



Our winner gets their own choice of exquisite jewellery

WIN £1,000 TO SPEND ON JEWELLERY

GET ready to sparkle this Christmas! We've teamed up with Visit Birmingham and the British Jewellers' Association so one very lucky reader can win £1,000 to spend in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter!

Famous for its specialist hand-crafted jewellery, the Jewellery Quarter is the perfect weekend destination to pick up something sparkling.

Whether it's a shiny ring or a glittery necklace to match your little black dress... you're sure to find something to suit your taste. You have a choice of 16 BJA jewellery shops in which to spend your £1,000.

And while you're there, why not visit the other 1,000-plus shops Birmingham has to offer, making it the ultimate Christmas shopping destination.

ENTER NOW

CORRECTLY answer this question for a chance to win

Which precious stones are said to be a girl's best friend?

- a) Diamonds
- b) Rubies
- c) Emeralds

YOU can CALL **0901 609 2903** and follow the instructions. Or TEXT the word **SMHOME**

followed by a space then your answer (a, b or c), name, address and postcode to **84080**. To receive details of goods and services which may be of interest to you start your text entry **SMHOMEIN**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Lines close 6pm on Friday, December 16, 2011. BT landline calls cost 61p/min, max two mins. Other landline operators/payphones/mobiles may vary. Texts cost £1 each plus standard network rate.
 2. One winner will be selected at random after lines close from all correct entries received.
 3. Prize: £1,000 to spend in 16 BJA Jewellery shops in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter. Pre-Christmas delivery cannot be guaranteed.
 4. Prize published in other Trinity Mirror titles, not transferable, no whole/partial alternatives.
 5. Standard Trinity Mirror plc rules apply – see www.sundaymirror.co.uk/rules
- SP: Telecom Express Ltd, W1B 2AG. Call: 0870 487 4870.



For further info on jewellery and silverware visit www.bja.org.uk

DO IT YULESELF

Craft your own festive finishing touches

4
page special
DIY
XMAS

CHRISTMAS is a great time to express your creative side and have fun with the whole family, making your own decorations and baking your own goodies. We ask four crafty experts to share their favourite ideas..



CATHERINE WORAM studied fashion at St Martin's School of Arts, followed by a Masters at the Royal College of Art and now has several craft books under her belt.



Sequined tealight holders

YOU WILL NEED: Glass tealight holder, sequin braid, glue, scissors, flower head, jewelled motif
HOW: 1. Measure the correct amount of braid to fit around the middle of the glass votive and cut with scissors.
2. Use the hot-glue gun to stick to the middle of the votive, pressing the braid firmly in place, and leave to cool.
3. Cut the stem from the flower head. Use the hot-glue gun to fix the jewelled motif to the centre of the flower and leave glue to cool before placing the flower head in votive.



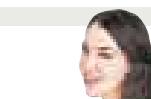
Glitter letters

YOU WILL NEED: Papier-mâché letters, acrylic paint, paintbrushes, coloured glitter, glue
HOW: 1. Paint the papier-mâché letters using your chosen coloured paint and leave to dry.
2. You may need to add a further coat of paint for complete coverage – again, make sure you leave it to dry completely.
3. Use a paintbrush to apply glue to the edges of the letters and sprinkle with glitter.
4. Shake off the excess glitter on to a plate and leave to dry.



Wine flute name tags

YOU WILL NEED: Glitter cardboard, scissors, self-adhesive letters, miniature peg, beaded wire pick, glue, beaded decoration
HOW: 1. Cut out rectangles of glitter card measuring 12cm by 4cm and snip off the top corners diagonally.
2. Use self-adhesive letters to spell out guests' names and finish with a small beaded decoration at the bottom.
3. Fix to wine or champagne glasses using mini decorative pegs and wrap a beaded pick around the stem of the glass to finish.



CHERRY MENLOVE is a mum of twins, a homemaker and something of a domestic goddess. Last year she had three million visitors to her blog and website. See more at www.cherrymenlove.com



Christmas cookies

YOU WILL NEED: 200g unsalted butter, 200g caster sugar, 400g plain flour, 1 egg, baking tray, rolling pin, star-shaped cookie cutters (various sizes), snowflake cookie cutter. To decorate: roll-out regal icing, food colouring, edible stars, glitter or silver balls, piped royal icing, piping bag & nozzle
HOW: 1. Heat the oven to 180C. Cream the butter and sugar. Beat the egg and add it to the mixture. Mix, then sieve in the flour. Mix until the dough has formed a ball. Wrap in cling film and chill.
2. Remove from fridge and roll out to 0.5cm thick. Cut out cookies, place on baking sheet and then put back in fridge for 30 minutes.
3. Bake until cream in colour. Remove from the oven, allow to cool.
4. To decorate, add a few drops of food colouring to the regal icing and knead until blended. Roll icing out to 2-3mm thick and use the matching cookie cutter to cut out shape. Brush with water and sprinkle on the edible stars, silver balls or glitter. For added patterns or stripes, use piped royal icing.



SUZIE ATTAWAY creates beautiful rooms for magazine photo shoots. Christmas is her favourite time of year when she can get creative with glitter, glue, beads and baubles. Her simple craft projects are desirable and achievable.

Felt and paper birds

YOU WILL NEED: Bird template, stiff cardboard, red and white sticky-backed felt, red and white paper, red and silver stick-on gem stones, transparent thread
HOW: 1. Draw a bird shape on cardboard and use as a template to cut out two shapes on the felt, then stick together.
2. Fold a square of red paper concertina style. Make a slit across the bird's body and push the folded paper through.
3. Open out to form wings. Add a stick-on gemstone for an eye. Make a small hole at the top of the bird's head and hang on the tree with transparent thread.

Paper ribbon snowflakes

YOU WILL NEED: Red and silver glitter card, mini red brads, glue, thread
HOW: 1. Cut four 20cm by 1cm strips of card.
2. Measure and mark a central point on each strip.
3. Fold the ends to meet at the central points and glue in place.
4. Place folded strips on top of each other to make a snowflake shape and secure with a small brad paper pins.
5. Hang on your Christmas tree with transparent thread.



Style tip

THESE pretty trees are painted polystyrene cones decorated with glitter. Sit them on top of painted boxes filled with chocolates for an after-dinner treat.

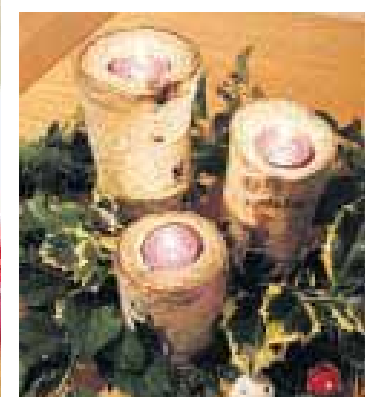


JULIA KENDELL is a DIY expert and eco enthusiast, and the interior designer on BBC's DIY SOS programme



Paper plate angels

YOU WILL NEED: White paper plates, small pieces of paper, pencil, scissors and craft knife, cutting mat or tile, glitter, sequins, diamante or feathers
HOW: 1. Draw the outline of an angel shape on to card. Cut out the template and trace it onto the back of your paper plates.
2. Carefully cut out the shape using a craft knife for the under-arms. Be careful to follow the template as the two cuts for the wings are different.
3. Shape the skirt into a circle and slot one wing into the other.
4. Have fun decorating: cut feathers in to her wings and add glitter or diamante. Add a piece of gold raffia or ribbon to her head for a halo.
5. Add a small piece of paper with guests' names to the front.



Log candles

YOU WILL NEED: Fallen branch or cut logs with a diameter of at least 80mm, tealights, saw, sandpaper and block, power-drill and hole-cutter, chisel, hammer
HOW: 1. Saw logs to desired length taking care to make a 90 degree cut (essential, otherwise they will fall over). Smooth the bottom of the log with a light sanding if necessary.
2. Using a 44mm hole-cutter and drill bit attached to a power drill, bore a hole to roughly the same depth as a tealight. Don't push too hard, allow the saw to do the work.
3. Remove hole-cutter and hammer a chisel through centre of the hole. This should split the core in two making the halves easy to remove.
4. Insert the tealight and arrange foliage for a perfect table centre.