

May 2009

Inspiration



This month the design team have been working with the May digital papers kit and Crafty Templates with amazing results!

If you want more ideas on how you can use your digital papers check out this months technique focus where I show you how to create other fun things apart from paper with the digital patterns that you can add to your cards and projects.

If you want to grab a [digital paper kit](#) this month there is a special subscriber offer to get it for just £2!

All you need to do is follow this special buy it now link: <http://www.payloadz.com/go/sip?id=767921> and follow the instructions on screen to purchase your kit download for half price.

Have lots of fun this month!
xx Leonora

Cards By Debbie Moore



Card (above) made with the Kokeshi Dolls Crafty Template and decorated with the May digital papers kit printed out on paper. Deb has added some extra embellishment using gems, lace and blossoms.



Card (left) has been made using the 'Hi' Scalloped edge Crafty Template and decorated using the May digital papers and sentiments.

Cards By Kathy Black

Card (right) made with the Kokeshi Dolls Crafty Template and decorated with the May digital papers kit printed out on paper. Love the ribbon bow on the dolls hair!



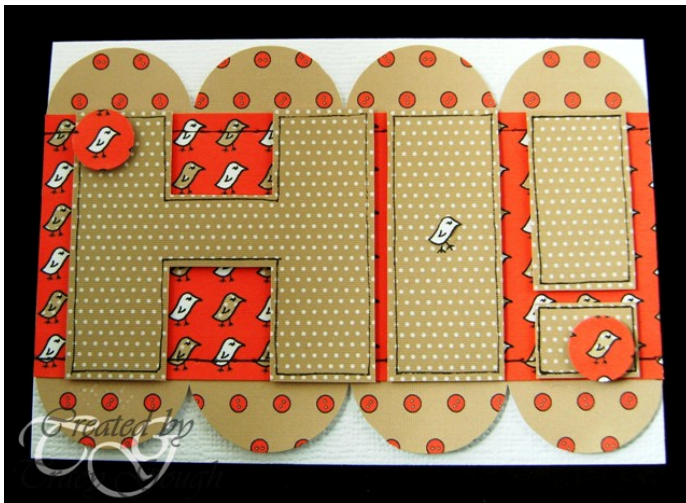
Card (bellow) has been made using the UFO Crafty Template and decorated using the matching May digital papers.



Cards By Tracy Gough

Card (right) has been made with the Kokeshi Dolls Crafty Template using the smaller size templates and decorated with the May digital papers and a sentiment.

Card (bellow) has been made using the 'Hi' Scalloped edge Crafty Template and decorated using the May digital papers.



Three fold cards

Here Tracy had made some fab cards using some of this months three fold card templates, the Doggy and the Crocodile. These cards are a great fun way to make your shaped cards a little bit different! All the patterned papers are again from the May digital paper kit.

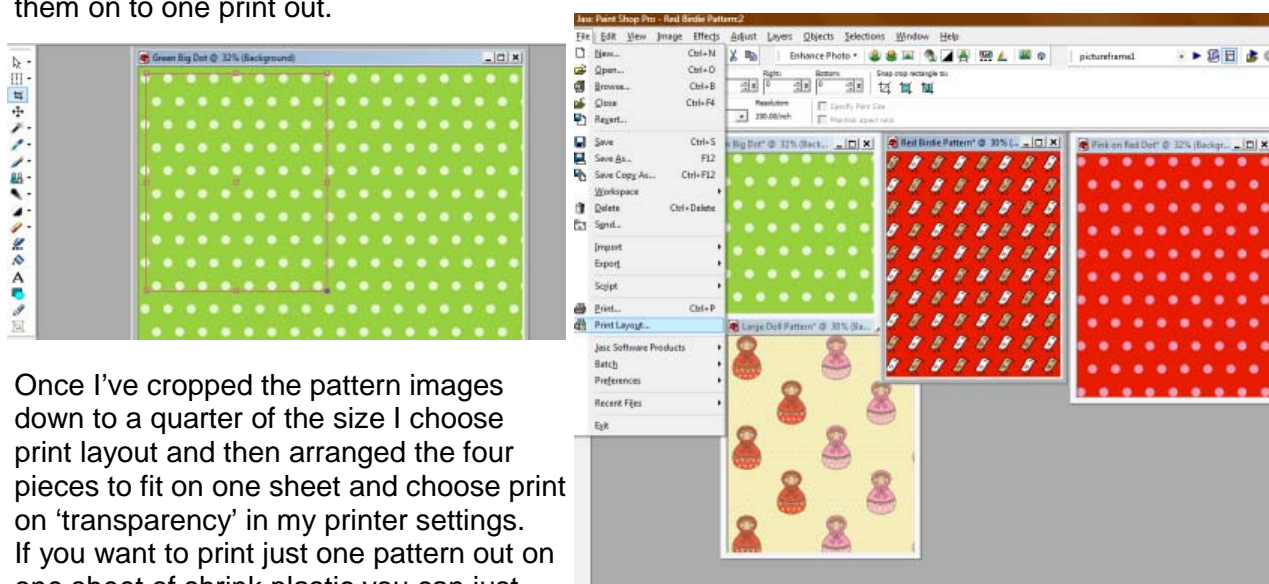


Technique Focus - Making embellishments with digital papers

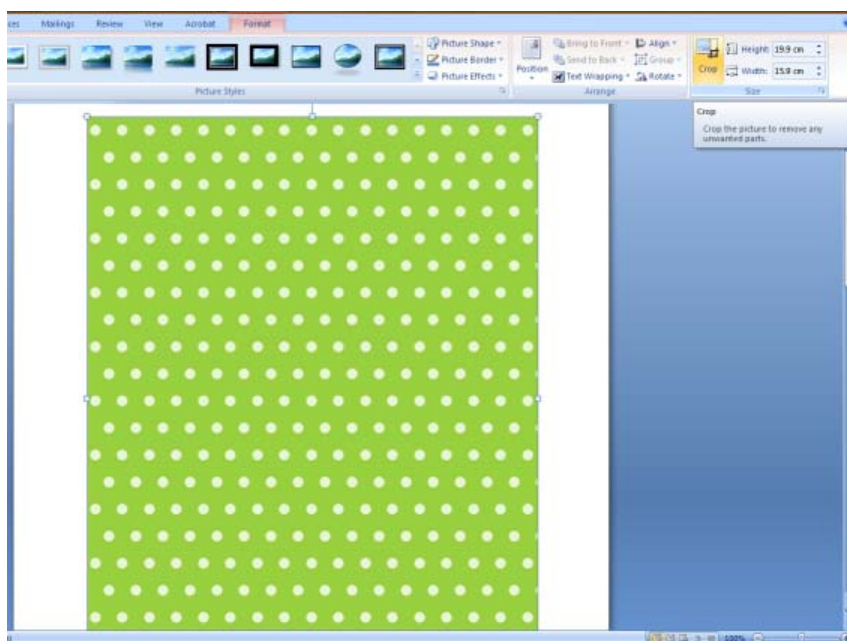
You can just use your digital papers to make your own papers - that's a given but there are also other fun things you can try. I've experimented with a couple of ways to make your own embellishments with the patterns.

Making Buttons

To make your own buttons you'll need to grab some printable inkjet shrink plastic. I found mine online from Crafty Computer paper I also noticed some on ebay. First choose some of the patterns you would like to use, (because we're going to shrink down the patterns you need to stick to the larger scale patterns) and open them up in either a paint program (here I'm using Paint Shop Pro) or if you don't have a paint program you can use something like Word. I'm going to choose a few different patterns to print on one sheet of shrink plastic so I can get more use out of the one sheet. To do this all you need to do is crop the pattern sheets down - don't resize them because you'll obscure the pattern always crop and paste them on to one print out.



Once I've cropped the pattern images down to a quarter of the size I choose print layout and then arranged the four pieces to fit on one sheet and choose print on 'transparency' in my printer settings. If you want to print just one pattern out on one sheet of shrink plastic you can just open a pattern and print it out normally - remembering to choose the transparency setting on your printer. You need to leave the pattern to dry for around 10mins - read the instructions for the shrink plastic you're using and follow them to make sure you leave enough drying time.



To crop the patterns in Word you need to choose **Format** and then click on the **crop tool** then drag the corners to make it the size you want. It's just like resizing but it doesn't reduce the original pattern size. You can use this to enable you to print more than one pattern on a piece of paper before you print out too.

Once you have your dry print out you can move on to the fun part!

Use a large circle punch, your circle is going to be reduced by half so choose a size double the size of the button you want to make. Punch out the shrink plastic and then use a hole punch to make two holes in the centre just like a regular button.



Follow the shrink plastic instructions to shrink your buttons - I used a heat gun to shrink mine and then used a clear stamp block to flatten them out.



You can use other things to cut shapes out - here I've used nestabilites dies and then just hand cutting a rectangle shape with scissors. How about using some of last months embellish buddies mini templates to cut out shapes?

Have fun making your buttons!

Making Fabric Embellishments

There are a few different products on the market to enable you to transfer your digital prints to fabric. You can get special sheets of fabric you can put through your printer or you can use a T-shirt transfer paper to print onto which you then apply to fabric using an iron. I'm using the latter to make my fabric piece - simply because I had some spare T-shirt transfer paper already!

You can choose to print out the whole pattern on one sheet or you can use the same crop technique as for the buttons and add one or more patterns to one sheet. Follow the manufacturers instructions to print out your sheet and transfer it to your fabric.

From there you can use it however you like - tear out strips and use it like your own ribbon or you can make some fun fabric embellishments like rosettes or fabric flowers. You can also mix it with your Crafty Templates and make embellishments for your cards out of fabric instead of card/paper.



Card, (bellow) made with strips of fabric that has the ice cream pattern paper transferred on it and used a shrink plastic button made with the Large red & pink dot pattern, there's also some yellow & pink pin dot pattern printed on textured cardstock. Card, (right) made with the Birdie pattern paper printed on fabric and made into a flower embellishment. Background paper is the Large green dot pattern printed onto textured cardstock



If you use any of the ideas to make some cards or have come up with another cool way to use the digi paper patterns and want to show them off on the Crafty Templates blog email the to us at: enquiries@craftyprincess.co.uk