# Tips, Tools, & Techniques



Your go-to guide for the hottest tools, freshest tips, and coolest techniques.

P. Kelly SMITH

#### The Cutup Cartridge Trimmer by American Crafts

If you're looking to invest in a tool that will stand the test of "paper", the Cutup Cartridge Trimmer by American Crafts just might be your new best friend. This 8 x 12 rotary trimmer comes with three fully enclosed blade cartridges (straight, scallop, score) and an ergonomic handle top, allowing for easy and safe blade change. The secure cutting rail also locks paper down, guaranteeing smooth, even cuts. With the trimmer's extendable arm, you can cut 12 x 12 paper up to a heavy weight cardstock. Another fantastic feature is the built-in storage compartment for the seven styles of decorative blades (additional blades are sold separately). With its sleek design and reassuring safety features, this trimmer is a cut above the rest!

> Retail for Cutup Cartridge Trimmer **\$49.99** Additional cartridge blades **\$3.99** Cartridge trimmer cutting bar **\$4.99**

www.americancrafts.com

Using the Cutup Cartridge Trimmer, Betsy Veldman created this colorful Summer Fun Ticket Book. She first printed the tickets on cardstock, cut them apart with the trimmer (using a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " circle punch to notch the corners), and then used the scallop blade on the ends to resemble torn tickets. A bonus feature...the tickets are perforated so that they can be torn out of the booklet!



#### **Online Bonus Projects**

Supplies and instructions for Betsy's Summer Fun Ticket Book (including the download for the book's ticket pages and cover!) can be found online at *PaperCraftsMag.com/projects*.



### Playing with Paint, Part II

Playing with paint has never been more fun! Just turn to p. 59 for the proof. Because she literally invents techniques in her sleep, we asked Go-to Gal Teri Anderson to unleash her creativity and brushstrokes on these six technique tags that all have one thing in common...paint!



Twist a round paint brush to make circles. Bonus technique: paint corduroy brads to match color scheme of your project.



Stain embellishments. Dilute paint with a few drops of water and stain buttons.



Affix letter stickers to create a mask. Brush paint over them and remove stickers.



**Create a textured painted gel** by mixing 1 part paint (*Glossy Accents*) with 1 part paint and 2 parts glitter. Paint mixture over chipboard butterfly.



Stamp with household objects (like a wine cork) to make borders.



**Create texturized lines** by repeatedly brushing a comb through paint lines.

#### Go Ahead... Paint Outside the Lines

How'd she do that? If Teri's six technique tags have inspired you to pull out the paint brushes, follow her simple tips for incorporating paint into your paper crafts:

- Don't be limited to the traditional paint brush when using paint. Look for paint brushes of different shapes, textures, and sizes. These can expand your creative options with how you apply paint.
- Remember: You can mix paint. Add sand, glitter, mini marbles, and Mica flakes to give paint texture.
- Mix it with liquid materials, too. Experiment with water and products such as Glossy Accents by Ranger to change the appearance of the paint. Also, mix different paint colors together for new colors.

5)



Craft time just got a whole lot brighter! The **Craft Caddy Lamp** by **Ottlite** is not only compact and portable, but it's equipped with Ottlite's High Definition Natural Lighting, which provides the ideal balance of brightness and contrast. The result is reduced glare, less eyestrain, less fatigue, and low heat. Measuring  $17 \times 10.5 \times 10$  and weighing only 3.3 pounds, the Craft Caddy Lamp includes a collapsible shade and arm, an extra outlet for your heat tool or glue gun, and removable trays for easy clean-up and organization. The best perk...the lamp's energy-efficient bulb is rated to last up to 10,000 hours. That's a lot of crafting time!

Retail for Craft Caddy Lamp **\$79.99** 13-Watt Replacement Tube **\$17.99** 

www.ottlite.com

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