



# Woman's World



pg 16-17 We tell you about the five paisley printed dresses that we're in love

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pg 19 Do you love DIY projects? Find out about the craft items that are a must-have

Afternoon Despatch & Courier

MUMBAI | THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2014

# DECK THE HALLS WITH DIY

There's only a few weeks left for Christmas, which means that you've probably started to dust your Christmas tree and shake out the tinsel to decorate it. If your decorations need a slight overhaul, but you don't want to spend too much on new ones, take a cue from **The Woman's World Team** and make your own!

Christmas is a great time to indulge in a few homemade treats — no we're not talking about cooking up a storm with the family. It's time to start putting up your tree and taking stock of your decorations! If you don't have too many impressive decorations this year, don't panic. We're going to show you how to use household items along with a few arts and crafts supplies to make some of the cutest decorations you'll ever see. The best part is that they're so easy to make, that you can ask your children to be your little helpers — making it a fun activity for the entire family!

## COOKIE CUTTER DECORATIONS

**Materials:** Christmas-themed cookie cutters, Christmas-themed wrapping paper, fabric glue, twine and scissors.

**Method:** This is one of the easiest decorations to make and it took us only a few hours to finish because of the drying time. Your children can make this one on their own too. All you have to do is lay cookie cutters on wrapping



Photos: Nilesh Juveale | HRM

paper so that the desired pattern peeks through. Trace the outline, apply a thick coat of glue on the cutter and stick it to the sheet of paper to form a background. Press it down, then let it dry for 2-3 hours. Cut off any paper and pass some twine through it to hang it on your tree.



We decorated a Christmas tree using decorations made from household objects. Read on to find out how you can do the same

# ADC

## Afternoon

DISPATCH & COURIER

hrs

8hrs

4hrs

6hrs

# 48hrs

8hrs

12hrs

16hrs

## 48hrs

20hrs

8hrs

12hrs

16hrs

24hrs

ADC

# TINSEL & TRINKETS

### « Feature

We bring you our pick of the best Christmas decoration that you can lay your hands on

### « Food

Find out we think of iChef and Bulldogs Bar & Grill

### « Shopping

We review products from the new beauty brand, Bliscent

### « Weekend Planner

Food promotions, offers, exhibitions and much more in our weekend planner

### « Other

Find out about the Interarts exhibition, take a trip to Austria, new launches and much more

8 PAGES THIS FRIDAY! BOOK YOUR COPY NOW!

>> Snow globes take long to make, but they look extremely pretty



### SNOW GLOBES

**Materials:** Christmas trees, snowmen and other small decorations, M-Seal, silver glitter, distilled water, glycerine and a clean mason or jam jar.

**Method:** While this one is easy to make if you've got leftover decorations and old jars at home, it does take slightly longer than the rest. It's simple enough, but if you're making it with children, you need to supervise the procedure. Unscrew the lid of the mason jar and stick the Christmas decorations in the centre of the lid. We used M-Seal to stick ours, but if you are using wooden decorations, fabric glue will work too. The glue/ M-Seal will take a few hours to harden, so set it aside overnight to allow it to dry well. Then, fill the actual jar with water and glycerine in a 3:1 ratio and add 1 tsp loose glitter to it. Mix it with a spoon to disperse the glitter, screw on the lid and turn the jar upside down to create your own snow globe.

### BOTTLE SNOWMAN

**Materials:** A plastic bottle, acrylic paints in black, white and red, a matchstick and a string of fairy lights.

**Method:** If your children have an artistic flair, this is the best project to do with them. You can make several to put around your house, or just one to place under your tree. Using acrylic paint, paint the base of the bottle (3/4th) white. Paint a snowman on the front, with a red scarf around his neck. Use a matchstick dipped in black paint to create buttons, eyes and a smile. Finally, make the snowman's hat and use the matchstick to add his nose and the red band around the hat. Carefully place fairy lights inside and your snowman is ready!



### BOTTLE BASE SNOWFLAKES

**Materials:** Small plastic bottles, glitter glue, twine and a knife or cutter.

**Method:** This one is the easiest, but will still sit pretty on your Christmas tree. Cut the base of

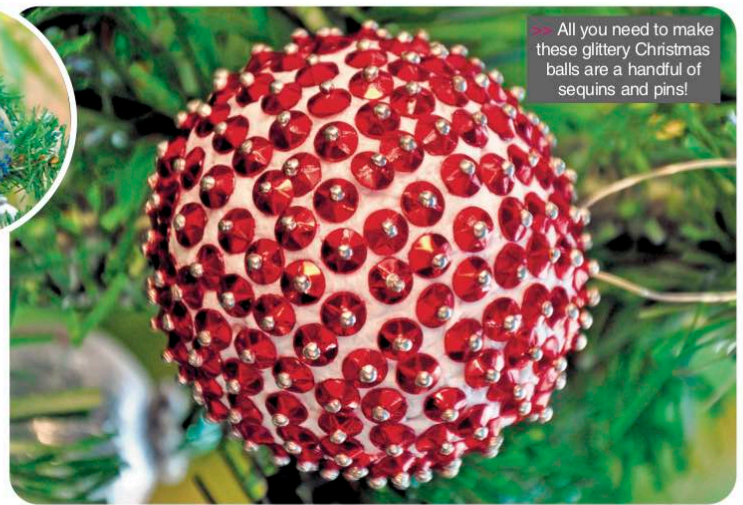
clear plastic bottles for your children and place them face down on a newspaper. Hand them colourful glitter glue and help them make snowflake designs on top of them. Make a tiny hole with a pin and insert a thread through it to hang these on your Christmas tree.



### CHRISTMAS BALLS

**Materials:** Thermocol balls, sequins, pins and twine.

**Method:** If your children love arts and crafts, we're sure that you've got some leftover sequins at home. While thermocol balls are available at craft shops, you can also use old, faded Christmas ornaments instead of throwing them away. These look impressive, are ridiculously simple to make, but are quite time consuming. Making one ornament took us a good half hour, so make sure that you have ample time on your hands. All you have to do is pin individual sequins onto the ball in a pattern, or fill it up like we did. Twist a piece of stiff wire over one of the pins to hang the ball from your tree. Remember not to try and use glue or the thermocol will melt.



>> All you need to make these glittery Christmas balls are a handful of sequins and pins!

and push a twig into each ball to make the arms. Then, paint the eyes, nose and buttons with acrylic paint. Let the paint dry and your snowmen are ready! Wrap jewellery wire tightly around the cap of the bulb to hang them on the tree. They can shatter if they fall, so be careful where you place them!

### BUTTON RING DÉCOR

**Materials:** Old buttons, twine and a ribbon.

**Method:** This is not only one of the easiest on the list, it's also one of the most pocket friendly options. All you need to do is string the buttons on a piece of jewellery wire or twine and then tie the top together with a piece of ribbon!



### GLITTER STARS

**Materials:** Metallic paper in any colour, twine, glue, scissors and loose glitter.

**Method:** These are perfect for young children who can't handle a complicated craft project. Help them cut out star shapes from shiny paper and draw a smaller star in the middle. Fill the shape with glue and then dust some glitter into the centre. Poke twine through a hole at the top to hang them up. If you want them to sit stiffer, paste them on cardboard.



### BOTTLE CAP SNOWMEN

**Materials:** Bottle caps (three per snowman), thick ribbon, all-surface glue, glitter or glitter glue, acrylic paint in white, black and orange and thin ribbon.

**Method:** These are one of our favourites. They require a little more time and effort to make, so ensure that you're around your children to supervise them. Paint all the bottle caps white (you can just paint the insides if you're short on time. Remember you will need at least 4 coats to cover them well) and stick them lengthwise onto a strip of ribbon — three caps to a



>> These bottle cap snowmen are a great way to upcycle waste

snowman and cut the excess ribbon off the bottom. You can make a loop with the ribbon at the top, but ours was too thick so we simply used the glue to stick a thinner ribbon on top. Paint eyes, a nose and a smile on the topmost cap and then add buttons to the second one. Sprinkle a little glitter in each cap and hang them on your tree!

### STENCIL PLATE

**Materials:** A paper plate, acrylic paint, handmade paper, a strip of ribbon, glitter, sequins and all-surface glue.

**Method:** This is a great craft for children to do on leftover party plates. Give them free hand with a brush and paint and let them explore their creative side. Allow them to dust glitter over it, stick on sequins — whatever they wish! Stick the plate onto coloured paper. You can add some ribbon at the back, like we did, for a little more embellishment. Put it up in their room or let them hang it in a corner of the house for a homemade Christmassy feel.

