

TANDO CREATIVE

Christmas Countdown by Di Oliver



You will need:

For the frame:

2 squares of chipboard 12" x 12"

4 pieces of chipboard $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 12"

4 pieces of chipboard $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 9"

Available from a good art shop:

Black acrylic paint

Crackle glaze

Pewter metallic acrylic paint

A paintbrush

Silver ink pad.

An old cereal packet or similar weight card.

For the Christmas countdown:

A sheet of Adornit Winter 12" x 12" paper

A piece of cotton lace 11" long

A small piece of corrugated card

Maya Road Noah alphabet letters

Tando Creative chipboard snowflake, contemporary trees, clock hand and Days til dial.

2 Crafty chipboard Santa Sleigh

Ink jet printable acetate.

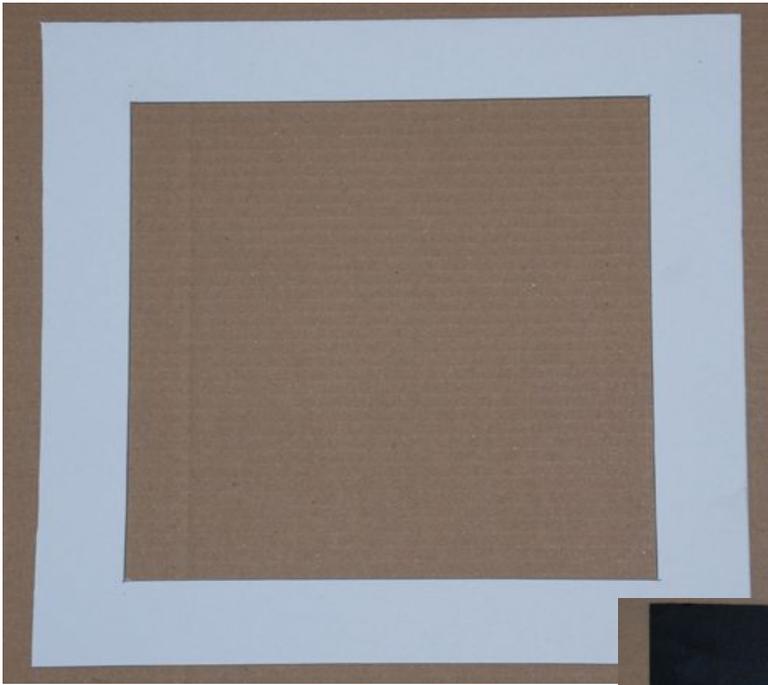
20 clear gems and 1 blue gem

Circular chipboard for mounting the countdown and snowflake on to

Odd bits of chipboard to mount the corrugated card

A black brad.

Glossy accents, stickles, glitter and paint.



1/. First cut a square of chipboard 12" x 12". I have used a good sturdy chipboard approx. 2.2mm thick.

Cut out the inner square so the frame is 1 1/2" allround.

2/. Paint the chipboard in black acrylic paint and leave to dry thoroughly.



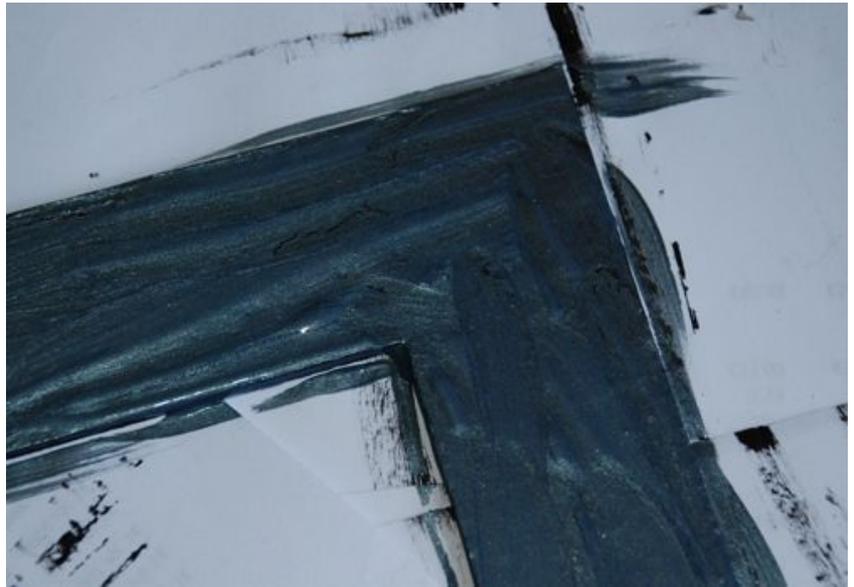
3/. Paint over a layer of crackle glaze as per the instructions on the pot.

Leave until just tacky to touch.

4/. Paint over a layer of well stirred Pewter metallic acrylic paint. The thicker the paint the larger the cracks.

Try not to go over the same bit twice otherwise you will lift the crackle glaze and the finish won't be so good.

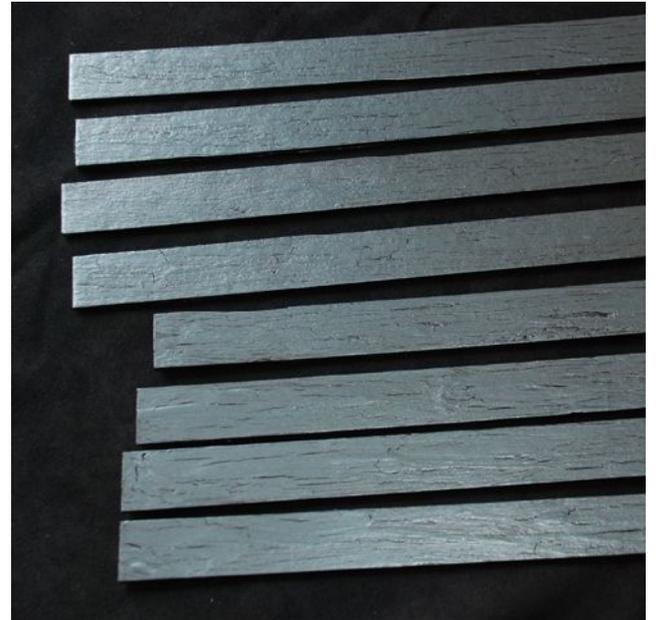
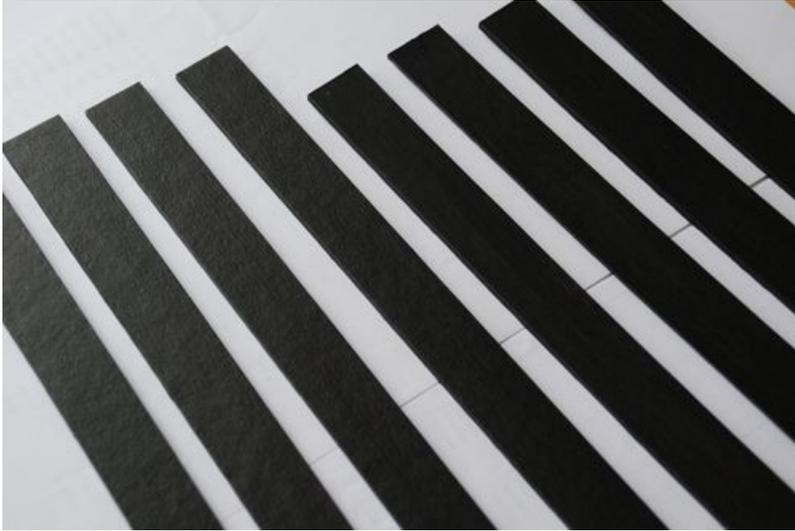
Work fairly quickly but don't worry if it's a bit uneven, it will add to the effect.



5/. When the top layer of paint starts to dry cracks will begin to appear.

Once completely dry just rub on some silver from an ink pad using your finger. Concentrate on the edges and raised parts of paint.



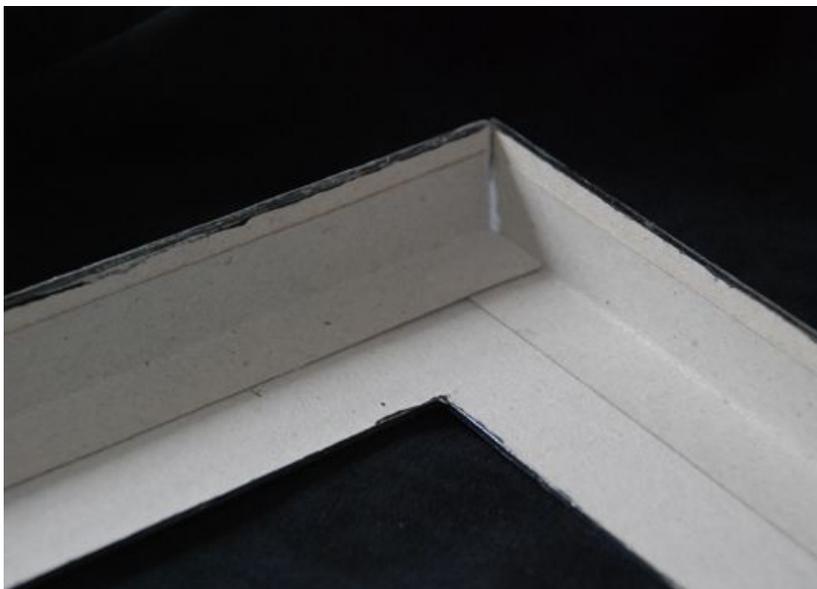


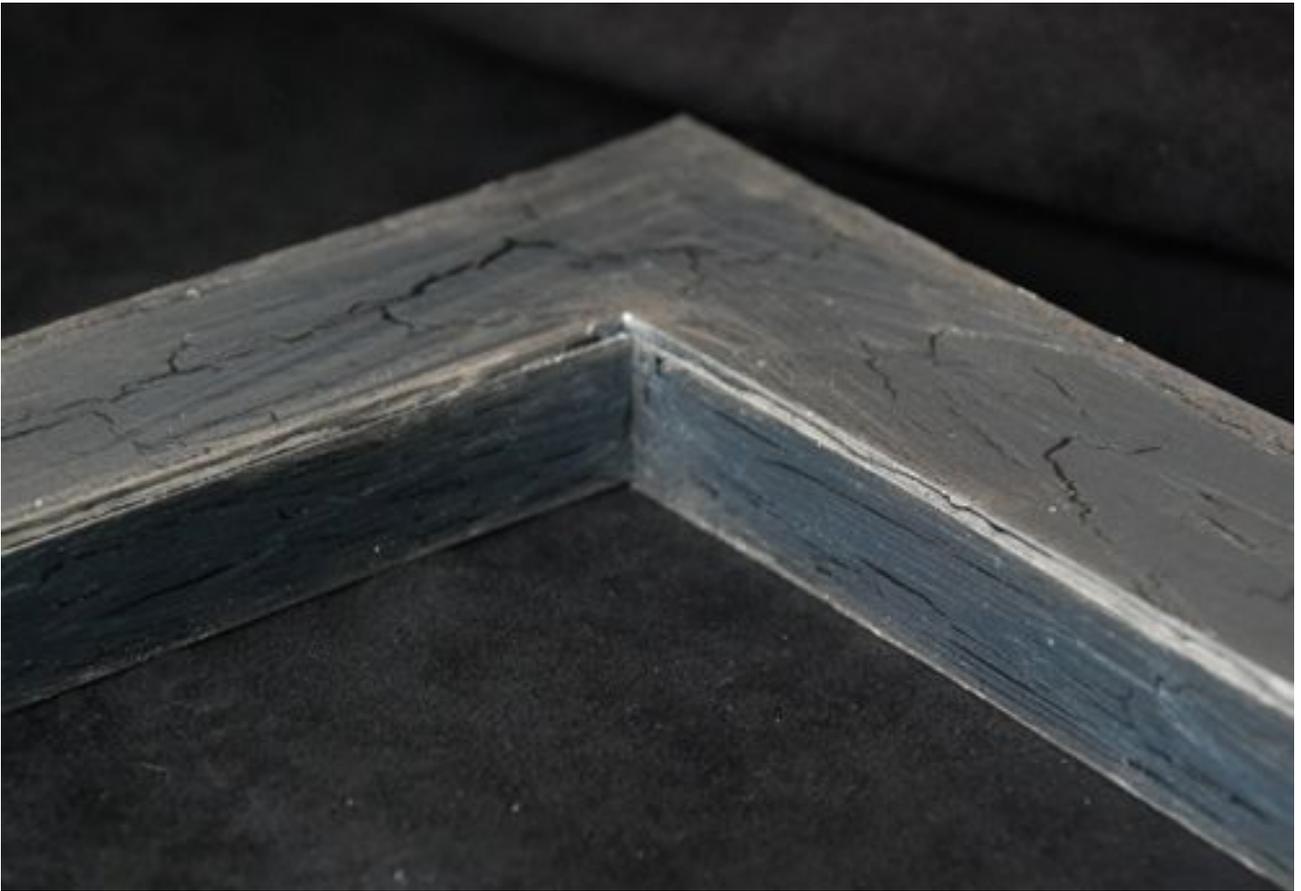
6/. Do exactly the same for the 8 strips of chipboard, these will be used to create the box frame sides.

7/. Cut some strips of the cereal packet that are just slightly shorter than the 8 strips of chipboard. Score and fold in half.

Glue one half to the back of the frame and one half to a strip of chipboard to hold the pieces together to form 4 outer sides to the box frame and 4 inner sides.

8/. The frame should look like the picture below.





9/. Take your other piece of 12" x 12" chipboard and cover with the Adornit paper.



10/. Glue the piece of cotton lace approximately where the inside of the frame will go.

Glue the underside edges of the box frame and stick to the covered base piece.

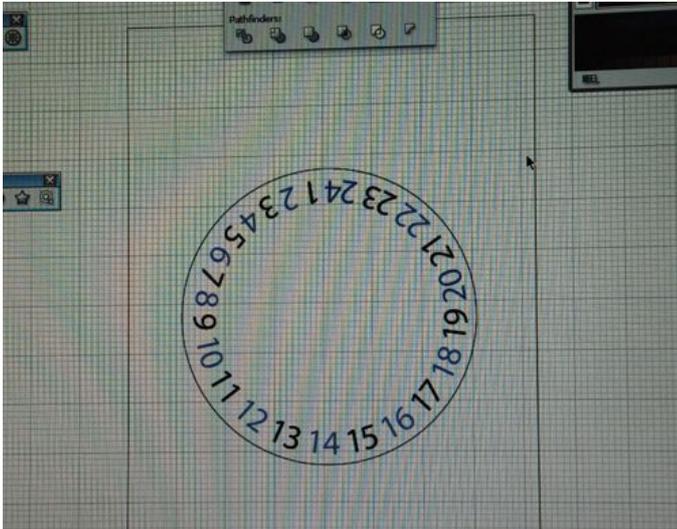
Place some books or something with a bit of weight on top until the glue is completely dry.



11/. Paint with silver paint and pick out the DAYS TIL with blue acrylic paint.

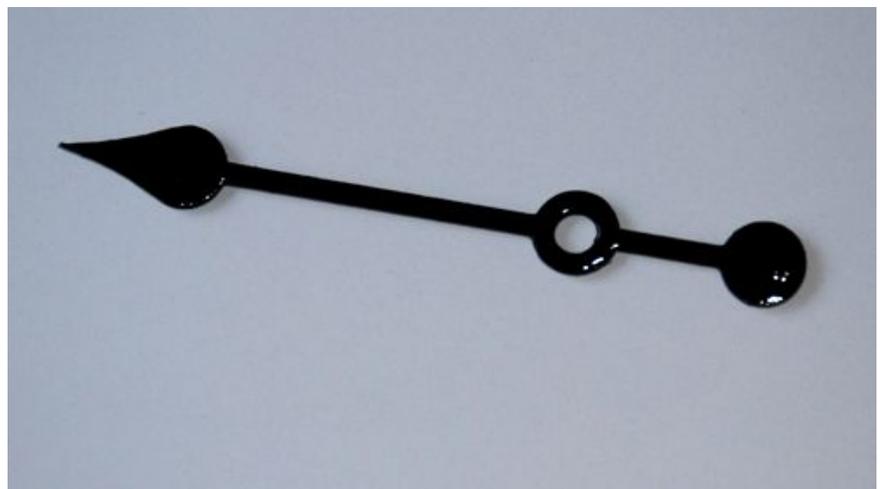
Doodle an outline around the letters.





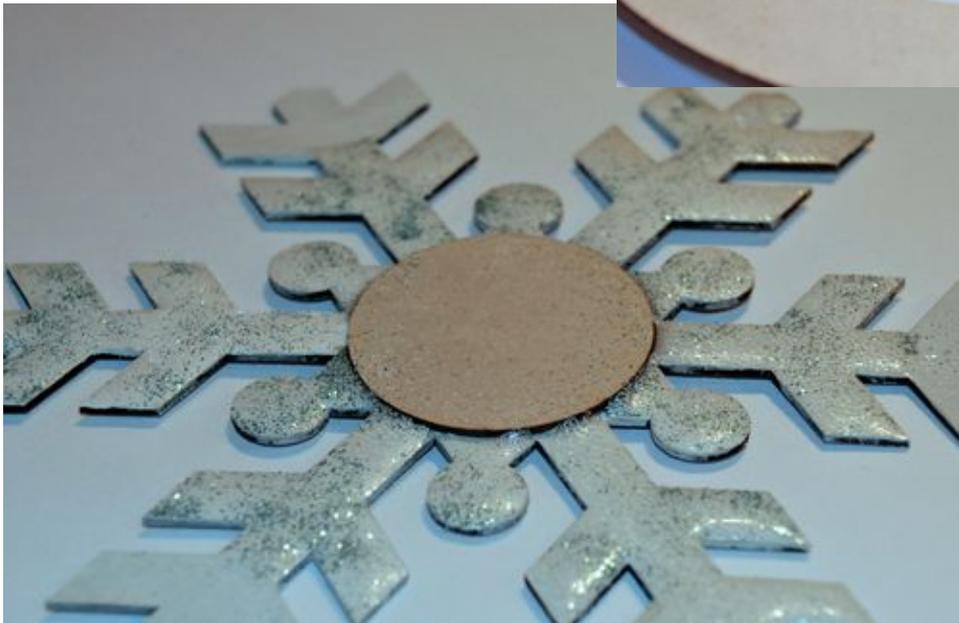
12/. Draw a circle of numbers on your computer and print onto acetate.

13/. Paint the chipboard clock hand in black acrylic and coat in glossy accents.



14/. Attach the acetate to the chipboard using a brad through the hand and trim off the excess acetate.

15/. Glue some circular pieces of chipboard to the underside of the dial.

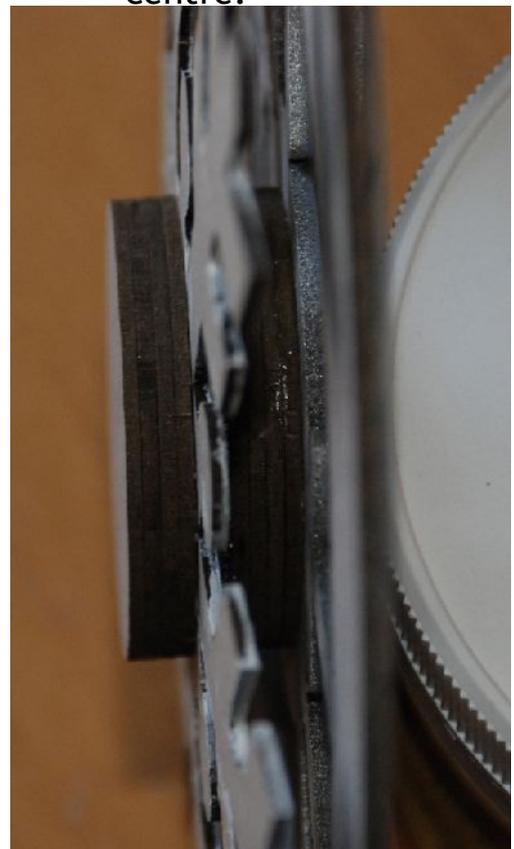


16/. Decorate the Tando Creative snowflake, I have painted it with white acrylic, coated with glossy accents and sprinkled with white and blue glitter.

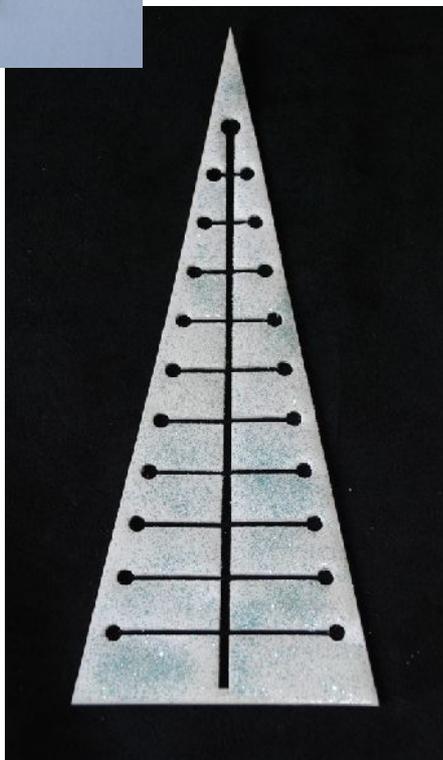
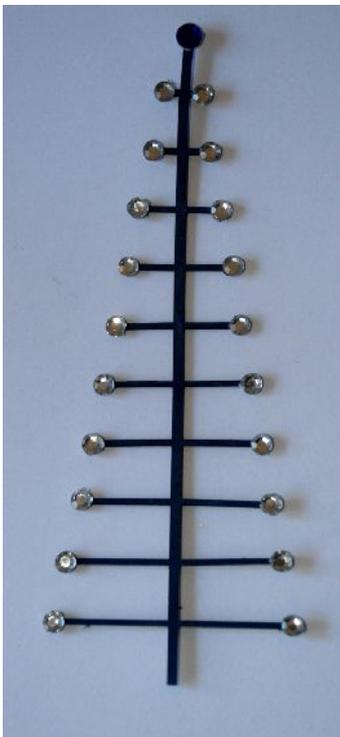
Glue another ring of chipboard to the centre.

17/. Glue the snowflake to the countdown dial so you can see the top side through the acetate.

Glue some more circles of chipboard to the underside of the snowflake.



18/. Glue the countdown dial to the top left part of the frame.



19/. Decorate the Tando Creative small outer contemporary tree (not shown) and both parts of the larger contemporary tree.

The outer parts have been covered with acrylic paint, one has been coated with glossy accents and sprinkled with glitter. The other was painted with acrylic and coated with stickles.

The inner part of the larger tree has been painted with acrylic paint and clear and blue gems have been glued to the stems.



20/. Glue the smaller tree and the inner tree into the frame as shown.

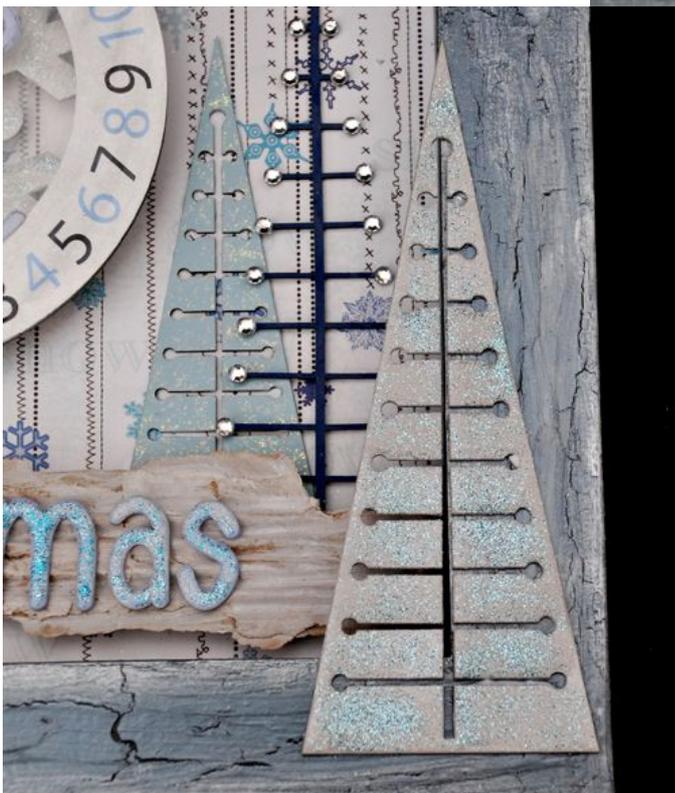
21/. Paint the Maya Road letters. These have been painted, covered with glossy accents and sprinkled with glitter.



22/. Tear up a strip of corrugated card, lightly paint with white acrylic or gesso and glue the letters to the card.



23/. Mount onto some scraps of card or chipboard and glue into the bottom of the frame.



24/. Glue the larger of the Tando Creative contemporary trees to the outside of the frame.

25/. Paint the 2 Crafty Santa Sleigh with silver paint and doodle around the edges.

Glue to the top corner of the frame.

