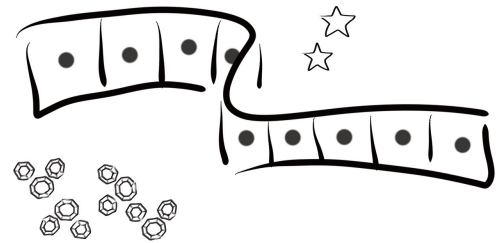


Merry Christmas, dear friends, now it's crafting time!

Here is this year's Christmas card from Vicki and Björn. But what a year! We have wondered if – and how – this strange year can be reflected in a Christmas card. Despite all the sadness, we would like to share our hope for the future. Many of us have had extra spare time this year, while many others are struggling hard as essential workers. We used our extra time to design a Christmas decoration, but with a warm hand we are now leaving the rest of the job to you. We hope that you can make some time to craft your own Christmas card this year.

The envelope contains:

- A round green "Christmas card"
- This description
- A bag with
 - ca 14 small colorful "diamonds" (2 are spare)
 - 2 stars with flat back (both to be used)
 - ca 15 small adhesive dots (13 to be used, 2 are spare)
 - a green thread wrapped around the strip with adhesive dots



You can adapt your level of ambition in the crafting, choose for example A, B or C:

- A. The green card is finished, nothing more needs to be done. (Quite OK.)
- B. Insert the thread somewhere in the outer edge and hang the decoration. (Oh, this is fine!)
- C. Glue the 12 diamonds on the card, preferably on "O" in each "gOd jul" (there are 12 on the card). Insert a thread in the outer edge and hang the decoration. (More than approved!)

But if you feel like crafting and want to use the card as we actually intended, you do this:

1. Carefully cut the spiral with a scalpel or some other sharp paper knife along the black dashed lines on the card. Start from •--- close to the outer rim and stop in the middle where the line ends. Do not cut the outer edge (but see "option 2" below).
2. Try to lift the center of the card (where an X is placed), check that you have cut both spirals correctly. It should be like a DNA spiral, except that the outer edge is unbroken.
3. The plan now is that you should glue 12 "diamonds" to "O" in each "gOd jul" (there are 12 on the card). If you want to plan where each colour should be placed, it is probably easiest to do it now, before the next step.
4. You can now lift one adhesive dot at a time from the white plastic strip using the small transparent plastic square that protects the glue dot. Place the glue dot where you want it, and then press it firmly with the plastic square, which you then carefully remove. The glue dot is now stuck on the card. There are two extra glue dots if something goes wrong. Now you can glue a diamond on the dot.
5. Continue with the other 11 "O" places. Save an adhesive dot for step 8 (see below).
6. When all 12 diamonds are placed, check again that there is no glue preventing the spiral from splitting. In that case, adjust.
7. The last step begins with pulling the thread through the cross "X" in the middle of the spiral, make a knot on the underside and a loop on the top.
8. Take one of the two stars, place a glue dot in the center of the flat side. Attach the star to the thread just above the paper. Attach the second star towards the first so that the thread goes between the stars.
9. Carefully pull on the thread so that the spiral becomes 3-dimensional. It may take a few days for it to stretch properly, and you can pull a little on it a few times in the meantime to speed this up. When you are satisfied you can hang the decoration in its proper place. When finished it should look like a double spiral, almost (with a little imagination) like a Christmas tree, with glittering decorations and a silvery top star.



Option 2

If you do not have a sharp knife but a pair of scissors, you can cut the dashed lines all the way from the outer edge (there is a light gray printed line as a guide). Then cut all the way from the outside and in, following the two dashed spiral lines.

After cutting the two spirals, you can follow steps 3 to 9 above.

This version becomes more "loose", but still works.

If you get inspired during the work then feel free to be creative! Please take photos and email us your new designs (webbmonster@dax.nu is the address).

And if things go badly, someone cuts wrong, or the glue dots are troublesome, I hope that tape or other glue can be found at home.

You can also download this round Christmas card from our regular website (both in color and black and white) if the kids (yes, they are usually blamed...:-) want to do extra crafting.

Welcome to visit our usual website <http://jul.dax.nu>. We present some more pictures, there is this year's Christmas blog that Vicki writes, and also the opportunity to reminisce previous years' Christmas cards.

We sincerely wish you a

Genuinely Merry Christmas

and a

Happy and Hopeful New Year!

Vicki Björn

