'm not making it a nice circle. I'm making it an awkward circle. And cut that out also, we are live, so feel free to go ahead and ask any questions or report to me your personal experience with crushed velvet. Taryn was telling me right before we started shooting that an early childhood concert, her parents took her to see Ringo Star and he had on a crushed velvet duster. And that it forever stuck in her mind as the most glamorous piece of clothing possible. So let me know if you have, if you have crushed velvet experiences of your own or if you just have opinions on stealing pumpkin stems. Maybe. Maybe you think that's fine. It's repurposing - What if you have opinions on strong thumbs, - If you have opinions on strong thumbs, if your opinions are Mya, what strong thumbs you have? I'm, yes I do. I'm very proud of my strong thumbs. I also have very robust forearms. They can deflect bullets like Wonder Woman and it's just from knitting all the time. I also have a pretty, it doesn't have to be as thick as this, but it needs to be as long as this because once we sew around the edge, we're going to be going through the center. And so the longer the better pull off a length of your button thread and you're gonna want it to be, well basically go around the circumference, but actually it can be much smaller than that 'cause we're gonna be pulling it tight and give yourself a knot leaving maybe three inches at the end. You're gonna wanna knot it a couple of times, so it's a big fat nut. And then we're going to do a running stitch around the edge. So this would be a great project for, if you are teaching kids how to sew, you're gonna be taking stitches that are anywhere between a quarter of an inch and a half an inch apart. And I kind of like to just inchworm them up on the needle until I run out of room. Also, this is an arena in which the more irregular the better because then it'll make it seem, I mean, I don't know why I'm saying authentically pumpkin because obviously there's no such thing as crushed

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velvet pumpkins outside of my fantasies. But I think it looks a little bit, you know, there's more evidence of the hand. It looks less manufactured, shall we say. And as we're trucking around the edge, gosh, I wish, I wish everyone had a crushed velvet story. This velvet, you could also use regular velvet, but it's a lot more expensive. And your final option would be, I know in my thrift shop travels I always see a lot of upholstery fabric that has a really velvety finish and that would look great as well. So I'm gonna, once I finish these, they'll probably be in like a lovely decorative bowl on the downstairs table to replace the, the gourd massacre of earlier this week. But are you, are you doing any other kind of autumnal decor or Halloween decor? Tiz the season, right? I guess Halloween is less than a week away. I know a lot of you are celebrating over the weekend. Please let me know if you have any exciting plans or ideas. Oh, I do have one other piece of decor that I did. I mention this earlier, I'm so excited where you cut out orange paper pumpkins, but then you get eyes and mouths from like a fashion magazine. So you're putting a human face on a paper pumpkin. I think that sounds delightfully creepy because this is, I think that's why I love Halloween. 'cause you can be really as weird as you wanna be. - Okay, first question comes from Jean. And Jean is wondering how does crushed velvet differ from velvet? - Jean is wondering how does crushed velvet differ from veltin? You could also use, thank you so much for your question, Jean. You could also use velvet for this process. And it is my understanding that crushed velvet has a lot more stretch to it. I don't know if velvet does. I think it lies a little bit more flat. And so because it's a stretchy fabric, the the texture of it, they're, they're lying in all different sorts of directions. I think an additional process is required to make that happen. But I believe the stretchiness contributes to that. That's a great question. In my, in my ultimate dream life, I would've done like a com one pumpkin in each of these fabrics and then like tested them all out and, and made some kind of graph or chart on like the pros and cons of each of the materials. But it, it, there was just a lot of nice fabrics in crushed velvet. So I just went with that. Also, I don't know if I mentioned you're gonna want to be keeping it about a quarter inch from the edge and we're almost to the end. - Okay, next question comes from Rachel. Rachel is wondering, could you use the same process with Calico? - Rachel is wondering, could you use the same process with Calico? Absolutely. That sounds darling. I love that idea. The next step will definitely help with the, so the, the, the stretchiness of the crush vet is good for this next part where we stuff it. But if you were just using like a co a quilting cotton weight, you would want to use more or less stuffing to like give it more of a modeled mushy shape. Oh, I love that idea. And then you could add some like grogan ribbon around the top. That's very cute. Thank you so much for your question. The next thing we'll do is, so we've gotten all the way to the end. We have our ends out and we have cinched it about halfway shut, but now we're going to pour in some rice and you can also pour in dried beans. And we're going to be using about a quarter to a half of a cup. This one, someone opened like a maniac. It doesn't look like it was, it was eaten open by a human. So I'm just gonna get the whole thing in here. And this will allow them to have a bit more heft. Also if you're, if you're decorating your, your yacht, it will keep them from blowing away in the ocean winds. - I was worried about that personally. - Yes, your crushed velvet pumpkins on your party yacht. So you can see we have a nice layer or you can also use beads or those plastic pellets, which I love. And now we're going to stuff this with stuffing - Before we get to our next question. Cindy, who is a huge fan of the color purple, not the movie or the book, but the actual color purple. She says A purple, purple pumpkin would be beautiful. - Cindy loves the color of purple and says a purple punk would be beautiful. You're absolutely right, Sydnee, it would be so beautiful. I don't know why I didn't get any purple. I got a pale pink. Is that secondary? Oh, can we call this purple? Sure. Dark. I'll, I'll do that, I'll do that afterwards. Maybe this is more of an eggplant

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and it's, it's, it's a little bit more logical than the pink too. Great suggestion. So here's a, the opportunity to test and play with how much stuffing you need. So I've put in about three fifths full. You can see it's, it's a little bit underwhelmed, so we're gonna need a bit more stuffing. Also, if you get a quarter yard, that should get you a five, about four or five pumpkins. And this bag, this 10 ounces bag would definitely be probably 10 pumpkins worth. - All right, next question comes from Samantha. Samantha wants to know, do the edges fray. - Next question comes from Samantha. Samantha wants to know, do the edges fray. There's a possibility they fray, but once we cover it with hot glue to attach the stem, it doesn't even really matter. So I like this amount of stuffing and you see how, you know it's not because we didn't cut it perfectly round. It's nice and organically shaped. You wanna make sure all that rice is at the bottom and now I'm going to stitch it shut. So as we pull it in, we get the edges as close as possible and you can tie a knot with that tail. But really the sewing it is going to be what finishes it off. So I've pulled it as tight as possible, but there's still a bit of a hole and I'm going to just make some big stitches across. And I wanna make this as small as possible so that it can fit underneath the stem. Just big overhand stitches. - All right, next comment comes from Phil or one of our most loyal viewers. Phil being in the UK says they don't really celebrate Halloween in the uk, although it's starting to become more of a thing. He says, I always imagine Halloween to be like the movie Hocus pocus. - Phil says he always imagines Halloween to be like the film hocus pocus. You're not too far off. It also sometimes is just a crazy debas party, but I would say the proportion of of crushed velvet pumpkins to partying is, is if velvet pumpkins are involved, it's more hocus pocus, less party time. So now we're going to add our little dimple in the bottom of the pumpkin to further squash it. And that's why we need to have a longer needle. So we're gonna push it through. And I wouldn't, I don't think you should push it through the center. I think you should grab an edge and pull it at the bottom. We're going to make a little x, so pull it back in and just stitch it like a quarter of an inch. Pull it back out. Oh, and actually you could go back in and do an X or you could just pull it tight and nod it. Let's see if that works. - Deb's is commenting on your, your use of deba. Good word. - SAT word. Devil likes the use of the word deba. It, it really is a great word to describe Halloween. And one of the downsides to using a gigantic needle is sometimes it slips off. Thank you for your patience in having me reload it. I'm take one more stitch. This is so cute already. - Jody says, I would want to pet these like a cat. - Jody says she'd wanna pet these like a cat. Jody, you're abs. I yes you would. And I will on your behalf. I, I should warn anyone making these velvet pumpkins that anyone in their immediate orbit will come by and stroke them or squeeze them or even just go, ah, and, and grab them a little bit. So trim off your ends a quarter of an inch. And you have to make sure that they're not doing any squeezing when the, when the stem isn't fully attached because it needs some time to dry off. As you can see, we've provided ourselves with a flat little base because of all that stitching we did. And give, try them out. See, see what feels right to you. Where, what belongs on your pumpkin. I think this guy belongs here. And we just have this over a piece of parchment or freezer paper. And you wanna coat the bottom. Make sure your glue is hot, hot, hot. And also preferably borrowed from a friend. 'cause this has worked out for me since doing that. And then we're just gonna push it down and I would suggest holding it for a couple seconds and letting it harden. And these should stay pretty well. I have to say, these have gotten a fair amount of handling, squeezing, squishing, petting. And they have stayed. They've stayed set for. Now let's, let's finish off Mr. Pink here too. He was a, a version. Why, why did pumpkins need to be gendered? Forgive me, this pumpkin did not have any rice in the bottom. And it, you can see it has a little bit more bounce to it. So a little bit less wind resistant for your, for your yacht table. That one looks fine there. Yeah, I've seen some, some of these pumpkins with really big

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stems and I think, who are you kidding? I know that's not a real pumpkin. Aren't these so fun? I can't get enough of these. They're really ridiculous. Maybe we'll hide the real, the real chord so that no one gets confused. But, and I'm for the lady who commented on purple, don't you worry. I'll be making a purple one right after this. Thank you so much for joining me and for your comments and your questions. I really look forward to these every single week and I hope you enjoy them every single week. And we have questions. One more question before we go. - Robin just joined us and she is wondering, are these real pumpkin stems? - Robin just joined us and she's wondering, are you real pumpkin stems? Are you real pumpkin? Are these real pumpkin stems? And I have a sneaking suspicion that Ally just asked me so that I could brag one more time about my incredibly strong thumbs. Yes, they are real pumpkin stems. You have to snap 'em off the gourd. Or you could probably go to a pumpkin purveyor if you have a local patch and say, excuse me, but do you have any pumpkin stems? And when they say, is this for a spell? Say yes. Happy Halloween and we'll see you next week.

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