
No-Sew Party Décor with Jenean Morrison

Chapter 1 - Introduction

Overview

(bright music) - I'm a fabric designer and I come to this from a graphic design and painting background, so I'm not a sewer or a quilter like a lot of designers. I'll be using my true colors line of fabrics, which covers the complete color spectrum. I'll show you several no-sew projects that you can whip up in an afternoon to make a great, beautiful, happy, bright party. (bright music)

Chapter 2 - Fabric Chandelier

Create two tiered fabric chandelier

- A party chandelier is a great way to add a splash of color over a picnic table, or a dining room table. This project is really easy and really fun. You'll need a couple of embroidery hoops. These are size 14" and 7". You'll need some scissors, some yarn. You'll need several fat quarters for this project, you can use any quilting-weight cotton. I'm using my True Colors line, with a little bit of Wishing Well mixed in. To start with, I'm going to prepare these hoops. And I like to take them apart, I like to take the outside edge off and just use the center. And then I'm gonna take a fat quarter, and I want the strips to be long on the fat quarter. So, I'm going to cut on the short side, just about 1/2" in, and I'm gonna cut all along the side, with about 1" increments. Then I'm just gonna start tearing the fabric. (fabric rips) Right down the side, it makes a nice clean strip. And then you just go down the full fabric. (fabric rips) You'll want to go ahead and cut all of the strips for your, or tear all of the strips for your fabric first, before you get started. I've already cut several here. I'm gonna start with the outer hoop, and just start tying these on. I like to take the two right sides and face them together. Hold them down here, take them with the loop to the center of the hoop, pull through, and pull down, sort of like, tying a tie. It makes a nice tie, and you can see both sides of the fabrics to the outside. Right now, I'm adding all of the reds, but you can do this at random, or just mix in any colors that you want, in any arrangement that you like. So, you'll continue tying the fabric all the way around the hoop. And you'll do both in hoops the same way. I have a finished one here. And I just followed the spectrum of colors all the way around. And you can see with that knot, it lies nice and flat. And then I used the pinks on the inside hoop. I'm gonna show how to tie these two hoops together. You're gonna need some yarn. And you'll cut three pieces of yarn in the same length, probably about 8-10". (snips) So, I'll start with the inner hoop. And as you're tying, try to keep the knot and the placement as close to the end of the string of yarn as you can, that way you'll have a uniform placement and it'll hang the right way for each one. And you'll keep your middle hoop centered. Then go around, and you're gonna do this in three places. So, just approximate a triangular shape to get your placement. Once you've tied all three on, you're gonna want to lift it up, and just look and see if you like the placement. You can have it lower or higher, depending on what you want, or how long you want it to be. Then you're gonna do the same thing. So, to tie the top, you'll need three lengths of yarn. This time, about 15" for each one. (snips) (snips) And then you can tie them in the same area as you tied your other yarn to hold the bottom hoop on. So, you'll take your three strings to the top. And just gather them together and tie them. So, here's the finished chandelier. And, you can make these in all different kinds of colors, and hang them all over the backyard or your picnic, or your dining table, and really brighten up the place.

Chapter 3 - Tasseled Paper Lanterns

Create fabric tassels for lanterns

- Tassels are really popular right now. I'm gonna show you how to take fat quarter and make two tassels to attach to a paper lantern. You'll need the fat quarters, a rotary cutter, you can use a straight blade or a decorative edge. A ruler and a mat. You're gonna start by taking your fat quarter and folding it so that the short sides meet. Gonna use the decorative edge for this one. So just smooth it out, and the first piece that you cut off is going to be for a tie. You can just set that aside. And then you're just gonna take your cutter and go from the bottom of the fabric up to about 2" from the top. And then, just kind of keep going. The strips are about 1" apart. And since we'll be making two tassels, you can cut this last strip completely off, to save again, for a tie. So now you'll just separate your strips. Actually, before you do, you can cut this in the middle, 'cause we'll be making two tassels. So, if you're having trouble pulling any of these apart, you can just bring in your scissors and snip the little threads there between. (snips) (snips) So, you're gonna set one aside. And then, you're gonna open this up. Kinda spread the tassels to the side. And you take this end, and just start rolling. You can straighten these out as you go. Try to keep a nice, tight roll. Then you're gonna take your paper lantern, and put the fabric through. It's nice and even. And then, take the strip that you've cut. And just tie it around, hold it in place. So, nice fabric tassels. And you can make them coordinate with your paper lantern, or just mix up the colors any way you'd like. I'll do one more. Then you're just gonna tie it on. These are a lot of fun, and you can do them in lots of different color and sizes.

Chapter 4 - Fabric Party Bunting

Create color spectrum bunting two ways

- Bunting makes any gathering feel like a celebration. I'm going to show you how to make two different styles of bunting. You'll need several fat quarters, this is going to make a lot of yards of bunting. You could also use your scraps. For the scalloped version of the bunting you'll need a compass rotary cutter, for the triangular you'll need a rotary cutter, for both you'll need a mat, a ruler, ribbon, Stitch Witchery or fusible bond, an iron and surface to iron on, and for the triangular you'll need a template. Put the scalloped bunting, you can just lay your fabric out. This is a rotary compass tool, it allows you to cut a perfect circle. There's a blade on this end and a sharp point right here in the middle, at your pivot point, can set the radius to three and a half inches and that will give you your perfect seven inch circle. So you're just going to put this down, in the middle and then hold both ends and circle all the way around. This is your great circle. Obviously if you don't have this, you could use a paper plate or any other kind of circle to make a template and cut it out that way. For the triangles you can fold your fabric. For this project I'm going to have a hinged fold at the top, if you'd like, and you can get more triangles out of your fabric. You could cut, like this, with just a little extra on there, but for this I'm going to put it right at the top of the fold, my template. We're just cutting against the template, gives us a nice triangle shape. I have several cut already in the triangles and the circles and we're going to start fusing them together. You're going to take some ribbon and just pull it out, you'll want a nice length on the side for tying. I'm going to take my triangle and my Stitch Witchery, going to open it up and put the ribbon on the inside. We're doing this with fusible bond, but you can do this with a sewing machine, if you'd like. I'm going to cut off a length, about the size of the interior of that triangle, place that down, put the ribbon in the center, fold over lining up my edges to keep the ribbon at the top, and I'm also going to take two pieces for the sides so that this will be closed. So you have one perfect flag, you can see using the Stitch

Witchery. You're going to continue adding flags. I like to place them about two to three inches apart. I'm using a hot, dry iron. So I have one finished here and for the colors I just used the spectrum and just went down. What's great about this hinged flag is that it creates a great double sided bunting. These will hang nicely and you can view them from any direction. I've also made and I'll show you how to make one with the circle, it's a similar process. I'm going to take some ribbon, make sure you have plenty to tie on the end. Take one of your circles, fold it in half, line at the edges. I actually like to press that crease, first, and open it up, put the ribbon inside, cut a piece of the fusible web, make sure it doesn't extend beyond the fabric, fold that over and then to keep these closed I like to take just a small piece down that the bottom. And just as with the triangles, you can just continue adding circles. And for these I like to keep the circles a little closer together than I do with the triangles, cause it makes a nice scalloped look to it. You can do the same thing, you can press that seam before if you like, or just hold it down. Continue adding the flags just like we did with the triangular flags and you'll end up with a lovely, colorful, happy bunting, as long as you'd like it. I really love the look of these circles. Perfect for a party or you could hang them in a bedroom for year-round cheer.

Chapter 5 - Party Hats

Embellish pre-made paper party hats

- A party wouldn't be a party without a party hat. I'm gonna show you some really cute things to do with basic party hats. You'll need party hats, like you can at party supply store, some Mod Podge, Elmer's Glue, a brush, compass rotary cutter if you want circles, rotary cutter, scissors, pom-poms, fabric, you can use your scraps from the other projects if you'd like, or cut fresh strips. A ruler and a cutting mat. We're gonna start with our party hats, and we're gonna take a strip of fabric. You can cut this or use some of the scraps that you have from our earlier projects. I like to measure from the top down to the brim, and then cut just about, maybe an inch, below. (snips) We're gonna take our Mod Podge, and our brush. And then apply pretty liberally around the top, and then I like to just take a strip right straight down. So, wrap those ends around the top, pull it straight down. Put a little glue on the inside, and fold that over. And you can repeat the same steps. Again, measure. Cut a little below. (snips) Need a little glue on the inside. You can cut as many strips as you'd like, and cover the party hat as much or as little as you'd like. I'm also going to show you how to do this with circles. We're going to use our compass rotary cutter. I've set this to the smallest setting. You're just gonna place your point in the middle, and then just circle around. (clicks) If it doesn't quite cut, you can use your scissors. (snips) (clicks) (clicks) (snips) So, we're gonna do the same thing with these, as we did with our strips. I like to put the glue on the hat, in sort of a circle. And then, put that right down, making sure that the glue goes all the way to the edges. Kinda wipe this off, keep it clean. For a finishing touch, we can add pom-poms to the top of these. You can use Elmer's Glue. If you do that, you're gonna have to hold it for a while. You can also use a hot glue gun to adhere it a little faster. Just put the glue on the top of the hat. And add your pom-pom, and hold it on. Gonna set this aside to dry, and bring in some that I've already created. These are so much fun, so easy to make, they'd be great for a kid's birthday party, and the kids could even make them themselves.

Chapter 6 - No-Sew Table Runner

Create three-color table runner

- A table runner is a great addition to any table. We're gonna make one today that uses three fat quarters and comes together really quickly. I'm doing a no-sew version, but you can also sew if

you'd like to do that. You'll need three fat quarters of fabric, a ruler, scissors, a needle and thread for attaching tassels at the end. You'll need these tassels which you can make following a tutorial by Liesl or Anna Maria, or you can just buy them in the store. And Stitch Witchery. You need an iron and an ironing surface. We're gonna start by unfolding our fat quarters and we're gonna fuse the short ends together. Two colorways. So, you're gonna have the right sides of the fabrics facing each other. And then, cut a strip of your bonding material the length of the fat quarters. Place it between the two fat quarters. Then, iron. I like to open it up once I'm finished and press the seam in. Now, you're gonna do the same thing for your next two fabrics. We're attaching the yellow to the orange. The right sides facing again. So, we're gonna create a finished hem for this. And we're gonna start by going all the way around the fabrics and pressing in a half inch hem. Like a half-inch seam there. At this point, we're not using the Stitch Witchery, we're just getting a nice fold and I'm just kind of eyeballing the distance to create that hem. I like to start with the ends first before ironing the sides. Once I've gone all the way around and folded them in, folded the fabrics in on the sides and the ends, we're gonna go around the project again. This time with the Stitch Witchery. I'm gonna cut off a piece all the way to the edges. We're gonna place that down just below where our fabric ends there. Now, we're gonna fold it over and iron again. Again, I like to do the ends first. So, I'll come down to the other end and do the same thing. Then, we're gonna go along the sides and instead of cutting one long strip, I just like to cut pieces that are about six to eight inches and do a little bit of it at a time. We're doing the same thing. At this point you could fold your corner over. It's all tucked in. And cut off another piece and start where you left off. Just tucking it under, folding over, and ironing. Continue adding the Stitch Witchery all the way around until you have the entire runner hemmed. So, now that you've pressed all the way around, you can finish these corners by adding a tassel. So, I'm gonna take the yellow tassel 'cause I'm matching the ends, too. As we've color blocked this. I've got red on one end and yellow on the other end. I'm gonna take the tassel and I'm attaching these tassels with needle and thread. Just going right through the center and through the top layer of fabric. As I pull it through, I'm gonna leave a little tail here to tie it off at the end. Just go through a couple of times. And then, you can knot that down and trim all of the ends. You get a nice finish on the edge. And then, you can put those all the way around. You can add tassels to all four corners and have a beautiful runner for your table. I also did one in a cool colorway. And you can add tassels to the ends, also. If you have a really long table, you could add these together and cover the whole color spectrum, or just use them on different tables and brighten it up.

Chapter 7 - Table Lanterns

Create votive holders

- These table lanterns are a great way to add some color to your gathering, and using the fabric with the candles on the inside is a great way to add, sort of, soft glowing color and create a great atmosphere. For this project, you'll need some balloons, rubber bands, scissors, Elmer's Glue, some jar lids, a glue mixture, which is two parts glue and one part water, a cup, a wet towel for your hands, and a piece of fabric that's approximately 12x12 square. First think I'm gonna do is blow up a balloon. (blows) So, gonna blow it up to where the largest part is about 5" round. A little smaller. And tie it off. Gonna take my cup, place the balloon right there. So, I'm going to take, gonna set this aside for a second, and bring in my glue mixture. And I'm gonna take my fabric, and dip it into the mixture, making sure I get it all nice and coated evenly. And just scrape off the excess. Now you take the balloon and the cup. I'm using a jar lid, this will create the base for the lanterns. Just place it on the top there. Take your fabric. Open it up. Take it over the top. And just smooth it down, all the

way around. You take a rubber band, and put it around to tie the fabric. Keep it all in place, while it dries. It's just like papier-mache, when you were a kid, but using fabric. And just kind of smooth that excess off. So, let this dry for a couple of hours. I have one here that I've already dried. It's actually been drying overnight, which is fine. So I'm going to cut the rubber band. (snips) And then peel the fabric away from the cup, if there's any that's on there. Take it out, and we'll pop our balloon. (pops) Take that and the lid out. And then we're gonna cut all around these edges with our scissors. (crinkles) And this doesn't have to be straight or perfect, I kind of like it when they're imperfect, and we've got different sizes and shapes. So then, you've got a nice, pretty little fabric lantern. So, when you're finished, you can bring in a votive to sit on the inside, in a glass jar, and it'll give a nice glowing effect through the fabric. I made a few others. Bring all these together for a nice centerpiece for your table.