

Please send photos of your finished crafts – with crafters – to avial@haddonfieldpres.org or gheimerling@haddonfieldpres.org for use in the newsletter or on Facebook. Thank you!

Advent Festival 2020 - Craft Instructions

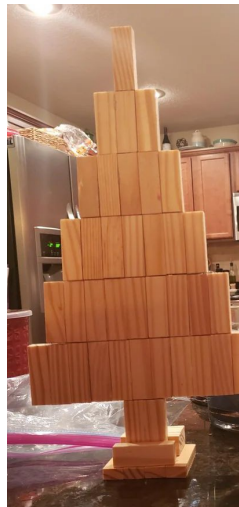
1. Tabletop Christmas Tree

(Video link and also step by step instructions)

<https://youtu.be/1LrGU5Q8tdo>



Step 1: Gluing the Tree Together



- We will be working in rows of odd numbers, the first row will consist of 1 block, second row 3 blocks, third row 5 blocks, and so on...
- Let's start by gluing together our second row, we will be gluing 3 blocks together laying side by side.

- With the second row constructed we will glue the first row (1 block) to the middle of our second row.
- Place the hot glue to the bottom of block 1 and place this on the middle block in row 2.
- Now you have 2 rows.
- Continue making your rows working with odd numbers and gluing the newly constructed row to the row above it.
- Work until you receive the desired height of your tree!

Step 2: Tree Trunk

- Take 2 blocks and glue them side by side like we did for our rows.
- This will be our tree trunk.
- Add hot glue to the top of the 2 blocks and place them in the middle of the last row.

Step 3: Making the Base



- You will need 8 blocks to construct the base.
- Take your first 4 blocks and glue them side by side, this creates the bottom of the base.
- Now take 3 blocks and glue them back to back.
- The three blocks you glued back to back you will glue to the bottom of the base you created with the first 4 blocks.
- Secure the remaining block on the opposite side of the block you just secured, leaving a gap just big enough so your tree trunk fits. (Before I completely secured the block I sat my tree into the gap to make sure it wasn't too off balance)

Step 4: Let's Paint



We have successfully constructed our rustic tree, so let's give it a little color!

I decided to make three trees at three different heights, so I choose three colors to paint each of the trees.

The acrylic paint colors I choose to use: Green, Red, Gray, I also will be using white to paint the tree trunk and the base the tree sits in, as well as using the White to whitewash after they're dry to give it more of a rustic look.

- With the white acrylic paint I painted the tree trunk and the base of the tree. I did a few coats of the white to make sure it was really covered!
- TIP: do not rinse out the white foam brush just yet, keep it to dry brush on the white paint later :)
- Now cover the rest of your tree with your color of choice. I made sure I covered it really well and did a few coats!
- Let the paint dry a bit before you do the dry brushing.
- To dry brush with the White paint, take your foam brush you used in the white paint and barely dip it in the excess white paint.
- Now lightly brush in an up and down motion with the foam brush to create a random pattern of the white marks.
- Feel free to darken up some of the white marks, adds character!

I also wanted to add a little wooden star to the top of the tree. I bought a bag of assorted sized wooden stars at Michaels Craft store. I chose to paint it White and hot glued it to the top of the tree. I think this completes the look!

2. Preschool Nativity Craft



1. Color Nativity page.
2. Have an adult cut the popsicle sticks in half. Cut one with a straight line, and the other with a diagonal (this one will become the roof of the stable).
3. Glue the straight across popsicle sticks to the sides of the coloring page.
4. Glue the diagonal popsicle sticks to the top. They should overlap.
5. If you would like to make the picture part sturdier, cut out a piece of cardstock or construction paper and glue it to the back of the coloring page.
6. Cut a small loop of ribbon and glue it to the top for a hanger.
7. Peel the back off your stick foam star and stick it to the top of the stable. Or, cut a star from fun foam and glue it to the top.

3. Nativity Ornament - Family Craft



I used black vinyl and my Silhouette machine to cut the Nativity image. You can also do a Google search for “Nativity Silhouettes” and pick your favorite image, print it and cut it out. You DO NOT need to use vinyl to make this craft.

Step #1: Print out the Luke 2 printable. I printed mine 4×6 which fits 2 on a page. However, I will print it even smaller when I make it again. Crinkle up your printed page.

Step #2: Flatten the page out and trace around your ornament. When you cut the circle out make sure to cut inside the line so it doesn't fit perfectly to the edge of your ornament.



Step #3: Paint the paper mache ornaments. I painted one red, one green and one black. The black is by far my favorite!



Step #4: Once the paint dries, paint a thin layer of Mod Podge on the front of your ornament AND on the back of your paper circles. This helps prevent the paper from bubbling when you glue it to the ornament. Lay the paper circles on the front of the ornament and smooth it out. You can still see wrinkles in the paper, don't worry.



Step #5: Paint a thin layer of Mod Podge on the top of the paper circles. {I used Antique Matte Mod Podge; it creates a little yellowing look.}



Step #6: Once the Mod Podge is dry, apply the vinyl. Take the paper backing off to reveal the sticky side of the vinyl. Center it and lay it on top of the ornament. Using your

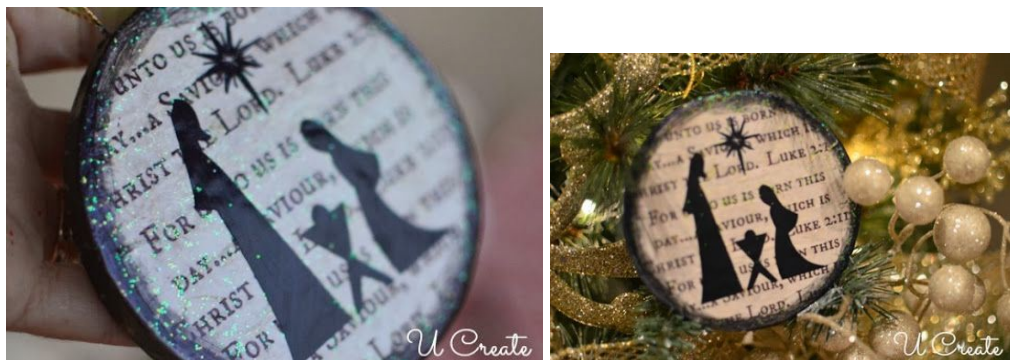
fingers, press the black vinyl down really well. Slowly lift the transfer paper off starting in one corner and working diagonal.



Step #7: Paint the edges of the paper black to create a kind of frame around the Holy Family.



Step #8: I added a thin layer of clear glitter paint on top of the finished product just to add more of a Christmas/snowy feel.



4. Advent Craft Instructions 2020 - Scrabble Tile Craft



1. Start by laying out a piece of ribbon and putting your scrabble tiles on to spell the name. Leave extra space on top to fold over.
2. Hot glue the pieces on the ribbon
3. Tie a piece of thin ribbon in a circle and put it near the top of the wide ribbon. .
4. Fold the wide ribbon over the loop and glue it down
5. Glue on decorations or leave as is.

5. Community Christmas Tree Ornament - Family Craft

The only thing we ask is that you drop your ornament back off as soon as you can so we can hang it on our tree! You can make this as simple or as involved as you want!

