



Looks *for* Less

Wouldn't you love your home to look like the pages of a catalog? We know the feeling.

It's what motivated us to craft this guide, full of design-inspired room ideas that stretch your decorating dollar. They're so impressive we bet you can't tell the difference between the DIY version and the catalog!

In the coming pages, click on the project you think was formed using Elmer's Foam Board and a host of our strong adhesives, decorative paint markers and cutting tools, and get the step-by-step instructions for creating the look in your own home... for less!

Happy guessing!

The Elmer's Project Solution Family

Project

Click on the children's toy train shelf that was created using Elmer's Foam Board.



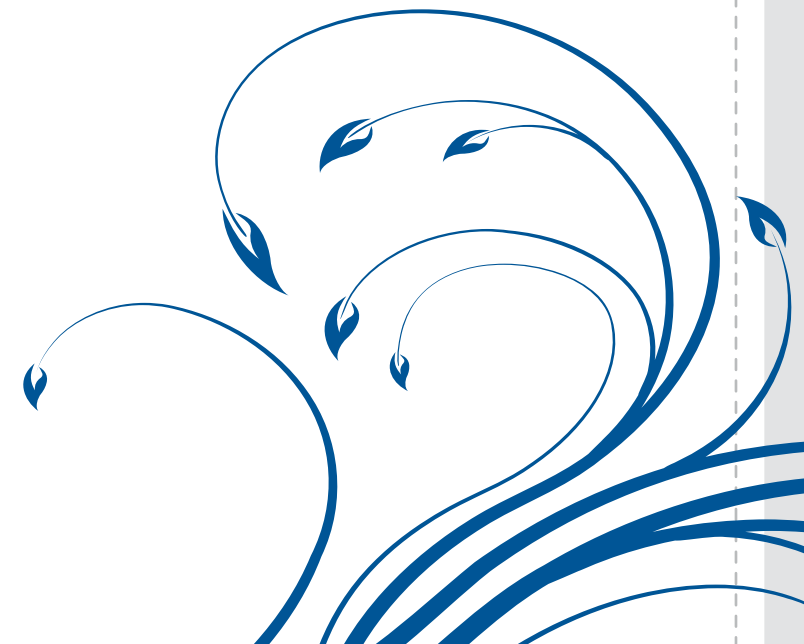
..... **OR**



Project

Click on the children's toy train shelf that was created using Elmer's Foam Board.

That's
right!



Project

“Get the Look” using the simple instructions below.

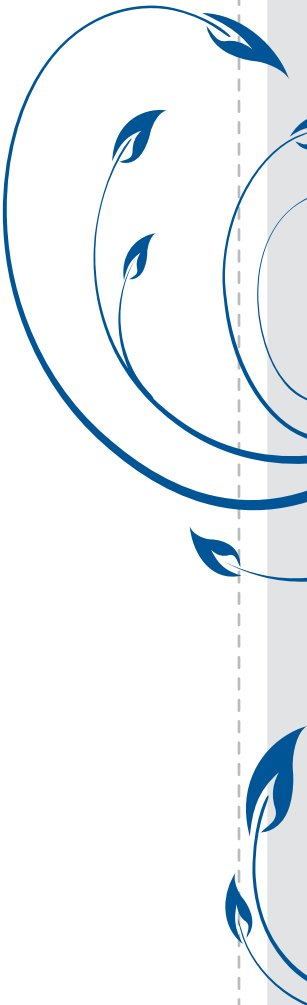
Elmer's® Foam Board Train Wall Shelves

(Finished Size: Approx. 8" x 20" x 5")

Materials:

- Elmer's® Foam Board, Black on Black, 20" x 30" x 1/2", two sheets
- Elmer's® CraftBond™ Extra Strength Glue Stick
- Elmer's® Painters® Paint Marker, medium tip, Navy Blue
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 12" x 12" Self Healing Cutting Mat
- X-ACTO® Designer Series Gripster® Knife
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 6" Precision Tip Scissors
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 12" Metal Ruler
- Design Master® Spray Primer
- Design Master® ColorTool® Spray Color: Basil, Navy Blue, Black, and Vanilla
- Quick Quotes® Powder Puff chalking ink, “Amaretto” (brown)
- Wood circles, 2" and 1 1/4" diameter, 16 of each
- Deep red cardstock
- Misc.: Glue gun, newspapers, sand paper, paper sack, four large paper clips and pencil

Directions >



Project

Directions:

1. Use Metal Ruler and pencil to measure and mark Foam Board train car parts: two 6" x 20" front-side and back-side; two 4" x 5" ends; 4" x 19" bottom; four 2" x 3 1/2" wheel supports. Double quantities for two train cars. On front-side piece, on bottom right and bottom left, sketch curved areas approx. 1" x 5" for wheels. Repeat with back-side piece.
2. Use Gripster® Knife on Self Healing Cutting Mat to cut parts. (Hint: Score lightly first and then press more firmly to cut deeper, with several passes of the knife. For best results, use a new blade. Replace blades often.)
3. In a well-ventilated, newspaper-covered work area, apply two light coats of primer to all train car Foam Board pieces and all wood circles. Let dry. Apply two light coats of Basil on one train car's Foam Board parts and Navy Blue for the other. Spray large wood circles Vanilla and small wood circles Black. Let dry.
4. After studying how parts fit, use glue gun to assemble in the following order: Glue foam edge of one end piece to back-side, aligning corners. Repeat with other end piece on opposite end of back-side. Fit bottom against back-side and ends, 1/4" up from each end. (This will make the bottom be 1 1/4" higher than sides in the middle area.) Glue bottom. To complete the "box", glue front-side to ends and bottom. Apply hot glue to foam edge and press into place, holding until set.

5. For wheel supports underneath the train car, apply glue to long foam edge of support and along 1/4" area on back-side and press in place. Repeat with other three corners. Before adding wheels, lightly sand train cars to remove top color layer, revealing gray primer beneath, in some areas and all along edges. Wipe off dust and lightly go over sanded areas with brown chalking ink. Repeat with wood circles. Then center and hot glue Black circles onto Vanilla circles. Hot glue wheels to wheel supports with half of wheel extending beyond the support, as shown in photo.
6. On paper sack, sketch 3" x 4" oval. Fold into fourths and use 6" Precision Tip Scissors to cut out symmetrical oval pattern. Trace pattern onto other area of sack and cut out. Set aside. Trim pattern down 1/8", trace onto red cardstock and cut out. Set aside. Again, trim pattern down 1/8" and trace onto paper sack. On smallest paper sack oval, use Painters® Paint Marker to draw Navy Blue oval and personalize with child's name and "RAILROAD LINE". Let dry. Use Extra Strength Glue Stick to stack and glue layers. Apply chalking ink to edges and lightly across oval sign to antique. Use Glue Stick to attach to train car front, 3 1/2" from right side.
7. For hangers, on back measure and mark 2 1/2" down from top and 3" in from each side. At each mark use craft knife to make 1/4" long, shallow horizontal slits. Carefully insert knife blade into each slit, angled up toward top and remove. Slightly separate curved ends of paper clips 1/4". Insert shorter rounded ends up into slits, creating hanger loops with longer ends of paper clips.

Next Project

Project 2

Which embellished picture frame is the DIY project?



..... OR



Project 2

Which embellished picture frame is the DIY project?



Project 2

“Get the Look” using the simple instructions below.

Elmer's Foam Board Embellished Frame

(Finished Size: Approx. 20" x 20")

Materials:

- Elmer's® Foam Board, Black on Black, 20" x 30" x 1/2"
- Elmer's® CraftBond™ Quick Dry Glue Dualtip Pen
- Elmer's® CraftBond™ Glue Tape Runner - Permanent
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 12" x 12" Self Healing Cutting Mat
- X-ACTO® Designer Series Retractable Knife
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 9" Paper Trimmer
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 12" Metal Ruler
- Design Master® ColorTool® Spray Color: Vanilla and Dark Chocolate
- Quick Quotes® Powder Puff chalking ink, “Amaretto” (brown)
- 10 ft. of 3/4" wide wood trim
- Old metal door knob and plate (approx. 2 1/2" x 7 1/2")
- 20" square brown kraft paper (optional)
- Old white candle
- Four 5" x 7" black & white photos
- Misc.: Miter saw, Glue gun & glue sticks, sand paper, transparent tape, two large paper clips, newspapers, pencil and wire (optional)

Directions >



Project 2

Directions:

1. Use Metal Ruler and pencil to measure and mark 20" x 20" square on Foam Board. Use Retractable Knife (with new blade) on Self Healing Cutting Mat to cut. (Hint: Score lightly first and then press more firmly to cut deeper, with several passes of the knife. For best results, use new blade. Replace blades often.)
2. On Foam Board panel, measure and lightly draw lines for openings as follows, going from left to right: 5 3/4", 4 1/2", 2 1/2", 4 1/2", 2 3/4" and going from top to bottom: 2 1/4", 6 1/2", 2 1/2", 6 1/2", 2 1/4". Cut four 4 1/2" x 6 1/2" openings.
3. Set up miter box at 45-degree cutting angle. Measure, mark and cut wood trim into mitered lengths to make four frames with inside openings of 4 1/2" x 6 1/2". Lightly sand cut ends. Use Quick Dry Glue Dualtip Pen to glue lengths to Foam Board panel, with cut openings aligning with insides of wood lengths. Let dry.
4. Hot glue knob to door plate. If necessary, use wire to secure. Hot glue plate to Foam Board panel, centered in area to left of framed openings.
5. In a well-ventilated, newspaper-covered work area, apply Dark Chocolate to front, door handle/plate and all foam edges. Let dry. To later allow for easy removal of paint in distressed areas, rub candle all along edges, on surfaces of wood, raised areas of door handle and plate and in random spots on flat areas. Spray 2 - 3 coats Vanilla on front, door handle and all foam edges. Note that foam edges will lighten but not turn totally vanilla. Let completely dry.
6. To distress, use sand paper to gently sand along edges and wax-covered areas, removing Vanilla layers to reveal Dark Chocolate. Wipe off dust and lightly go over sanded areas with brown chalking ink.
7. Use 9" Paper Trimmer to cut apart photos and trim as needed, leaving them at least 1/4" larger than openings. On back, position each photo in opening and use transparent tape to hold. If you'd like to cover the back, cut kraft paper 19 1/2" square and use Glue Tape Runner along edges. Attach to back, covering photo backs.
8. For hangers, on back measure and mark 2 1/2" down from top and 1 1/2" in from each side. At each mark use craft knife to make 1/4" long, shallow horizontal slits. Carefully insert knife blade into each slit, angled up toward top and remove. Slightly separate curved ends of paper clips 1/4". Insert shorter rounded ends up into slits, creating hanger loops with longer ends of paper clips.

Next Project

Project 3

Which bird panel set was designed on Elmer's Foam Board?



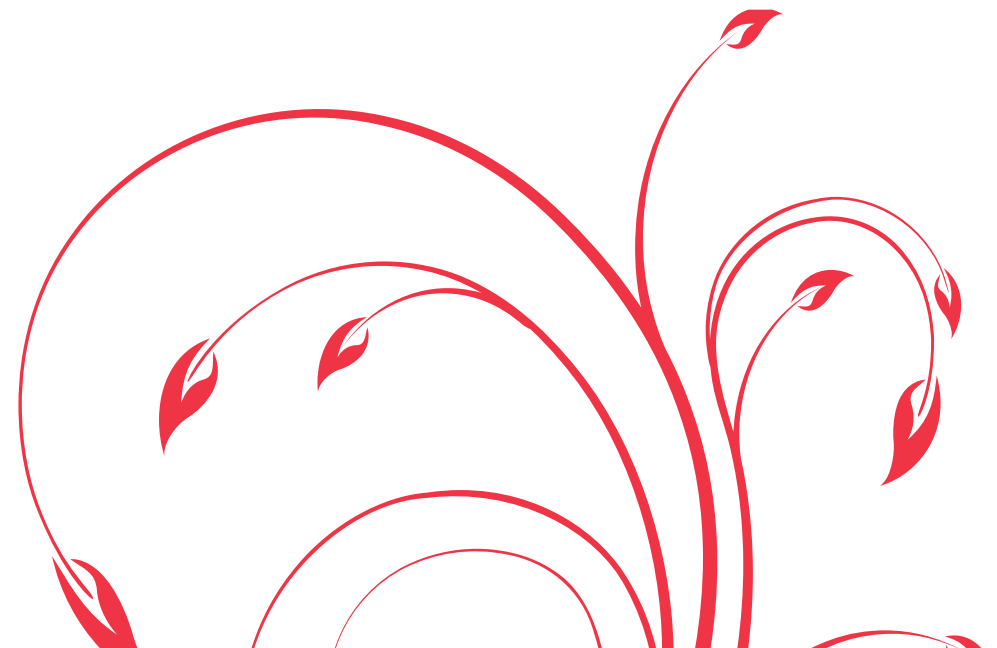
..... **OR**



Project 3

Which bird panel set was designed on Elmer's Foam Board?

That's
right!



Project 3

“Get the Look” using the simple instructions below.

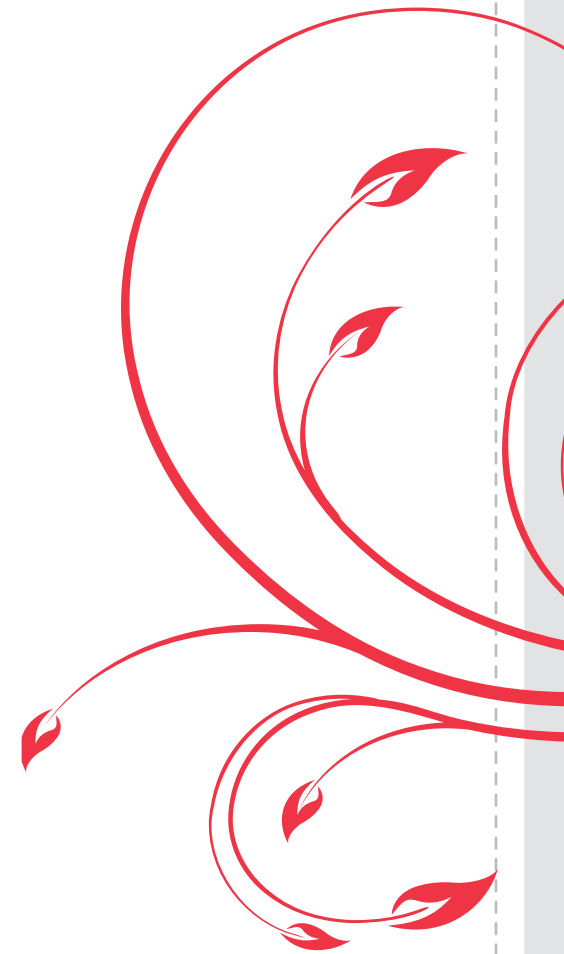
Elmer's® Foam Board Nature Wall Panels

(Finished Size: Each 12” x 12”)

Materials:

- Elmer's® Foam Board, Black on Black, 20” x 30” x 1/2”, two sheets
- Elmer's® CraftBond™ All Purpose Glue Stick
- Elmer's® CraftBond™ Dot Runner - permanent
- Elmer's® CraftBond™ Quick Dry Glue Dualtip Pen
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 12” x 12” Self Healing Cutting Mat
- X-ACTO® Designer Series Retractable #1 Knife
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 12” Metal Ruler
- ProvoCraft® Cricut Expression™ Electronic Cutter with accessories and Storybook™ Shapes Cartridge and Animal Kingdom™ Shapes Cartridge
- The Paper Company™ / TPC Studio™ 12” x 12” decorative paper, three each: Iridescent Green Grass Cloth and Bronze Jewel Metallic Text
- Four antique gold metal corners (approx. 1/2” x 1 1/4”)
- Misc.: Six large paper clips, pencil

Directions >



Project 3

Directions:

- 1.** Use Metal Ruler and pencil to measure and mark three 12" x 12" Foam Board squares. Use Retractable Knife on Self Healing Cutting Mat to cut out each. (Hint: Score lightly first and then press more firmly to cut deeper, with several passes of the knife. For best results, use new blade. Replace blades often.)
- 2.** Apply All Purpose Glue Stick to Foam Board panel. Align 12" x 12" Green paper and press onto Foam Board. Repeat with other two panels and let dry.
- 3.** Read manufacturer's instructions before operating Cricut Expression™. (Note: Practice cutting birds and leaves on scrap paper.) From Bronze paper, cut two Birds set at 4 1/2" and one at 4" using Animal Kingdom™ cartridge. Cut four corner flourishes set at 4 1/2" and two flourishes set at 2 1/2". If desired, refer to photo to make cuts inside birds wider, using Knife and Cutting Mat.
- 4.** Position all die-cuts onto panels according to photo. Use Dot Runner on backs of birds and leaves to attach to panels.
- 5.** For metal corners, apply Quick Dry Glue Dualtip Pen to each Foam Board corner and press metal corner in place. If corners come with screws, dot screws with glue and push into Foam Board.
- 6.** For hangers, on back of each panel, measure and mark 2 1/2" down from top and 2" in from each side. At each mark use craft knife to make 1/4" long, shallow horizontal slits. Carefully insert knife blade into each slit, angled up toward top and remove. Slightly separate curved ends of paper clips 1/4". Insert shorter rounded ends up into slits, creating hanger loops with longer ends of paper clips.

Next Project

Project 4

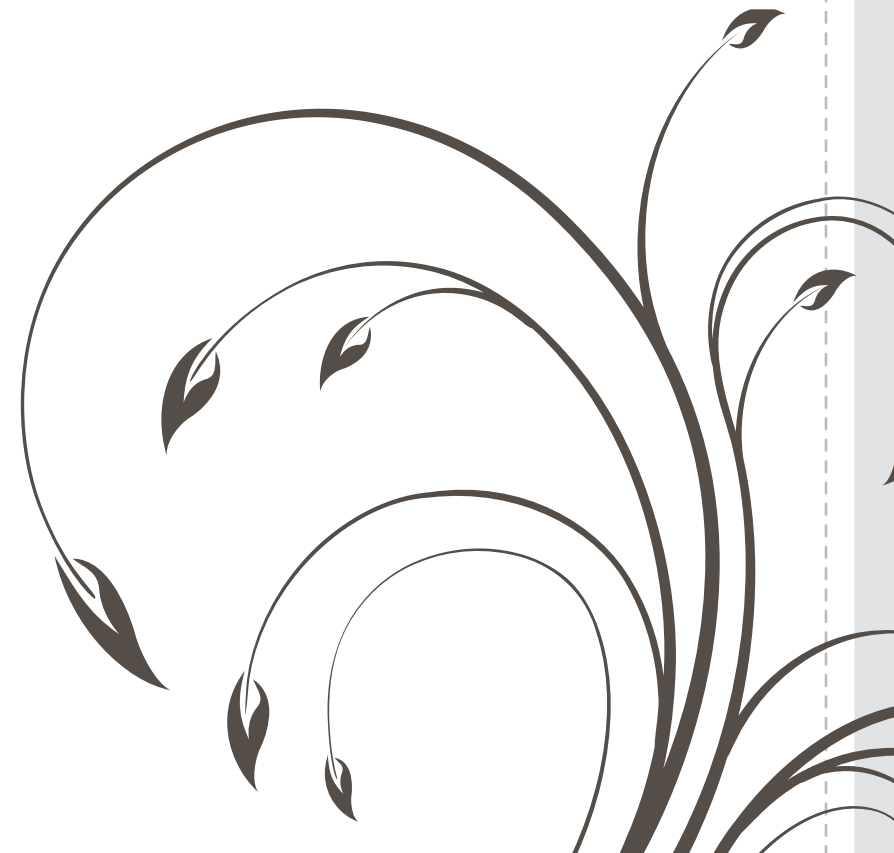
Which lovely organizational display is backed by Elmer's Foam Board?



OR

Project 4

Which lovely organizational display is backed by Elmer's Foam Board?



Project 4

“Get the Look” using the simple instructions below.

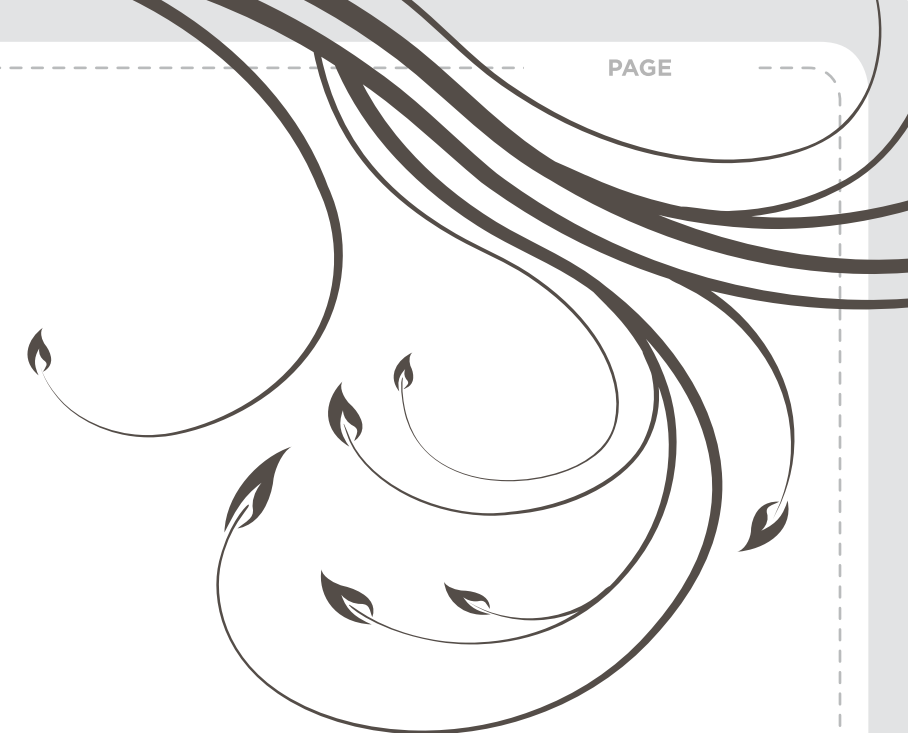
Elmer's® Foam Board Designer Bulletin Board

(Finished Size: 30" x 30")

Materials:

- Elmer's® Foam Board, Black on Black, 20" x 30" x 1/2", four sheets
- Elmer's® CraftBond™ All Purpose Glue Stick
- Elmer's® CraftBond™ Glue Spots, Thin-medium
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 12" Rotary Paper Trimmer
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 12" x 12" Self Healing Cutting Mat
- X-ACTO® Designer Series Gripster® Knife
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 8" Scissors
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 12" Metal Ruler
- The Paper Company™ / TPC Studio™ Girlfriend™ Collection:
 - 12" x 12" scrapbook paper: “Flourish Dot”, “Tapestry”, “Kaleidoscope”, “Stripe”, “Ribbon Scallop”, two “Multi Dot” and two “Kaleidoscope Flourish”
 - Eight fabric buttons
- 8 1/2" x 12 1/2" chalkboard sheet
- 3 yd. 14" length of 7/8" black with white polka dot gros grain ribbon
- 2" & 3" silk flowers: four light pink, two dark pink and two black
- Misc.: Approx. 2" wide shipping tape, pink chalk, eight push pins, two large paper clips, pencil and hard cover books (for weights)

Directions >



Project 4

Directions:

1. To create 30" square back layer, place 20" x 30" Elmer's® Foam Board on work surface. With second sheet, use Metal Ruler and pencil to mark 10" x 30" piece. Use Gripster® Knife on Self Healing Cutting Mat to cut. (Hint: Score lightly first and then press more firmly to cut deeper, with several passes of the knife. For best results, use a new blade. Replace blades often.) Align edges of Foam Board to make 30" square piece. With a helper holding pieces together, use shipping tape to tape together. Turn over, tape side down.
2. For border trim, use remaining 10" wide Foam Board to mark and cut two 2" x 30" and two 2" x 26" lengths. Position long ones vertically and short ones horizontally onto 30" square back layer, aligning outside edges. Use All Purpose Glue Stick to attach.
3. Note that nine 8" square panels are all cut separately and will have 1/2" space between each and the border trim. Mark and cut six 8" squares from third Foam Board and three more from fourth Foam Board. (Wait to glue.)

4. Use Rotary Paper Trimmer to cut eight 8" squares from eight different papers. (Note that those papers calling for two papers, use one front and one back side.) Also cut one 8" square from chalkboard sheet. Use Glue Stick to attach all nine to Foam Board squares. Arrange as desired (with chalkboard sheet in center) onto back layer, leaving 1/2" between squares and border, and between squares. Use Glue Stick to attach and weigh down with books. Let dry.
5. Starting at bottom center, use Glue Stick to glue ribbon to outside edge, a few inches at a time. Use Scissors to trim, slightly overlapping the ends. For push pins, use Glue Spots to attach backs of flowers to push pins. Personalize using chalk on center black board square.
6. For hangers, on back measure and mark 2 1/2" down from top and 3" in from each side. At each mark use craft knife to make 1/4" long, shallow horizontal slits. Carefully insert knife blade into each slit, angled up toward top and remove. Slightly separate curved ends of paper clips 1/4". Insert shorter rounded ends up into slits, creating hanger loops with longer ends

Next Project

Project 5

Which decorative letters spell an Elmer's Foam Board project?



..... OR

Project 5

Which decorative letters spell an Elmer's Foam Board project?

That's
right!



Project 5

“Get the Look” using the simple instructions below.

Elmer's® Foam Board Family Monogram

(Finished Size: Approx. 8" x 12" x 1")

Materials:

- Elmer's® Foam Board, Black on Black, 20" x 30" x 1/2"
- Elmer's® CraftBond™ Extra Strength Glue Stick
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 12" Rotary Paper Trimmer
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 12" x 12" Self Healing Cutting Mat
- X-ACTO® Designer Series Retractable #1 Knife
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 8" Scissors
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 12" Metal Ruler
- The Paper Company™ / TPC Studio™ Mediterranean Summer™ Collection: 12" x 12" scrapbook paper: “Mosaic Tile”, “Mediterranean Tile”, “Moroccan Tile” and “Aegean Swirl”
- Misc.: Computer, printer, transparent tape, two large paper clips, pencil and hard cover books (for weights)

Directions >



Project 5

Directions:

1. Review fonts on computer and select various fonts that are not too thin in any areas. Match fonts with chosen letters. Enlarge letters to various sizes and print out. Piece together and tape papers as needed to make patterns. Cut out letters using scissors.
2. Use pencil to trace letters onto Elmer's® Foam Board. Decide if making single thickness or double. For double thick letters trace two. Use Retractable #1 Knife on Self Healing Cutting Mat to cut letters. (Hint: Score lightly first and then press more firmly to cut deeper, with several passes of the knife. For best results, use new blade. Replace blades often.) Go either clockwise or counter clockwise for all cutting.
3. Decide which papers will be letters and which will be edge trim. (Plan on one sheet per letter and half to a whole sheet for trim. If letters are taller than 12", you'll need to piece additional paper.) Use 12" Rotary Paper Trimmer to cut six to eight 12" wide strips for edge trim, (One layer Foam Board letters need 1/2" wide strips and two layer need 1" wide strips.)

4. If letters are two Foam Board layers, glue together with Elmer's® CraftBond™ Extra Strength Glue Stick. Weigh down with books and let dry. Then, apply glue stick to front of letter and press paper, right side up, onto letter. Turn over, onto cutting mat. Use knife to trim excess paper. Similarly, attach and trim paper to other letters.

5. Apply glue stick to edge of letter and attach strip, a few inches at a time, going all around letter. Let dry. For hanger, on back determine balance point by holding letter. Measure and mark 2 1/2" down from top and use craft knife to make 1/4" long, shallow horizontal slit. Carefully insert knife blade into slit, angled up toward top and remove. Slightly separate curved end of paper clip 1/4". Insert shorter rounded end up into slit, creating hanger loop with longer end of paper clips. If letter needs more support, add another paper clip. (Note: If area at top is too thin for paper clip, use two on the sides.) As an alternative, cover backs of letters and allow to stand up on shelves.

Next Project

Project 6

Which nature-inspired mirror was handmade by Elmer's?



..... OR



Project 6

Which nature-inspired mirror was handmade by Elmer's?

That's
right!



Project 6

“Get the Look” using the simple instructions below.

Elmer's® Foam Board Banana Leaf Mirror

(Finished Size: 15" x 15" x 2")

Materials:

- Elmer's® Foam Board, White, 20" x 30" x 1/2", two sheets
- Elmer's® CraftBond™ All Purpose Glue Stick
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 12" x 12" Self Healing Cutting Mat
- X-ACTO® Designer Series #11 Craft Knife
- X-ACTO® Designer Series 12" Metal Ruler
- Painters® Paint Markers, medium tip: Brown and Black
- Eight 8 1/2" x 11" tan, handmade paper
- 12" square mirror
- Misc.: Glue gun & glue sticks, 1/2" chisel paint brush, water, paper towels, palette or plastic lid, masking tape, two large paper clips and hard cover books (for weights)

Directions >



Project 6

Directions:

1. Use Metal Ruler and pencil to measure and mark four 15" x 15" Foam Board squares. In each square, measure in 3" all around and mark. Use #11 Craft Knife on Self Healing Cutting Mat to squares and inside openings first. (Hint: Score lightly first and then press more firmly to cut deeper, with several passes of the knife. For best results, use new blade. Replace blades often.)
2. Stack, align and use All Purpose Glue Stick to attach four squares, making a 2" thick frame. Carefully weigh down with books. Let dry.
3. To prepare handmade paper, dip paint brush into water and "draw" water lines about every 2" on paper lengthwise. Carefully tear along water lines, creating an irregular look. Repeat with all sheets.
4. Apply Glue Stick as you go: Starting on front, at top left, place short end of one strip 3 1/4" down from top of frame with rest of strip extending up beyond top edge. Wrap strip around top edge and onto back, going down 3 1/4". Tear away excess strip. Repeat to cover corner and edge of frame. Continue wrapping strips across top of frame, wrapping through frame opening onto back. Finish top of frame by doing top right corner as you did top left. Repeat process with bottom of frame. Then wrap strips on sides of frame. (Note: Handmade paper is "forgiving" so piece as needed.)
5. To paint markings, pump Black and Brown Painters® onto palette. Mix together and thin with water. Dry a brush with a paper towel and dip bristle ends only into paint. Gently "rub" brush along irregular paper seams on front and inside and outside edges. Also dry-brush shading along all edges, feathering up onto surface. Refer to photo to randomly add a few darker areas and spots similar to banana leaves. Let dry.
6. Center mirror over frame opening. Remove and apply hot glue all long outside edge of mirror, and press back down into place. Let dry. (For added strength, run nozzle of glue gun along edge of mirror to create a bead of glue all around mirror. If desired, cover glued mirror edge with four long strips of masking tape.)
7. For hangers, on back measure and mark 2 1/2" down from top and 1/2" in from each side. At each mark use craft knife to make 1/4" long, shallow horizontal slits. Carefully insert knife blade into each slit, angled up toward top and remove. Slightly separate curved ends of paper clips 1/4". Insert shorter rounded ends up into slits, creating hanger loops with longer ends of paper clips.

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