

 Cooperative  
Extension Service

# HOLIDAY IDEAS

2025

BELL COUNTY  
CLAY COUNTY  
HARLAN COUNTY  
JACKSON COUNTY  
KNOX COUNTY  
LAUREL COUNTY  
ROCKCASTLE COUNTY  
WHITLEY COUNTY

*Give Thanks*



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# Cinnamon Stick Santa Ornament

## **What you'll need:**

- Cinnamon Stick (longer sticks work better)
- Twine
- Red Paint and Peach/Cream Paint
- A Black Marker or Black Paint
- Hot Glue
- Craft Snow

## **Directions:**

1. Paint top portion of cinnamon stick red ( you decide how much you want to paint for hat.
2. Paint underneath the red, peach for his face
3. Let dry
4. Glob/Dab craft snow to make Santa's hat, hair and beard
5. Let that dry.
6. Make two black dots for his eyes.



# Gnome Ornament

## **What you'll need:**

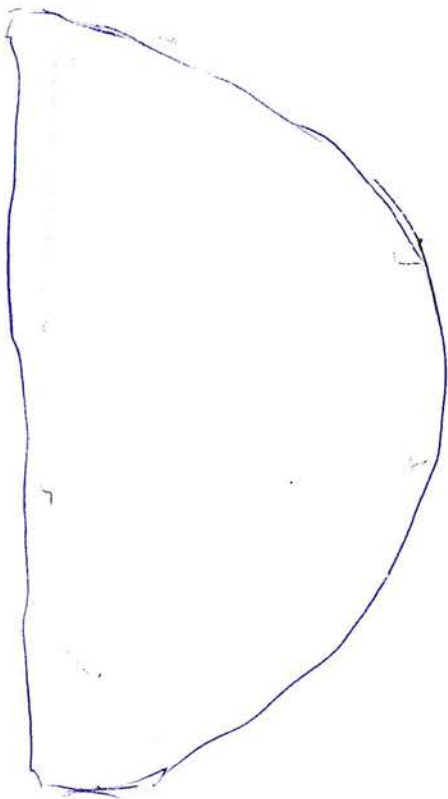
- White Yarn
- Felt Sheet (any color) for hat
- Twine
- Hot Glue
- Wood Ball (solid unfinished  $\frac{3}{4}$  diameter)
- Small Buttons (2)
- Scissors



## **Directions:**

1. Take one end of yarn and begin wrapping it loosely around the palm of your hand until you get the thickness you want. I think I wrapped it 10-15 times. It all depends on how thick you want the beard to be.
2. Cut the end of the yarn after wrapping around your hand.
3. Next cut a 5 inch long strand of yarn to secure that around the wrapped yarn that was wrapped around your hand
4. Cut the yarn loops to form a pom pom.
5. Next cut a piece of the felt into a small half circle (or use template) for gnome hat.
6. Shape felt into a cone leaving a small opening at the tip.
7. Glue the overlapping edges of the felt cone -shaped hat in place.
8. Cut a piece of twine about 20 inches long and fold in half for the hanger
9. Tie the cut ends of twin around the knot on the pom pom
10. Pull the looped end of twine through whole at the top of the hat so that the beard is in the hat.
11. Glue wood ball at the bottom edge of hat and glue two buttons on the hat.
12. Trim uneven yarn.

# Gnome Ornament Template





# Snowman Clay Pot Ornament



## **What you'll need:**

- Terracotta Pot (size)
- Red and White Paint
- Black and Orange Paint Pen or Marker
- Ribbon
- Hot Glue

## **Directions:**

1. Paint the terracotta pot white and the rim top red
2. Let dry
3. Draw face with pencil and then use black marker for eyes and mouth and orange marker for nose.
4. Cut a piece of ribbon and thread through the top of snowman and hot glue underneath pot to secure hanger.

# Patriotic Wooden Fireworks

## **What you'll need:**

- 1" x 12" Square Wooden Dowel
- Craft Paint
- Glue
- Hammer and Nail
- Jute Twine
- Decorative Accents (stars, ribbon, etc.)

## **Directions:**

1. Cut 12" dowel into 3 pieces – 5", 4", and 3"
2. Paint dowel pieces the colors of your choosing
3. Hammer and then remove a nail into the center top of each dowel to create a space for the "fuse". I used short pieces of jute twine but you may prefer a small piece of wire (use a pencil to coil the wire). Secure "fuse" with a dab of craft or hot glue
4. Embellish with ribbon, twine, small stars, etc.





# Snowman Hat

## **What you'll need:**

- Small Wire Basket (can be found at Dollar Tree)
- Ribbon
- Decorative Accents (pine branches, berries, etc.)
- Hot Glue

## **Directions:**

1. Begin bending the top of your basket downwards, working your way around the basket until you have formed the hat's rim when basket is placed bottom-side up.
2. Add ribbon and other accents as desired. Secure with hot glue



# Spring Candle (or plant) Holder

## **What you'll need:**

- 3 Plastic Eggs (the plastic, solid dyeable eggs are preferred rather than the type with two halves to hold candy)
- 2 x 4" round wood plaques
- 1 ¼" x 12" Wooden Dowel
- Drill with ¼" bit
- Craft Paint
- Old Toothbrush for Speckling
- Craft or Hot Glue
- Moss (or other decorative accents)

## **Directions:**

1. Start by drilling through the middle of each egg to create a hole to allow the dowel to pass through
2. Drill holes in the middle of each of the wooden plaques, you may choose to drill all the way through or just deep enough to ensure that both ends of the dowel are held securely.
3. Paint eggs and wooden plaques (You can use a toothbrush with a bit of dark paint to create speckled eggs. Just dip the brush into paint and run your fingernail across the bristles, directing the paint spatter where you want it)
4. Secure one end of dowel into the bottom plaque using a bit of glue
5. "Thread" the eggs onto the dowel and finish the candle holder with the top plaque, securing with glue. You will likely need to trim some excess from your dowel.
6. Add decorative accents as desired





# Knit Ornament

## **What you'll need:**

- Ornament
- Green Yarn (one shade or different shades)
- Hot Glue Gun & Hot Glue Sticks
- Rock Candy Sticks or Skewers

## **Directions:**

1. To make this festive knit bauble, remove the metal top from a plain ball ornament.
2. Then, hold 2 colors of yarn together and hot-glue inside the opening of the ornament.
3. Once dry, wrap both strands around the ornament to cover completely and use hot glue to secure as you go.
4. Apply red acrylic paint to the balls of 2 rock candy sticks, then trim the ends into points using scissors.
5. Once dry, thread these knitting needles through the yarn on the ornament and replace the metal top.





# Holly Berry Mason Jar

## **What you'll need:**

- Glass Jar
- Green Tissue Paper (one shade or different shades)
- Red Tissue Paper
- Mod Podge
- Tea Light (real or electric)
- Ribbon (for decoration)

## **Directions:**

1. Rip or cut green tissue paper into small pieces.
2. Cut red tissue paper into small circles.
3. Paint or spray jars with mod podge.
4. While mod podge is wet, place green pieces of tissue paper around the jar to cover it. Apply more mod podge as needed until jar is covered with 1-2 layers of tissue paper.
5. Place three circles of red tissue paper together as holly berries around the jar.
6. Allow jar to dry and tie a ribbon around the mouth of the jar if desired.
7. Add tea light to the inside.



# Beaded Maize

## What you'll need:

- Pipe Cleaners in Various Colors (brown, yellow, and orange)
- Assorted Pony Beads in Fall Colors (brown, yellow, orange, white, and red)

## Directions:

1. Using 8 pipe cleaners, twist the ends together to create a corn husk bundle. Feel free to experiment with different lengths for variety by cutting the pipe cleaners.
2. Add beads to the pipe cleaners, alternating between colors. Be sure to leave a small space at the top (about 20 beads is good).
3. Once beads are in place, twist the top part of the pipe cleaner to secure the beads and prevent them from falling off.





# Bandana Wreath

## **What you'll need:**

- Wreath Wire
- Bandanas

## **Directions:**

1. Cut bandana into strips
2. Tie bandana strips around Wreath rotating colors or your desired pattern
3. Hot Glue Stars





# Garden Lady Flowerpot

## What you'll need:

- Flowerpot
- Any Needed Accessories

## Directions:

1. Paint your face as desired
2. Let dry
3. Glue on accessories



# Nativity Scene

## What you'll need:

- Wood Base
- Mini Flower Pot
- Wood Ball
- Straw
- Sticks
- Fabric
- Paint

## Directions:

1. Glue Flowerpots to wood base
2. Glue Wooden Balls
3. Glued Faces on Balls
4. Apply Fabric Over like a robe
5. Decorate as desire



# Pearl Holiday Ornament

## **What you'll need:**

- Faux Pearls
- E6000 Glue
- Clear Glass Tree Ornament

## **Directions:**

1. Add a layer of glue to a small area of the glass ornament.
2. Place pearls into the glue. Let dry.
3. Try to glue pearls onto the ornament so the holes are not showing.
4. Do small sections at a time and let them dry before moving onto the next part.





# Yarn Holiday Tree Display

## **What you'll need:**

- Paper Mache or Styrofoam Cones in Various Sizes
- The Yarn of Your Choice. (I used mambo yarn, faux fur yarn and big stich yarn)
- Hot Glue and Gun
- Scissors

## **Directions:**

1. Place hot glue onto the cone.
2. Begin to wind the yarn around the tree cone leaving no gaps.
3. Place glue as you go.
4. At the very end secure the very end to the cone with glue and hold in place.
5. Trim the yarn.



# Cinnamon Stick Candle

## **What you'll need:**

- Scissors
- Rubber Bands or Hair Elastics
- Plain White Candle
- Cinnamon Sticks
- Twine or Ribbon
- Decorative Scraps of Greenery, Faux Berries etc.
- Hot Glue Gun and Glue



## **Directions:**

1. Place an elastic band around the candle (you do not want your band stretched too tightly around the candle because it might snap while you're doing the next step).
2. Place cinnamon sticks between the candle and the band. The rubber band will hold them in place. If any of the cinnamon sticks are too loose, you can reinforce them by adding glue to them.
3. Continue until the entire candle is covered by cinnamon sticks.
4. Trim cinnamon sticks if needed.
5. Ribbon and cut it longer than the circumference of your candle.
6. Glue Ribbon in place.
7. Take your twine and cut it longer than the circumference of your candle.
8. Tie in a bow and secure with glue if needed.
9. Add your decorative items.



# Gold Pinecone Topiaries

## **What you'll need:**

- Small Pinecones
- Styrofoam or Paper Mache Cones in Various Sizes
- Hot Glue Gun and Glue
- Bronze Spray Paint
- Gold Craft Paint

## **Directions:**

1. Hot glue pinecones to tree forms
2. Once the whole tree form is covered in pinecones, take the tree forms out and spray paint them with the bronze spray paint.
3. When the tree forms are dry, take gold craft paint and dab on the ends of the pinecones.
4. Let dry.





# Crochet Card Ornament

## What you'll need:

- Christmas Cards
- 3 ½" Circle Punch or Circle Template (located on next page)
- Scissors
- Crochet Thread or Embroidery Floss (1 skein of floss will do 2 ornaments)
- Hand-Held Hole Punch
- 1.25 or 1.50 Crochet Hook
- Tape

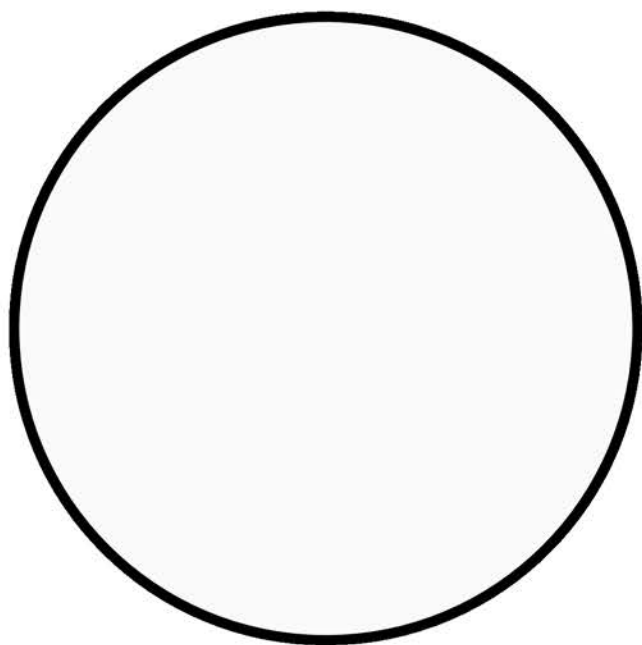


**\*\*Basic crochet skills are helpful with this ornament. Diagrams of the stitches needed can be found in the UK extension publication CT-MMB.740 "Crochet"**

## Directions:

1. Using the template below or a circle punch, fussy cut the prettiest part of the card. Using the hole punch, make holes ¼" from the end all the way around the circle. (The examples are ¼" from the edge of the circle and approximately ½" from each other.)
2. Don't separate floss- use all 6 strands.
3. Tape the end down of the floss to the back of the card. Make a slip knot at the end of the floss. Put the loop through one of the holes on the side of the card. Do 3 single crochets through the hole. Then chain 3, Do 3 single crochets in the next hole. Chain 3. Single crochet 3 in the next hole. Chain 3. Continue this all the way around the card. When you reach the starting hole, chain the last 3 then slip the end of the thread through the last loop to end. Untape the thread end (from beginning the crochet); slide each end under the back of the first single crochets and knot the ends together. Clip the ends.
4. Cut a 5-6" piece of thread for a hanger and tie to the top of the ornament.

# Crochet Card Ornament Template



# Button Wreath Ornament

## **What you'll need:**

- 2 Circles of Felt (cut by the template on next page)
- 6-8 Buttons and a Small Ribbon Bow
- Needle and Thread
- Fiberfil Stuffing
- Thread or Ribbon for Hanger
- Scissors, Pencil

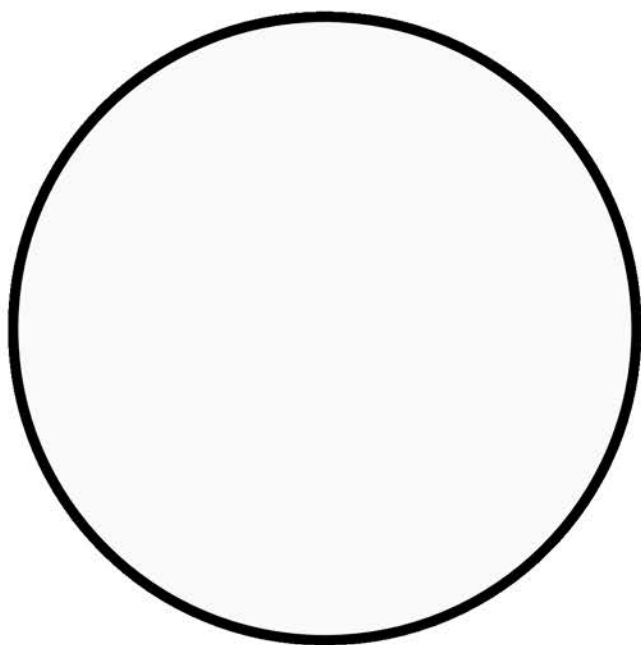
## **Directions:**

1. Lightly mark a circle on the center of one of the felt circles. Hand sew buttons in a pleasing arrangement on the marked circle. Sew the small ribbon bow onto the wreath made by the buttons.
2. Stitch the two circles of felt together, stuffing with Fiberfil. Add the ribbon or thread hanger during the process.





# Button Wreath Ornament Template



# Vintage Sequin Satin Ornament

## **What you'll need:**

- Stain Christmas Ornaments
- Sequins
- Sequin Pins—1" or 1 ¼"
- Seed Beads



*These ornaments can be made on a regular polystyrene ball, instead of satin balls. However, the amount of time to cover the entire polystyrene ball is very time consuming. If you want to finish your ornaments for this Christmas season, the satin ornaments are the way to go.*

## **Directions:**

1. Slip a seed bead onto a pin, followed by a sequin. Stick the pin into the satin ball. Continue this process, making a design around the ball. Cover the ball with sequins as desired.

**Caution:** Since these ornaments have been made using sequin pins, place them at the top of the tree if there are small children or misbehaving pets in the home.



# Chenille Wreath Ornament

**What you'll need:**

- 5 x 12" Chenille Stems (pipe cleaners)- Green
- Wire Cutters
- Hot Glue Gun
- 4-5 Pearl Beads
- Ribbon for a Hanger
- Pencil

**Directions:**

1. Curl a chenille stem around the pencil. Remove the curled stem. Repeat this process for 4 of the chenille stems as shown in photo #1.
2. Refer to the photos #2 and #3. Put the curled stems onto the stem that is uncurled. Put the ends of the straight stem together to form a circle. Twist the straight stem together at the top and cut the excess ends off. Bend the ends of the curled stems in to hide them.
3. Glue pearls around the wreath. Tie a ribbon on for a hanger.



Photo #1



Photo #2



Photo #3



# Picture Frame Holiday Display

## **What you'll need:**

- Spray Paint
- Wooden Picture Frame
- Favorite Decoration
- 3 Bristle Brush Trees (one large and two small)
- Ribbon
- 3 Ball Ornaments or One Larger Ornament
- Glitter (if desired)
- All Purpose Glue (E6000)
- Glue Gun
- *Optional:* Fairy lights

## **Directions:**

1. Remove the backing and glass from the picture frame. Spray paint the wood frame and allow it to completely dry.
2. \*\*For a permanent bond use E6000; to redo the frame with different items for next year, glue everything in place temporarily with hot glue. Arrange the items around the bottom of the frame. Glue the trees to the ledge at the bottom of the frame.
3. Slide a ribbon through the hanger for your featured ornament or each of the 3 ball ornaments. Tie the ribbon over the top of the frame so that the ornaments hang down.
4. Add fairy lights and glitter if desired.



# Santa Gnome

**What you'll need:**

- 10" Circle of Muslin or Cotton Fabric
- Needle and Thread
- Hot Glue Gun
- Santa Hat
- Wooden Bead for Nose
- Scissors
- Fiberfil Stuffing
- 3" Styrofoam Ball
- Holly Greenery
- Saucer
- *Optional:* Small Twinkle Lights

**Directions:**

1. Using a hand sewing needle and thread, gather all the way around the circle of muslin. Gather the muslin together and stuff the body with fiberfil. Hot glue the Styrofoam ball on top of the body.
2. Cut the white fur from the Santa hat. Glue the fur around the front lower half the Styrofoam ball and around to the back. The front part of the body may require an additional layer of fur to cover the muslin.
3. Cut the top off the Santa hat at 6" from the point. Hot glue this onto the head of the gnome, at an angle to completely cover the Styrofoam head. Glue the bead just below the edge of the hat at the front.
4. Glue the gnome onto the saucer. Add a branch of holly to the front and twinkle light if desired.

# Wood Slice Napkin Holders



## **What you'll need:**

- Paper Towel or Toilet Paper Rolls
- Wood Slices (about 2" in size)
- Jute or Other String
- Hot Glue Gun and Glue Sticks
- Craft Paint and Brushes
- Paint Markers or Stamps and Stamp Pads
- Scissors

## **Directions:**

1. Paint the wood slices any color you wish. Leave a bit of the edge unpainted for a more rustic look.
2. While the wood slices dry, cut paper towel rolls into slices about 1 ½ inches wide.
3. Glue one end of the jute string to the inside of one roll to secure it. Once dry, wrap the string around the roll until covered. If additional hot glue is needed to keep the jute from moving, add it as you go along.
4. Once wood slices are dry, paint or stamp any phrase or design you wish.
5. Glue finished wood slices onto the jute covered rolls.



## Wood Slice Napkin Holders cont.





# Jingle Bell Garland

## **What you'll need:**

- Large Jingle or Sleigh Bells
- Craft Rope or Other String
- Craft Ribbons (in any size or color desired)
- Scissors

## **Directions:**

1. Measure and cut a length of thin craft rope. We used around six feet of rope.
2. String bells about six inches apart. Secure each bell with a simple knot to keep it from sliding down the rope. HINT: if rope becomes frayed during stringing, try wrapping a bit of tape around the ends of the rope for easier threading.
3. Once all bells are added, tie ribbon into bows between each bell. Feel free to be as creative as you wish, alternating colors of ribbon, adding different decorations or lights, etc.





# String Art Star Ornament

## **What you'll need:**

- Piece of Paper
- Pencil and Ruler
- 3" Circle From Heavy Cardboard.

*The circle size can be approximate – we used a canning lid as our template. We used a stiff paper plate, but a cereal box would also work.*

- Paint or Fabric To Cover One Side of Circle
- Scissors
- Cotton Crochet Thread – three colors
- 3" Circle from Coordinated Fabric or Felt (for backing)
- Glue

*We used regular school glue as it sticks to both matte and glossy surfaces of our paper plates.*



## **Directions:**

### **To make a cutting guide:**

1. Fold one of the corners of the short edge of a piece of paper towards the opposite long edge of the paper. Cut off the bottom of the paper, leaving you with an 8.5" square of paper folded into a triangle.
2. Continue to fold the paper in half until you have folded it 4 times. When you open the paper, you should have 16 fold lines.
3. Using the folds as a guide, mark each line using a pencil and ruler. This will give you a guide to evenly space your slits around your circle.



# String Art Star Ornament cont.

## **Directions:**

### **Preparing your circle:**

4. Use paint or glue fabric to cover one side of cardboard circle. Let dry.
5. Center the covered circle on the cutting guide, with the wrong side up. Mark the 16 cut lines. Cut the 1/4" slits at each cutting line.
6. If you need to, number your slits 1 through 16 on the wrong side of your circle.

### **Creating the star:**

Notes:

- You will not string across the back of the circle.
- Each slit will have two threads of each color (they will form a "V")
- Do not pull the strings too tight – you don't want the cardboard to curl up.
- If desired, you can tape the beginning and ending thread on the back to secure.

7. Select your first color (we chose red). Place your thread from back to front in one of the slits. If you numbered your slits you will want to use slit one.

# String Art Star Ornament cont.

8. Following the following chart, come up with the thread in the first # and go down on the second #.

Thread Comes Up In Slit #	Thread Goes Down in Slit #
1 (secure thread)	8
7	16
15	6
5	14
13	4
3	12
11	2
1	10
9	16
15	8
7	14
13	6
5	12
11	4
3	10
9	2 (secure thread)

9. Choose your second color (we chose gold) and repeat the process above with the following chart.

Thread Comes Up In Slit #	Thread Goes Down in Slit #
1 (secure thread)	5
6	2
3	7
8	4
5	9
10	6
7	11
12	8
9	13
14	10
11	15
16	12
13	1
2	14
15	3
4	16 (secure thread)

# String Art Star Ornament cont.

10. Choose your third color (we chose silver) and repeat the process using the following chart.

Thread Comes Up In Slit #	Thread Goes Down in Slit #
1 (secure thread)	7
8	2
3	9
10	4
5	11
12	6
7	13
14	8
9	15
16	10
11	1
2	12
13	3
4	14
15	5
6	16 (secure thread)

## Finish Ornament:

11. Cut a piece of thread to use as a hanger.
12. Cover the back of the circle with glue and place the hanger thread on the top of the circle.
13. Use fabric or paper of choice to cover the back. Let dry.



# String Art Star Ornament cont.

Step 1



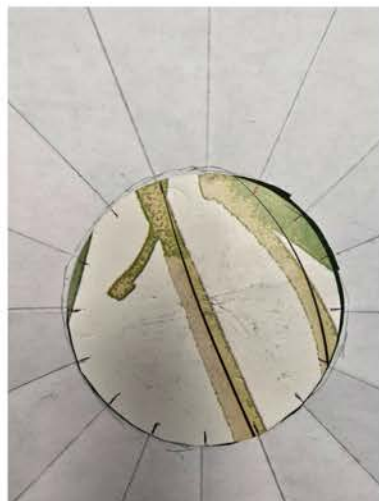
Step 2



Step 3



Step 5



Step 7



Step 8a



Step 8b



Step 8c

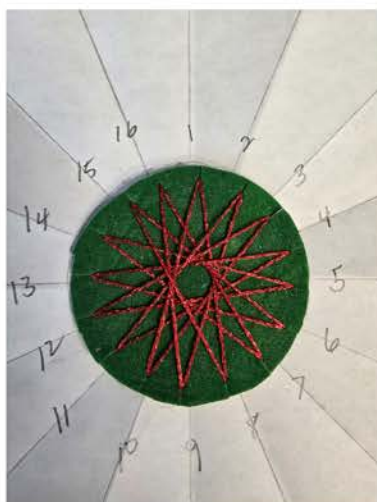


Step 8d

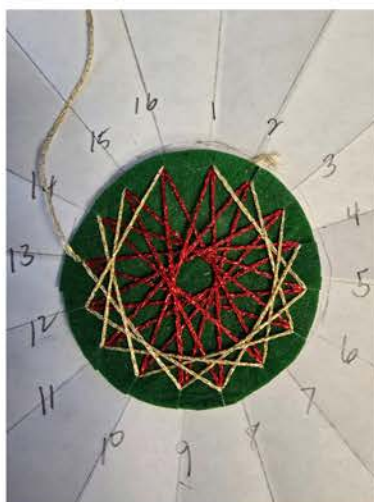


# String Art Star Ornament cont.

Step 8e



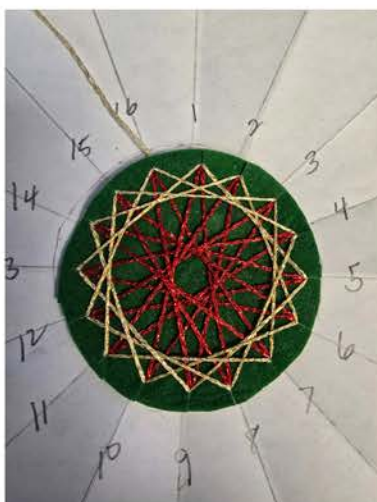
Step 9a



Step 9b



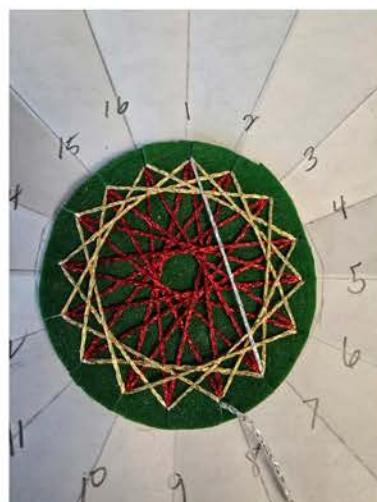
Step 9c



Step 9d



Step 10a



Step 10b





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