

Christmas Balls and Medallions

Decoupage

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Materials:

Clear Plastic Christmas Balls or Medallions
MM7 Matisse Gloss Medium
Decoupage Scissors
Kitchen Sponge
1/2" Flat Brush
Matisse Flow Professional Artists Acrylics
Matisse Background Colours
Derivan Glitz-a-Matazz

Instructions for decoupage

Of clear plastic balls or medallions, which come in two halves, and fit together to form the ball or medallion after decorating.

1. Ensure you have the two halves that fit each other, male and female, or you will have to do another two to match them.
2. Select two Christmas Images. If necessary photostat, and reduce to 9mm.
3. Protect image with a light coat of gloss medium or varnish.
4. Brush the back of the image vertically, and let dry, then horizontally and let dry. This is to ensure that when it is pasted inside the ball/ Medallion, you are able to push the glue from under the picture and not damage the image.
5. Cut-out images to fit ball or medallion, whichever are used, front and back portions.
6. Cut image along lines or parts of the image that cannot be seen when pasted inside ball, or Medallion. This is so the image will sit inside the ball or medallion without creasing, and will appear flat to the naked eye.

Care must be taken when doing this step. e.g.; If you have a Santa Claus and you cut along his belt for a short section, then from the other side cut across another short section towards the centre, but do not cut right across, just enough to avoid creasing. You can do a vertical cut up along an arm, but just enough to avoid creasing, (several cuts must be made laterally and vertically to avoid creases and it depends on the image as to where you cut).

7. Ensure the image where it is cut overlaps the correct way. The arm is in the correct position, and the belt overlaps and shows the image as uncut when viewed from the outside rounded part of the ball or medallion. This is quite a complex exercise, and I doubt that it would be suitable for children to do.
8. Glue image to inside of ball/medallion using MM7 Gloss Medium.
9. Remove the excess glue by gently working it to the outside with your finger.
10. Remove all the bubbles, and gently with a just damp tiny piece of kitchen sponge, remove from all around the image. Be sure the glue used dries completely clear.
11. Brush a very light coat of the Derivan Glitz-a-Matazz around the image and let dry. Best results are overnight, but if the coat is very light it should dry quickly.
12. Apply a second light coat and make sure it is completely dry to touch.
13. Paint a coat of matching Matisse Flow Formula paint, or Matisse Background colours, over the glitter and let dry completely. Then recoat with second coat to ensure full coverage.
14. Finally join the two halves of the ball or medallion together by pressing together.
15. Trim with choice of silver gold etc sticker strips around join.
16. Insert ribbon through loops for hanging.

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