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Paxton Valley Folk Art

Frost On The Pumpkin Bowl Fillers~Ornies

P001

SUPPLIES YOU'LL NEED

Muslin fabric (for pumpkin body, leaves and eyes)
Brown check homespun (for pumpkin nose)
Fiberfil (for stuffing)
Mark B Gone pen
DMC floss in black (for sewing on nose and stitching mouth and eyes)
Long doll making needle
Embroidery needle
Americana Paints: Cadmium Yellow
Buttermilk
Jack-O-Lantern Orange
Hauser Medium Green
Ebony (Lamp) Black
Old stiff paint brush (or stencil brush) for dry-brushing paint onto fabric
Liner brush (for lettering on tag) ~ or hey, use a black felt pen if you don't want to paint the letters!
Fabric stiffener
Rusty wire
Rusty safety pin
Two vintage buttons ~ black or brown (it's even better if they aren't the same size or color)
Elastic band
Mica dust or glass glitter
Card stock or manila tag
Pencil or tracing paper
Medium grit sandpaper
Your favorite grunging recipe (Check out the Techniques section for my favorite)

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Read all of the instructions thoroughly and make sure you have all of your materials assembled.

1/4" seam allowance is NOT included on most pattern pieces. The tracing line is the sewing line unless otherwise indicated, please refer to the pattern.

You can grunge (coffee stain) your fabric before beginning your project or after or hey, even better, both!

TECHNIQUES

Grunging or Coffee Staining

There are lots of great recipes on the web for staining your prim creations. Here is the recipe that I am currently using with thanks to Cedara of www.thrutheatticdoor.com.

Cedara's Grungy Spice Recipe

Take a large plastic bowl and pour in 4-5 cups BOILING WATER.
The water has to be VERY HOT to make this mixture work well.

Add 1 cup instant coffee to the water and mix with wooden spoon.
Add the following spices to the mix:

3 heaping tsp of ground cinnamon
2 heaping tsp of ground nutmeg
1 heaping tsp of ground ginger
about 10 cloves

Stir and MIX WELL.
This will create a "grainy sludge" in the bottom of the bowl. That is what will give you the more extreme primitive effect on your creations. Take a

sponge paintbrush and apply. As it dries, the spices will remain "on top" of the fabric and dry. You can leave it as is or you can rub it in with your hand to give an even more extreme effect to your creations.

Baking Your Prims

I like to bake my projects in the oven to "age" them a bit. PLEASE WATCH IT CLOSELY!! After grunging, place your project into a 200 degree Fahrenheit oven with the door slightly ajar and bake until dry. Turn your prim every so often so it dries evenly and doesn't scorch. You can also put your prim outside in the sun on a nice, warm sunny day to bake in the sun if you prefer.

Sanding

After grunging and baking, you can sand your project for an even more primitive look. Use medium grit sandpaper and sand wherever you think "normal" wear would occur. You can sand as little or as much as you like, just be careful not to sand right through to the stuffing!

Making A Prim Tag

There are a few ways to go about this; you can buy manila tags from the office supply store, brush on your grunging mixture and then bake them in the oven at 200 degrees Fahrenheit until they are dry.

You can also use walnut crystals to stain your manila tags, just dilute the crystals in some warm water and brush or spray the walnut stain onto your tag. Be careful, this mixture stains EVERYTHING as it dries but it gives a nice prim look. You can either add more crystals or more water depending on how dark you want the tag to be.

I prefer to make my own tags. Take a sheet of cardstock, crumple it up and then smooth it flat again. Take your grunging mixture, paint the card stock on both sides with a sponge brush and bake till dry. Take your sheet of grunged card stock and trace a tag shape onto it (see www.primdoodles.com for some free templates if you need a pattern). Tear out the tag rather than cutting it out with scissors for a real prim look. Take your grunging mixture again, coat the torn edges of the tag and rebake. You're now ready to add your prim saying onto your tag; you can paint it on

with some diluted acrylic paint and a liner brush, write it on with an indelible marker or stamp on your favorite saying or picture!

Dry Brushing Fabric

This is easy! Take your scruffy old brush or your stencil brush and load it well with paint. On a piece of paper towel rub off the paint that is on the tips of the bristles. Now start to paint your fabric, go lightly at first until some of the paint has been off-loaded to the fabric, as you get less paint on your brush you can rub it in harder. Put on as much or as little paint as you like and don't worry about areas where the paint is thicker or thinner. It all adds to that wonderful prim look!

Sewing On The Face

I like to sew my face onto my project after it has been stuffed and primmed, but you can certainly sew everything on before you stuff your project. If you want to sew after stuffing, use a long doll making needle and come in from the BACK of the project first! Make a knot in your floss and gently pull it through the material on the back. The knot will get caught up in the stuffing so you won't have any stitching showing on the back of your project. When sewing on button eyes just keep coming through to the back of your project and go back through to the front through the same hole. That way you won't see any stitches on the back and your buttons will be well secured in the stuffing.

DIRECTIONS

1) Wash your muslin and homespun to remove any sizing from the fabric. Dry in the dryer (without any fabric softener) or on the clothesline outside. The more wrinkled the fabric is the better! While your fabric is drying, take your black DMC floss and rinse it thoroughly and allow it to dry so that the color doesn't run during the grunging process.

2) Trace the pumpkin body pattern, leaves and eyes onto the muslin with the Mark B Gone Pen (you will need to trace two of each pattern onto the muslin

for EACH pumpkin that you want to make). Trace the nose pattern onto the brown check homespun with the Mark B Gone Pen (you will need to trace one for EACH pumpkin that you want to make). Cut out all of your pattern pieces, cutting $\frac{1}{4}$ inch outside your traced line for the pumpkin body pieces ONLY, for all other pattern pieces you can cut right on your traced line.

3) Dry brush both pieces of the pumpkin body with Jack-O-Lantern Orange and both leaves with Hauser Medium Green (don't forget to paint both sides of each leaf). Don't worry if you get some thicker areas of paint and some thin, neatness doesn't count! Let all of the dry brushed pieces of fabric dry thoroughly.

4) Now, the order of events after this is up to you. Personally, I don't like my sewing machine to smell like my grunging mixture (not that it doesn't smell good mind you!) so I tend to sew my pattern pieces together right now. If you aren't worried about getting the grunging mixture onto your sewing machine (or if you intend to sew the pumpkin body together by hand), go ahead and grunge everything (pumpkin body pieces, nose, eyes and leaves) in your grunging mixture and dry in the oven at 200 degrees Fahrenheit or outside on the grass if it is a nice sunny day. If drying in the oven, WATCH the pieces constantly to make sure they don't burn and turn frequently to dry. If you're like me, sew your pumpkin body together on the machine with right sides (painted sides) together with a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch seam allowance, clip all of your corners and turn right side out. Make sure you leave an open space on the top as indicated on the pattern for stuffing, then grunge and bake everything as indicated above.

5) Stuff your pumpkin body with fiberfill and whip stitch the opening just about all the way closed. You will need to leave some room to insert the leaves and the rusty wire stem. At this point, you can now sand your pumpkin if you'd like for a grungier look.

6) Place the homespun nose onto the front of the pumpkin body as indicated on the pattern and sew it on using a double strand of your black DMC floss with a cross stitch. Place both muslin eyes onto the pumpkin body as

indicated on the pattern, place a button of your choice over top of each muslin eye piece and attach both with a double strand of DMC floss. Backstitch around the muslin eye pieces as shown on the pattern. Backstitch the mouth with two strands DMC floss as indicated on the pattern.

7) Take 2 or 3 pieces of rusty wire and wrap them all together around a pencil to make a nice curly stem. I find it is easier to lightly twist the wire pieces together before curling so they don't come "unsprung" on you! You can make the stem any length that you'd like, I cut my wire pieces about 6 inches in length. Take your leaves and apply the fabric stiffener then wrap one end of each leaf around one end of your curled rusty wire and mold the leaves into a shape that you like. You can add some mica dust or glass glitter to the leaves now while the fabric stiffener is wet if you would like. Let dry. *Hint: Use an elastic band to hold your leaves onto the rusty wire stem until they are dry. Stick the other end of the rusty wire stem into a piece of styrofoam so it will stand up straight while drying!

8) When your leaves have dried, insert the rusty wire stem and leaves into the opening you left at the top of the pumpkin. You can either sew the stem into the opening or you can add a dab of hot glue into the hole and push the stem in (or you can do both to be really secure!).

9) At this point you can paint on some more grunging mixture if you want a more primitive look or you can also spray on some walnut ink. When you are happy with your level of grunginess (is that a word?!) paint some of the fabric stiffener onto the 'shoulders' of the pumpkin and sprinkle on some mica dust or glass glitter to get the Frost On The Pumpkin! Let dry.

10) Now it's time to make your tag. Take either a manila tag or one you made yourself (see the instructions in the Techniques section) and grunge it up good. Using your black paint and the liner brush (or your black felt pen) write on your grunged tag ~ Frost On The Pumpkin ~. You can add some mica dust or glass glitter to your tag as well if you like, just brush on a little of the fabric stiffener (diluted with a little water) or some liquid white glue (put it on thinly) and sprinkle on the mica dust or glass glitter. Let dry.

11) Attach the tag to your pumpkin with the rusty safety pin. If you want to use these as an ornie, you can sew a loop onto the top of the pumpkin with a couple of strands of your DMC floss. Otherwise, there you are, you are done!

I hope you enjoy making these guys as much as I did :o) If you have any questions or comments, please give me an email at paxtonvalleyfolkart@gmail.com. Thanks for purchasing my pattern and please check out my shop, http://PaxtonValleyFolkArtShop.blogspot.com for more great patterns, prim creations and OOAK found items.

Thanks again and happy crafting,

Deb ~ Paxton Valley Folk Art

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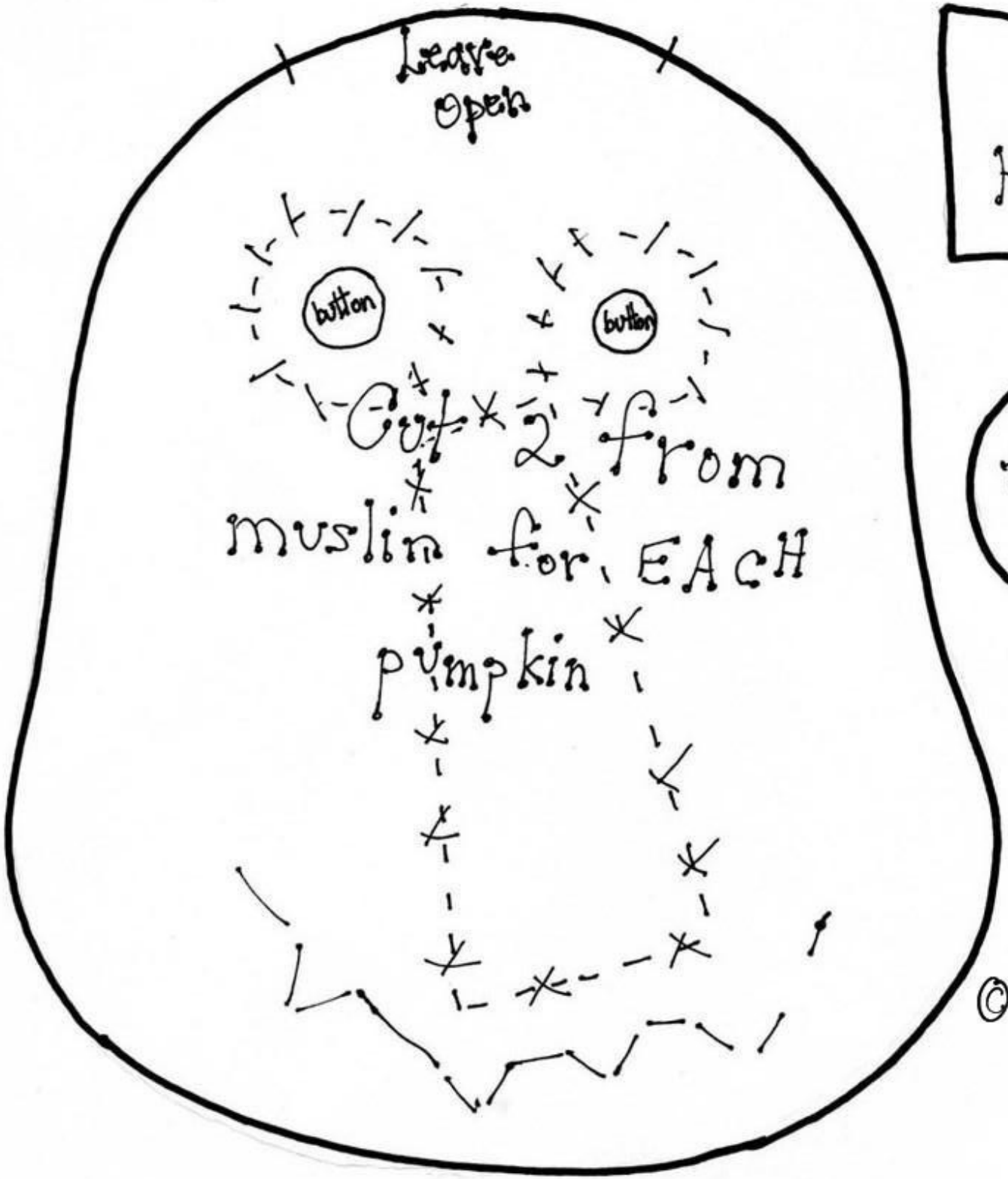

Cut 1 from homespun for each pumpkin

Cut 2 from muslin for each pumpkin

Cut 2 from muslin for each pumpkin

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