
Cricut Crafts: Make Halloween Cupcake Toppers with Courtney Cerruti

Chapter 1 - Introduction

Overview

(playful music) - Hi, I'm Courtney, I'm an artist and author of *Playing with Image Transfers* and *Washi Tape 101*. I do set design and create DIY content for Creativebug, but above all, I love a good party. And some of my favorite things about planning any party is those little details that really make it special. And what better way to add a little unexpected touch than with a cupcake topper. If you saw our Halloween shadow puppets class, then you'll already be familiar with these silhouettes. We fell in love with these classic, but slightly spooky images, and we shrunk them down to this miniature size so that you can make them into these beautiful little cupcake toppers, perfect for any party. I'll show you how to cut them out of card stock, attach them to a little toothpick. Once you know how to make these, you can also use the same imagery to create little Halloween bunting or pop them into a sweet little card. (playful music)

Chapter 2 - Materials

Materials

- The materials for this project are really very simple, you're gonna need, of course, your Cricut Explorer and a computer. I'm using my laptop. I recommend using the blue cutting mat for this it's a light grip mat, and it's gonna make your life a lot easier. You want to have your Cricut tools handy for all those little tiny details. Our cupcake toppers are gonna come together with just some average store bought toothpicks. And a little bit of tacky glue. And you'll need a selection of card stock. I'm using something in a Halloween palette. I have a nice dark shimmery black. A copper. A silver. A dark gray tone on tone pattern. And then a deep chocolate, also in shimmer. If you are using a pattern paper you want to keep something with a really small scale pattern and really low contrast. Because these silhouettes are so tiny if you have something that's really large it's gonna overwhelm the outside shape of the silhouette and that little figure will be lost. The other thing to consider is that potentially you could see the back side of your cupcake topper, as well. So it's nice to be working with double sided paper just like these card stocks. Once you've gathered all of your materials the last thing you'll need is the cupcake topper template which we've provided for you in the design space.

Chapter 3 - Make Cupcake Toppers

Cut out shapes using Cricut

- In the Cricut design space you're going to select the Halloween cupcake toppers. And what's going to appear are all of your little silhouettes. They're gonna look really similar to our shadow puppets but I made a few modifications so they can cut better at this really small scale. They're already loaded and ready to go. We just need to add our paper to our mat. So grab a sheet of your cardstock, align it with the upper left of your mat along the guide. We wanna slip it into our machine with the mat underneath these little guides here. And we're gonna press it all the way up to this first bar, where these bumpers are. We'll go back to our computer and select go at the upper right-hand corner of our screen and that will prompt our machine to flash this little up and down arrow or insert and eject button. This is how we're gonna load and eject the mat. (clicking) Before we can cut, we wanna make sure that our setting is selected for cardstock. If you look at the dial on your

Cricut machine, you have lots of choices here; paper, vinyl, iron-on, light cardstock, cardstock, fabric and poster board. There are some little clicks in between each of those categories, we're gonna move it to the click between cardstock and fabric 'cause I'm working with a really heavy cardstock. Once I've selected that I'm gonna press go on my cut preview, back on my computer. I can see that cardstock is collected in my little dropdown cut preview and from here it'll prompt my machine for the cut button to start flashing, it's the one that has a little C that looks like the Cricut head. I can press that. (click and whirring) And it'll start cutting. (beeping and whirring) (faint clicking) Once your machine's done cutting, you can eject your mat just by pressing the in out button, so insert and eject. (whirring) And you can cut multiple sheets of these, one right after the other if you're making a lot of cupcake toppers. We can peel this away and probably most or some of your little pieces are gonna stick to the mat and some are still in here. Remove any of these little silhouettes that are stuck here just by popping them out. You can also use your little tools, like this little pick to kinda press or pop things out. This tool's really good for popping out little negative shape pieces. (rustling) Looks like my shoe tore a little bit here. I may need to replace my blade. I should be using a fresh blade. But I've cut a lot of cardstock and so maybe it's time to replace the blade there. You can grab your other tool, like your spatula, to lift up some of these pieces that are left on your mat. And then for these little pieces that were just negative shapes, you can use your scraping tool, or if you don't have this, you can use a credit card to just get those off. (scraping) Go ahead and cut all of your cupcake toppers. Remember you can cut extra shapes if you wanna add some other element of decor as well. Change your blade now if you did get any tearing, that way you have a nice fresh, clean blade to start with. And feel free to experiment with other colors of cardstock, especially if you're using it for something like a little garland.

Finish

- Making your silhouette shapes into cake toppers is super easy. You just need your toothpicks and a little bit of Tacky Glue. You're gonna place a dab and then you can place your toothpick right into that glue. You're gonna do that for all of your little shapes. Just place a dot of glue and then your toothpick. It's good to work flat on a surface like this, because you need to let the glue set. Then these can all dry in place and once they're dry, then you can place them on to your cupcakes. The nice thing about this Tacky Glue is that it really holds its shape, so it's gonna create a nice little dome of glue there for you to place your toothpick into. You also wanna think about your shapes, because they're all double-sided. So, you don't wanna glue all of your little girls running in exactly the same way. Maybe you wanna flip some over so that when you place them they could be meeting each other so they're not all facing in the same direction. So, you can kinda flip them over as you're working and placing the toothpicks. Allow these guys to dry for just a few minutes and once the glue turns clear, that means they're ready to be placed in your cupcakes. And you can just pop them in for a simple and sweet Halloween decoration.