

Card Making: 6 Tips and Tricks

Cards are a beautiful and easy way to give gifts and show love and appreciation. Handmade cards are an extra way to make memories that can stay around for years. Here's a few tips that will enhance your homemade cards!

Get Creative with Papers and Patterns

You don't have to buy expensive cardstock from an art store. Newspaper, tissue paper, gift bags, magazine photos and wrapping paper are great low-cost papers that can add an extra oomph to your design.

Add Color to the Background

Adding a very thin, watery coat of paint to the plain areas of a card can add an extra pop of color and texture. If you don't have watercolor paint, adding water on top of washable markers or chalk pastels can have the same effect.

Prevent Fraying and Splitting

Adding ribbons or fabrics can be an awesome way to add an extra touch to a card, but the ends of ribbons can fray. Add a little bit of glue or clear nail polish to the ends of any fabric to keep it from fraying.

Round Out Corners

Use scissors to add a nice curve to the edges of your card. This is an easy way to make sure your edges won't snag or rip, and it also has a unique look. Use a pencil to trace out the curve so you don't cut off too much.

Get a Clean Fold

Handmade cards can have uneven folds. To make a crisp fold, line all your corners up, then use a pencil or pen to press down on the crease instead of using hands. Drag your pencil or pen across the whole edge of your card two or three times to press the crease flat.

Press Your Card Flat

Sometimes, cards can flap open and resist being closed. After finishing and drying your card, place it underneath a heavy book for a few hours to make it stay flat.

