



12 CRAFTS OF CHRISTMAS

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

CALLING ALL CREATIVE CRAFTERS!

Whether you're into baking, gluing, sticking, pasting or wrapping, why not use the festive season to showcase your wonderful talents and raise money to support people living with cancer at the same time.

We have pulled together 12 popular Christmas crafting ideas and there are two simple ways you can use these to get the cash rolling in ...



1. Make and share

You could keep it simple and make these suggested projects (or some of your own festive favourites!) and share them with your friends and family for a suggested donation in the lead up to Christmas.

2. Host a Christmas craft workshop

You could go one step further and share your new skill by hosting a virtual Christmas craft workshop and asking people to make a donation to attend.

Choose a group calling platform that works for you and your friends, and set yourself (or your crafting expert!) up to demonstrate making the craft from home.

Whatever option is for you, we've made it as simple as possible by providing detailed step by step instructions for a few of our personal favourites. Happy crafting!

OPTION 1: HOW TO MAKE AND SHARE ...



OPTION 2: HOW TO HOST A CHRISTMAS CRAFT WORKSHOP...



For our committees and fundraising groups

Use your Charity Checkout page if you have one, or set up a JustGiving page (it's quick, easy and means you don't handle any money) and you can do all your fundraising from a safe distance. Whether you use your JustGiving or Charity Checkout one, be sure to share your QR code for easy cashless donations.

THE FUN STARTS HERE

As promised, here are 12 of our favourite crafting ideas to help you give your festive period that little unique touch. To make it as easy as possible for you, we have provided some step by step guides for a few of them ...

1. Wreaths >

Nothing says 'Christmas is here' quite like something handmade on your front door!



2. Christmas Cards >

Have lots of fun creating your own unique ways of sending Christmas wishes.



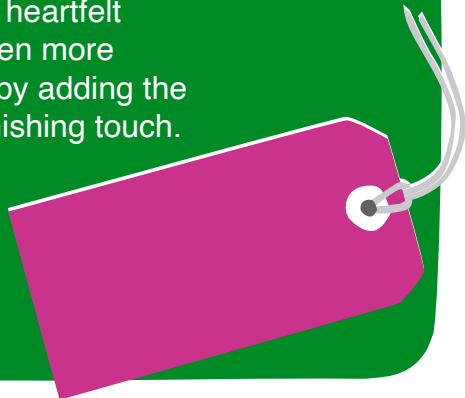
3. Christmas Cakes >

To share, to eat or to give as gifts ... the perfect Christmas treat.



4. Gift Tags

Make your heartfelt present even more wonderful by adding the ultimate finishing touch.



5. Table Centrepieces

Finish your festive look by bringing your own touch to the table this year.



6. Personalised Gift Boxes

Create a new tradition of decorating your own boxes of delights, which could then be used as tree decorations!



7. Christmas Crackers

Homemade crackers? You got this! Add some 'pop' to your festivities with some toilet roll crackers!



8. Gingerbread Cookies

The perfect option for anyone who loves getting creative when baking sweet treats.



9. Tree Decorations

Make your tree one of a kind this year with some fun, easy to make festive decorations.



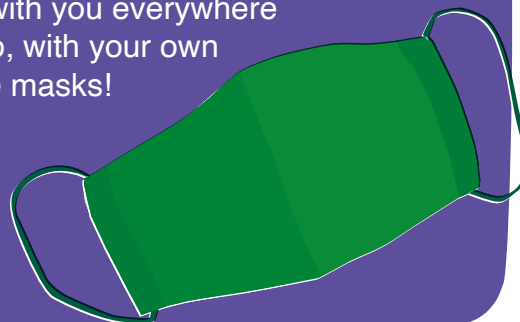
10. Jams/ Chutneys

Spread Christmas cheer on your festive breakfast with the gift of Christmas jam.



11. Face Masks >

Bring some Christmas spirit with you everywhere you go, with your own festive masks!



12. Reindeer Food >

Please the kids (and garden wildlife) with some reindeer food!



ANYONE FOR A FESTIVE FRUIT CAKE?

Thanks to our Bridlington Committee for this recipe!
Find out more about them on [page 12](#)

Recipe:

- 450g butter
- 450g soft brown sugar
- 450g plain flour
- 10 eggs
- 900g currants
- 450g sultanas
- 225g peel
- 775g glacé cherries (chopped)
- 225g dried apricots (chopped and soaked overnight in a cup)
- 220ml brandy/sherry

Method:

1. Cream the butter and sugar and add the beaten eggs.
2. Fold in all the other ingredients.
3. Pour into a 12inch lined square tin.
4. Wrap folded newspaper around the outside of the tin.
5. Cook in a moderate oven (140 degrees, Gas Mark 1) for 2.5 – 3hrs.
7. Allow to cool, decorate as you please and enjoy!

Mixture can also make 2 x 8inch cakes instead and then would be cooked for 2hrs.





GIVE YOUR DOOR SOMETHING LOVELY TO WEAR

Thanks to our Harpenden Committee for this wreath-making guide! Find out more about them on [page 13](#)

Whether you start off with a basic wire frame, polystyrene hoop or rattan/wicker wreath or get a head start with an artificial fir wreath – this is an excellent craft for people of all skills. Make sure to bring your creative flair and read on to learn how to make your own ...

There are so many ways to decorate your wreaths with materials such as:

- Fresh foliage (pick up ivy, fern and holly whilst out on walks) or fake foliage from the craft shop
- Ribbons, yarn and fabric of all shapes, colours, textures and sizes
- Pinecones and fake berries
- Baubles and old tree decorations
- Bells and fairy lights to catch attention
- Your own DIY festive pom poms
- Tinsel, tinsel and yes...more tinsel!
- Dried orange slices and cinnamon sticks
- Christmas wrapping paper from years gone by
- Candy canes

A simple how to:

1. Start with your basic wreath frame (wire, rattan, polystyrene, oasis etc).
2. Take your foliage (fake or real) and wrap it around your frame. Attach these with wire, hot glue or string.
3. Arrange away until you're happy with the look of the wreath, then it's time to add all those extra bows and sparkles!

MAKE A MERRY MASK

Thanks to our Easter Ross Committee for these instructions! Find out more about them on [page 12](#)

How to make a breathable face mask to raise money for Macmillan.

You will need:

- Non-woven fabric (an example would be clothing storage bags)
- Fabric from neck scarves, sheets, t shirts for the liner
- Twist ties for the over the nose bit
- 2 strands of elastic bands

1. Layer 2 pieces of non-woven fabric and 1 piece of liner fabric (creating 3 layers).
2. Cut into 20cm x 20cm pieces, sew top side of mask with liner fabric facing upwards .
3. Bottom side, create double fold – 2 x 1cm fold and sew it in place. Do this for non-woven and liner piece separately – more filters can be added between the openings to increase thickness.
4. Flip linen over non-woven fabric and top stitch top area so it remains flat.
5. Place twist tie wire under the seam and sew it in place.
6. Sew the sides to lock wire in place.
7. Fold 5cm from the top to create pleats, pin fold and create a 1.5cm over lap (fold opposite way) leave 5cm at the bottom then stitch pleats in place.
8. After this, place 1 elastic band at each end of the mask, wrap the fabric around each one and then sew fabric together.
9. Tie each end of elastic band together and manoeuvre so the tie is moved within the seam (hidden).





MANTLEPIECE- WORTHY CARDS

Thanks to our Merton Committee for these tips! Find out more about them on [page 12](#)

Whether you're a whizz with a glue stick or love getting your paints out, we want to see how crafty you can be this Christmas!

Why not send your loved ones a handmade card this year, giving them something exciting to open and cherish as a personal gift from you.

Our ideas:

- Make use of your local craft store and experiment with their different resources
- Re-use last year's cards, find your inner crafter
- Have some family fun and get a little messy with biodegradable glitter and glue!

Fundraising:

- Small cards 10 for £5
- Large cards 5 for £5
- Provide envelopes for each card and sell in plastic wallets
- Why not order some of our small paper bags from [Be.Mac](#) as a finishing touch!

A GIFT FIT FOR RUDOLPH

Thanks to our Arbroath Fundraising Group for this recipe for Reindeer Food. Find out more about them on [page 13](#).

You will need:

- Rolled oats
- Dried fruits (like cranberries or raisins)
- Clear cellophane bags or, if you prefer, clear plastic baubles (these can normally be found at your local craft store)
- Googly eyes
- Red pom poms
- Brown pipe cleaner
- Ribbon and string
- Cinnamon
- Seeds (like pine nuts or pumpkin seeds)

1. Mix the rolled oats, dried fruits, seeds and cinnamon into a mixing bowl.
2. Decant the mixture into your baubles or cellophane bags.
3. Seal the bauble or tie the bag with your string.
4. Thread a festive ribbon through the bauble.
5. Stick two googly eyes on the bauble/bag.
6. Stick a red pom pom underneath the eyes.
7. Cut a length of pipe cleaner and twist round the top of the cellophane bag to make antlers or cut a length in half and stick antlers to top of the bauble.
8. You can add ribbon to your cellophane bag so you can hang your reindeer food from the tree.
9. On Christmas Eve sprinkle the food into your garden so Santa's Reindeer can get a much needed snack whilst they journey through the night.
10. If the reindeer don't get a chance to eat it all then don't worry, the wildlife in your garden can eat it too!



MEET THE CONTRIBUTING COMMITTEES



Our wonderful **Easter Ross Committee** started creating custom-made face masks because they wanted to think of ways to raise money for us during the pandemic. Shona and Sandra, our super stitching duo, are selling face masks of 3 different sizes with 3 layers of cotton with a non-woven linen. The committee are using their Charity Checkout page and have raised over £3,000!



Our brilliant **Bridlington Committee** have been making and selling delicious Christmas cakes over many years to raise funds for Macmillan and they have built up quite the reputation. Their cake stand usually takes pride of place at Southburn Christmas Fayre, but this year they are taking orders and deliveries through their Charity Checkout page instead. Thanks to them, we now have a special tried and tested recipe that won't fail to impress!



For around 10 years, the marvellous **Merton Committee** have been asking local artists to create designs for their Christmas Cards. Each design is sold in packs of 10 and the committee sell them at their annual early Christmas fair as well as local fairs and events within the community. Last year, they raised around £3,500 from their sales. As they are hosting their Christmas fair virtually with Brilliant Little Brands this year, they have created a section online to sell the cards: brilliantlittlebrands.com/collections/christmas-cards

OUR CONTRIBUTING COMMITTEES CONTINUED



The Harpenden Committee

This exceptional group began their wreath fundraising 25 years ago when their talented chair Sue started teaching them how to make high quality wreaths to sell at Christmas. Over the years this has developed into holding very popular workshops for 30 people at a time! Last year the committee raised an incredible £1,613 from their classes and the sales of Sue's wreaths. This year due to Covid restrictions they'll be filming their workshop and giving supporters their own make at home wreath kits.

Harpenden's top tips:

For a traditional look, gather foliage from gardens and hedgerows. Take off the bottom inch of leaves from each piece for ease when assembling. Add wired cones, berries, dried slices of orange and a bow.



Our talented **Arbroath Fundraising Group** provided us with the crafty and fun step by step guide to making the best Reindeer Food this Christmas.

In 2019, the Fundraising Group came up with the idea to sell their Reindeer Food at their Macmillan Ladies Night. This year, they're thinking of using their Facebook and Charity Checkout pages to advertise and bring in some much needed money for us. They are also contacting local businesses to ask if they could display in their shops.

NEED MORE INSPIRATION?



HERE'S WHERE YOUR CRAFTING CASH COULD GO



£8.50

could pay for 100 copies of our credit-card sized resource explaining graphically the signs and symptoms of cancer. It is popular with men, who are often reluctant to pick up other materials.

£31

could pay for a Macmillan nurse for one hour, helping people living with cancer and their families receive essential medical, practical and emotional support.

£60

could pay for a Macmillan Grant that buys a good quality liquidiser for someone who can't eat solid food as a result of their cancer or treatment.

EVERY £100

spent on the welfare rights advice service via the Macmillan Support Line will enable us to help people affected by cancer to claim, on average, £3,961 in benefits they are entitled to.

£217

could help run a small Macmillan information and support centre for one day, helping people affected by cancer to find information and support.

£372

could help run our Online Community for one day. In this time, 2,668 people affected by cancer in the UK can give emotional and practical support to each other on anything to do with cancer.

THANK YOU

Every cake you bake, every card you craft and every donation you collect helps us to be there for people with cancer. Thank you all so very much, it means a lot, especially during this difficult time.



If you'd like to chat to us about your plans then we would love to hear from you and can provide support in a variety of ways! Get in touch with our Supporter Care team on **0300 1000 200** or email us at fundraising@macmillan.org.uk.



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