Holiday Cricut Crafts: 30 Festive Projects with Amber of Damask Love

Chapter 1 - Holiday Cricut Crafts

Overview

(upbeat music) - Hey, everyone, this is Amber from Damask Love, and I am so excited to be bringing you my very first 30-day challenge where I'm gonna be crafting with all things Cricut. We're gonna be using the Cricut Maker to craft our way through this holiday season. In addition, we're gonna be using all of the Cricut accessories, including the blades, the Easy Press, so that by the end of this challenge, you're gonna feel empowered to use your Cricut Maker this holiday season, and throughout the year. So, if you're ready craft along with me, make sure you have your Cricut Maker, a Cricut Easy Press, or an iron. And you'll also need a device that can access Design Space. So, that can be a laptop, an iPad, or a phone. Alright, guys, your 30 days of holiday Cricut crafting begins now. (upbeat music)

Day 1 - Candy Card

- Hello and welcome to day one of the Cricut 30-day Holiday Challenge. I'm going to be bringing you projects that you may have done before and some new ones that you've never even thought of. Today we're starting out with one of my favorite projects. It's how to make a card with basically any image that you find in Design Space. And the material we're focusing on is something you definitely already have in your craft room, card stock. We all have tons of it, let's use it in a really creative way. Let's head over to Design Space now and I'll show you how to design a card out of most images that you find in Design Space. When you open up Design Space, you'll want to open up a new canvas by clicking New Project on the left. From there, you'll click on Images and you'll search for whatever image you want to turn into a card. I already have an image in mind and I'd love to make a card that looks like a piece of candy. So I'm gonna search the word peppermint since that is a popular holiday candy. Here's my image, that cute little peppermint candy with a smiley face, and I'm gonna insert it into my canvas. Now I want to grab the right arrow on the bottom right corner and make the card a little bit bigger so that it's the size of a card, not just a little itty bitty thing. Now, you're going to want to separate all the layers of the card. Most Cricut images are comprised of several layers, so to make a card, you wanna separate out those layers. To do that, you'll click on the image and then go to Ungroup in the top right corner. You can see how that pulls apart all the layers of the image. Now to make a card, we wanna work with the background image and duplicate it. So click on that background image and duplicate it. Now, we want to flip that image by going up to Flip and flipping vertically. We're getting there, we're almost to a card, I promise. Now you wanna overlap those pieces of the background just a bit like that. Select both. Make sure they are aligned in the middle, so got up to Align and click Center Horizontally. And now we can weld them. Go to the bottom right corner and click Weld. That is going to be our card base. But to make it easy to fold, we wanna add a score line. It's really simple to do. Go to the left and click Shapes and you'll see something that says Score Line. Turn the score line so that it is horizontal and place it right where those two background images meet. That's where our card is gonna fold. Select all of those pieces, the score line and the background of the card, and click Attach. You'll find Attach at the bottom of your screen. This way the card base and that score line will cut together. You don't want them to be separate because then that wouldn't make any sense. Now that you've created your card, you can really take any image in Design Space and get creative with turning it into a card. Let's send it to

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our machine by clicking Make It. When you click Make It, you're gonna see all of your mats aligned on the left side of the screen. It's gonna tell you want color paper you need and which order it's going to cut in. This is telling me it's gonna cut the white layer first on a 12 by 12 piece of paper. I have all of my papers here, so I'm ready to go ahead and put them on the mat and send them to my Cricut maker. Place your paper on the mat by aligning the corner with the zero on the mat. Smooth it out with your hand. And then go over to Design Space and make sure Design Space is communicating with your machine. You'll select the particular Cricut device you're using from a drop-down menu. Once your machine is connected, you'll want to select the material you're working with, in this case, card stock. So go to Browse All Materials and search for the word card stock. There's lots of options so just select the one that matches the material you're using. In this case, I'm using a medium-weight card stock, so that's what I'll select. Now we'll take the mat over to our machine and push the flashing arrow to load the mat into the machine. Whenever you're cutting with the Cricut, you'll wanna make sure you have the appropriate blade loaded into the carriage. In this case, it's the fine-point blade which I have right here. Close the carriage and now we're ready to select Cut. (machine whirring) When your cut is finished, press the arrow button again to unload the mat and remove the cut paper. Now we're ready to move to the next mat. This will be the mat where we cut that background of the card that we just worked on. For this part of the card, not only are we going to cut, but we're also going to score. To score first, you'll load your mat into the machine and we need to load in the scoring wheel. The scoring wheel is a wheel that has no cutting edge, but it does apply pressure to the paper so that you get a good crease and it makes folding much much easier. With the scoring wheel loaded in, we're ready to press the flashing C to cut, even though we're not really cutting, we're scoring. (machine whirring) Once the scoring is finished, Design Space will alert you to change the blade. Now I'm done scoring and I wanna put in the fine-point blade so that the cutting can begin. Load the blade and then the C will flash again and you'll wanna press that. (machine whirring) Unload your mat by pushing on that flashing arrow. Once it comes out, you can peel off your project, and this is my favorite part because this is when your project starts coming to life. You can see that that score line folds perfectly in half to create a little candy-shaped background to our card. Keep cutting the rest of the pieces to your card and then you'll be ready to put together your perfectly peppermint card. I've already cut and taken off all of my pieces from their mat and now we're ready to use a glue stick to put it together. The first layer is that white one. If you ever have any question on how to put together an image like this, just go back to Design Space and see what it looks like. That will help you figure out where the pieces go. And there you go. You've put together a card from an image. This opens up so many possibilities for how you can use Design Space this holiday season because everything you see can now be a card.

Day 2 - Giant Paper Bow

- We're on day two of crafting with our Cricut for the holidays, and I couldn't have a challenge without doing something over the top. So today we're gonna be crafting with 12 by 24 inch sheets of glittery poster board. You can usually find these in your craft store right next to the 12 by 12 card stock, and we're going to be using the 12 by 24 inch Cricut mat to cut this into a giant bow that is perfect if you're planning on giving someone a car this Christmas. I've already designed this giant bow for you in Design Space, so open the project by clicking on the link. We'll head over to Make It. And you'll see that the mats are now sized at 12 by 24 because Design Space knows that we're making something much larger than a standard 12 by 12 project. Once you're ready to pick your

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material, go ahead and go to Browse Materials. Type in poster. You'll see several options for poster board, and even though this one is glittery, we'll wanna select poster board 'cause that will let Design Space in our Cricut know that we're cutting something really thick. I'll select Poster Board and click Done. Now it's time to put our material onto our big 12 by 24 inch mat. It's so sticky. Now, when you're loading in a big mat like this, you'll want to make sure that the back of your Cricut has enough free room to feed this entire mat through. You don't want it to hit the wall or run into something and knock something over. (Cricut whirs) Let's go ahead and cut. Once your cut is done, you can check it without unloading it to see if it cut all the way through. In this case, it cut perfectly. If you're using a thicker poster board and it didn't cut through, here's a tip. Just go back over to your machine and press the C button, again without unloading the material, and the blade will cut right over those exact same cut lines a second time so that you get a clean cut. Once you're done cutting all your pieces, you'll wanna peel them for your mat. And here's my suggestion, peel the mat from the paper rather than the paper from the mat. It comes off a bit more smoothly and you won't have any curling of your poster board. Now we're ready to put it together. Because this is really glittery in texture, I recommend using a hot glue gun. So that's what I'm gonna do. Glue all of the pieces together with hot glue so you know they will stick and not move. Now, to assemble your bow, you'll wanna flip it over and bend the edges so that they meet in the center and glue them right in the center with your hot glue gun. You wanna be patient here so that the glue has a chance to dry completely before you move on to the next step. You don't want them to fly apart. And you can wrap the center of the bow into place and that will help hold everything together. Don't be afraid to use a good bit of glue here to make sure everything stays in place. And there you have it. After assembling all of those components, you'll have the most beautiful glittery giant bow for all of those oversize gifts you'll be giving this season.

Day 3 - Print Then Cut Gift Labels

- If you've followed Damask Love for any period of time, you know how much I have a deep, deep love for stickers! And so we couldn't have a 30 day challenge with out making some stickers for the holidays. If you're gonna be wrapping gifts this year, you probably will need some stickers to put on there as labels to say who it's to and who it's from. So why not make them on your Cricut Maker? Let me show you how easy it is to do. From Design Space, you wanna open up the images and search for Christmas tag. I found that this is a good place to find good holiday themed gift tags. Scroll until you find something you like. I have one in mind. Here it is! Woo hoo! Click on the image that you want and insert it into your canvas. Now you can resize it to whatever size you need for the gift that you're wrapping, and then go over to the bottom right corner of your screen and click on flatten. That will turn your image into a flat, printable image that is great for printing right on the sticker paper. Once you have flattened it, go ahead and duplicate it as many times as you'd like for the project that you're doing. So if you have a bunch of gifts, you might wanna make a lot of tags. I'm gonna make four. Click make it, connect your machine, and then of course send the project to your printer. And now that I've printed my project, I can place it on my mat. Select sticker paper from the materials menu. Make sure you've loaded the fine point blade and click cut. (machine whirring) Unload from your machine and peel away the sticker paper. You can keep this sheet of stickers available to you while you're wrapping gifts or you can peel them off if you're like me 'cause you just like stickers to see if it worked. And it did! Perfect for wrapping gifts and you don't have to run out at the last minute and buy labels anymore.

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Day 4 - Party Confetti
- Every party needs some confetti but did you know you can use your Cricut Maker to make your own custom confetti using party foil? It's a product from Cricut that comes in a roll and it has this really cool metallic effect and I'm gonna be using both the flat metallic and the holographic metallic to make a whole host of confetti for my next holiday party. Before we start cutting, let's find some confetti images that we like. Open up the images and type in the word confetti. Find the confetti that you like and click on it and insert it to the canvas. Because I'm gonna be cutting my confetti from one sheet of paper, I want this confetti to be all the same color. Otherwise, it would separate onto different mats and that will make cutting even more time consuming. To do that, I'm just going to select the image and go down to attach. Once they're all attached, they all turn the same color and that way, they will cut from the same mat. Now I'm going to click make it and because I want to create a whole bunch of confetti, I'm gonna change my mat from 12 by 12 to 12 by 24. Then I'm going to duplicate this project right up here where it says project copies and press apply. Now with all my confetti laid out on the mat, I wanna separate them because I'm actually going to create two different colors of confetti on the exact same mat. Let me show you what I mean. I've laid out both the colors of the party foil onto one mat and now, I want to separate some confetti to cut here and some confetti to cut here. It's separated at the 12 inch line so when I go over to Design Space, I'm going to move some of my confetti to be below the 12 inch line and keep some of it above. That way, I'll get two different types of confetti when I cut it. This looks good to me, let's set it to the machine. Let's select party foil as our material and load this into the machine with the fine point blade loaded. Now, we're ready to unload our sheet of confetti and to peel it back, I like to have a weeding tool handy so that I can make sure that I don't get any fingerprints onto the party foil as I peel back the excess. You can just poke it back with your tool and leave it on the mat, we'll scrape that off later. And to get the rest of the confetti off of the mat, you can use this tool to kind of scrape it off and take it off the mat. So now that I've introduced you to party foil, you can start imagining how your next party or even some of your gifts can be more special with customized confetti.

Day 5 - Paper Lantern
- Welcome to the world of vellum. If you haven't worked with this material before, this project is perfect for you. Vellum is a translucent paper. It's pretty thin and delicate, but the Cricut Maker will cut it super easily. For this project we're making a paper lantern. I've already designed the project for you in design space, so everything's there for you already, just click the link. When you're ready to make it, click make it. You'll want to be sure that you size the paper on your cutting mat to what the size of your vellum is. In this case, my vellum is eight and a half by 11, so I want to make sure it's the same on my mat. Place the vellum onto your cutting mat, and then select vellum from the material's list in design space. With your fine point blade in the machine, it's just that easy, you're ready to cut. (machine whirring) Vellum is ready. You'll wanna be pretty delicate when you peel it off the mat 'cause it is a pretty delicate material, and this vellum will serve as the inner part of our lantern where the light will shine through. For the outer portion of the lantern, you'll wanna use card stock and I have some teal card stock here. Load it onto your mat and for this cut, you're going to score first and then you will cut. Just like we've done before. (machine whirring) I messed up. I forgot to put the scoring blade in. The great thing about the Cricut Maker is that the software will remind you if it doesn't detect the right tool and in this case it was saying, hey, I don't see the scoring blade. Now we're all done cutting out those intricate panels for the paper lantern and now I

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get to peel them back. Always my favorite part. With intricate cuts like this, you may need to go panel by panel to remove some of the extra little bits. I'm gonna grab the weeding tool to help get out some of these little detailed spots, that way I avoid damaging the paper or ripping it. Once you've weeded out all of the extra pieces, not only will you have a really cute pile of snowflake confetti, you'll have the panels for your lantern. To assemble, I'm gonna take a piece of vellum and put it on the back of each panel. I will adhere it with a tape runner. With all of the vellum attached, you'll want to crease each of those score lines. And now we'll take the tape runner and add adhesive to each of those folded pieces of the panel. To assemble, you'll just want to take this smaller fold and line it Up with the edge of another panel. And you're done. Now of course because this is made with vellum paper, do not put actual real wax candles inside. Use a LED or a battery operated candle, so you can get the effect without any of the danger.

Day 6 - Buffalo Plaid Wall Decor
- Today we're gonna be talking about patterned iron-on. If you're familiar with iron-on, you may be thinking we're gonna craft with fabric, because that's usually what you use with iron-on, but not today. I love using iron-on on projects, because it's a great way to add pattern, but you don't have to use any adhesive. Today we're gonna be using this buffalo plaid patterned iron-on from Cricut to create a really cool piece of wall decor that's perfect for your winter cabin, because I'm sure you have a winter cabin, right? I've already made this project for you in Design Space. You'll be using pattern iron-on for the background, and we're going to use a little bit of regular iron-on to create a word accent on the front of our wall art. Last, we're gonna use some paper to make a little paper bow. You can decide to do this or not. I think it adds a cute element. Once your in Design Space, go ahead and click make it. Once you've clicked make it, you want to make sure that the mat that has the wording has the mirror option turned on. Whenever you're cutting on iron-on, you wanna make sure that you have the mirror option on, because you'll cut it backwards, but when you place it on your project, it will be right side up, and you'll be able to read everything. I'm gonna start by cutting out the circle from patterned iron-on. I'm gonna place my material right side down on the mat. Whenever you're cutting iron-on, make sure the white side is down, so that you're cutting it backwards, and it will go on the right way. Another thing, since I'm cutting a circle, I'm not worried too much about it being mirrored, because it's gonna be a circle either way. (whirring) With my fine point blade loaded into the machine, I'll press cut. (whirring) Time to unload the mat. And you may have noticed that I put the entire roll of iron-on onto the mat. The reason I do that, is because it's a great way to conserve as much of your material as possible. This way, when I'm ready to remove the excess, I can cut as close to the design as possible, and I can avoid wasting any excess material. Now I have all this extra material to use for a different project. Now that we're done cutting the circle from patterned iron-on, I'm gonna place some standard, Cricut iron-on onto my mat, right side down, and I'm gonna cut the wording for our wall art. (whirring) Unload your second iron-on cut, and the last cut you'll make is the paper bow. To cut the paper bow, just switch the material to card stock, load it into the machine, and since we've already covered card stock in this challenge, I'm sure you've got it under control. Once you're done cutting out all of your iron-on pieces, you'll want to weed off the excess. A weeding tool is great for this. It makes it really easy to pull apart the extra stuff you don't need. When you're weeding more intricate pieces, you'll wanna take a little more time to make sure you don't have any mess ups. (pulling and crinkling) Once your weeding is all done, you will see your project really start coming to life. Now, here's the fun part. Like I said, usually when we use iron-on, we think of putting it on fabric. Well, not now. I love using iron-on on wood. I

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have this wood disc that I bought. It's a 12 inch across wood disc that I painted with chalkboard paint to give it a little more of that rustic feel. Now, I can put my iron-on material directly onto the wood, and use my Easy Press to add heat to adhere it to my project. You'll wanna make sure to access the Easy Press settings that are on the Cricut website, that way you'll know what temperature and timing you'll need to put onto your Easy Press in order to properly adhere it to your project. For this project I have it set to 315 degrees fahrenheit for 30 seconds. Now I can place my easy press directly onto the material, press the C, (machine beeps) and let it count down. (beeps) And make sure if there's any part of your iron-on that didn't make it under the easy press, just move it over, and start again, and you'll get the entire thing to adhere. (beeps) Now, according to our settings manual, you wanna have a cold peel for this project. That means you wanna let this cool down before you peel back the backing. I've let it cool down for about 30 to 45 seconds, and now I can peel back the backing. (sheet rustling) And because it's so fun to layer your vinyl, I can go ahead and add my winter joy greeting right on top. The only thing here you wanna remember is to cover up your project so there's no naked vinyl exposed. (beeps) (beeps again) And because weve layered the vinyls, you'll wanna be really gentle when you peel this vinyl piece off of the one below it, because everything's a little warm, and things can get damaged. I like to use a weeding tool to gently lift up the corner, and then start peeling back. (peeling and sheet rustling) Okay, there we go. Alright, we've got our wooden wall decor done, and remember that paper bow? Go ahead and stick it right there on the bottom with some hot glue or maybe a glue dot, and you're ready to display this on your wall. It looks like an album.

Day 7 - Mod Podge Pillow Case

- We can't talk about the Cricut Maker without crafting with fabric. When you get your Cricut Maker at home, you'll see that it comes with the rotary blade which was designed to cut hundreds of different types of fabric and the pink fabric grip mat which is specially designed to hold your fabric in place when you cut it. For this project, we're going to be using a really pretty cotton quilting fabric to make a Mod Podge pillowcase. There's no sewing involved and it's great for home decor during the holidays. I'm gonna go ahead and place my fabric right side up onto the fabric grip mat, set it aside, and open up Design Space where I've already created this project for you. We're gonna be making a Christmas tree, but you can pick any design you want out of Design Space. My only tip is to create a simpler design. Simpler images just do better for this particular project. Once the project is open, go ahead and click Make It. I'm gonna start out by cutting out the tree image. Now it's time to select my material. I'll type cotton into the materials menu and I'll get a bunch of different options. I'm gonna select the one on the top that says cotton since that best describes the material I'm using. Design Space will tell me that I need to make sure I have the rotary blade loaded into my machine. So I'll swap out that fine-point blade, put in the rotary blade, and close the clamp. Now I can load my mat into the machine (machine whirring) and press Cut. (machine whirring) Now the cool thing about cutting fabric is that when you cut it, you're almost not even gonna notice that something happened on the fabric that you cut until you do the final reveal, which is the best part. Peel back the excess fabric first, and you'll see your design is right there. You'll also see in the design a small star. I'm gonna cut it from glitter iron-on. You could use any material you want, but I like the look of the glitter star on the fabric tree. So I'm gonna change the material to glitter iron-on, place my material on the mat, and I also need to switch out the rotary blade back to the fine-point blade since I'm no longer cutting fabric. (machine whirring) Once your cut is done, peel back the excess iron-on, and you'll see your star is right there. Now that I've got all the components of my

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project ready to go, I'm gonna assemble my pillow. Grab a pre-made canvas pillowcase. This one has a zipper, so I'm going to open it up and I'm gonna place a piece of the film that comes on top of your Cricut mats inside because we're gonna be putting some Mod Podge and we don't want the Mod Podge to seep through the pillow to the other layer. Once you've done that, we're gonna remove the tree from the mat. Here's a tip. When you're removing fabric from the mat, do it quickly. That way you don't get too much fraying on the edge. Now I'm gonna place my tree onto the pillow where I want it and I'll grab my Mod Podge and a paint brush. I'll dip my paint brush into the Mod Podge and slowly kind of add Mod Podge to the back of the tree. You don't have to worry about getting it onto the front of the tree because we're gonna add more Mod Podge to the front in just a second. Be pretty generous. Okay once you've covered most of the back, lay it down. Oops, smooth it out. And then we're going to cover the top with more Mod Podge, not going too far over the edge. All right, once you're all done covering it up, it will look white, but it will dry clear, so once it's all dry, you won't notice the Mod Podge there. Set it aside to dry completely. It will dry clear and then we'll be ready to add our star to the top of the tree. Now our project is all dry, so I'm gonna bring in my EasyPress Mat, which is a mat that works great with your EasyPress heat tool, and I'm gonna grab my glittery star that I cut from glitter iron-on. I'll place my glitter star right there and bring in my small EasyPress which is perfectly sized to iron on that small star. So place your EasyPress right on top of the star. Try not to place the EasyPress directly onto the Mod Podged tree. You don't want any of that glue to kinda get stuck to your EasyPress. (beeping) All right, once the EasyPress beeps, you know it's done, and you can peel back the backing and you have a beautiful Christmas tree pillow that you made now sewing involved and really easy because the Cricut Maker makes it so simple to cut fabric in detailed ways that you would never wanna have to do with a pair of scissors.

Day 8 - Feast Mode Apron

- If you ask me, printable iron-on is the unsung hero of Cricut materials. It allows you to be really versatile without having a huge collection of iron-on materials on hand. Today I'm gonna show you how to create a really cute Thanksgiving apron, using this material, using every color you could possibly want, but without having a bunch of rolls of iron-on in your craft room. In Design Space I'm going to go to images and search for the term feast mode. Yes, feast mode. There's an image here with a little turkey on it that I'm going to insert onto my canvas. And, I'm gonna expand it, so it's a little bit bigger. And then, I'm going to go down to the bottom right of Design Space, and click flatten. This now makes it a printable image that will print onto my printable iron-on paper. Go up to make it. Then connect your machine to your computer. And then, send the project to your printer. Remember, this paper is not compatible with a laser printer, you'll wanna make sure you're using an inkjet. From the materials menu, you'll want to search the word printable. Look through the options, and I'm using printable iron-on light, it's made to use on light fabrics. I've printed out my feast mode image here. And, when you're printing, just make sure to print on the matte side of the iron-on paper, not the waxy side. Now, I'm going to place it onto my mat, with the waxy side down. Unlike other iron-on materials, you wanna place this face up. Put it into your machine, loaded with a fine point blade, and go ahead and cut. Once it's done cutting, you will need to weed this, just like you do other iron-on projects. So, you'll weed out all of the excess. And, you'll keep weeding until you're left with just the image that you wanna iron onto your apron. Now, here comes the part where you'll want to be really gentle and careful with your design. Because this one is pretty delicate and intricate, you're gonna peel the design from the backing. It can be useful to use your weeding tool

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at this point. Just be very careful as you're taking it off. And, then you'll need to use your very best designer skills to place it back onto your material. Now, I've carefully taken time to place all of the letters and images that are a part of this apron design. Now, I'm going to iron it on using my EasyPress. Because a printable iron-on doesn't have a backing like typical iron-on does, we're gonna use a Cricut protective sheet to place over everything so that we're not placing the EasyPress directly on our project. Now, with my EasyPress on its lowest setting, which in this case I'm putting it at 210 degrees, we're going to place the EasyPress right on top for 30 seconds. Printable iron-on is a little more temperamental, so you may wanna check it a few times in between to make sure that you're not melting anything too much. We've done our first pass with the heat, let's see how it's doing. Perfectly ironed on into place. So, so cute. This is a great project for those of us who don't wanna carry a bunch of vinyl and iron-on in our craft rooms. I was able to achieve different colors by just printing them directly onto that printable iron-on. Now it's time to feast.

Day 9 - Holiday Envelope

- It's probably a safe bet that you'll be sending out some cards this holiday season. So why not dress up your cards with a festive envelope so that everyone who receives it knows it's not a bill? Here's how we're gonna do it using the Cricut maker and some patterned paper, which I'm sure you have plenty of already in your craft room. From an empty canvas in Design Space, go over to images and search the word envelope. There's lots and lots of options. I like to choose one that has a liner included, because I feel like if you're gonna make an envelope, it should have a cute liner, too. You can resize your envelope to whatever size you need, depending on the card you're sending. And then we're ready to send it to our machine. Click Make it. Connect the machine to your computer, or whatever device you're using Design Space with. When you're crafting with a patterned paper, you wanna pay attention to is it a heavyweight one or a more lightweight one. They come in different weights. This card stock I'm using is a light card stock, so I'm gonna select that from the Popular menu on Design Space. Make sure you're paying attention to which part of the envelope is gonna be the outside and which one is gonna be the liner, and then place your paper onto your mat. Load the mat into your machine. And because envelopes have lots of folds, of course we need to use the scoring wheel. Once the scoring is done, we'll swap out for a fine-point blade to cut the rest of the outer part of the envelope. Gently peel back your envelope from the mat. Then load on the paper that you'll be using for the liner. Again, we'll be scoring and cutting, so we're gonna start out with the scoring wheel. Switch out for the fine-point blade. All right, we've got all of the components of our envelope cut. Now we're gonna put it together. It's a really quick and easy process. Follow the score lines to fold your envelope into place. Then use a tape runner to add some adhesive. Insert the liner. And you'll just wanna make sure these score lines on both the liner and the envelope line up. That way it'll close more easily. And just add adhesive to the top flap of the liner. And now you're done. Here's quick little tip. To make sealing your envelope easier, grab a thin strip of double-sided tape. Place it onto the envelope, and leave it there until you're ready to send. When you're ready to close up the envelope, just tear back the backing of the tape, and you can seal it up and it's ready for the mail.

Day 10 - Painted Autumn Leaves

- Are you ready to do some painting? Because today we are crafting with acrylic paper. It's a thick... (warbling) You hear that? That's what thick, thick paper sounds like. It's a thick artist's paper that you can find usually in the art aisle of your craft store. The Cricut Maker has no problem handing

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thick papers like this, so it's a really fun way to get creative with your projects. For this one, I'm gonna start with a blank sheet of the acrylic paper. And I've got four colors of paint over here. Here's my suggestion for you picking your colors. I would say pick a dark, a medium, and a light, and then one metallic that kind of fits with the overall scheme of the colors that you're using. Once you're got them down onto a plate, you'll need four brushes. And I like to start with the lighter color. And this is so fun because it requires no skill at all. You're just gonna make brush strokes all over the paper all the way up to the edge with each color. And just start laying them over each other until you get a really cool texture to the paper. I like to cover the entire paper, but if you like to leave some white spots, totally up to you. Okay, I feel good about that. So it's really gonna look abstract and kind of messy, but once it's all done and dry, it's gonna make a beautiful textured pattern that's gonna be great for cutting out shapes on your Cricut machine. Here's a different one I already did. It's already dry, so you wanna let it dry completely before you start cutting. I'm gonna go ahead and place it on my mat and then head over to Design Space to pick a shape to cut. For this project, I wanna cut some fall leaves. So I'm just gonna type in the phrase fall leaf and see what I can find. Here's one I like. I'm gonna insert it onto my canvas, resize it a bit, and then go to make it. From here, you will wanna change the size of the paper on your mat because right now it's 12 by 12 but our paper that we painted is actually about eight and a half by 11. And then, by using the project copies option, we can increase the number of leaves that we cut. I'm making sure to go back, change that, great. Now I'm ready to cut from my painted paper. (machine whirring) Now because painted artists paper isn't really an option in the material's menu, I've found that poster board is a great match for cutting this material. So go ahead and search poster board. And you'll need your fine point blade loaded into the machine to cut it. (machine whirring) Let's unload the mat and peel back those painted leaf shapes. Because of the abstract painting, every single leaf is gonna look a little different, which is so appropriate since every fall leaf looks a little different. You can use these on your table to decorate for a center piece, you can use them on your mantle. There are a ton of different ways to use these. Maybe a gift tag on a gift. Get creative, but I think this is a technique that will take you far and throughout the year no matter what project you're working on.

Day 11 - Embroidery Hoop Wreath

- Welcome to day 11. Today we are crafting with Sparkle Paper! All right, we're gonna make a wreath, but we're gonna do it using paper and an embroidery hoop. It's really easy. Let's do it. You're gonna open up the project in Design Space. I've already done the hard work for you. And you're just gonna go to Make It. I'm gonna place my green Sparkle Paper onto the mat. And as always, select the proper material from the Materials list. I'm ready to load the paper into my machine. Make sure you're using the Fine-Point Blade for this, and press cut. (machine whirs) All right, now I'm unloading that first cut. You'll wanna go ahead and cut the remaining parts of the image, and then we'll be ready to assemble. All right, now I've got all my pieces cut out. And with this particular wreath shape, you're going to want to match up the cuts on the wreath so that everything lines up. A good way to do that is to notice the part of the wreath that has no cuts on it and those line up together. And once you do that, you got a good-looking wreath. Now I'm gonna add the final layer. This one goes right here. Now that I have 'em lined up, I find that with the Shimmer Paper because it has a little bit of a sheen to it, I like to glue it together with a hot glue gun. So I'm going to start just adding some dabs of hot glue. Just avoid the places where you know the paper is going to be showing. Now I'm adding that last layer, but first of course add a little more glue. Again, remembering to avoid places where you know the red paper is going to show through.

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Line everything up. Oh, I love how this comes together. I love how those colors pop through. There we go. And the last piece is to add this pretty sparkly bow. You can be a little more liberal with the glue there. And now we have a paper wreath and she looks great, but how are we gonna hang it up? This is the part I love. Grab an eight-inch embroidery hoop. And I've sized it so it works perfectly with this project. You're going to just add hot glue all the way around the embroidery hoop. You don't need to take it apart. And once you've mounted that wreath onto the embroidery hoop, just take a piece of ribbon and just feed it through the top loop of the embroidery hoop, and now you have a way to hang up your wreath. How cut is that? Again, paper, embroidery hoop, really easy, but super impressive.

Day 12 - Fall Banner

- Today we are going to be using a material that's gonna really excite you, plain white card stock. Don't worry, I'm gonna make it really exciting by showing you how you can print on this card stock to crate really any design you want. You're gonna start with card stock and you're gonna need your printer in addition to your Maker and of course Design Space. Let's head over to Design Space and pick out the elements for our fall banner. I'm gonna type in the word banner and essentially I just wanna select a banner shape that matches what I want. Here's one here and I'm gonna insert that into my canvas. Resize it to be whatever size you want and because I only need one layer for this project I'm going to ungroup those layers and delete the smaller one. Now, if I were to cut this out it would cut out from a yellow piece of card stock or whatever card stock I want and it would be beautiful, but we can do better than that. Click on the image then head over to the right side and click on the Layers panel. Click on the color or anywhere on the Layers panel of the image that you want to edit then up at the top you're gonna see something that says Print. Click Print and now you're gonna see something beneath it that says Patterns and this is where things get exciting because all these are patterns that you can overlay onto your image and print them. So no need to have a bunch of patterned paper anymore. You can take a white piece of card stock and turn it into any pattern you want. I'm gonna scroll down until I find something that feels kind of fall and here's some fall leaves. Now there are leaves on that image, super cool right? Select your Text tool on the left and type the word fall. Go up to the top where it says Font on the top left and find the font that you wanna use. There's a font called Carly that I really like and I'm gonna use that one. You can change the color of your font by going back over to the Layers area and selecting a color. I'm using fuchsia. Then you'll want to ungroup that text layer and add each one individually to the printed fall banner. With the text in place select each panel, both the patterned panel of the banner and the letter of the word, and flatten it. This way they will print all as one. At this point our print-then-cut banner is just about done. The only thing we need to do is add little holes on the sides so we can string some ribbon through and hang it. To do that I'm going to attach little rectangles to either side of each panel. Create small, narrow rectangles, duplicate them so each panel has two. Once each panel has two, select the entire panel and click Attach. This will tell the machine to print the banner but cut those holes. All of the elements of the banner are set up in Design Space and ready to cut. Now I'm gonna go up to Make It and you'll see that this is already sized for 8-1/2 by 11 because the Cricut expects that if you're printing something, it's probably on letter sized paper. Connect your machine and you'll see that there's an added step now that says print. This will allow you to send the project to your printer, print it out, and then bring it to your machine to cut. I've printed out my banner and now I'm ready to cut. I'm going to place it on my mat, load it into my machine, and then select the material. In this case it's a light card stock. Now we're ready to cut with the fine point

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blade loaded into the machine and the first thing your machine will do is read those registration lines on the printed paper. That way it knows exactly where to cut. Unload your mat and you will be pleased to see that your once plain white piece of card stock is now a beautiful printed banner that looks like something you could have bought at a fancy stationary store. Continue cutting the rest of your banner out and you'll have something that looks like this. Now it's time to put 'em together. Grab some ribbon and really all you have to do is thread the ribbon through those precut holes and you will be super pleased to know that that stack of white paper that's sitting in your office just got new life because of the print-then-cut feature on your Cricut Maker. Okay, it's fall y'all. Look at that. So cute, so easy and really, you already have a printer and white paper so, why not?

Day 13 - Coffee Cozy

- You guys, I have felt so excited about this project and you will too. Today, we're working with craft felt. You can grab it at the craft store. It's really inexpensive and it's so easy to cut on your Cricut Maker. I've already designed this project for you in Design Space and it's a coffee sleeve, which is perfect for all those cold nights coming up this winter. I placed my felt onto the pink fabric mat and now I'm gonna go into Design Space and click Make It. Because this project includes both the felt coffee sleeve and a little bit of iron-on wording, you'll wanna make sure that he wording mat is clicked to Mirror On. From there, we'll go ahead and continue, make sure that our machine is connected to our Design Space device, and we'll select felt. Felt is listed in the popular items menu because so many people love working with it. Now here's a little trick that you've got to use. Once you've selected your material, Design Space is gonna tell you to use the fine-point blade. I actually have a lot more success using the rotary blade to cut felt, so I'm gonna go over to Edit Tools and select the rotary blade. Now I'm ready to bring my project to my machine, but first I'll wanna switch out that fine-point blade for the rotary blade. (machine whirring) Once you're done cutting, simply peel back your felt coffee sleeve and you're ready to make the project. I've got my felt coffee sleeve ready and I've also cut out that wording from white iron-on material. I've set it onto my EasyPress mat and I'll bring over my small EasyPress since it's perfect for this little project. I've set my EasyPress to 280 degrees, which is the perfect temperature for putting iron-on onto felt. (beeping) Now we can peel back. And now we're ready to put this on our favorite coffee cup. Wrap the coffee sleeve around to make sure it fits and then once they meet at the end, grab some felt glue. I found that this is the best way to adhere felt. Allow it to dry and this is a great way to give a gift. You can give this with a gift card inside or maybe fill it up with some treats. But this is a really cute creative way to personalize a gift for the coffee lover in your life.

Day 14 - Gift Wrap Belly Bands

- Sometimes you wanna add a little sparkle to your project but you don't wanna deal with the mess of glitter. Well, today we're gonna craft with the Bejeweled Sampler card stock from Cricut. It's perfect because it's got a glossy, smooth finish and a glittery look but none of the mess of actual glitter. We're going to be crafting with this paper to create belly bands for our gift boxes. If you're someone who doesn't know how to tie the perfect bow, this is a great way to wrap your gifts. In Design Space, I'm going to open up the images and I'm gonna search for the word border. This is a great way to find some cool borders that translate well into belly bands. I'll scroll until I find a pretty, intricate cut that will work for this project. Here's one right here. I'll insert that into my canvas. And since this project has several layers, I'm going to ungroup it and delete the background layer. Now I will resize this to fit the width of my 12 by 12 paper. And now I'm ready to cut. This type of card

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stock is categorized under Sparkle Paper in your Design Space menu. So you'll look for Sparkle Paper and click on that option. Now I'm ready to place my glittery, sparkly paper onto the mat and put it into my machine that is fitted with the Fine-Point Blade. (machine whirs) Now we get to pull back that intricate belly band, pull out any parts that need to come out. And now there's no need to tie a bow. Just fold this around a box or your wrapped gift. And it's a beautiful presentation for anyone who you're giving a gift to.

Day 15 - Holiday Apron
- Foil iron-on is a great way to add sparkle to your project. I'm gonna show you how I use it in a project making an apron that you must wear this Christmas season. I've already designed a project for you in Design Space, so just open it with the link, and go to Make it. Remember anytime you're working with iron-on materials you want to click Mirror so that it's on, and that the image will be mirrored when you cut it. From the Materials menu, search the word foil and look for foil iron-on. Place the iron-on on your mat with the shiny foil side facing down. Then, place it in your machine loaded with the fine point blade. Once it's done cutting, remove it from the mat, cut off any excess foil that you don't need. And then, use your weeding tool to remove the excess foil iron-on material. For the rest of the project, I'm actually gonna use standard everyday iron-on from Cricut. This way, the foil will really pop on the project because it'll be paired next to other iron-ons that have a more mat look. All right, now I've got my apron out, it's a 100% cotton apron, and I have the pieces that I cut out from foil, and standard everyday iron-on. I'm gonna start by ironing on the main portion of the design which is the words that I cut from regular iron-on material. And use my Easy Press set at 315 degrees for 30 seconds. Okay, we'll peel off the first layer of vinyl, and now we can place our gold foil whisk, how cute is that? Now remember because we don't want to damage any of the previous iron-on pattern, we'll place something on top to cover it, and then we'll want to change the setting on our Easy Press to fit the needs for foil. I know that that will be 295 for 30 seconds. Now that the Easy Press has come to temperature, we'll place it onto our foil accent and press the green C. All right, once it's done, we'll peel back the protective layer and then you'll see that a few pieces of it are lifting, so we'll just give it a little more time. Sometimes, that's because we have another layer on top. All right, with a little added heat, I think we're in good shape and we are. See how great that foil looks? Now for a final accent piece, we're just gonna a little red handle on top of the whisk, of course protect it. And we're almost there. Beautiful. So there is the most adorable, punny Christmas apron for you to wear while you cook your Christmas dinner, or while you wander around the house opening gifts.

Day 16 - Holiday Cheer Mug
- Vinyl is one of the most versatile materials you can use with your Cricut Maker. It's great for creating gifts, home decor pieces, and today I'm gonna show you how to make a mug that is perfect for yourself or for giving away to friends and family. To make this project, open up Design Space by clicking the link that we've given you. You'll see the project already designed for you and now we're ready to cut. Click Make It, as always, and we're gonna place the vinyl onto the mat. You'll place it face-up and then we'll select our material. Since we're making a mug, we're going to use permanent vinyl. It's not dishwasher-safe, at least I don't usually use it in the dishwasher, but I do find that you can wash it by hand without any problem. Now we're ready to load the project into our machine that is fitted with the fine-point blade. (machine whirring) We'll unload the mat, cut away any excess material, and then you will use your weeding tool to remove the excess. Take your time, especially

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since this is a pretty delicate and intricate design. I've done all the weeding for each piece of this design and now I'm going to apply it to a ceramic mug. To do that, you're gonna need to use transfer tape. You wanna grab it from the store, it looks like this, and I've already cut a piece that is about the size of what I'll be putting on the mug. Peel back the transfer tape, then place it directly onto your design, and use one of these scraping tools to rub it on firmly so that when you peel it back, it sticks to the transfer tape. We'll do the same thing for the other elements of this design until we have it all put together. With everything on the transfer tape, we can place it onto our mug. We can use the scraping tool to really apply it firmly. Slowly peel back the transfer tape, and if there are any parts that are lifting up, give it an extra rub and then keep peeling. So there it is, vinyl is a really great and easy way to customize projects like a ceramic mug for giving a gift to yourself or maybe a coworker, a friend, or a family member.

Day 17 - Utensil Envelope
- Today's material is foil embossed paper. You can get it in the Cricut aisle at your local craft store, and it comes in a lot of different colors and patterns. I'm using the white and gold, and we're gonna create a utensil envelope for using on all of your holiday tablescapes that you're creating this year. I know you are, let's do it. To get started, we're gonna go over to Design Space and search for an envelope image. You want something that's a little bit oblong, so more of a rectangle than a square. So I'm going to pick this one that has a really pretty scalloped edge. We'll put it into Design Space, and here's where we're gonna start doing a little bit of crafting. We're gonna click on the image and then click detach. That's gonna separate the image from those score lines that you would typically need if you were using this as a regular envelope. I'm gonna delete those score lines, and then I'm gonna insert my own score lines, because for this, we only need three rather than four. So we'll need a score line on the left side of the envelope. You can duplicate that score line to get another. We'll need another score line on the right, and then we'll need one horizontal score line on the bottom flap. You don't need a score line at the top since that part will stay open for this utensil envelope. Select all the pieces of that image and then click attach. Now everything will cut and score together. Now, let's head over to the machine. Go ahead, place your paper on the mat. Of course click Make It, as we always do to make our projects. In the materials menu, this will be called foil embossed paper, so just type those words in, and select that material. Now, we wanna make sure that the machine is loaded with the scoring wheel, and now we can load it in and start scoring. (quiet whirring) When you're ready to cut, switch out the scoring wheel for the fine point blade and press cut. (quiet whirring) Once you're done cutting, as always, we'll unload the mat and reveal our perfectly cut envelope. So from here, it's just a matter of assembling it, and those score lines give a really great, easy place to crease the paper. Because this will hold some utensils in here, I'm gonna tuck this flap here, add a piece of double-sided tape, something that's good and sticky and strong, place those flaps here. Then when you grab your utensils, you'll have a little bit of give in the envelope to place the utensils without pulling it too much. It's just that easy. You can add a little bow to your utensil envelope or maybe a name tag of whoever's gonna sit in that place, but this is a great starting point for making your next party really special.

Day 18 - Glittery Placemats
- Now, I'm sure you didn't think we were gonna have a Damask Love 30-day challenge without some glitter. Today we're crafting with glitter card stock to make glittery place mats for your holiday table because clearly I'm invited so you gotta put some glitter on the table for me. To do

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that we're gonna head over to Design Space and we're going to search the images for the word doily. I have learned that if you search the word doily you get some pretty good images that work well as a fancy-dancy glittery place mat. At this point, it's totally up to you which doily image you select. The only thing to keep in mind is that the more intricate it is, the longer it will take to cut. I'm gonna select this pretty doily here, and insert it to my canvas. At this point, you'll wanna figure out what size your doily should be. And to do that, I like to figure out, if I'm using a charger for the party, what size the charger will fit. So this one is about eight inches across, so I wanna create a little place mat that is about eight inches across. Once you're done resizing it, go ahead and click make it. And then you want to browse the materials for glitter card stock. Make sure your machine is loaded with the fine-point blade and then go ahead and place your glitter card stock onto the blue or the green cutting mat. Because this is an intricate cut, I'll save you the time of watching me cut it and let's just jump to the good part. I've cut it already on this mat, and let's see the reveal. So pretty, so intricate, and I didn't have to really do any work. The machine did it for me. As soon as you've removed any extra bits from the doily shape, go ahead and grab your charger, place it in the center, and you have automatically elevated your party from great to glittery glam.

Day 19 - Small Gift Box

- Today we are crafting with acetate. That is not a curse word, it is a craft material, and it's perfect for making gift boxes, which is exactly what we're gonna do today with the Cricut Maker. When you get your acetate, you're gonna notice that it does have a film on the back. It's a clear plastic, so to protect it, there's a film that you'll want to peel off before cutting it. And now we're ready to put it on our mat. In Design Space you'll find the file that I created for you. Just click on the link to open up the gable box project that we're making, and click Make It. Load your mat into the machine, and make sure you have it loaded with the scoring wheel, since it's gonna score the project first. Now you're gonna wanna search the word acetate in the materials menu, and for this one we're using the Cricut Foil Acetate, so select that. And now we're ready to score. (machine whirs) Once the scoring is done, you're gonna wanna switch out the scoring wheel for the fine-point blade. (machine whirs) Cut is done. Go ahead and unload it. And peel back, gently, the acetate from your mat. Now because we have all of those great scoring lines there, it's gonna be really easy to fold the box into place. That's why the scoring wheel is so awesome. When you're assembling your box, you will notice there is a right side to the acetate. It's hard to tell, but if you look closely, one side does have a bit more of a sheen to it, and that's the one you want showing on the outside of your box. If you get it mixed up, you probably won't notice, but if you can get it right the first time, all the better. Before adding any adhesive, make sure you fold all of the places where there is a score line. It makes assembly a lot easier. Now we're ready for some adhesive right here on that smaller flap, and I find that when you're using acetate, you really wanna use a strong double-sided tape. Hot glue's not gonna really work here, you also don't wanna use like a tape runner, 'cause usually those aren't quite as strong. But put that double-sided tape, peel off the backing. And if you get a good double-sided tape, it'll almost disappear right into the clear acetate, and you won't notice it too much. Go ahead and fold the bottom of the box together. There we go. And then the top fits right into those little notches on the side. And there it is. You can imagine that once this is filled with really colorful treats, this is a great way to give gifts this holiday season.

Day 20 - Gift Labels

- Are you guys ready to see something really cool? Today we're gonna be using our phones to

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access Cricut Design Space and write on labels that we bought pre-cut at the store. To do this, I wanna open Design Space on my phone and I'm going to start adding some text. I love the font Cinnamon Swirls. It's a great writing text, and I'm gonna type out some names for people who I'm going to give gifts to. There's Faith, there's Sam, and there's Taryn. Now I'm going to go to Make It. Now I'm gonna place my pre-cut labels anywhere on my mat that I want. Now we're going to use the SnapMat feature to take a picture of the mat so that Cricut knows exactly where those labels are placed. On the bottom left corner of your screen, you're gonna click that little camera. You're gonna hold your camera over your mat until it snaps a photo. Now we're going to use our finger to drag those names onto their respective labels. Cricut Design Space is now telling me I'll need to load a pen into the machine. Let me show you how easy that is. I'm using the Cricut Gel-Tip pen, take the top off, and load it into the A clamp in your machine. Press it down until it clicks and then close the clamp. You're done. Now we can load our mat into the machine (machine whirring) and press the blinking C to start writing. (machine whirring) Now you'll unload your mat and you will be so impressed because girlfriend, your handwriting never looked this good. And now you've made personalized tags with beautiful penmanship because we all know that writing neatly can be super difficult, especially when you're making a bunch of gift tags for people.

Day 21 - Holiday Gift Bags
- There are lots of ways to add sparkle to your holiday projects using Cricut materials. One of my favorites is their adhesive foil. It's like a sticker, but it's a lot shinier. For this project, we're going to make customized gift bags so that you can take a plain white gift bag and customize it with whatever adhesive foil you like. We're gonna go into design space and open a new canvas. And we're just gonna search for images that we like. I want my gift bag to say joy, so I'm gonna type in the word joy and see what I find. I like this image here that says joy with a snowflake in the center. So I'm gonna insert that to my canvas. And what I'm gonna do is ungroup these and remove that green layer in the background. So now joy is the only thing that we'll cut from this adhesive foil. Once I've sized it to what I want for my project, I'm going to click make it. And form the materials menu, I'm gonna search foil, and click adhesive foil. Now I've placed my foil onto a strong grit mat. The strong grit mat really is the best one for this material since the back is a little bit slick. And if you have any issues with it sticking, just give it a rub with your scraper tool and it will stick down without a problem. Now I'm gonna load this into my machine that is fitted with the fine point blade and cut. Unload your mat. Peel it back. And then cut off just the part that has your design. Use your fingers or a weeding tool to remove the excess material. Now that my design has been weeded, I can peel this off as a sticker, or I can use transfer tape to transfer it onto my gift bag. Because this design is pretty chunky, I feel comfortable taking it off as a sticker. But with more delicate designs, you definitely want to use transfer tape. Now I can take my gift bag and place my foil sticker right in the center. And we've created a really simple bag that used to be plain and now has a little bit of sparkle. With the adhesive foil, we just gave new life to all of those plain gift bags that you can buy at the craft store. So now, buy a pack of gift bags and get creative with how you can personalize them with adhesive foil.

Day 22 - Snowflake Gloves
- SportFlex vinyl is relatively new, but it's great for creating iron-on projects for stretchy fabric like think your yoga pants or maybe your workout shirt. In this case, we're going to be decorating a pair of winter gloves with an iron-on snowflake. Before we design our snowflakes in Design Space, we'll

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want to measure and see how big they should be on our glove. By eyeballing it, I can see that about two inches by two inches will be a good size. So now let's head over to Design Space and pick a snowflake. Click on Images. Search snowflake. And I think I like this one. I'll insert it into my canvas, size it until it's about two by two inches, then duplicate it because I need two, one for each of my gloves. I'll click Make It. And because this snowflake is symmetrical, I don't really need to worry about mirroring the project. You can, but you don't have to. For your material, you'll want to select SportFlex. Just type in the word sport, and you'll see SportFlex Iron-on as the option. Now I'm using a strong grip mat because this does have a slicker finish, so I find that putting it on the strong grip helps hold it in place. You can also use a scraping tool to really make sure it sticks. Now I'm gonna load it into my machine that is fitted with my fine-point blade. (machine whirring) Now I'll take it off the mat and cut away any excess vinyl. Now it's time to grab my weeder and take away any of the extra vinyl that will not be part of the snowflake design. Now that I've cut out my snowflakes and weeded them, I'm gonna grab my glove and place it onto my Cricut EasyPress mat and place the snowflake right on top. Now I can take my small EasyPress which I've set to 305 degrees because that's the temperature for this SportFlex, and place it on top. Press the C and let the EasyPress do the work. (beeping) The EasyPress instructions say that I should do a warm peel with the SportFlex. That means that I should peel back the backing when it's still warm rather than waiting for it to cool off. Now let's do the second glove and we'll be all done. (beeping) We're all done and now you can see when you put your glove on, that SportFlex vinyl stretches so that you don't have any peeling or pulling when you wear your gloves.

Day 23 - Santa Tote Bag

- Glitter Iron-on is probably one of the most popular products you can find with Cricut. It's a great product to add sparkle to your projects and today I'm gonna show you how to make the perfect Santa tote. First we're gonna head over to Design Space and I'm gonna show you how to make this project for free. On your canvas, on the left, you're gonna see something that says Shapes. Click on that and select a square. Each of these shapes is free for you to use no matter what subscription you have with Design Space. First I'm going to create a square that's the size of the tote bag I'm using. This will be my template and give me a good idea of how to size the rest of my project. My tote bag is 16 by 21 inches, and so that's what I'm gonna create here. Once you've got that rectangle done, select another square and we're gonna start making our Santa belt. This part of the belt will be black, so I'll select that color from the color menu. Unlock the proportions and drag that black rectangle across my bag template. Once that's done, let's go back and grab another square and create the buckle for the belt. I want my buckle to be gold glitter, so I'm going to select yellow from the color menu. Now we're gonna select one more square to make the center of the buckle. Now you're going to select the center of the buckle and the gold portion of the buckle and click Attach. This way they'll cut together and you'll get a cutout in the center of the gold glitter buckle. Now we can delete that template we used for the bag because everything is sized for the tote bag we're using, and now we can send this to our mat to cut. Depending on the size of your tote bag, you may need to pull out your 12 by 24 inch cutting mat to cut out the black portion of the belt. I've already cut my two pieces out, and now we need to adhere them to our tote bag using the large EasyPress. First, I will put the black belt strap kind of right in the middle of the bag and I'll wait for my EasyPress to come to temperature. To put on the Everyday vinyl on a cotton tote bag, we wanna have it at 330 degrees for 30 seconds. As your EasyPress is coming to temperature, it's sometimes helpful to preheat the actual fabric that you'll be ironing onto. A warmer fabric usually accepts

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iron-on a bit easier. Now that the tote bag has been warmed and the EasyPress is up to temperature, we can go ahead and place this onto our bag. (beeping) Slide it over to cover the portion that hasn't yet been adhered. (beeping) Now we can slowly peel back the backing to expose our black belt. If you have any bits of iron-on material hanging off the edge, just go ahead and trim those off with scissors. Now we can layer that glittery belt buckle right on top. And as always, we want to protect the exposed vinyl just like that. (beeping) Beautiful. Look at that. Santa would be so proud. Our bag is done, but here's the thing. I'm never finished until there is some sorta special element added, and in this case, that special element is faux fur. I feel like Santa has it on his suit, so why can't we put it on our bag? I'm just gonna add this to the top using a little bit of hot glue. You can also use fabric glue. And our tote will be finished. And there she is, the cutest Santa tote ever. Santa will be jealous, I can promise you that.

Day 24 - Felt Poinsettia
- Not all felt is created equal. We've already created with felt during this challenge but today we're gonna create with Cricut felt. I love it because it's available in 12 by 12 sheets which gives you a lot more flexibility with the projects that you make. We're gonna be creating a felt poinsettia and I've already created this poinsettia for you in Design Space so I'm going to click make it. You'll see all of your project mats laid out on the left side. Here's a little tip for those of you who may be limited on how much felt you have to work with. You'll see on the left I have two mats that have pink felt but I only have one sheet of pink felt. What I can do is click on one of those sheets, click on the image and then on the upper left corner click those three little dots. Now, I'm gonna say move to another mat and then I wanna move it to that one other sheet of pink felt. Once there, I can rearrange these images so that they will both cut from that one sheet of pink felt and I don't have to use another sheet. Now we can continue and get ready to cut our felt. Now we're ready to select our material. Type in the word felt and you'll see felt with a little c next to it. That's the Cricut brand of felt. Anytime you see that Cricut logo, that means it's a Cricut brand of product. As always, I like to switch the blade when I'm using felt. Design Space wants you to use the fine point blade, I like to use the rotary blade. So, I'm going to edit tools and select rotary blade. I'll place my material on my mat. Load it into the machine and then of course I need to switch out my blade. Take out that fine point blade and put in the rotary blade. (machine running) Remember, when you're cutting with the rotary blade more detailed shapes may take a little bit longer but it's totally worth it in the end. Once you're done cutting your project, just peel it back from the mat and you'll see how cleanly it comes off. Now, for this poinsettia flower, you'll just want to line up the shapes so that the points of the petals match up where they're supposed to. And once everything is in place, grab some felt glue and put it all together. And you're all done. I love the idea of using something like this maybe as a place setting or put a bunch of them together to create a beautiful poinsettia table runner, but it's also really durable for this holiday season and for all the holidays to come ahead.

Day 25 - Candy Cane Jar
- The best way to make friends this holiday season is, hands down, give them candy. And you can give them candy in the most adorable way by creating your own label on a candy dish. So I'm gonna show you how to use printable vinyl to create your own labels for a candy dish, or any other dish that you want to serve around the holidays. When you open up Design Space, go ahead and click Images and search for the words candy cane. Of course if you want to put something else in a jar, you can search for that word. I'm gonna scroll down until I find the image that I'm looking for. Here

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it is, it says candy canes. A quick tip for you, if you'd like to find more images from a particular image set, just click on the bottom right corner where you see that I and you'll see the name of the image set in green. You can click on it and see if there's any other images you might want to use. In this case, there is another image I love and it says cookies, it's perfect for another cookie jar around the holidays. I'll insert those images into my canvas and once they're there, I can edit them and change the colors however I wish. I'll make this red a little bit brighter. And I'll turn this purple into a teal blue. Now I can select them and click Flatten on the bottom right corner of the screen. Now that it's printed, we'll put it onto our cutting mat and select our material as printable vinyl. (keystrokes) Load it into the machine, and let it do the rest of the work. (machine whirrs and buzzes) Unload your mat, and because this is a flat image, there's not much weeding involved, but you will want to weed out any excess pieces of the image. Now it works just like a sticker. Take your jar of candy canes or whatever treat you're gonna put on your desk, peel off the sticker, and just place it onto your jar. I love using printable vinyl to make removable labels for holidays because I can just take it off later and switch it out. You can also get creative with how you use these. Use it for a cookie jar or even a hot cocoa bar for all of your guests.

Day 26 - Stenciled Tea Towel

- You can create your own stencils using any shape and design space using freezer paper. I'm gonna show you how easy it is to create a tea towel that is stenciled with holiday decor. I've taken a piece of freezer paper and cut it down a bit, and now I'm gonna place it onto the pink fabric mat. Now, usually you use the fabric mat for fabric but because the freezer paper is pretty delicate and we want to be gentle with it, we don't wanna use a really, really sticky mat that's gonna make it hard for us to remove it later. Now let's go over to design space where I've already created the project for you. You'll see two images, some holly and then Noel. We're gonna cut the Noel from iron-on later on but let's focus on the stencil. Click Make It. And from the Materials menu, go ahead and type in freezer. Freezer paper is already there and so we'll select that and send the project to our machine. (machine whirring) Now let's gently remove the freezer paper. You don't wanna rip any of this because this will be your stencil. We're only going to use the negative for our stencil and let's place it on the towel wherever we want it to lay. At this point you can trim off any excess so it doesn't get in your way, and I'm gonna place a piece of paper behind it because I will be using paint and I don't want it to bleed through. Now I'm gonna grab my small EasyPress and place it on top of the freezer paper. This is gonna seal the freezer paper onto my fabric and make for a seamless stencil. Once the stencil is stuck down onto the fabric, we can add our fabric paint. I've got some green and red fabric paint and a few sponge daubers. I'm gonna start in the center and you wanna be pretty gentle and careful here because you don't want the paint to spill over into any of the green section. But since this dauber's pretty small, it's pretty easy to do. Now I'll go in with the green paint, again being careful to only stay within the stencil. And now here's what's great about freezer paper stencils. Once you peel it back, you'll get a crisp line because we heat-set that freezer paper into place. And now for a little more added personalisation, we're gonna add that Noel wording that I created in the project. I cut it from foil iron-on. I'm gonna place it right on top, and now this is gonna do double duty because now I'm going to use my EasyPress to not only set the iron-on into place, but it's also gonna heat-set that fabric paint so this will become a washable project. I've set my EasyPress to 315 for 30 seconds. Also, foil iron-on is a cold peel which means we need to wait for it to cool down before we peel back the backing. Freezer paper stencils will open up a whole new world of possibilities for how you can holiday craft with your Cricut Maker.

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Day 27 - Gingerbread Man Garland
- Today we're crafting with craft board paper. It's thicker than card stock but it's a lot thinner than chipboard. I love it because it's great for making durable projects to decorate your home during the holidays. I also love it because it's this great shade of brown, which I think looks like a gingerbread man, which means obviously we're making a garland of gingerbread men. Let me show you how it's done. In Design Space we're going to search the word gingerbread. You'll see a bunch of images come up. I really like this plain gingerbread man here and so I'm gonna insert him into my canvas. We'll want to make him a little bit bigger. You'll wanna straighten out the image so that he is sitting upright, just like that. Now we need to add some holes for where we're gonna thread the ribbon. To do that I'm going to go to Shapes and click on the square and on the bottom-left side of the square you'll see a little lock. Right there you're gonna click it and this will allow you to freely change the proportions of that shape. I'm gonna make a small rectangle and place it kind of in the center of the gingerbread man. Then I'll duplicate that shape and place it just next to it. These will give me two slits where I can thread the ribbon for the garland. Once everything is nice and centered let's attach everything by selecting it and clicking Attach. Now all of those pieces will cut at the same time. Now click Make It so that we can send it over to the machine. You'll find this material listed under Craft Board so just type in the word craft and click Craft Board. Make sure your machine is loaded with the fine-point blade, place this on your mat, and we're ready to cut. Once you're done cutting just unload the mat and peel off your gingerbread man. Now of course one gingerbread man, a garland does not make. You'll need more of these so just duplicate as many as you'd like on your garland to get the full garland effect. I've already cut some so let's get started assembling. Now we can thread our ribbon through those slits by going up through the back just like that and just keep threading the gingerbread men onto the garland and that little pop of color with the ribbon really makes this simple garland something special. And it's really that simple. That little pop of red really makes it special. I like to keep it simple but of course you could decorate this with eyes and a nose and little buttons. Get creative, but this is a great place to start in making the perfect gingerbread garland.

Day 28 - Holiday "Joy" Letters
- Today we are working with chipboard. If you don't know what chipboard is, I like to think of it as the plywood for crafters. I'm not a woodworker at all but chipboard is something I can deal with especially because my maker can handle it. We're gonna be making some letters that will stand up on their own because of the density of the chipboard. But first, I'm gonna take my glue stick and cover the chipboard with glue. Because as beautiful as this brown chipboard is, how about we add some pattern to it. Once you've covered it with glue, all you're gonna do is pick a piece of pattern paper. I got some fun, kind of rustic plaid action going on here and then smooth it into place. It's just that simple. Now because the cricket chipboard is cut to 11 inches by 11 inches, you will have some overhang and to deal with that, I'll grab a self-healing mat and a craft knife and just slice off the excess. Patterned chipboard. Now we're gonna place our chipboard onto a strong grip mat and then use some painter's tape or even Washi tape to tape down the edges so that the chipboard doesn't move while it's being cut. Now go ahead and open the project in Design Space. I've already designed it for you, and click make it. Because we're cutting chipboard, we do wanna use the knife blade so I'm gonna place it into my Cricut Maker and now we're ready to load the mat. When working with chipboard, make sure those star wheels, these little white wheels right here, are pushed all the way over to the right so that they don't leave any dents in the chipboard. Go ahead and search chipboard in the materials menu and this is heavy chipboard. And now we're ready to

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cut with a knife blade. Once you're done cutting your chipboard, unload it from the machine and it will pop right out like a puzzle piece which I just think is the most satisfying think ever. And when you're done, because that chipboard is so sturdy, you can take a wood round like this and stand it up to create some decor in your home. So I'm gonna add a little kind of wall of glue and then you're just gonna hold the letter into the glue until the glue firms up and the letter will stand up straight. And you'll wanna repeat this with each one of the letters in this project which will spell out the word joy. These will look great in your mantle or maybe a centerpiece on your table but remember, I've already created the joy file for you so you can get that immediately but if you wanna create a different word, just figure out a font that you love, type it out, and cut it from chipboard.

Day 29 - Magnetic Snowflakes
- Give your fridge a wintery makeover with today's project using magnet paper. We're gonna be using magnetic paper that has an adhesive backing to create magnetic snowflakes to give your home a little wintery wonderland feel. First let's head over to Design Space and pick a snowflake image. You really can pick any image you want, my only recommendation would be to pick a snowflake that doesn't have a bunch of extra free floating pieces. You don't wanna have extra pieces to your magnet, you want it to be one complete magnet. I'm going to select, so many choices, I'm gonna select this one right here. That's a cute one. And I'm going to insert it into my campus. You can make this as big or as little as you want. I'm gonna make mine about five inches big. And now we'll send it to the machine. We're gonna select our material by browsing all materials and typing in the word magnet. We're gonna select magnetic sheet that's .5 millimeters because my magnetic sheet is a bit thinner. If you have a thicker one, choose that. Here's a cool feature, if you're at all concerned that your machine isn't gonna cut through the material, you can actually adjust the pressure of your blade. Right here, you click on default and you'll get a dropdown menu and I can select more. This means the blade will put more pressure on my material and be more likely to cut all the way through. Now we're gonna prep our magnetic sheet. I'm going to peel off the backing to expose the adhesive and then take a pretty piece of pattern paper and place it right on to the adhesive on the sheet. Flip it over and use a craft knife and a self-healing mat to trim off the excess. Now we can place this on a mat with he magnet side facing down and bring it over to our machine that's fitted with the fine point blade. Once you're done, peel the magnet sheet off and it should come off pretty easily. And now, we have a decorative magnet that you can use to hold all those beautiful holiday cards onto your fridge.

Day 30 - Tiny Christmas Tree
- We made it to day 30, guys. We've done so much crafting and I have one more project that you're going to love. It's really really easy. We're gonna make some dimensional Christmas trees that are great for using as a place setting or just home decor at home. To get started, we're gonna open Design Space and for this project, you need to find a Christmas tree image that is symmetrical. And I happen to know one already that I'm gonna show you. You're gonna type in the word quilt tree into your search bar and scroll down until you find this little cutie here. We're gonna insert that into our canvas and then resize it depending on how big you want it to be. And now here's the trick. Over here on the left you're gonna click on Shapes and Score Line. Once that score line pops up onto your Design Space canvas, make it a little bigger and then place it on top of your tree, select both, and then go to Align and select Center Horizontally. That means now that score line is right in the center of the tree. Now we're gonna select both again and attach them. By doing that, the tree

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and the score line will cut and score in the same pass, and now we just have to duplicate it. You're gonna duplicate it four times to make five. And then because every tree needs a star, we're going to add a star by going over to Shapes. Adding the star kind of resizing it a bit so that it fits the tree that we just made and just like we did with the tree, we're gonna add a score line to the center of the star so that it can also be scored and cut in the same pass. Now that we have five stars and five trees, we're ready to cut. Since today's material is Cricut Metallic Poster Board, we're going to use a silver poster board for the tree and a gold poster board for the star. You can use whatever poster board you like, so let's get started cutting. I'm gonna go over and click Make It and you will see all of your project laid out on the mat. So first we're gonna cut the stars from the gold Metallic Poster Board. I'm gonna place it onto my mat and load it into the machine. (machine whirring) Click Continue. Make sure of course your machine is connected. Once you're ready to cut, you're gonna need to select your material. Because remember with the Maker, you're gonna select it from this dropdown menu. So I'm gonna type in foil and look for foil poster board right here and click on it. We'll just wanna make sure number two scoring wheel is loaded onto the blade and we'll put it into our machine. That's what it's gonna do first, it's gonna score. Now it's time to cut, or in this case, score. (machine whirring) Once the scoring is done, you'll take out the scoring wheel and place in the fine-point blade so that we can do the cutting. (machine whirring) Now we can unload the mat and remove the star shapes. Take the gold paper off and now we're gonna switch over to the silver poster board for the tree image. (machine whirring) First we're gonna score. (machine whirring) Now, peel off the tree shapes and our cutting and scoring is done. All right now that we've cut everything and it's scored, we're just gonna fold all of those pieces in half. Once they're folded in half, grab a glue stick and you're going to adhere the halves together. We'll start with the tree. And just line up the edges. You can see why it's important to find a symmetrical image. And once you get to the last one, just finish it off. And now you've got a dimensional tree. And now I'm gonna do the same thing with the star. With the star done, I'm gonna grab a small three-inch wood round coaster, you can grab these at the craft store, and my hot glue gun. I'm gonna glue the star to the top of the tree, hold it there for a minute until it kinda sets, and then just use a dab of glue in the center of the wood round and hold the tree in place. So there you have it, we're all done. It's pretty cool what you can create with a piece of paper, right? But what's really cool is that we've created 30 days of projects using our Cricut Maker. I really hope you felt inspired to create some holiday projects that really will carry you throughout the entire year. I can't wait to see what you're making with your Cricut Maker next.

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