

CHRISTMAS CARD BOXES



This is a neat way to use old Xmas cards. I discovered these cute little boxes when my mom received one with some candy in it while she was in the hospital last Christmas. After experimenting with the boxes a bit, I figured out how to make them. They are super easy to make! However, it is hard to describe in writing so I had several people try out the directions to make sure they make sense. Good luck!

Materials: Christmas cards (at least 4 5/8" square or larger); ruler, scissors, pencil.

PREPARING THE SQUARES:

Using a ruler, measure and cut out one 5" square and one 4 5/8" square from Christmas cards.

For each square, do the following:

1. Use ruler to draw straight line diagonally from corner to corner. Do the same for the other 2 corners.
2. One at a time, fold each corner of the square to the middle where the 2 diagonal lines meet. This should form a square.

3. Keeping corners folded in, fold one side of the square so that the edge sits where the diagonal lines meet. Do the same for the opposite side.
4. Unfold the folds you made in step 3 so it lies flat. Repeat step 3 folding the other 2 sides the same way.
5. Unfold all folds so that square is completely open again.
6. Turn the square so that one of the diagonal lines is pointing towards you.
7. Find the first fold to the right of the diagonal line and make a cut (parallel to the diagonal line) up to the last fold before the other diagonal line.
8. Repeat Step 7 to the left of the diagonal line.
9. Turn the square 180 degrees so that the opposite end of the same diagonal line is facing you now.
10. Repeat Step 7 and 8.

FOLDING THE SQUARES IN TO BOXES:

11. Keep square in same position as in Step 10 above (diagonal line pointing to you with cuts to right and left).
12. Fold in corner on the right side so that the corner touches where the diagonal lines meet in the middle.
13. Repeat Step 12 for the left side.
14. Now there will be 4 small triangles (one above and below both of the 2 parts you just folded in). For the small triangles on the top fold them down once to make a square and then fold the square down once.
15. For the triangles on the bottom, fold them up once to make a square and then fold the square up once. After this step, the "square" should now look like a rectangle with an arrow pointing up and down.

16. Fold the right and left side of the "square" up to form the right and left sides of the box. Let the second fold you made in Step 14 and 15 (the square you folded up or down) unfold to form the inside part of the box for the other 2 sides.

17. Fold the bottom side of the "square" up and over the inside part of the box you formed in Step 16. The outside corner you are folding in should wedge up against the other two corners already folded in.

18. Repeat Step 17 for the top side of the "square".

FINISHING: If you've folded evenly, the the 4 corners inside the box up will wedge against one another so that they stay secure. If not, you may need to tuck one corner under another to secure them. The larger box should fit over the smaller box although if the thickness of the card you use is different for top and bottom, some may fit more snugly than others.