



## Some Simple Sketches For You To Make 5 Beautiful Cards

Step by step instructions to follow, and make these lovely greetings cards.



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... Is also a basic cardmaking design , and was used to create the cards pictured above.

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“Spring”

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And So...

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Spring Card



Blue Xmas Card



You Colour My World Card



Green Butterfly Card



Floral Doodle Card

## “Freebies”

Throughout this booklet I will be using materials that are freely available to you. All you need to do is download them to your computer and print them off, as and when you need them.

There are some wonderful papers from some wonderful designers who are happy for you to use their creations in your cardmaking.

All these freebies can be accessed through the website at  
<http://www.card-making-magic.com>

The first thing I would recommend is Picasa.

This is a free graphics programme, and it's where I store all my digital papers. It allows you to do so much, and there is more information again on the website. You can also download your free copy from there too.

With this software you can change the colours of the papers if you need to, and you can alter the print size to suit your projects. You can print out one image or several to one sheet, just as the mood takes you.

On each page I will tell you which paper I have used and where to get it from, but here are some of the website addresses to go to for your freebies.

Picasa  
Making-Handmade-Cards  
Card-Making-World  
Summertime Designs  
Caliscrap Design Emporium  
Funky Fairy Inspirations

Once you start to look you will find more for yourself, from some fabulous designers. Happy Hunting...but beware...it's very addictive!

**Please respect their copyrights and do not attempt to sell the papers as your own.**

## Where to Start

When we first start cardmaking most of us lack the confidence to begin. My first venture into this addictive hobby was with cardmaking magazines, that always had some “freebies”

Usually the freebies were accompanied, in the magazine, by an article and pictures on how to use them, and so that is what I did. I faithfully reproduced the pictures of the cards, and I was quite pleased with my efforts ... but it doesn't take long to outgrow some of these magazines.

As I progressed I wanted to try other things. Some of the techniques were pictured, but the explanations were very flimsy, and most of the time the “writer” assumed that the reader .... (me) ... would know exactly what it was they were talking about.

Well! I didn't... and so I had to go further afield to find out what I needed to know. I did a lot of research on the Internet, and blog hopping, and I must have looked at hundreds of websites.

I wished I could make cards as good as they did. I bet you have done the same thing. But although they showed wonderful pictures of the cards they made ... there was no information on how to reproduce that card.

The main thing they aimed at was to sell their products, but I have limited resources, and maybe you do too. I couldn't hope to keep up with all the new stuff they used.

What I didn't realise was that some of them got their products from the manufacturer free, as a thank you for the cards they made to demonstrate those products.

I needed to know how to make these cards for my self, and on the limited budget that I had. And I had to use the “stash” that I had acquired (mostly freebies). And use it in the best possible way.

How did they consistently come up with the ideas for their own work? Did they ever ponder over what to put where? Did they ever lack the confidence to just start? Could I ever be considered as good as some of the cardmakers I looked at?

I needed to formulate my own plan to reproduce these ideas for myself.

Then I noticed, on some of the sites, that they were working from a layout that had all the elements for that card there, and they were able to see how that card would look before they started to do anything.

This was a great idea and would really help. It was such an easy concept and one that I could use daily.

So now I had a direction in which to go to make some lovely cards and never feel the fear of where to start again.

My confidence grew and yours will too.

So how do you make the plan?

Read on ...

## Getting Ideas

Cardmaking should be enjoyable. It's not difficult and it should make you feel pleased with your efforts, not stressed.

And when you know what it is you want to achieve it is so much easier.

When you first start your head may be full of ideas that you want to pursue.

Those ideas are just waiting to be put into practice and the finished results will look fantastic. And those results can delight the person that receives it.

The ideas are all around you, in everyday things that we take for granted. Start to look at things in a different way to give you the inspiration that you need.

But those ideas are no good just buzzing around your head ... eventually you will have to make a start. So start with the things you do know.

Look at the colours that nature puts together. The textures and the placing of objects that are all around you.

Before you make that first cut into the paper that you have been saving ... (because you were so scared to touch it) ... think about the results you want.

What do you know about the person you are making the card for. What is their favourite colour? Which flowers do they like? What is the occasion?

There are many reasons to make that card and many different ways to do it. But whatever the reason is you need to start somewhere. Even the seasoned cardmaker can hit the proverbial brick wall every now and then. But how do you overcome that mental block.

Well I knew other crafters worked from a plan, and it was a really good idea, and so if they could do that then I could do it too. I just needed to put that plan into action

So now we have some ideas in the air and we know that we need to make a plan...so how do we go about it? Well we draw it out...Yes? Yes!

Get your pencil and paper ready ... Here we go.

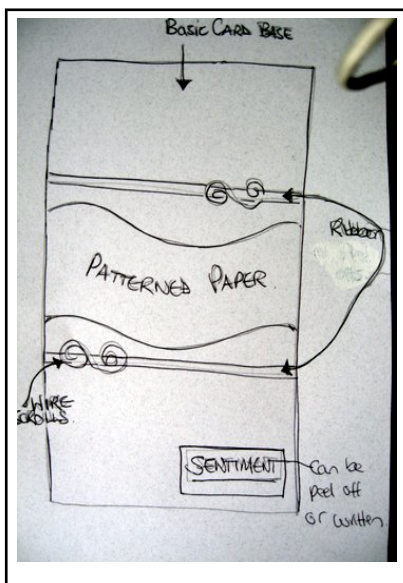
## Making Sketches

By all means take a look at other peoples ideas and then learn how to adapt these ideas to suit your self. The best way is to formulate your own plan for reproducing that masterpiece time and time again.

This is where the “cardmaking sketch” comes into it’s own. The idea of a sketch is nothing new, scrap bookers have been using them for page layouts for a long time. But now more and more card makers are using the same concept.

Look outside the box at every day objects and make a rough sketch of those objects. You don’t need to be able to draw, it’s just a rough outline, but it is something that will bring back to your mind the layout that pleased you so much.

Keep a notebook and a pencil close to hand and quickly jot down the idea. Look at the patterns and colours in these objects, and note which colour schemes attract you.



Your sketch is a simple diagram that shows you how the elements you choose will go together.

It doesn’t need to be elaborate. A square can represent the backing paper, and a circle can be flowers, hearts or any other thing you wish to incorporate into your design.

It’s your card, but at least you now get some idea of what your finished card will look like.

Don’t think about colours yet, just look at your sketch.

It can be used in landscape with the spine at the top, but work equally as good with the spine to the left , in portrait.

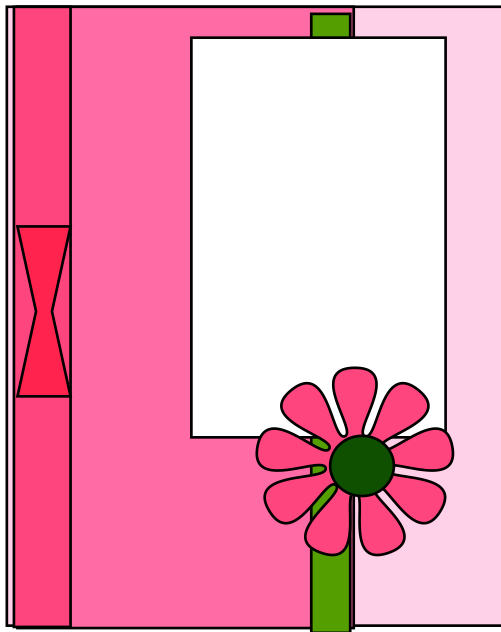
It can be any size you want, and as you become more comfortable working with a sketch it will foster even more ideas that you want to try.

Now you may have some pretty paper that you want ed to use, perhaps you have some flowers that you can add to the design. Or maybe a piece of ribbon that would fit the bill, and don’t forget gemstones, brads and glitter.

The world is your oyster and you sketches can be used over and over again.



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These beautiful papers are the “Spring” kit from Summertime Designs. It is a very fresh and pretty paper, and it makes a lovely feminine card. There are more of Summers designs on the website at

<http://www.card-making-magic.com..>

Print off two blending papers, and cut out a panel from each, to fit the front of the card. Ink the edges of the panels to give definition. Glue them in place lengthways and cover the join with a paper ribbon, also from the kit.

I printed off several of the birds on one sheet of A4 paper and chose the one with the long legs.

I cut the image out and inked the edges, then I layered it on to a spare piece of pink card and finally onto the front of the card with foam pads.

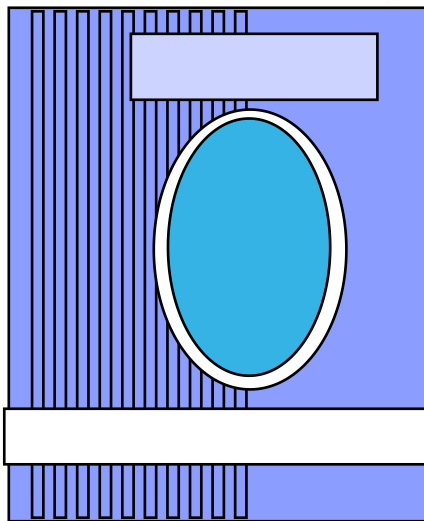
In the birds eye I placed a gemstone and then I sparkled up his wing with a glue pen and some glitter.

The spine is wrapped with some pink organza ribbon and tied in a bow. The flower is handmade and uses left over paper from the design.

The tutorial to make your own paper flowers is on the website.

By making your own you will always have a flower to match your design.

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Here is a lovely card to send to some one for Christmas. Very easy to make and very effective. All the elements are free from Funky Fairy Inspirations and this is the “Blue Xmas kit”. There are more cards from this designer at

<http://www.card-making-magic.com..>

To make this card I used the large snowball paper and cut out a panel slightly smaller than the base card. Ink the edges in pale blue to give definition and glue in place.

Cut out the stripy panel to fit the left side of the card and leave an edge all round it. I used four silver brads in each corner of this panel, but if you don't have brads you could use an ordinary paper punch and punch out some dots from silver card.

I chose the medium sized tree and a smaller one and layered one on top of the other with foam pads. Ink the edges.

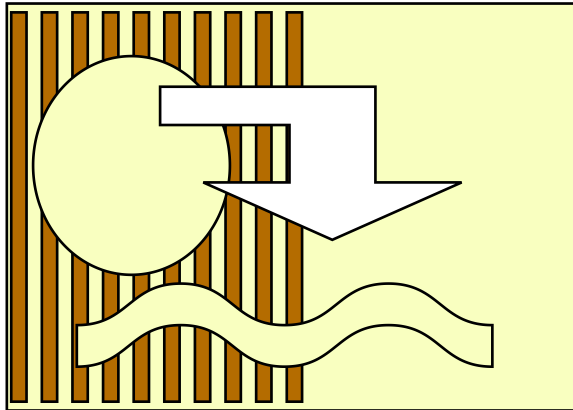
Before attaching the sentiment and the tree are sparkled up with a glue pen and some Glamour dust. Use either a computer made sentiment, a peel off or if you feel confident enough then just hand write one.

The white organza ribbon was fastened to the bottom of the card with glue dots and then tied in a bow.

The same kit comes in a gorgeous pink too, and makes very modern cards for the festive season. Once you have seen these fabulous papers you will be hooked.

Cool!!.

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What could be more appropriate for a teenagers card. All the vibrancy and colour that they like.

I love these papers and there are so many in the Doodlementals Kit, from Funky Fairy Inspirations, with all kinds of add on's too. More cards are on my website using the papers from this designer at

<http://www.card-making-magic.com>.

The base card was folded in half and used with the spine at the top. Two papers were used and a panel glued to each side. The join was covered with some black satin ribbon from my stash.

All the elements are from the kit, you just have to decide which ones you want to use. I chose the curved arrow and the spotty circle and resized them in Picasa before I printed them out.

I glued the papers, the ribbon and the circle flat to the card but raised the arrow up on foam pads. There is a choice of sentiments and I chose "You colour my world" and fixed it with foam pad.

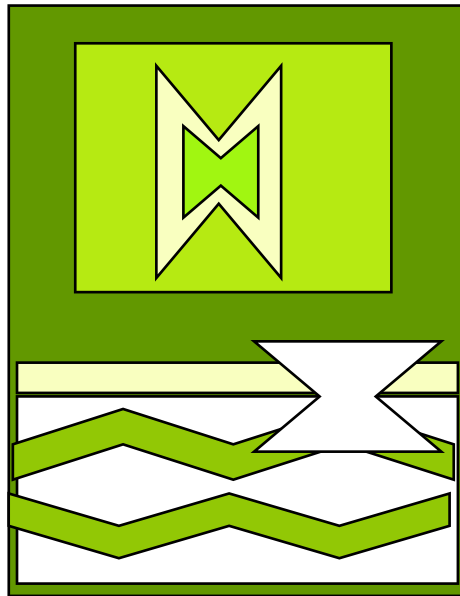
There are more cards from this designer on my website using some of the other papers. All are very suitable for the younger age group.

Send one to someone who has just passed an exam or a driving test. Started a new college, university or job.

Have fun with them and it doesn't matter if you make a mistake, because the benefit of digital papers is that you can always print another one, even better when they are free downloads.

No need to take a trip to the craft shop ..... In the rain!! And no need to worry that they will have sold out when you get there.

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This pretty card could be for any occasion, and is made using the paper from Caliscrap Design. Emporium and is one of many that Lynne has designed, and is happy for us to use.

They are fabulous with lots of different themes and you are sure to find many that you will love. This one is from the “Grungy Green Kit” and in it there are flowers, bows, frames as well as backing papers.

There are more cards from Lynne on my website at  
<http://www.card-making-magic.com>

For this card I printed off the emerald green paper and fitted the panel to the top part of the card . The bottom part was filled with the zig zag ribbon paper and the join covered with white organza ribbon tied in a knot

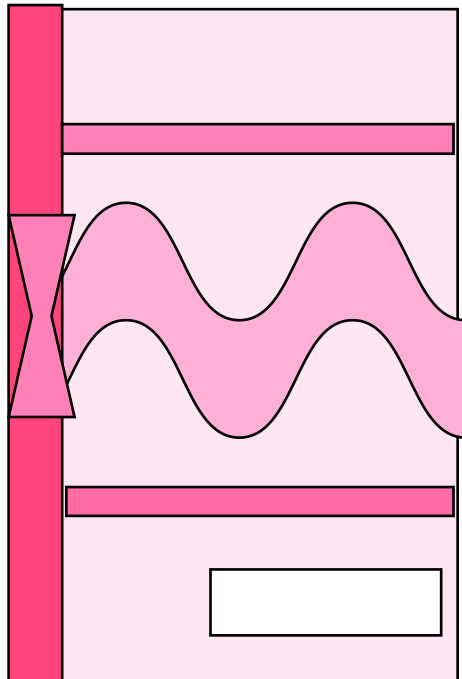
The butterfly was printed four to a sheet of A4 paper, and is easy to do with the free Picasa. I cut out three of the shapes. The bottom one was left as a complete square but two more were used to decoupage the wings, each layer to the wings became smaller.

Visit the website for a tutorial on decoupage, and how to get the results you want.

The wings to the butterfly have been curled around my fingers and then raised up with foam pads to give depth. I then added some sparkle with the glue pen and some Glamour Dust.

I added some flat back pearls to the top right hand edge, just to finish the card off and I think it looks lovely enough for any body to receive. Don't you?.

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The paper for this card came from Making-Handmade-Cards and is the free “Floral Doodle” kit. In this kit you will find some beautiful flowery papers in many different colours.

They are very feminine papers and can be used for all occasions. There are lots of cards on my website made with the kits that Claire makes and they can be found found at

<http://www.card-making-magic.com>.

For this card I used a linen effect card stock and folded it in half lengthways to go make an A5 sized card. I printed out the cerise pink paper and tore it freehand along the top and bottom edges.( If you don't feel confident enough to tear it then cut an uneven shape with your scissors or craft knife)

Make it large enough to fit the width of the card and ink the edges in pink. Glue in place about a third of the way down.

Along the top and bottom of the wavy panel I attached peel off borders, but I coloured them in with a pink marker pen first to match my scheme. I also found two silver corners and coloured them in the same way and fixed them in each outside corner.

The cerise organza ribbon was fitted along the spine and tied in a bow.

And the pink sentiment was a peel off and was just placed straight onto the card front.

Very pretty.

## And So...

Well there you have the concept of making a sketch to help you in the future, and what could be easier. Whenever you are short of ideas then get out all your saved sketches and mull over them again.

If you quickly sketch out your thoughts as you get them, then over the year you could end up with literally hundreds of them. Save them in a plastic wallet and review them every so often, you never know you may come across a sketch that you liked and haven't used for a long time.

It's easy to forget one when you start to accumulate lots. Don't forget to scan the Internet for more, and look at the scrapbook sites too. They can quite easily be scaled down and adapted for the card maker to use.

I hope you have enjoyed this booklet and that it will help you in the future. If you make cards using these sketches then I would love to see them. Please upload your pictures to the website. There is an invitation there for you to share with everybody your wonderful creations, just look at the gallery page and use the invite there.

And if it was for a really special or unusual occasion then use the invite on the "Special Occasions" Page.

Tell us about the card, what was the occasion and who you made it for.

Please also visit the website often as I will be adding more videos to the tutorial page. I will share with you some of the things I know and some of the things I have yet to learn.

And I am always willing to learn from you too. So if you have something you enjoy doing then why not share it with all the other visitors to the website.

Thank you for reading this booklet. You can print it off if you want to, and keep it for reference.

It was a pleasure to write and a pleasure to give to you, watch out for more in the years to come.

Best Wishes.

Christina