

Kids Cricut Crafts: Paper Flower Necklace with Annabel Wrigley

Chapter 1 - Introduction

Overview

(light upbeat music) - Hi, my name's Annabel Wrigley and I'm the owner of Little Pincushion Studio, which is a crafting and sewing studio for children in Warrenton, Virginia. Today I've teamed up with Creative Bug and Cricut to bring you a bunch of fun paper cutting projects. We're gonna start off with this adorable cut paper flower necklace. Today I'm gonna show you how to open the template for the flower in your Cricut design space, cut the insides of the flower, and fringe them with a pair of scissors. I'm also gonna show you how to use a hot glue gun to add some fun pom-poms to the center of our flowers. Punch the little holes in the flowers to attach the jump rings to put the whole necklace together. I'll show you how to use twine or maybe a bit of fun leather to create an adjustable tie at the back of the necklace. And before you know it, you'll be on your way.

Chapter 2 - Materials

Materials

- I have a few of the supplies that we'll need for this project. A lot of them you can find probably at home, and the rest of them are just easily found at your local craft store. We're gonna start off with a computer. I'm just using my laptop here. Obviously you're gonna need the Cricut Explore machine, which is this fabulous paper-cutting machine. We're also going to need the Cricut mat. I'm using a blue mat, but you could use a green mat. And the mats have different levels of stickiness. But I find the blue one's really good for this project. We're only using two types of paper for this project. We're using a 12 by 12 piece of textured cardstock, but it doesn't have to be textured, it can be whatever you like. And I'm also using an 8 1/2 by 11 piece of craft cardstock. We're also gonna be using the Cricut tools. This one is called a spatula, and this one is a scraper. I like to use this neon cord. It's just twine that I found at the hardware store, and it comes in a million great colors. You could also use some leather string, and that's easy to find at the craft store. There's some fun colored pompoms, you'll only need a few. But I have lots of different colors to choose from here. I have some little jump rings, just from the jewelry section at my craft shop. You're probably gonna wanna use the big ones that you can find. You'll need a hot glue gun, always make sure that you choose a low-heat hot glue gun. It's gonna spare your fingers lots of burns later on. A small pair of scissors for trimming the inside of the flower, and just some Scotch tape. It can be Magic tape, or any kind of clear tape. We're also gonna need a small hole punch. This is not a regular sized hole punch, it does punch quite a tiny hole, and they're easy to get at the craft store. And I have a couple of pairs of pliers.

Chapter 3 - Cut Shapes

Cut flower shapes using Cricut

- We're only gonna be using two main shapes for our paper flower necklace, that's the little daisy shape, and then the inside circle. We're gonna need to bring up those two template pieces ^on the Cricket Design Space. ^You'll see that the daisy is in the top ^left hand side of the design space, ^and we're going to need 12 daisies for this particular project, so I'm going to click on the daisy, and then I'm gonna take my mouse down and I'm gonna click on duplicate. And that's gonna create another daisy shape. So I'm gonna move that daisy by clicking on my mouse just to move it into

position, and then I'm gonna press duplicate again, and I'm just gonna go ahead and do that a couple of times so I can work with moving the daisies into place. The piece of paper that we're using for the daisies is 12 inch by 12 inch, so if you actually look at the top of the Cricket Design Space you'll see that there's a little ruler with all the numbers there, I want you to make sure that you don't go past 12 on there. And I just have a few more, to duplicate, remember we're only doing 12. I'm just doing three rows of four. And just two more to go. And you'll see there we have our 12 daisies. When you're working in the Cricket Design Space, it's easy to get a little bit confused because the Design Space is quite big, and you might be tempted to fill the entire space with your daisies, but I want you to remember that it's not to scale. So look at the little numbers, the little ruler on the top and the sides of the Design Space, and make sure that your design stays within 12 by 12 on the little Design Space. If you look at your cutting mat you'll see that it's only 12 inches by 12 inches, but it's a lot bigger than what you're looking at on the screen, so just keep that in mind when you're creating a design. You'll see that I've positioned three rows of four daisies, and it's all within that 12 by 12 inch area, so before we send it to the cutting machine we wanna make sure that it's still gonna cut exactly as I have it on the Design Space. So I want you to click on select all, and that's gonna highlight all 12 of the daisies. And then we're gonna go over to the layers pallet and we're gonna click on weld, and that's gonna take all of our daisies, separate daisies, and make them into one image. So watch when I click on the image, it's now one image with the 12 daisies. So now I'm ready to send it to the Cricket cutting machine. The first thing we wanna do is prepare our cutting mat for the paper. So the cutting mats all come to you with a little layer of plastic on the top, and the reason that the plastic is there, it's to protect the sticky surface of the mat, because you don't wanna have dog hair, or crumbs, or something on the mat, so we're gonna peel that off first, let's peel it off, and just put that to the side. We're gonna take our green card stock and we're gonna to the Cricket mat, and I'm using a blue mat for this, so that's kind of light stickiness, we'll say. We're gonna line up the card stock right up in there on that corner, and make sure that it's lined up with that line the whole way. Once I've got it lined up I'm gonna use my hands or you can use the Cricket scraper to just make sure that it's really stuck down well. Sometimes there can be a little air bubble and that can transfer when you're cutting and it can really interrupt with the cutting process, so make sure, super flat, and really well stuck down. The great thing about the Cricket mats is that they stay sticky for a really long time, so you'll be able to cut lots and lots of things on the machine. Once the card stock is stuck down really well and you feel pretty satisfied that there's no bubbles, we're going to load it into the Cricket machine, and we're gonna set the Cricket machine to the proper setting for card stock. Look carefully and you'll see that there's a little area on both sides of the Cricket that show you where the mat needs to be loaded. I'm just gonna slide it underneath there, make sure that it's underneath each one. And then I'm gonna turn my dial around to card stock. Once the Cricket's ready to go we're gonna head back over to the computer and we're gonna send this image to the Cricket machine. Click on the green go button and you'll see that this window pops up, we're just gonna wait for it to process, and there you'll see all your daisies ready to go. I'm gonna click on the go button. And you'll see that it says load, that is the highlighted words on the top of the cut preview. If you look over at your machine you'll see that the arrow button is flashing. So we're going to press that button and that's going to make our mat feed into the machine. Now you're gonna see that the little C button is flashing, so we're gonna press that to get the cutting started. The machine's finished cutting and so now we wanna take our piece of card stock out of the machine and look what the machine has done. You'll see that the arrow is flashing again, so we're gonna press on that, pressing that button is gonna unload the mat from the machine, so we're gonna take

it out and we're going to need to peel off the card stock and that's just gonna leave our gorgeous daisies on the mat. Let's just take a corner and really gently pull it off the mat to reveal all those gorgeous daisies. Now we're gonna use the spatula tool to remove the daisies from the sticky mat. So take your tool and you're gonna really carefully slide it under the corner of one of the flowers. And just loosen it and pull it off. If you don't have a spatula it's totally okay to use your hands for this part. I'll just bend the mat a little bit and peel it off. Remove all of your daisies just like this. For this particular necklace that I'm wearing I've just cut 12 daisies, we'll need two daisies per flower on the necklace. We're gonna cut the insides of our daisies exactly the same way that we cut the outsides of the daisies. ^Go to the Creative Bug Project Page ^and click on the download PDF, ^then you're gonna open it and click on make it now, ^in the Cricket Design Space, and up on the screen will come one little circle. We're gonna be using six circles for this particular project, so we're gonna start once again with that circle in the top left hand corner of the page, and a really good thing to mention here is if you wanna use a little scrap of your very favorite card stock, just make sure that the piece of card stock stays within the cutting area. So let's just say that your very favorite piece of card stock is this pink, but all you have left is a tiny scrap, we'll just wanna make sure that we put the circles on the Design Space and it doesn't go over this measurement. So in order to do that, I would take my favorite piece of card stock and I would lay it on the mat, up in the left hand corner just like that. It looks like it's just over five inches this way and just under six inches this way. So that tells us that when we look at our Design Space we wanna keep it within those measurements. The five inches here, and the six inches here, so that's kind of where we have to work with. In this case we're gonna use a different kind of card stock and it measures 8 1/2 inches by 11 inches so we know that we wanna keep it in that space, but we're only cutting six of those insides. So we're gonna do the same thing again, we're just clicking on the circle, and then we're clicking on duplicate. I'm gonna do that a couple more times until I have six circles. And then I'm going to move them. So there we have six. And then we're gonna do just like we did before where we're going to weld those circles together so that they print exactly how they look on the Design Space, so once again I'm gonna go and select all, and then I'm going to click on weld. And that also means that if I wanna make my insides a little bit bigger, each one will be made bigger, I won't have to individually go and make each circle bigger. So if I clicked on it, I could make it bigger or smaller. So I have my six circles ready to go, and we're gonna send it over to the Cricket machine once again, so let's prepare the mat with our card stock. I have my craft paper card stock here and I'm gonna lay it on the mat exactly as I did the green, making sure that it's lined up in that left hand corner. I'm just gonna use my hands to flatten it down. Use the scraper just to make sure there's no little hidden bubbles. And now we're going to load it into the Cricket machine. Make sure it's all the way in there and it's ready to go. We're also cutting with card stock that's about the same thickness as the last card stock so you can leave the dial exactly as it is. So we're ready to send it, so we're going to click once again on the C go button, and the window's gonna pop up. I'm gonna click on go, the arrow is flashing again so that tells us that we need to press it to load the mat in the machine. So press the arrow. The little C is flashing, so we're gonna press that, and the cutting's gonna start. Press the arrow button to unload the mat. We're going to peel the card stock back to reveal our flower circles. Use the spatula or your fingers to remove the circles. I've cut just enough flowers for this particular necklace, but if you want to you can cut them in all different papers. You might wanna cut a few extras to have on hand just in case you have a get together, or a crafting night with your girlfriends.

Chapter 4 - Create Necklace

Assemble flowers

- Now that we're finished cutting all the pieces of our flowers, we're gonna start assembling the flowers. And the first thing we want to do is start by cutting the flower centers. So we're gonna take our little center and sharp small pair of scissors. We're gonna start by cutting a little snip at the four quarter points of the circle. I'm hand cutting this fringe, 'cause I love the hand-cut look. Because it keeps things a little bit imperfect and I think it looks really, really pretty on the finished product. I've cut my four quarter points and now I'm gonna cut in the middle of each one of those. You could probably cut this little fringe on the Cricut, but I really like to use a pair of scissors. Make sure that you don't cut all the way to the center. You wanna leave a little bit of space in the center. I just like to use the V of my scissors to make that cut. So once you've done the center of each one those, you can go around and continue cutting little snips to kind of create a fringe-y effect. So that's what it's gonna look like. Once we've done that, we're just gonna use our fingers to shape it a little bit. And I'm just folding them upwards, like this. You can fringe them out a little bit with your fingers if you want to. Fringe all of your centers the exact same way. I've already pre-done some here. So, we're ready just to go ahead and start assembling the daisies. I've got the daisies right here and I'm gonna go ahead and start folding the little petals of the daisy just gently up towards me. Just giving them a little bit of shape. And I'm gonna go through and do that with all of my 12 daisies. There we go. To assemble them, we're gonna take two of the flowers. You're gonna take your hot glue gun and just put a tiny little dab of hot glue in the center of the flower. Then take your other one and put it on top. I like to place it so it's staggered a tiny bit but not too much. 'Cause I still want to look like a daisy. And then press down. Just like that. Take your center, little center piece and we're going to attach it exactly the same way with just a little dab of hot glue right there. And then position it in the center. Then you can give it a little bit of a fluff if you want to. And then I just play around with the petals a little bit. So it looks like this. The last thing we want to add to our cute little daisy is a fun inside. And I've chosen pompoms because they remind me a little bit of a black-eyed Susan, but in our case it's gonna be a neon-eyed Susan. Because everything looks better with a pop of neon. We're gonna add just another tiny bit of hot glue to the center. And then attach our pompom. How cute is that? Go ahead and assemble all your daisies in this exact same way. I just have one little note. You know hot glue guns are pretty hot, so it's always good to have a little cup of ice water on hand. Just in case you burn your fingers. Next we're going to arrange all the flowers into the design that we choose for our necklace. In this case, we're gonna follow this design right here. Take three flowers and put them in front of you. I like just kind of not have them in a totally straight line. Kind of make them into a wide V. And then you're going to take another two and put them underneath. We're kind of making almost like a little pyramid. But kind of open pyramid. And then once we've got those two, we're gonna take the last one and just position that one at the bottom. Once we look at it in this formation, that's gonna tell us where we need to punch the holes. Just like on this necklace and attach the spring rings or the jump rings. You'll see that the ends are point-to-point right here. And that makes it easier for us to attach the jump ring. So I'm just making sure that all of the petals are lined up. You really need to just be worrying about the petal on the bottom flower. Because we'll be punching a hole through the bottom one and not the top one. I feel like they're all lined up pretty well now. But you can play around with 'em a little more later. So, now we want to carry on and put a little bit of tape underneath the petals that we're gonna punching the hole in. The reason that we're doing that, is we wanna reinforce that hole so that the ring doesn't pull right through the paper. So I want you to grab your scotch tape and just take a really small piece. Have a look here and you'll see that these two petals need to join and these two petals need to join. That's

where we need to put the tape. So I'm gonna turn it upside down and just apply a little bit of tape to the back. You don't need much. And then, we're gonna take a pair of scissors and just cut around that. Get it out of the way. So we've done that one and now we wanna do this one. So you're gonna do the same thing again. Just tape them onto the back. You don't have to do this step, but I like to reinforce things. It would be terrible if your necklace broke when you were wearing it. So those two are ready. A good thing to do would be to go through and tape all those connecting points before you start doing anything else. And then put them back in the exact same position. And then we can move on and punch our holes and start attaching our jump rings.

Assemble necklace and finish

- To assemble our necklace, all together, we need to punch holes in all the connection points of our flowers. And I've gone ahead and done a few, but I want to show you how to do it for the rest. If you have a look at the necklace and where all those connection points are that we've taped, I'm gonna punch a hole, just here, not too close to the edge, (metal punching) kinda centered at the end. And then I have another one that I need to do here. (metal punching) And, then, I'm going to have to do another one here and here where it connects. (metal punching) I've taped all these petal ends, as well. Stop when you're in the middle of working and just check. Double check. I'm taking a good look and I'm making sure that everything has a hole. So I only have, I think, these two left to go. So I want a hole here, here and here. (metal punching) (metal punching) (metal punching) It looks like now we have all our holes punched, so it's time to add the rings in-between. I've chosen a largish jumpring. You can choose any size you want, but, just keep in mind you are going to be attaching it through the paper, and it needs to be big enough to stretch and attach each petal. I found that an eight-millimeter ring works really well for me. And you can just find these at your craft store. We're going to attach this ring to these two petals. So I want you to take your pliers and find the opening on the ring. Take your other pair of pliers, and I just want you to just gradually open that up. The rings are pretty easy to move. Just don't open it too much. So I've opened it just a little. I'm gonna continue holding it with my pliers, and I'm gonna pick up my bottom flower. And I'm just going to put one end through that hole. Then I'm going to take my other flower that's right here, and I'm going to thread it through the hole on that one, as well. So it's like that. Take your pliers, and just hold them on either side of the opening, and just gently squeeze them together. It doesn't matter if they overlap a tiny bit, but don't do it too much. You just want to bring them together so that it doesn't come undone. So I have this little connection point done, right here. So I'm going to carry on. I like to work from the bottom up. It helps me keep on top of it so that I don't miss attachments. So, we've done this one, and it's time to move on to this other side. So I'm gonna grab another one of those rings. (metal snipping) (paper rustling) So now that we have it all in position, all we have left to do is attach the rings on the ends so that we can hang our twine through it. So I think I might add it here and here. And I punch my holes. (metal punching) (metal punching) I think I'm gonna use pink twine for my necklace. So I've cut about one yard of pink twine. We're gonna thread it through the side rings. It's gonna go through the one on that side, and then I'm just gonna keep going and thread it through the one on the other side, like this. It's going to look like this. And we're going to find the ends. Essentially, this is doubling up the twine. So I'm finding my ends here. And, for now, I'm just going to take them, and tie them in a knot, like this. And now this knot will be really easy to take out if you want to make your necklace adjustable. Once you've tied your knot, you're just gonna double it over, like this. And there you have it. How sweet is that? Imagine that with a different colored cord, or maybe a little bit of leather. Or, you know, you can actually change up the

flower size and the design. And if you just follow the basic principles of attaching the rings at all those joining points, you can pretty much do anything. I have one that I have done here that's a little bit different. I took that daisy design, and the circle design, and I just enlarged them a little bit. And then I just strung them together and attached them in a line. And I think this one's really fun. And you can definitely attach a bit of leather if you're not into neon. I have some leather cord. And you can attach it in the exact same way, and make it a little bit more grown-up, if that's what you're thinking. So I think it's a really fun, easy, afternoon project for you and a bunch of your friends. It'll make you feel summery all year long.