

# Designs with a **diFFeReNcE**

**CAUTION:**

*exploding card!*

Some crafty cutting is all you need to make this Christmas card containing an explosion of stars! It can be adapted for birthdays by changing the colour scheme and peel-offs while for extra drama, pour a little glitter into the card before closing it! It really is a design with a difference...

#### GET READY....

- ✓ A4 red mirror card
- ✓ A4 white card (about 160gsm)
- ✓ A4 holographic sheet - film rather than card
- ✓ Red metallic paper
- ✓ Merry Christmas red peel-offs
- ✓ Silver stars peel-offs
- ✓ 1.5 metres of 10mm wide silver ribbon
- ✓ Double-sided tape
- ✓ Glue pen
- ✓ Hi Tack extra strong, narrow double-sided tape
- ✓ Scissors
- ✓ Ruler and pencil
- ✓ Bone folder
- ✓ Craft knife and cutting mat

#### GO

**1** Trim about 5mm from one long and one short side of the white card. Fold in half, using the bone folder to create a crisp edge. Measure the folded card from the fold up to the open edge and lightly mark halfway up. Now, using a ruler and pencil, draw a faint line about 6mm below the halfway point and parallel to the fold.

**2** Make a cut from the folded edge of the card up to the pencil line - this should be about 2cm in from the side. Make a second cut about 7cm further along the card, again from the fold to the pencil line.

**3** Fold up the flap created by the two cuts, creasing it back and forth. Open the card and 'pop' out the flap. Close the card again and press firmly to crease the flap. You have now created a simple pop-up!

**4** Cut a piece of red metallic paper to fit the pop-up parcel shape but about 3cm deeper. Glue this to the pop-up, folding excess paper over at the top and bottom to give a neat finish.

**5** Cut a strip of holographic film about 1.5cm wide. Use a craft knife to make a

cut on each side of the parcel pop-up, just big enough to push the strip through. Tuck one end of the strip through one cut and secure at the back with double-sided tape. Stick the strip around the parcel shape and back through the second cut, securing as before.

**6** Cut two simple loop shapes and two 'tails' from holographic film. Stick these to the front of the pop up parcel with one loop and one tail on each side of the fold.

**7** Cut a selection of star shapes from holographic film - it's fine if they're slightly asymmetrical. Cut several 3mm

strips of film and glue one to the back of each star so that it looks rather like a wand. If you can't get hold of holographic film, cut the stars from holographic paper and use acetate for the narrow strips.

**8** Stick a selection of these to the white background behind the pop-up parcel so that the strips are coming up from within the box. Take another star 'wand' and stick the end of the strip to the inside back of the pop-up box, checking that it's not too long. This will have the effect of a star falling forwards out of the parcel. Repeat with three more stars.

**9** Cut four 7x4cm rectangles of holographic film. Cut one long side of each into irregular points then stick them along the inside edges of the pop up box to create the explosive look.

**10** Crease and fold the red mirror card in half then attach the decorated pop-up mechanism to the inside with double-sided tape. Be sure to apply tape along each edge of the white card so that it will be strongly held.

**11** Stick a selection of silver star peel-offs to the front of the red card then a length of Hi Tack narrow tape vertically down the centre of the card front. Remove the protective backing and stick silver ribbon onto it, trimming to fit at either end. Put Hi Tack tape horizontally across the centre back of the card and stick the remaining ribbon to this so that there's an equal amount remaining at each side.

**12** Add red peel-off stickers to the inside of the card between the stars. To present the card, tie the ribbon into a bow at the front before placing in the envelope.

#### SOURCE

All items used here are generally available. In case of difficulty call Craftopia (Tel: 01642 801888).

