Felt Mistletoe with CBTV Live

Chapter 1 - Chapter 1
Felt Mistletoe
(upbeat intro music) - Hey everybody, welcome to creativebug. We're coming at you live like we always do on Tuesdays and Thursdays, which means you can write in and ask us questions as we craft. If you're coming from Kin Community, welcome. At creativebug we have thousands of classes by hundreds of instructors who are experts in their field, so check out creativebug, we've got a one month offer using the code, JOANN1, where you can check out all of our classes. We're crafting downtown, so you might hear some noise in the background, it happens. It's that time of year where you might be getting your house ready for the holiday season and one of the things that always reminds me of Christmas is that ball or bunch of mistletoe that my Grammy used to hang in the entryway when you would come in. It was probably from 1950, I have no idea what happened to it, but mistletoe is one of those things that you see creep up during the holiday season and I was gonna show you how to make it, very easily, using felt. Now, if you've watched any of my creativebug classes, you'll know that I'm not a sewer. So felt is really fun because it does not fray. So it's really easy to use and we're gonna actually attach everything with hot glue. I'm gonna show you two different ways to cut your felt into a mistletoe shape, I'm just using a blended felt here, you can get this in sheets at your local JOANN or craft store. You could totally use, welt, a wool felt, that would be really beautiful, this is a recycled felt. If you look at mistletoe shape, we're gonna start with this, kind of like, little mountain shape and I wanna show you this first one where I'm gonna make a really long, kind of, single stem. We're gonna make a few of these. So it looks like, I don't know, at least, kind of, a tulip, like that. Now we're gonna come in and cut our leaves from that. And I actually like to leave a little, like, gap right here, that's what real mistletoe really looks like. And I'm gonna cut a bunch of these. So what's nice about a sheet is that you can do them this direction so you're stacking back and forth so that you have little mounds and the points, and little mounds and the points. So we'll do the same on this side. And maybe you've made something like this before and you have a tip, don't be afraid to share it with us. We have some repeat question askers, like Phil and Brianne, and we always love all of their enthusiasm, questions, and comments so, don't be shy to tell me about one of your favorite Christmas memories or crafting memories. So I'm gonna do a few like this. And you can play with your colors, you can combine colors. I really like this color. It's like a nice mossy green. And the nice thing about this is often I usually use paper for a lot of crafting but when you pack things up for the holidays, they often get, like, really smushed in a box over the year, and then when you unpack everything, things are looking a little sad and warped, and it's sometimes hard to refluff paper over and over but the felt is really forgiving, like I said, I love it because it's a fabric that doesn't need to be hemmed, it doesn't fray, and it cuts really easily like a cardstock would, and it holds its shape, so you don't have to worry about getting smooshed in the box. Alright, let's make two more. Again, if you wanna mix up your colors, you can. And this is the first way to make your mistletoe. Now I'm thinking that I'm gonna do this for a bunch of mistletoe to hang in an entryway, like my Grammy used to do, but you can also make something smaller, like a smaller version of this as an ornament, you can make it as a package topper. We're in December, so hopefully you guys are checking out the daily challenge. We're a few days into our gift wrap daily challenge, which I love. You guys have been commenting and a few shares of packages already wrapped, which is always really exciting to see. Also, I wanted to mention, if you need to run out

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and get your supplies, we are giving away two $50 JOANN gift cards. So Ally's gonna be posting a link on how to do that, how to enter that giveaway. So be sure to like our Facebook page, tag a friend, share this craft with a friend that you may wanna just say like, "Hey, I'm thinking about you. This would be a fun holiday craft to do," and then you can be entered to win. Alright, so I've got a few they're, obviously, in different sizes, they're all hand cut. They look like mistletoe proper and you can see how you can kind of group them together, and you can layer or stack them, I've got a hot glue gun waiting, but I actually was gonna braid the first little batch. So I'm gonna take three and I've got one here, one crossed, and then the third one crossed on top of that. And then I'm actually just gonna, kind of, loosely braid this. Oops. Just loosely, and then holding this little bundle here and this little bundle, I'm actually gonna tug so everything lies flat, that's one thing about felt that I really like, it can be very sculptural and you can get it to behave exactly how you want it to. Now you can tie this off, but just because we're not sure what we're gonna do yet or where our ribbon's gonna be, I'm actually just gonna add a little bit of hot glue to hold everything in place right here. Be careful not to burn your fingers. So hold that as it sets up. We're gonna be adding a bow on top, so if you have any glue strings, don't worry. Same thing here, just to hold everything in place. You can see how tugging on the felt really makes everything lie flat. And I like the braid, like, I just like that kind of textural element. And then I can use these other pieces to layer in and then that kind of disappears. If I didn't have the braid there, it looks a bit messy I think. So, play with how your mistletoe is gonna be and then your braid acts as a base. And we'll snip off any unwanted lengths. I want this one coming off the back, so we'll flip this over. - [Ally] Grace says, "And this can be touched up with an iron." - [Courtney] Ooh, Grace says, hi, welcome Grace. Grace says, "You can touch this up with an iron," that's a great idea. I've never iron felt before just because I've never needed to, but I love that you can, and I like the idea that you could press something flat. You might have to be careful with steaming, make sure your iron doesn't have any steam on it because you can shrink your felt. Alright, so you can kind of play with braiding this end or you can glue it down, I'm actually just gonna snip it. I like that original braid I did just fine. We might leave that end and like I said, I can tug it into place. And then mistletoe would not be mistletoe without its little white berries. So I've got two kinds of pom-poms here. I also pick these up at my local JOANN, just in the craft aisle. I think the little berry is really nice for this size and shape of mistletoe, so we're gonna just glue some little berries randomly. You can always add more. Just a little bit of hot glue will get you a long way. I'm also using an industrial hot glue. I was never a hot glue fan, I always felt like once the hot glue set up and dried it, nothing ever stuck really well, but that's because I had not been using the high temp hot glue, and now I'm a converted fan. Get rid of any little glue strings. I like that little set of three. Maybe I wanna put two close together? You can play with using a variety of pom-pom shapes and sizes, but I think I'm just gonna stick with these small ones, I really like that in proportion to the mistletoe. Oh my god, so cute! And you can see that this is flat, so you can hang it on a door. Like I said, it could be a package top or it could just be hanging in your entryway, but you could also make multiples of these and then bunch them together to get, sort of like, a ball shape. And then for this, I'm gonna just tie a little bow and we're gonna, you could hot glue the bow. I'm gonna do something a little different, so. - [Ally] Christy says, "I'm from Oklahoma and mistletoe is the state flower." - Christy, hi, welcome from Oklahoma, nice to have you on our live shoot. I did not know that mistletoe was the state flower of Oklahoma. That's amazing, my grandma's from Oklahoma, I wish I'd known that! Maybe that's why she had the mistletoe ball. Alright, so I've got a length of string here. I'm actually wanna leave a little loop to hang my mistletoe. And I'm going to just do an overhand knot, I've got a little bit of hot glue stuck to my fingernail. So do an overhand knot here.

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This is to hang our mistletoe with. And then I'm just gonna do a bow. You can use any kind of twine. I like the classic satin ribbon, but if you wanna do something like this, like a twill tape, which is really nice, you could play the more rustic look and do an actual twine, then that would be really pretty. You can, you know, customize this to whatever your holiday decor color palette is. The nice thing about the bow is you can readjust it until it's perfect, like that. And then I'm actually gonna hot glue this on because I want this to remain where we can hang. So this is my more authentic mistletoe look where I'm following the shape of the leaves and we added our little berries with our pom-poms, and then we've got that, which I think is so cute and will be packed away and be an heirloom piece, it will not have to be scrunched like paper would, which I really like. And like I said, I didn't have to do any sewing, just hot glue. But I'm gonna show you one other type that's also really easy and it's fun to use with different colors. So I'm still using my recycled felt here, a nice short pair of scissors, like we've been using. And this one I'm just gonna freehand. So, starting with a little bit of a stem, gonna create these kind of teardrop or raindrop leaf shapes. Looks a little bit like sea kelp also, but it, it's very effective as a mistletoe, even though the shape is not your traditional mistletoe, like botanically correct shape. When you see it all together, it still really reads as mistletoe. And you can do this as large as you like. And then I flip it over, for whatever reason I always cut on my right side. You can stagger your raindrop leaf shapes a little. - [Ally] So Courtney, we don't have any questions yet, but we have so much love about this project. You have inspired so many folks- - [Courtney] Awesome! - [Ally] Who are watching. - [Courtney] Thank you guys for hanging on and joining our live shoots, I love all the enthusiasm, I'd love to read the comments and so forth later, which is so fun. We've got one here, I'm gonna cut two more. One more in this green color and one more in a different green. Yeah, I love that. I love that you guys are watching and enthusiastic and the hearts are flying, I love when that happens. And if you guys need another excuse to run out and do some crafting, like I said, Ally's gonna post a link so you can enter to win one of two JOANN $50 gift cards so that you can make as much mistletoe as you can possibly stand. Felt is really, really affordable and this is a fun thing to do with kids. They can maybe draw the leaf shapes and you can cut them out. So just super free form. This is so easy. Okay, I'm kind of varying my sizes here. Let's add a dark green to go with this. Like I said, I'm using a recycled felt, but you could also use a wool felt. I think that would be really pretty, and sometimes those are a little thicker. You could also cut more than one layer at a time but I like to have a variety and a very hand cut look, so I always cut things one at a time, even when I'm making, like, hundreds of paper flowers for a wedding. I still like to hand cut every petal. I think it makes a difference in the way it looks. - [Ally] We have our first question. - [Courtney] Yeah! - [Ally] Beth is wondering "If you're using a pattern to cut those?" - [Courtney] Hi Beth, welcome! I'm not using a pattern. I started with a more traditional leaf shape for my mistletoe and this is a more free form. It's kind of like a teardrop or raindrop shape. Really, you can use whatever your, like, go-to leaf shape is. And, I think, the key in making this look like mistletoe is layering these pieces and adding the little white pom-poms for the mistletoe berries. I think that's a little fat there, so I'm just gonna correct it. That's what's so great about felt. It's very similar to cutting paper but you get more texture. So I wanna just show you layering this, how cute it is, but I have an extra step which is, like, I pulled the braid flat on that first mistletoe I made. I actually like to pull on these leaves and it gives them a little more dimension, and they don't lie as flat as, let's say, paper would. Although, I have a trick for that too. You know, I would. But I just love, like look at the difference. Hopefully Taryn can see that. That's super flat and just by tugging on each of those little leaves, you get much more dimension. Your kids can definitely help you tug. - [Ally] Alright, Phil is asking a question. - [Courtney] Hi, Phil! - [Courtney] "If you didn't wanna use

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felt, could you recycle an old jersey style jumper," or a sweater? (crew laughs) - Hi Phil, we don't have Ursula in the studio today to translate your UK speak. He said, "Could you," Phil is asking, "Could I use a recycled jumper," also known as a sweater here in the States. Yeah, you could, I think it could be really interesting to cut up a sweater. The other, the thing you have to think about is a sweater is knit and, so, it potentially could unravel at the edges, but I think it would be really cool to work with some, like, a recycled sweater if you're not gonna use, like, Faith's mending technique from her live shoot. Then cut it up and do some leaf shapes. You might want to run a beat of hot glue or a little bit of like fray check or something around the edges, but I could totally see using, like, tweed or flannel for this project instead, it'd be very anthropology. Alright, so now we're gonna layer these together. We're gonna hot glue them in the same way. So a little bead of hot glue just to hold everything together. We'll use our pom-poms. I think this one I'll use the bigger pom-poms, so I've got two pom-poms going here. - [Ally] Our next question comes from Dawn and she wants to know, "Are you using wool felt?" - [Courtney] Hi Dawn, welcome! I'm using a recycled eco felt, is what it's called. You could absolutely use a wolt, a wool felt, I feel like that's a tongue twister today. That would be really beautiful and they come in some really pretty colors. And, you know, like, I'm making mistletoe in a semi, sort of, traditional look, but you could feel free to play, feel free to play with your colors and change them up a little bit. Alright, and let's add one more mistletoe berry, I think down here. Like I said, if you're joining us from the Kin Community, welcome, we do these live shoots every Tuesdays and Thursdays. And what's so fun about them is all of your participation, and questions, and suggestions. We love to know that you're out there. Alright, for this one, let's use our twill tape. I am gonna do my ribbon in the same way. Which is, give myself a place to hang. So fold it in half, do an overhand knot with that folded edge. And I could glue that on and not do a bow, but I like the look of the bow, so I'll probably still do a bow. This ribbon's a little stiffer, so you have to make it behave into the shape that you like. I think this would be so pretty with just a twine. Feel much more rustic but you can be as traditional or as non-traditional as you like. We'll- - [Ally] Okay, our next question. - Hot glue that here - [Courtney] Which, really, this is the star of all of your crafting supplies, Courtney, if you can guess. Monica wants to know, "What is the glue gun you're using?" - [Courtney] Hi Monica, welcome! You're asking about my hot glue gun. And the thing that I was saying earlier is that I was never a fan of hot glue. I always felt like the minute the hot glue set up, everything just peeled apart, and I was like, "Why do people even bother?" And then I did windows for Anthropologie and the hot glue gun became my everyday tool, but the key is using a high temp hot glue gun. This came from the hardware store, but what's great is that craft stores now are, like, really meeting the demand for a high temp hot glue gun. So you can find that at your local JOANN and your local craft store. Some hot glue guns will even have dual temp, so you can do low temp and high temp. The low temp is the one, that I feel, doesn't work as effectively, especially over a long time, but the high temp, you have to be careful with your fingers, but it's very effective. Alright. So just get rid of all of our little hot glue gun strings here. And then we have two really beautiful heirloom, that means you can use it over year after year, actually, let's give this guy a little snip too, mistletoe. It reminds me of my grandma, which I love, maybe you're gonna start a new holiday tradition. I've got some other ones here that I made in the same way. This one has a longer braid and a variety of pom-pom sizes. And here's another one I made that, instead of using a dark felt, this one actually does have a wool felt mixed in with the recycled eco felt, and you can see it's a little bit thicker. I did that same technique of tugging to give it a little bit more dimensionality. And these look so pretty, you could make this as a housewarming gift or a hostess gift, if you're going to a holiday party. It's great 'cause it's kind of non-denominational, it works for the whole holiday

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season regardless of what you celebrate. And if you wanna pick up some of your supplies, be sure to enter our JOANN giveaway for a gift card, these are two $50 gift cards we're gonna be doing. I think, Ally, we're choosing this winner tomorrow. Is that right? - [Ally] Yeah, it is a flash giveaway, 24 hours only. - We decided just to do this on a whim. So it's a 24 hour giveaway only, that means you wanna enter that giveaway that Ally is posting the link to. Thank you so much for joining us. I think, do we have a question? One more question? - [Ally] I was gonna ask you, if you could tell 'em about your 25 days of gift wrapping. - Ally is reminding me to tell you guys about the 25 day gift wrapping challenge that we're a few days into. It's super fun, I've got a bunch of gift wrapping ideas. They start off a little more complex in the beginning of the month 'cause you have a little bit more time. And we're going to ease into some really quick and easy gift wrapping ideas as we get closer to the Christmas holiday. All of your packages will look equally as beautiful as the first or the last, but check it out if you haven't done so. It's a really fun challenge. It's one of my favorite things to do this time of year and write in and ask us questions because I look at every question and comment and I wanna respond to those. I know Phil's been great about asking some questions and sharing some photos. So thank you Phil, all the way in the UK. Thank you guys for joining us on the live shoot and we'll see you on Thursday. Rae Hoekstra is here in the studio filming some fabulous sewing classes and she and Faith will have a great live shoot for you then. And we'll see you on Thursday. (upbeat outro music)

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