# **Punched Paper Garlands** with CBTV Live

**Chapter 1 - Chapter 1**
Punched Paper Garlands
(upbeat music) - Hey everybody, welcome to Creativebug. We're coming at you live like we always do on Tuesdays and Thursdays, although we won't be coming live on Thursday because hopefully you'll all be with your family celebrating Thanksgiving. I'm from the bay area here in San Francisco. My family actually is here but for most people who are transplants, you may be having Friendsgiving. So I thought it'd be fun to do a really simple and easy holiday decor craft that you can use for this holiday or the next one or the next one or even just for a little springtime celebration, if you will. These are super simple, punched and sewn garlands, and I'm gonna show you a little trick. We've done this on garland before a couple years ago as part of one of our Christmas roundups. This one makes it three-dimensional and is a really simple trick that gives a lot of impact. The other awesome news about today is that we just launched our holiday sale. You can get CreativeBug for three months for only $1 and Ally's gonna be posting a link. I'll try to remind you later because it's such an awesome deal. It'll definitely get you inspired for the holidays. We've got some great classes on how to keep calm, how to be grateful. You can check those out for the upcoming holiday later this week. And a lot of great daily challenges to keep that creativity going through a very stressful holiday season. To do this simple craft, you'll need some text weight or cardstock paper in whatever kinda color choice that you like. If you're working with kids or you're really into upcycling, you can use magazine pages or old drawings. For example someone like Pam Garrison might have hundreds of ink drawings laying around and those are things that you can easily punch out and turn into a really cool garland. You can even use old gift wrap. I'm gonna show you all these different materials that I've used to create my garlands. And then the punches that I'm using are Fiskars. They come in so many different styles. A symmetrical style works really nicely for this. And things that are bold shape, circles, rectangles, hexagons, triangles, these little tree ones. Look out for kind of seasonal motifs that might be great for punching. You can even do something a little bit more delicate like a snowflake. If you're going to be punching cardstock or anything heavier than a text weight, you wanna make sure you get a punch that says thick on it and this is appropriate for punching anything that's a little bit heavier. So you can go back and forth with the sewing, but when you're punching, you wanna make sure that you have the right punch for the material that you're using. And I'll demo these now. Let's start with the regular punch 'cause most of you probably have this. I've got a variety of text weight paper in my favorite colors. And these punches are really easy to use, you just squeeze. And some people I think originally when punches were designed, they kind of had the image on the front and then the punch on the back, but Fiskars has gotten really smart and put this as kind of the front of the tool and you see what's happening in the punch, which makes it really nice if you're trying to line up something that has an image, like let's say these are little faces of your pets or your kiddos and you wanna make sure it's exact. So this is really helpful, although this is a thick paper and this is not a thick punch so I'm gonna continue with my eight and half by 11. And because I'm just using a colored paper that's colored on both sides, I don't worry about the line up. It's easier just to do a bunch of punching right away so that when you get to sewing, you have everything cut and ready to go. If you want to use this space in between, obviously your punch is not gonna reach there so what you need to do is trim this away. And then now you can access this interior portion with your punch. See if I can squeeze one more,

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oh it's close. That'll work. Let's get another color in there, let's do this color. So same thing. Just an easy circle punch. And this is great for the holidays, but like I said, you can use this for any time you need to have a little festivity in your house. Makes a great little birthday garland. There's something about garlands that just feels so festive, it's like bunting, you can't just not smile every time you see it. I'm gonna do this rusty red, I kinda like it with the neon. Maybe a little less traditional palette. Now something to consider is if you're working with a printed scrapbook paper or with a thicker paper like I'll show you in just a sec. Some papers are not colored on both sides and that's gonna show up in your garland, so if you are working with something that's white on the back like thick cardstock, you can paint it so I've done that here. I've got quite a few classes on CreativeBug on painting your own wrapping paper and you can use those same techniques for painting the back of cardstock. If you wanna do something that's shiny on one side, usually the back is clear or white and then in this case I painted it and already punched those out using my thick punch. And if you wanna see the thick punch in action, let's do it on a magazine page. I'm not worrying about lining anything up, I just like this texture. You can hear it sounds a little bit different. And this will do really thick paper. It will even do Balsa wood and magnets. So something to consider. So I've got those to play with. You will see all sides of your paper for this garland, so keep that in mind as you're designing. All right. Whoop. You get stuck, just make sure you take out any little tiny debris that might be in your punch. All right I think that's good. And now we're going to pair these up to take to the sewing machine. Any sewing machine that does a straight stitch will work for this. You don't need to have a fancy sewing machine. I just happen to be using one that we have in the studio. And I'm gonna just do some pairings. You can do the same color like red on red, but I probably will switch it up a little bit. It's just a variety, I'm not gonna do a specific pattern. I'm just playing with pairings of two colors. All right we'll just do that amount for now. Now I'm gonna take it to my sewing machine. I'm going to pull out a tail of about 12 inches. You can do longer if you know where this garland is gonna go and this is the thing that's gonna allow me to hang the garland later, so pull out a nice foot or two. And then you're gonna wanna have your pairs close to your sewing machine so you can easily grab them. We're just gonna sew this all together with a straight stitch and I'm not gonna worry about the orientation of the colors, I'm just gonna go for it. So I've got my presser foot up. I'm gonna just slide this right to the edge of my needle, put my presser foot down, and I'm gonna try to eyeball the center of this circle. Now when I'm here, my needle is down at the bottom of this first pair. I'm gonna get the next pair ready. Let it sew off of any paper for a few stitches. And then add your next pair. Off the paper, onto the next pair. Off the paper, onto the next pair. That's so that we can have a little gap between our pairs and circles. I'm not putting it at maximum fastness. Just 'cause I wanna keep it pretty even. Last pair. Okay, it's done sewing, I'm gonna lift my presser foot and I'm actually gonna pull out another foot or so so that I have something to hang this with. And I can cut it on the machine. All right so there's our garland and that's probably pretty straightforward, you've seen that before, right, just a stitch garland like this. But now we're gonna make it 3D and this is where the two layers really comes in handy. You're just gonna open up and kinda fold against that stitch line. And what you wind up with is like a little ornament, in this case because it's circular. We're gonna do that all the way down. While I'm doing that, if we have any questions, Ally can let me know and don't forget, we're doing our, today's the first day of our three months for $1, so exciting. The biggest event of the year for us. You get three awesome months of CreativeBug for only a buck. - [Woman] First question comes from Laurie. Laurie wants to know, are you using any special thread? - Oh great question, Laurie. Laurie's asking am I using a special thread? No, I'm using a dual duty thread, happened to be in the machine. It's a blue color which kinda goes with my color

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scheme. I didn't even really think too much about the color so feel free to use whatever kind of thread you like. I think metallic threads could be a little tricky sewing with this because they tend to break more easily and also if you're sewing with paper, it is going to dull your needle over time and so you'll need to switch it out. (gasps) You guys. How cool is that? - [Woman] Also, Brian Henrick has joined us. - Hi Brian! Do you want me to decorate your house for you? Here's one I did with gold. So this is one of those ones where the paper was gold and the back didn't have any color but gold and white are really classic together, kind of elevates the traditional color palette for the holiday and I like how the gold and the white look. And this is something that you could do a whole curtain if you wanna kinda take off the kitchen area for the holidays and leave that kinda magical. And behind the scenes, you could do a photo booth backdrop this way by hanging them all vertically. You can do something horizontal on your tree or over your mantle. Let me show you some other ones. Here's a little star. Same process, just using the gold paper. The white is the back of the paper, but in this case, again, the gold and the white are really nice together, it's very classic. And look how pretty this star is. It's so textural. You can see that. I kinda like twist, which is really nice. There's a snowflake punch. This can be really fun. Again, more delicate, this would be really pretty if you hung them in a window. They have a really little star punch. This one was cool because I used my favorite fluorescent red color with the gold that also has the white on the back so you get three colors by just using the two papers. And these were not perfectly aligned because they're so little and I kind of was curious to see how they would look and I like the regularity of it, I think it's really pretty. (coughs) This will be pretty on a package. (coughs) - [Woman] Next question comes from Phil. - Hey Phil. - And Phil is asking about our craftathon. He wants to know, when are you having your craftathon? - Hi Phil, thanks for joining us from the UK. You're so good about that, and yes we are having a craftathon. That's gonna be next week on our Thursday live shoot. We're gonna be haven't some awesome giveaways, prize packages, we've got some great videos that the team here has queued up for you guys to watch. Those are gonna be super fun, featuring one of our favorite little creatures from one of our projects here on CreativeBug. And we're also kicking off the three months for $1 today but it will continue until the day after the craftathon so make sure you join us. That's the Thursday after Thanksgiving for our big craftathon, it'll be me and Faith. We're really excited. This is my kinda final punch that I wanted to show you. It's one of my favorites because it's a little Christmas tree. And hopefully Sam can see that. Got it, Sam? (chuckles) And it's just so cute, I did it in a green and blue. It comes in two sizes, let me show you what that punch looks like. Let's do a new piece, a fresh piece of paper. So this is also Fiskars punch, it has the two sizes of trees. This would just be really cool confetti too if you just kinda wanna have some fun table decor, you could punch a bunch of different colors for this. I mean you could even do these big circle dots for New Years or what have you. Same thing with old wrapping paper, this is all punched out. So these guys, they're actually not symmetrical, surprisingly, when I was lining them up. I'll show you, that's where they match and if you flip one, they're slightly different which is kinda cool, I actually really like that. And I love the kinda aqua, retro color scheme for Christmas. So I thought that was really pretty as a garland. Looks like arrows too. Next question. - [Woman] Next question from Melanie, and Melanie is wondering, if you were to use fabric would you iron them once they're sewn together? - Oh interesting question, so Melanie's asking can you use fabric. Now, punching fabric is gonna be a little trickier. I'm not sure that the thick punch will do that and the reason is, fabric when it's woven has all these little individual threads and you need really sharp scissors, so you can try it, it might be useful to do a freezer paper backing on the back of your fabric. That might aid you a little bit in punching. You can also use a Cricut machine like Amber does, mask glove. You could cut out your pieces that

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way. You could sew them together. But you might need a little bit of a stabilizer or some starch to really have it keep its three-dimensional shape once you iron it out. I think ironing's a great idea, so yeah, you could definitely try this with fabric and see what it does. The paper is just so easy, but if you're a fabric lover, try it. I think we have a garland on the site that's just torn strips of fabric that would be really cool to do and you could maybe pair that, do paper for these punched ones and then these kind of messy but beautiful fabric scraps for your other garland to get two textures in there. Good question, you guys. For troubleshooting, let's say you don't line up everything perfectly centered. Honestly it doesn't make a huge bit of difference but I just wanted to show you, this is one where I sewed and you can see it's not the center of my circle, right, it's just like left of center. And this actually has four layers. I can actually show you what that looks like when I sew it and I thought this would be a really cute package topper so I'm gonna find kind of the two biggest parts. And I've got a wrapped package here. And somewhere I have some double-sided tape. Here we go. I'm gonna add some double-sided tape to this. This is my favorite Scotch brand double-sided tape. Get that ready and then here's my wrapped book. Instead of doing a ribbon, I'm gonna do more tape. You could Washi tape for this, I just happen to have this hot pink tape. So do like a quick and easy and then you can add this on top. And it gives you some really cool texture. And you can play with how much of this is open or closed or sticking out, and you can trim these little threads or you can leave them. You could also make this into an ornament. So you could leave a really long tail and then just make an ornament, here's one where I did that using four pieces. And depending on the thickness of your paper, you can experiment with what's gonna easily go through your machine. So why don't we try it with, I don't know, a few pieces. We'll add this, we'll add this. Try this gold too. This gold is wrapping paper so it's a little bit thinner and when we do our sewing, it's gonna perforate. So you wanna make sure that you don't tear it 'cause that can happen. All right let's see, this is, what'd we say, five layers. I'm gonna lift my needle up, stick my layers down, and just go slowly. Ugh, like butter, no problem. This probably has a nice needle in it. I'm gonna pull that out. Say I wanted to make this into an ornament. - [Woman] This question comes from Annette. Annette is wondering, if you don't have a sewing machine, you can just glue them together right? - Yeah so Annette's asking if you don't have a sewing machine, can you glue it? You can, you need to make sure that you're doing a very fine bead of glue there keeping it right down the center and then when you fold it out like this that you don't tear it away from itself. I think the sewing, when I came up here with a sewing machine for this live shoot, everyone's like, wait a minute, are you on a live shoot? You're the one sewing? I was like, yeah, I'm sewing paper. And they're like, mm, okay. 'Cause I don't normally sew, but it's so easy that the sewing machine is perfect for this. It's just a straight stitch. You can customize the fast or slowness of your machine so that you're not going too fast. If you have a heavy foot like I might, you can select that so it's the perfect amount of guidelines and it goes really, really quickly. And you can kinda daisy chain it together. That's what's so cool. Okay so here's our five layer ornament. That's awesome. Like I said, you can play with your color combinations and how open or closed some of these pieces are. You could also add some stamping. I love the texture of the hand painted paper, kinda mixed in with the solids. I love the neon with the dull, and that recycled or upcycled wrapping paper worked really well in here too, and that's also double-sided. So pretty. Oh my God I have so many ideas for how we could use these. We could make a little chandelier. You can do really small ones and make earrings just for the night, like little Christmas earrings. We'll leave that to Ally, she's gonna do it. Little honk earrings, tiny ones. So that's it you guys, it's super easy. I think you can get this craft done even this week. You could also play with doing something down at the center of your table. You could make little tiny ones and

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somehow use them as drink markers, maybe at the bottom of a wine glass or attached to a straw or something. A metal straw. But super, super easy and fun. It's just a quick way to get you started for the holiday. We've got a whole lineup of fun crafts and giveaways on our craftathon which Phil asked about for next Thursday so make sure you join us for that. Take advantage of the three months for $1, because it's like I said the only time we do this. It's our biggest thing for the year. You get all of CreativeBug for only $1, and a portion of that goes to arts educations in our local community which we'll talk more about on Thursday. Thank you guys so much for joining us. Check out the three months for $1 and we'll see you on our next live shoot. Have a great holiday. (upbeat music)

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