

How to Make

July 4th

Decorations



8 Patriotic Craft Tutorials

AllFreeHolidayCrafts

How to Make July 4th Decorations: 8 Patriotic Craft Tutorials

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Letter from the Editor

Hello Holiday Crafters,

There's something almost magical about the Fourth of July. Fire in the sky and sparklers in the street, not to mention all the festive red, white and blue that suddenly appears everywhere! Plus since it's summer and everyone is usually in a good mood, July 4th is always one of the most happy holidays, at least in my opinion.

If you're planning a celebration this year, whether it's a picnic, a backyard BBQ or an outdoor party, you're going to need some festive decorations to fit the mood. We've come up with a really fun collection of patriotic crafts to help you celebrate America this summer. Inside this eBook you'll find tutorials for red, white and blue garlands, wreaths, table toppers and so much more!

So come celebrate America and show off your crafty side at the same time with these patriotic projects. Making them is sure to put you in a festive mood, and you'll be so excited to welcome guests to your home once you've created these fun America-inspired crafts!

Happy Crafting,

Rachel, Editor for AllFreeHolidayCrafts

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You can find more patriotic craft projects and DIY decorations at www.AllFreeHolidayCrafts.com.

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Ruffly Floral Patriotic Wreath

By Allie from Miss Lovie Creations

This wreath has everything you could want in a patriotic decoration. Ruffles, beautiful flowers and bright and festive colors make this one of the cutest door hangers we've seen! Find out how to create your own version with this tutorial.



Materials:

- Straw wreath
- Various fabrics (you can use anything; cotton works well)
 - 1-1/2 yds for the blue fabric used to ruffle and wrap the wreath (can be all the same or coordinating shades of blue)
 - 1/2 yd or so for each red fabric (can be all the same or coordinating fabrics)
 - 3/4 yds. or so for each white fabric (pictured here is a white rough silk and a textured thin cotton)
- Trim for the center of the flowers
- Sewing materials
- Ribbon for hanging

Instructions:

- 1) Cut strips of fabric into 4" wide strips of the fabric you want peeking out the sides and 3-1/2" wide strips of the fabric you want on top. The length doesn't matter because you're going to sew it all together in the end to make one really long ruffle. Cut about 10-12 strips for each pattern.



- 2) Place the fabric strips on top of each other so the wider strip is peeking from behind the narrower one.



- 3) Set your machine on the highest tension and the longest stitch length to create a ruffle. Sew straight down the middle of the strips and they should ruffle on their own. Don't backstitch!

If it isn't ruffled enough, pull on the thread with one hand and carefully push your

fabric down the thread to make the gathers closer together.



- 4) When you're done with all your strips, sew them together by sewing the right sides together on each end, being sure to match up the top strip layers together so it looks like one continuing ruffle when you're done.



- 5) Trim the threads on the sides of the strips all the way to the edge of the fabric (see the arrow in the picture below), but not too close on the ends. Leave those threads a couple inches longer than the end of the strip so that it doesn't wiggle out and cause your ruffle to un-ruffle. You can also use those threads to tighten up any ruffles that come loose. You'll hide the threads later.



- 6) Wrap the ruffled strip around your wreath form, securing it with hot glue. Set wreath aside.



- 7) To make the red flowers, start out with a 4" x 45" strip ruffled as tight as it will go.



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- 8) Once all ruffled, sew right sides together to create a circle.



- 9) In order to be sure the ends of the fabric don't peek out, you can trim the edges after the seam.



- 10) Then you have your first ruffled circle. Do the same with trimming your threads on this ruffle as you did for the long ruffle you used to wrap your wreath.



- 11) For the rest of the circles, just continually decrease the width of your strips by 1/4" or 1/2" as you go and your length several inches as you go. Alternate the patterned fabric for each strip. Make 6 (or more, if you want) circles total. The smallest of the circles will be about 1-1/4" wide and about 10" long.

- 12) Stack the ruffled circles and hand-sew them together.

- 13) Once the flower is finished, you can knot up and then twist some trim around itself, hot gluing as you go, to form a large knot (this doesn't have to be perfect) and hot glue it to the flower's center (covering all the stitching from the ruffles).



- 14) To make the white flowers, alternate between the silk and textured cotton, following [this tutorial](#). Make two of each flower.

- 15) Attach your flowers with straight pins. Peel back a couple ruffles and stick your pin in. Use a few pins per flower.



16) Use your ribbon to hang your wreath.



Burlap Americana Bunting

By Telisa from Sugar Tot Designs

Celebrate your favorite patriotic holidays by decorating your home with this festive bunting! Using red and blue patterned fabric plus some patriotic yarn and rustic burlap makes this a truly unique decoration. Find out how to create your own version by following this tutorial.



Materials:

- 1/3 yd. of red fabric (more or less depending on the size of your flags)
- 1/3 yd. of blue fabric (more or less depending on the size of your flags)
- 1/3 yd. of burlap
- Yarn or string
- 3 different circles to trace (use plates approximately 12" across, 8-1/2" across, and 5" across)
- Fabric scissors
- Marker and pencil
- Thread (white, red and blue)
- Sewing machine

Instructions:

- 1) Put 2 little marks on the back of your plates on either side (between the top and the middle of the plate) so the flags will be bigger than a half circle.



- 2) Cut out 3 of the large red flags, 3 large blue flags, 6 medium burlap flags, 3 small red flags, 3 small blue flags. Also cut (12) 12" pieces of string/yarn in red and (12) 12" pieces of string/yarn in white.



- 3) Sew a zigzag stitch all around the edges of all the large flag pieces with white thread, sewing the strings on either end as you go.



- 4) Sew the medium burlap flags on top of the large flags using a zigzag stitch. You can use red thread for the large blue flag and blue thread for the large red flag. Then sew the small flags on top of that with a zigzag stitch.



- 5) Finish off the flags by sewing a zigzag stitch across the top of the banner.



- 6) Tie the flags together and hang.



Red White and Doily Garland

By Jen from Craft-O-Maniac

This patriotic garland is made of something totally unexpected... doilies and coffee filters! So if you want to wow your guests with some crafty and creative decorations this summer, just follow this tutorial to create your own festive and feminine holiday garland!



Materials:

- Red mesh
- Burlap
- Coffee filters
- Buttons
- Scissors
- 4th of July scrap paper
- Paper doilies
- Hot glue gun
- Navy blue acrylic paint
- Red acrylic paint (optional)
- Round small sponge brush
- Grosgrain ribbon

Instructions:

- 1) Optional: Paint the outer edges of some of the doilies using the red acrylic paint. This will give your garland more color.



- 2) Use your small round sponge brush to paint the edges of the coffee filters using the acrylic blue paint.



- 3) Cut circles slightly smaller than your doilies out of the red mesh. Then cut circles slightly smaller than the red mesh circles out of your 4th of July scrap paper. Layer circles one on top of the other, from smallest to largest, using hot glue gun to secure.



- 4) Cut circles slightly larger than your doilies out of the burlap and glue layered bunch on top of the burlap.
- 5) Cut circles slightly larger than your burlap circles out of the red mesh and affix mesh to back of burlap.
- 6) Finally affix all combined layered circles onto blue-edged coffee filters using glue gun. Your finished circles will look like this:



- 7) Tie knots in grosgrain ribbon, spacing them out as much as you would like the coffee filters spaced on your garland.



- 8) Use hot glue gun to attach coffee filters to the grosgrain ribbon, between the knots.



Recycled Jean Table Runner

By Cathie from CathieFilian.com

What could be more All-American than blue jeans? How about a project where you make patriotic decorations out of your worn-out denim?! This tutorial shows you how to make a table runner that's great for the Fourth of July, Memorial Day or any summer celebration!



Materials:

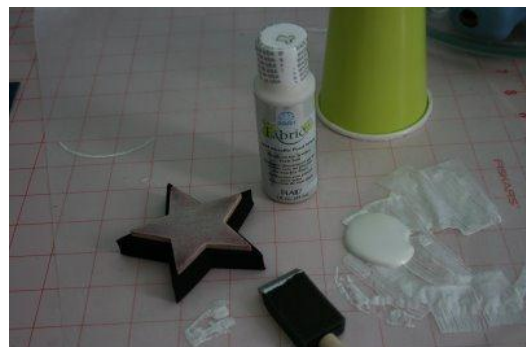
- FolkArt Fabric Paint - Brush On - Pearl White
- Star foam stamp
- Foam paintbrush
- Denim jeans
- Various red white and blue printed fabrics (at least 18" wide)

Instructions:

- 1) Cut the leg portion off a pair of jeans. Slice up the side seam and place the leg flat. Use a ruler to square the leg to 18" on one side. The other side can be as long as you wish. In the example shown, the leg piece measures 18" x 18".



- 2) Apply the fabric paint to the foam stamp with a foam paintbrush and stamp all over the denim. Reload with paint as needed. Allow the paint to dry and heat set with an iron.

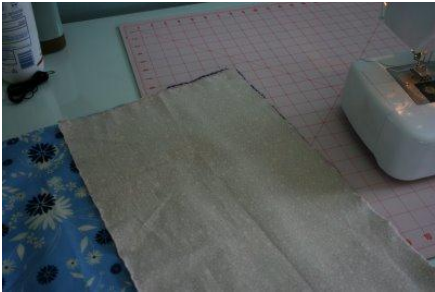


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- 3) Cut the printed fabrics into strips 18" wide and as long as you wish. For added interest, make each piece a different length.



- 4) Sew the printed pieces and the painted denim together to form a long strip. You will be sewing them right-sides to right-sides.



- 5) Press the seams flat.



- 6) Continue sewing until you have formed a piece that is 18" wide and as long as you wish.



- 7) Sew a backer for the runner in the same fashion as step 2. Next, place the backer piece (right side down) on top of the runner. Sew around the edge leaving a small opening for turning. Trim the corners on an angle. Turn the runner right side out and press. Topstitch around the outer edge.



- 8) You're done!



Patriotic Pinwheels

By Staci from Crafty Staci

Looking for playful 4th of July craft ideas? These Patriotic Pinwheels are fun holiday crafts for kids that you can also use as cool homemade 4th of July decorations! Learn how to make pinwheels for any holiday by following these step by step instructions.



Materials:

- Two 6" x 6" squares of patriotic fabric
- One 6" x 6" square of fusible web (like Wonder Under or Steam-A-Seam)



Instructions:

- 1) Iron fusible web to the wrong side of one fabric, remove paper, and iron to the wrong side of the other fabric. Trim edges to even up, if necessary.



- 2) Using a ruler, draw a line diagonally from each corner toward the center that's 2-1/2" long. Cut along all four lines.



- 3) Sew over all the edges using a short zigzag stitch, pivoting at the end of each cut and holding opposite corners out of the way.



- 4) Mark the center of the square. Pull up one corner and push a pin through the back side, about 1/4" from the tip. Skip the next corner. Pull up the following corner and push the pin through. Continue around the square.



- 5) Push the pin through the center of the square and into a pencil eraser. Use pliers to bend the end of the pin down. Obviously, this is decorative and not meant for the little ones to play with!



Fourth of July Luminaries

By Amanda Formaro from Crafts by Amanda

Decorate the backyard with these glowing Patriotic Painted Luminaries for a festive holiday feel! These are such simple homemade 4th of July decorations that can be used again for Labor Day and also for Memorial Day. All you need are some recycled glass jars and acrylic paint and you're ready to create your own star luminaries! Just follow this tutorial for the steps to make patriotic decorations just like these.

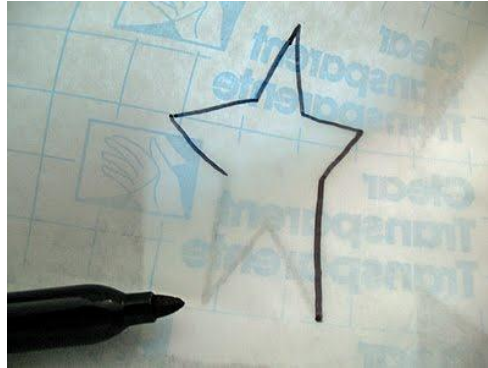


Materials:

- Glass jars
- Red, white and blue acrylic paint
- White piece of paper
- Black Sharpie
- Contact paper
- Paintbrush
- Clear gloss sealer spray
- Twine

Instructions:

- 1) Draw a star on a piece of paper. Place the drawing underneath a piece of Contact paper. Trace the star onto the Contact paper, one for each jar.



- 2) Cut the star out and peel off the backing. Place the star onto the jar and press to make sure that there are no air bubbles and that all corners are pressed down.



- 3) Paint jar with one coat of acrylic paint and let dry completely.



- 4) Make sure the paint is dry before peeling the contact paper off. Pipe glitter glue around the star and let dry several hours. Spray with gloss sealer and let dry. Give the jar two more coats of sealer spray, allowing it to dry for 20 minutes between coats. Tie twine around the rim of each jar.

Variations: Use thin strips of Contact paper to create stripes, or small squares on your jar. Another option is to coat your jar with white glitter glue before spraying with sealer. I did 4 stars on one jar, stripes on another, and little squares on another.

Dazzling Sparkler Cupcake Toppers

By Jessica from Two Shades of Pink

There's no reason why your desserts shouldn't look as patriotic as the rest of your homemade 4th of July decorations, at least not when you have Independence Day crafts as easy to make as these Dazzling Sparkler Cupcake Toppers! Just get some silver crochet thread and scissors and you're set to make some adorable and festive cupcake picks! Simply follow this tutorial to find out how it's done!



Materials:

- Silver Crochet Thread (by Red Heart Fashion purchased at Wal-Mart),
- 4" skewers
- Scissors
- Hot glue.

Instructions:

- 1) Wrap crochet thread around three fingers 40-50 times, like making a pom-pom.



- 2) Gently slide the loops off and place them on top and in the middle of a length of the thread.



- 3) Tie it securely with a double knot, twist it to the back, and do it again.



- 4) Cut the loops on either end.



- 5) It will look like this.



- 6) After a little dab of hot glue on the blunt end, slide the skewer inside the knot and hold until set.



- 7) Fluff it out.



- 8) Look at this adorable cupcake pick. I love that it has just the right sparkle to make it look real! I made six of these and they took me about 10-15 minutes.



Easy Star Spangled Centerpiece

By Fawnda from Fireflies and Jellybeans

Some of the best homemade 4th of July decorations we've seen are the ones that are simple and classic, like this Easy Star Spangled Centerpiece. All you need to create this party centerpiece is a recycled can, some pretty scrapbook paper, Mod Podge and ribbon, so if you're looking for easy-to-make Independence Day crafts to display at your party or picnic, this is the tutorial for you!



Materials:

- Large can
- Mod Podge
- Ribbon (I used red and blue)
- 4th of July color papers
- Scissors
- Adhesive
- Straws
- Sand (I got mine from the beach—they won't miss it!)

Instructions:

- 1) Mark on your paper how tall your can is to cut off a piece to wrap around the outside.



- 2) Cut the paper and attach to can using strong adhesive (You could use Mod Podge for this too).



- 3) Fill your can with sand.

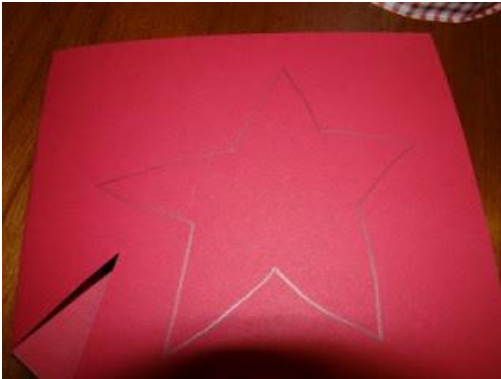


- 4) Fold the paper that you are using in half. We are folding them in half because we

need two of the shape we are cutting out, and they need to be the same!



- 5) On all your papers draw a star shape. I free-handed mine, but you could print off some stars from clip art if you want. I made 5 star shapes, each one was a little different.



- 6) Cut out all your stars (you should have 2 of each).



- 7) Cut short pieces of ribbon and attach them to the back side of the stars using Mod Podge.



- 8) Mod Podge the whole star and place a straw in the middle (I left the bendy part out so that I could bend it in the can once it is finished). Mod Podge the other star that matched and place on top, being careful to line up the edges.



- 9) I Mod Poded the outside of the stars as well to give them more strength. Arrange the stars in the can and tie a bow around and you are done!



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Included in this eBook:

- Red, White and Blue Wreaths
- Americana Garlands and Buntings
- Patriotic Table Toppers



Sign up for our [free holiday craft newsletter](#) and receive more 4th of July craft ideas, tutorials, tips and more right in your inbox every week.

Special Thanks:

Allie from [Miss Lovie Creations](#)
Telisa from [Sugar Tot Designs](#)
Jen from [Craft-O-Maniac](#)
Cathie from [CathieFilian.com](#)

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Amanda Formaro from [Crafts by Amanda](#)
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