
Doodled Ornaments and Gift Toppers with Courtney Cerruti

Chapter 1 - Introduction

Overview

(gentle music) - Hi, I'm Courtney from Creativebug, and I'm addicted to marker pens, pens of any kind, especially if they come in neon pink. So I've pretty much tested everything that's out there in neon pink, and I totally fell in love with Sakura Gelly Roll pens. I'm going to show you how to take simple wooden shapes that you can find in the kids' crafting aisle, doodle on them. We are going to some intarsia or fair isle knitted motifs as our inspiration. I'll show you how to add a hole using just a nail and hammer, put a ribbon through there, or a piece of string, and then we'll have these really beautiful, simple, and really fun-to-make ornaments for the holidays.

Chapter 2 - Materials

Materials

- You don't need a lot of materials for this project. Some of these things you may already have lying around your house. The basis of our ornament is actually going to be these little wooden craft shapes. And these usually come in a mix pack with a variety of sizes. You'll also need some string. That's where we're gonna hang our ornaments with. Paint markers. I have metallic ones and a white one. And then the Gelly Roll pens I mentioned earlier that I love. And this is the Moonlight series, which is really opaque and paint-like. You need something to hammer into so I just have a little wooden plaque and a couple of nails. A pair of sharp scissors and a hammer. And that's all you need to get started.

Chapter 3 - Make Ornaments

Doodle design

- You can doodle anything on these wooden shapes to create your ornaments. My inspiration is gonna be an Intargia or Fair Isle Chart. This is a knitting pattern style. It's a lot of color work. It's like those Christmas sweaters. When you think of the ugly Christmas sweater or the lovely grandma Christmas sweater or even stockings. You can print out these charts from the internet and they have these great geometric patterns that look like stitches. So we're gonna use this just as a basis for inspiration. But again you could take these principles and just apply them in any way that you like. I'm gonna start with this motif and I don't have to follow this exactly. I'm just using it for inspiration. I'm drawing little tiny lines to get that irregular quality of line that looks like stitches. Sort of like drawing ecot dots or something which I also really love the look of. (pen etching) And the great thing is you can go over this if you make a mistake. I'm gonna continue that motif again here. It's not exactly centered which is fine. I want this to just feel like it's part of a knitted pattern. Go right off the edge as best you can and just continue the pattern. Once you have something down whatever it is that you're drawing, that will dictate where you're gonna draw next. So these little openings that have been created, I could use a different color and fill those in or these triangular shapes here on the side I can use those as a guide for the next motif. I'm gonna switch colors. Let's do something in gold. This kind of a pen's a little different than the Gelly Rolls. (pen scratching) I'm just gonna put these little triangles in here. It's a fatter tip. (pen scratching) Just a little hint of the gold there. Let's do blue in the center here, and it's really really forgiving. This is just doodling. I can choose to fill in this shape later or just leave it an open shape. And the other thing that's nice about this style with

these little lines like this is that the wood grain is actually moving this way so it's really easy to draw when these lines are parallel with the little wood grain lines. You can always rotate your piece too. Let's do something this way. Let's continue these blue shapes and that's counter grain so I'm actually gonna turn it back to how I had it. It just feels nicer to draw on when the strokes of my pen and the grain are going the same direction. (pen scratching) Just going back in to fill in that shape. These don't have to be symmetrical at all. Just kind of responding to what's there. Same thing here. I can look back to my inspiration pattern and see if there are any motifs here that I want to replicate or adapt. I like these little diamonds but maybe I'll do something that's a little more stretched out. This is just purely inspiration I'm not copying this. I'm just refining the shape. Once I kind of have it sitting there. Do a second one. Do one here. And then another one. (pen scratching) This is so relaxing, you could totally do this while watching your favorite Christmas movie or television show. I don't really ever just take a pen and kind of doodle in the margins like a lot of people doodle. This kind of drawing is my form of doodling and so to make a Christmas ornament out of it or it could be a gift topper is really fun and then I feel like I'm being sort of productive while watching my movie. All right I'm going to switch to a different color and just continue adding motifs. Sort of just letting the shapes as they are dictate what is gonna come next. I'm just gonna kinda mimic this shape here. The arc of the little blue eye. Just kind of look like I have a peacock feather. Could be the color or the shape. The same thing down here. (pen scratching) Again you can always refine it. Like there's less negative space there than there is here. This has more of an arch. If I want to I can try to make them match a little more but I actually don't mind the irregularity. I think maybe I want to put something small just inside those blue openings and then this might be done. Maybe something in here too, actually. Maybe I'll just do this kind of little irregular dot in there. Do one here. I'm gonna switch to my neon yellow and just add some little shapes in here and I think that'll be good for this guy. (pen scratching) Yeah, I like that. You can do the exact same thing to the back or you can choose to do an entirely new pattern and all of the shapes, the teardrop, the oval, the little circle. Those shapes will dictate new patterns. Every single one can be different and once you have them all drawn then I'll show you how to add holes and a ribbon so that they can be hung on a tree.

Create hole and add ribbon

- Be sure you're working on a surface that you can hammer into, I have a little wooden plaque, and you're gonna place your ornament on top, and then you want to back away from the edge of your shape about a quarter of an inch. If you make a hole really close to the edge, then it can be brittle and break. I'm just gonna use the negative space there as a guide for my hole, and then you're just gonna hammer. Give your nail a little wiggle, and that allows you to make a really nice, clean hole without having to use a drill. Go ahead and add a hole to the rest of your shapes, and then you can select your ribbon. You'll want something thin. I have a really pretty gold string, but it tends to unravel, so I need to just give it a fresh cut. Just thread that through the hole. Give yourself about five or six inches so you have room to make an overhand knot. I'll take both of the threads together, and just tie them into a knot, and then you can trim away any excess. That way you have enough space to make a knot comfortably, and you'll do that with all of your shapes, and you can change the ribbon, or use cording. I have some others here. Some of them still need their ribbons. You can really see that any type of pattern will look really cool once it goes all the way to the edges. You're using these really bright colors. You can add gold ribbon, or decorative ribbon. You can even do a double sided one. These make great gift tags, really beautiful ornaments, and they're really fun and easy to make.