

## Christmas Bird House Class by Di Oliver



You will need:

Tando items: You would be able to substitute some of these items for alternatives but the main item that you would need is the mini birdhouse.

Mini 3D Birdhouse

Mini Birds and Branches

2 x Holly Flourish

2 x Plaque Packs

Small Christmas Cheer Greeting

Modelling paste - any variety that you can stamp in to.

Gesso

Embossing powders - I've used Stampendous Shabby White and Shabby Blue embossing enamel and a detail white and detail silver embossing powders.

Versamark ink pad

Distress ink pad - Weathered Wood

Any Script Stamp - I used the Cover a Card Script stamp

Any snowflake stamp - I used one from the Stampers Anonymous Christmas range.

A stamp to add texture - Mine is an old acrylic stamp that I've had for yonks, I'm sure you would have something suitable :o)

A piece of thin cardboard - the back of the Tando packaging is ideal.

Also the usual glue, craft knife etc etc.

## Week 1

Okey dokes....this week you will need the round elements from the plaque packs, if you don't have these, don't worry, you can use any round shaped chipboard that is fairly sturdy they need to be approx 70mm in diameter. You will also need a thinnish piece of cardboard, the back of the Tando packaging is ideal for this,

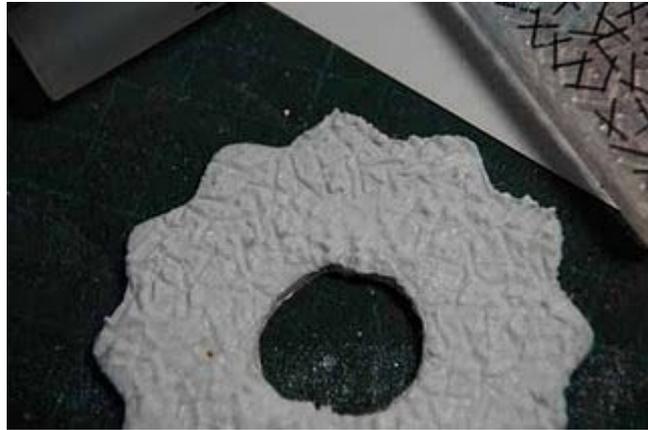
First of all roll the piece of thin chipboard so you make a tube approx. 30mm in diameter x 50mm long. Once you made the tube trace around the outside of it into the middle of the the 2 round pieces and cut out 2 holes. You want the tube to fit fairly snugly into the holes.



Paint the circles with gesso especially around the edges and then cover one side with a thick layer of modelling paste.



Take a stamp with a texture that you like, spritz the stamp with water and press it into the modelling paste. Set aside somewhere where you won't lean in it.....yep....I've done that....I normally find them stuck to my sleeve!! The modelling paste will take a little while to dry.



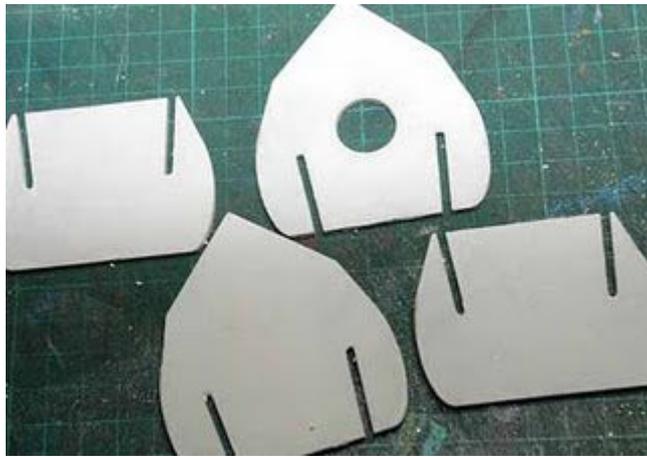
Using the Shabby white embossing enamel and versamark ink, coat your tube well with the ink and heat emboss a good layer of enamel.



Do the same with the 2 roof pieces of the birdhouse using the Shabby Blue embossing enamel. Use Gesso to paint the other side and the edges.



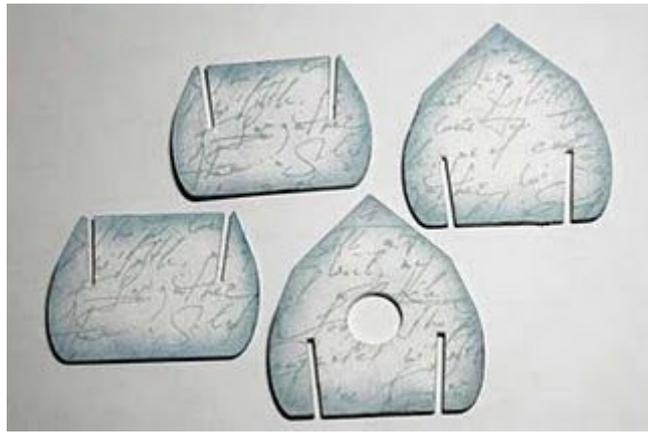
Paint the other pieces of the Mini Birdhouse with Gesso. Don't worry about the base, you won't be using that bit.



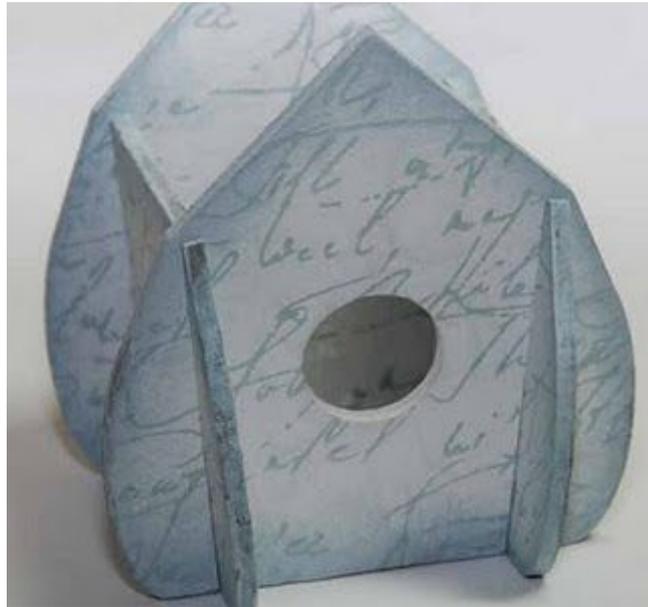
Stamp all the pieces with a script style stamp in Weathered Wood distress ink.



Using the same Weathered Wood ink and a foam pad, add some ink to the outer edges of the birdhouse pieces as shown.



Slot the pieces together. There is no need to use glue.



Week 2:

By now...I would hope LOL, that the modelling paste has dried. Just touch around the edges and pick up the texture with a foam pad and some Weathered Wood Distress Ink.



Apply glue and slot the scalloped pieces on to the embossed tube top and bottom with the textured side facing the same way up on both pieces.



Glue the birdhouse body to the top of the tube with the textured side facing upwards (apply plenty of glue to get a good hold). Then glue the roof onto the birdhouse. Remember, there is no need to use the base piece of the birdhouse.



Ink the bird and branch with Weathered Wood Distress Ink (optional, stamp a swirly design onto the bird and heat emboss with silver embossing powder).

Glue the wing to the bird and glue the bird and branch to the front as shown below.



Paint one of the square pieces from the plaque pack with Gesso or white paint. If you don't have the plaque pack any suitable piece of sturdy chipboard will be fine.

Once the paint is dry edge with Weathered Wood distress ink using a foam pad as shown.



Using a snowflake stamp or similar, stamp over the base and heat emboss with detail white embossing powder.



Glue the made up birdhouse and stand to the base as shown.



Ink 4 holly leaf flourishes with Weathered Wood Distress Ink and press the pieces gently into a Versamark ink pad. Sprinkle some of the Stampendous embossing enamel over the top and heat. You want the appearance of a sprinkling of snow.



Glue the holly leaves to the base. Paint in white on both sides the word Christmas and glue this to the base as well.



And there you have it....a really quick project that looks fantastic on a mantlepiece or as a table decoration for Christmas. I hope you have enjoyed the class.

