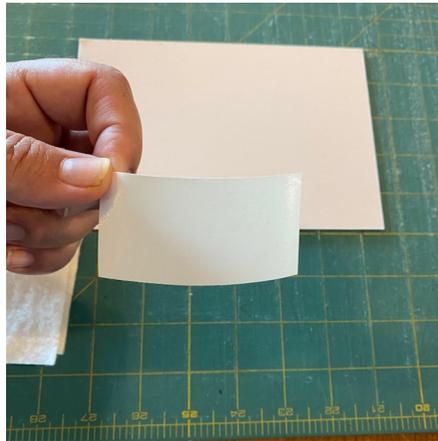




1. **Box:** Gather pieces of matboard (2) 4 7/8 x 7 1/4, (2) 2 1/2 x 4 7/8 & (1) 2 1/2 x 7 1/4, sheets of cardboard, batting, scissors, ruler, exacto & usual finishing supplies.



2. Cut a piece of Double Sided Stitchery Tape (DS) and place it onto one of the larger rectangles (4 7/8 x 7 1/4). Peel the paper backing from the DS tape.



3. Lay the exposed tape side down onto 2 layers of cotton batting (no need to tape between layers of batting). Trim the excess batting away with scissors or rotary cutter.



4. Trim close to the edge of the matboard BUT leave a scant bit of the batting showing (as shown in the picture.)



5. Place the stitching over the batting & center. Hold the grouping up to a light to help with centering.

- Carefully lay the group right side down & trim the linen 1" away from the edge of the matboard.



6. Thread a sharp needle with a long length of lacing thread & place a knot in the end. I like to use an upholstery weight of thread.

- Lace the long sides first: fold the linen over the matboard & anchor thread by running needle through linen in a scooping stitch.
- Scoop stitch = needle runs in & out of the linen parallel to the side of the linen & matboard.



7. Run the needle back through the linen a few threads away from the 1st anchoring stitch to help keep the knot from pulling through the linen as you lace & pull.



8. Fold the linen on the opposite side over the matboard & scoop stitch through the linen (parallel to the edge) as you did on the first side. Pull on the thread to tighten the linen.



9. Scoop back and forth to each side of the linen taking care to keep your stitches parallel to the edge of the linen & maintain the tension as you go.



10. Work to the opposite end and make a knot. Do not trim your thread (unless it is too short to carry forward with more lacing.)



11. Take a moment to look at the front of your piece to be sure it is still centered. This is the last chance to adjust before it is locked into place.



12. Start at the opposite/diagonal corner from where you ended the 1st side of lacing.

- Fold the linen over the matboard. The linen should angle in slightly as a result of pulling the first side of lacing.



13. Secure the folded corner with a few stitches to get a crisp looking corner on the front side (as pictured).



14. Pull & carry thread to the opposite corner giving it a few securing stitches as you did in the previous step.

15. Scoop stitch back & forth as you did in step 9. Secure the remaining corners with a few stitches once you reach the opposite end, secure with a knot & trim.





16. This picture shows what the back of your lacing should look like.



17. Grab the other 4 7/8 x 7 1/4 piece of matboard. Cut & place a piece of DS tape onto the center.



18. Remove the paper backing and place exposed side down onto a single piece of batting. Trim with rotary cutter again, leaving a scant bit of batting showing on the edge.



19. Lay the large rectangle piece of aqua cotton fabric, right side down. Center the matboard, batting side down. Trim the cotton fabric 1" from the edge of the matboard.



20. Cut a length of DS tape to fit the long edge of the matboard (I hold the tape over the matboard & use my thumbnail to mark a crease in the DS tape. Cut at the crease my nail made.



21. Place the pieces of DS tape along the edge of the matboard.



- Cut the piece of DS tape in half lengthwise.

22. Remove the paper backing from one side. Fold the cotton fabric up & lay in the exposed tape.

23. Remove the opposite side & secure the cotton fabric.

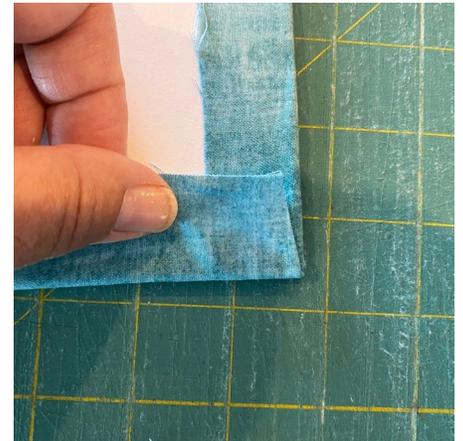




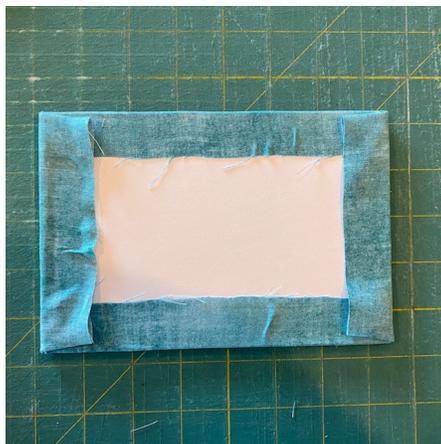
24. Repeat steps 20-21 for the shorter ends of the matboard.



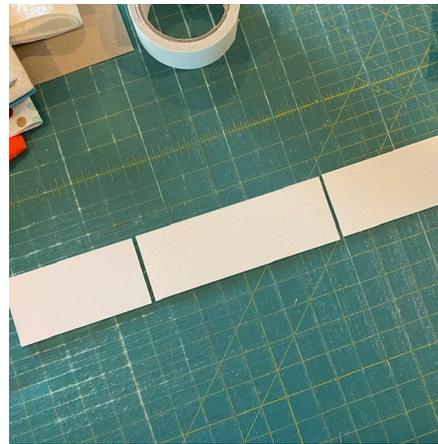
25. Before you fold the fabric up into the exposed tape, pull slightly on the fabric—almost as if you were wrapping a package.



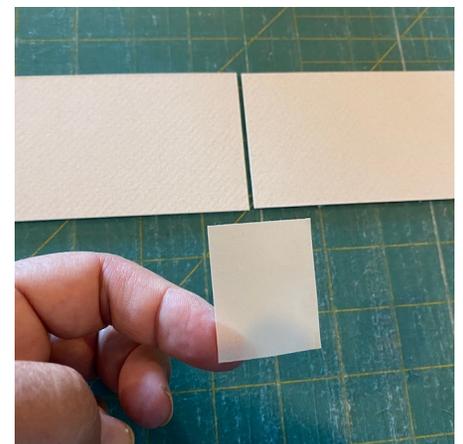
26. This is what the corner should look like once you turn it up & secure in the DS tape.



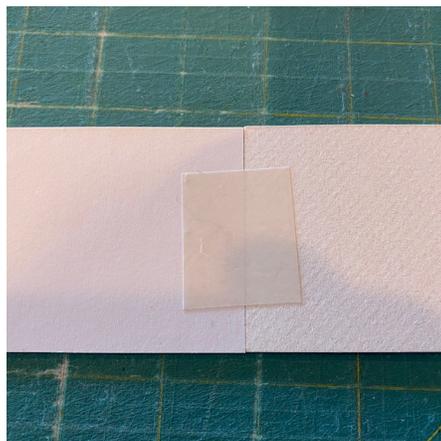
27. Repeat for the opposite end.



28. Grab the 2 1/2" wide matboard strips & lay them side by side with narrow ends together: short, long, short. Butt them together with no space in between (photo shows a slight space just so you can see the order of placement)



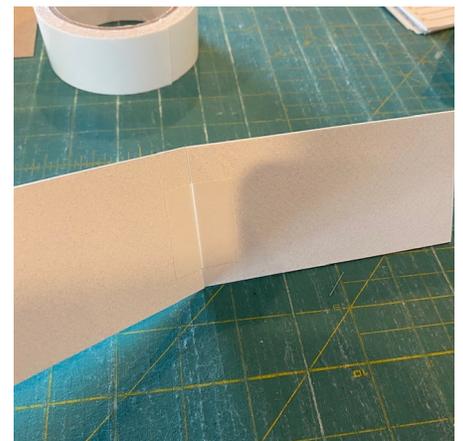
29. Cut several small pieces of DS tape to lay over the seam.



30. Here you can see the tape laying over the seam, holding the 2 pieces together.

31. This photo shows how you will be folding the joined matboards to create the corners of the box.

- This side will be the 'inside' of the box (you may want to write inside on this side).





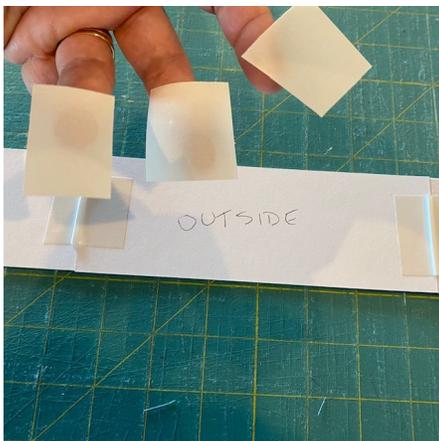
32. Cut 2 more pieces of DS tape. Fold the matboard at the seam to create the outside corner. Place the DS tape on one side of the corner.



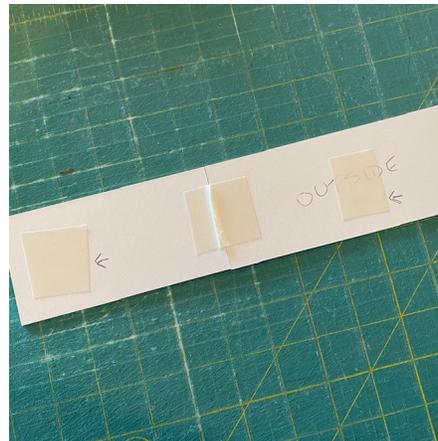
33. Double check that you are still folded on a 90 degree angle & fold the other half of the DS tape around the corner.



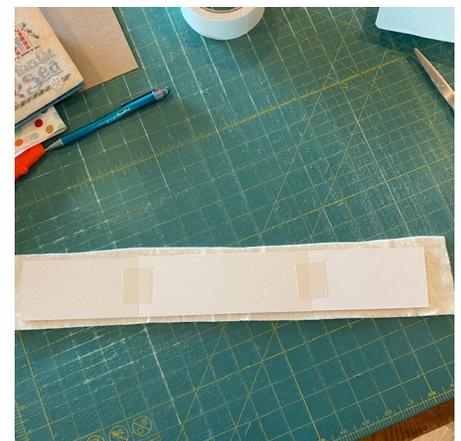
34. When you flatten out your joined sides, you will get a little hump at the corners as shown in this picture. This is the outside of the box side panel (you may wish to mark it 'outside').



35. Cut 3 pieces of DS tape.



36. Place the DS tape at either end of the panel and in the middle on the 'outside' side. Remove the paper backing off just these 3 pieces of DS tape.

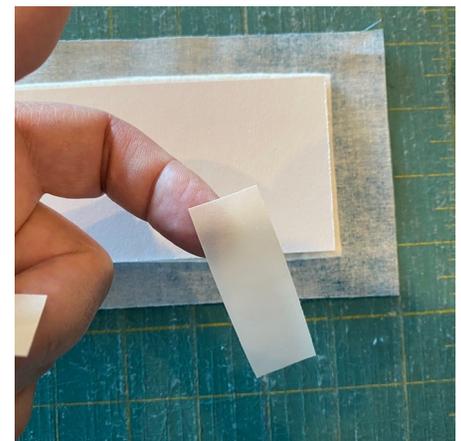


37. Lay the panel, 'outside' side down on to the long strip of batting provided.



38. Trim the batting, once again, leaving a scant bit of the batting showing. Place batting side down onto wrong side of aqua cotton strip. Trim cotton fabric to approx. 3/4" from the edge of the matboard.

39. Cut a small piece of DS tape and place it at either end of the 'inside' side of the panel.





40. Remove DS tape from just 1 end of the panel and fold the cotton fabric over into exposed tape.



41. Thread a sharp needle with a length of lacing thread. Knot the end of the thread. Begin lacing the cotton fabric as you did the linen in the 1st steps.



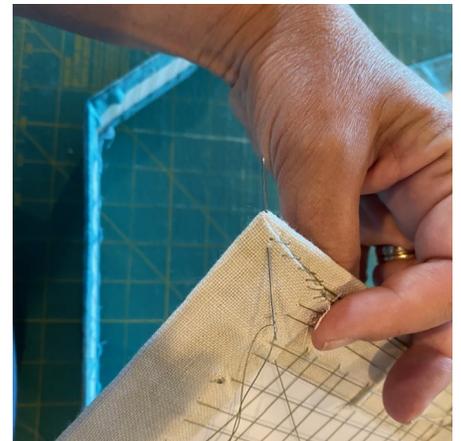
42. Picture shows what your lacing should look like as you work your way across the panel.



43. Stop lacing about 1-2" before you get to the other end. Remove the DS tape. Pull on the cotton fabric a little (it will bunch up during the lacing process).



44. Fold the fabric end over into the DS tape & finish lacing to the end. Knot. Trim thread.



45. Thread a sharp needle with a length of lacing thread. Knot the end of the thread. Anchor the thread on the back side of the laced linen (the top right corner).



46. Run the needle through the linen so that the needle comes out at the very corner of the rectangle as shown in the picture.

47. We are stitching the front of the box to the side panel with a ladder stitch.

- You can see in the photo the needle runs through the very edge of the cotton fabric. Take about a 1/4" stitch.
- This will feel clumsy for the 1st few stitches until the pieces start to hold together with more stitches.





48. The needle now switches to the linen edge—directly across from where the needle & thread came out of the cotton fabric. Take a 1/4" stitch on the edge of the linen.



49. Work back to take a 1/4" stitch through the cotton—directly across from where the needle & thread came out of the linen.



50. Work around the outside edge of the box taking care with your ladder stitch. Worked correctly, you should not see large sections of thread.



51. Once you reach the top corner on the opposite side, run the needle through the corner several times, making a knot each time.



52. Bury the thread on the back side of the box & trim.



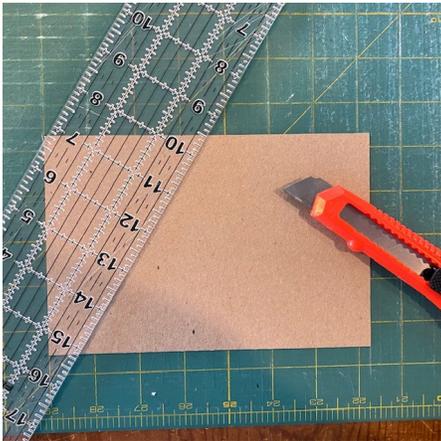
53. Repeat the previous steps to ladder stitch the back of the box to the side panels.



54. Measure the height of the inside of the box (it should be approx. 4 7/8").

55. Measure the width of the box. (it should be approx. 7 1/8").

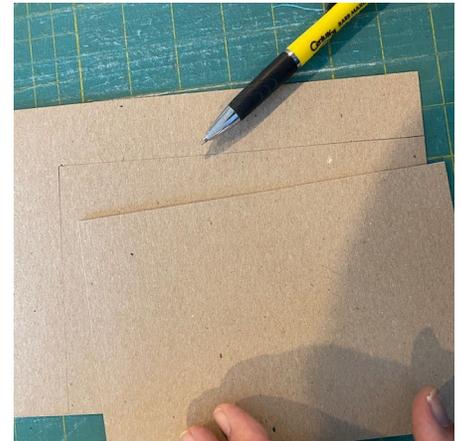




56. Once you determine the measurements in the previous steps, mark & cut a piece of the cardboard according to size.



57. Test the cardboard by inserting it into the box. It should be a clean fit. It should not bow or be too loose. Trim as necessary to ensure good fit (*make sure that panel is not taller than the box top.*)



58. Once you have confirmed the correct size, use that piece as a template for a second piece of cardboard the same size.



59. Grab the rectangle pieces of dotted cotton fabric. We will not be attaching batting to these pieces.



60. Cover the cut cardboard pieces with fabric as we did in steps 20-27 *EXCEPT*—start on the shorter ends this time.



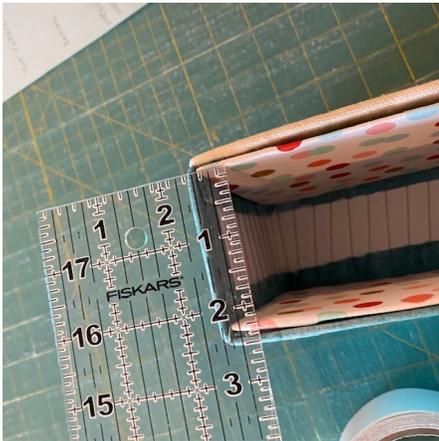
61. Once you have covered the rectangles in the cotton dot, cut & place a piece of DS tape in the center of each panel.



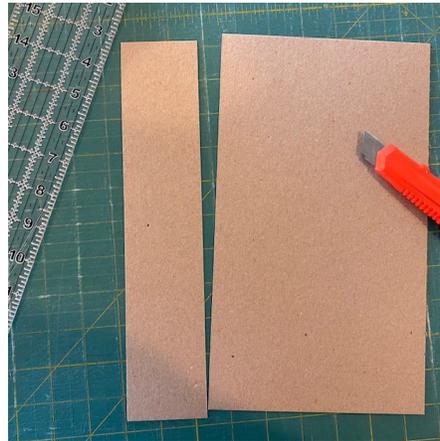
62. Remove the paper backing from the DS tape and insert the panel into place.

63. Repeat for the opposite side.

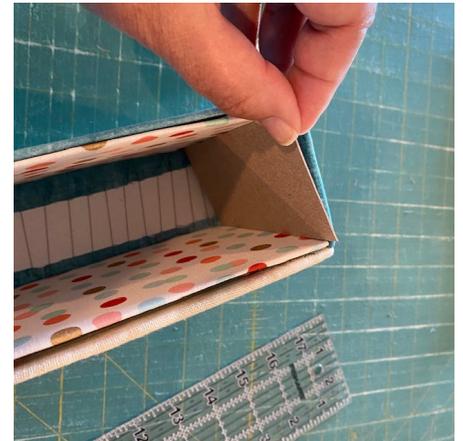




64. Once again, measure the width & height of the side & bottom panels.



65. Cut the strips out of cardboard.



66. Test the width & double check the height—panel should not stick up above the edge of the existing box.



67. Repeat for the bottom of the box. In this photo, it appears that the bottom panel is a little wide (it is bowing a bit).



68. Once you have a good fit, lay the panels out side by side as we did in step 28.



69. We will only put DS tape on one side of the corner this time. This will be the inside of the box (you can see that I marked it 'inside').



70. Flip the cardboard side panel over—inside down—onto the wrong side of the lining fabric.

71. Attach the lining fabric with DS tape & lacing as we did in steps 40-44.

- Slide the side panel down into the box.





72. Picture shows what your box should look like with the lining pieces inserted.



73. Thread a sharp needle with a length of lacing thread. Knot the end of the thread. Pull a short side panel up so that you can anchor the thread on the back & work your needle to the corner.



74. Attach the lining to the box with the ladder stitch that we used in the box construction.



75. Picture shows what the box top will look like when you are done with the ladder stitch around the top of the box.



76. Grab the hand-dyed poms from your kit. If you pull the tape away from the poms, it will expose a thread that can be cut. This can be a little tedious, but way easier than trying to insert the tape between the layers to bury it.



77. Run a straight pin through the end of the poms and anchor it to the corner of the box top.



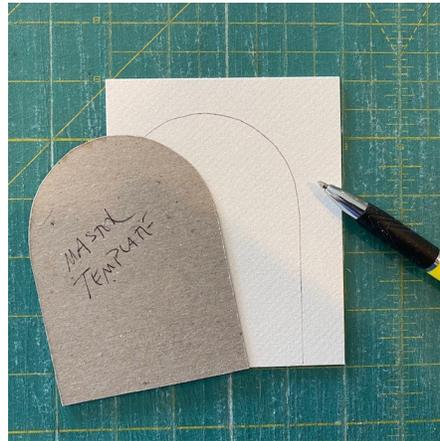
78. Run a thin bead of glue along the top edge of the box. Lay the poms in the glue—place a pin in the corners to keep poms in place until the glue dries.

Ta daa!! Your completed box!! It's all ready to store ornaments when not in use—let's get going on those!

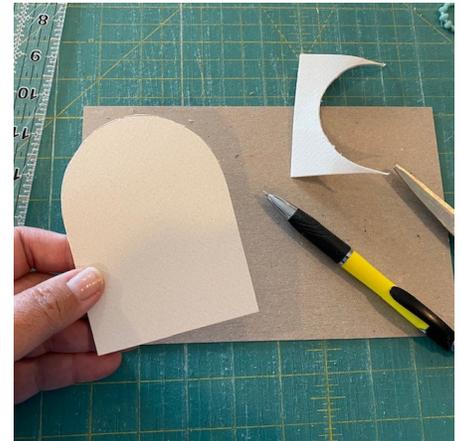




1. **Ornaments:** Gather matboard (3)5 x 5, cardboard, batting, scissors, ruler, exacto & usual finishing supplies.



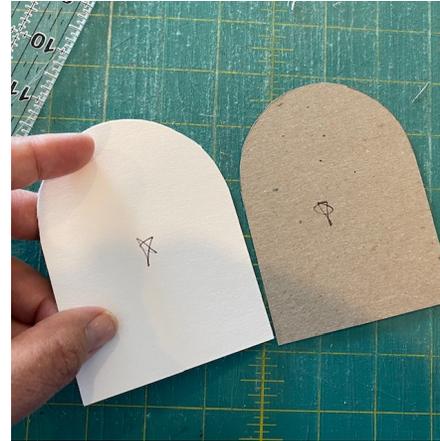
2. Cut out the paper ornament template with paper scissors & trace onto cardboard. Cut out & use cardboard template to trace onto the 3 pieces of the matboard.



3. Cut the matboard out. Trace each individual matboard cuts onto cardboard to get a matching back for each ornament (number them to make sure they stay together).



4. Hold the cardboard back up to the matboard front to make sure that you have a good match. Trim as necessary.



5. Mark a star on the INSIDE of each matching matboard & cardboard.



6. Cut a small piece of DS tape & place it on the outside of each piece of matboard & cardboard (the side without the star!)



7. Let's start by covering a cardboard ornament back: peel the paper from the DS tape & lay the shape, exposed tape side down on a single piece of batting. Trim the batting leaving a scant bit showing.

8. Lay batting side down onto the wrong side of the dot cotton fabric. Trim 1/2" to 3/4" away from the cardboard.



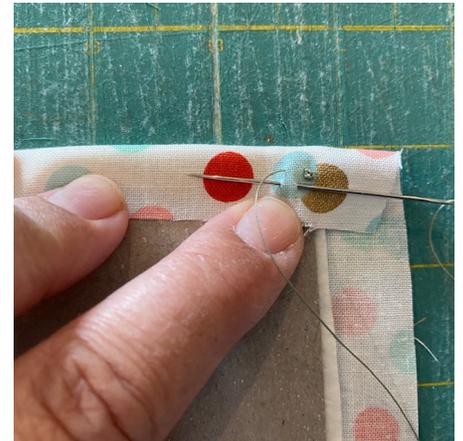


9. This is what your ornament back should look like at this point.

Thread your sharp needle with a length of lacing thread & knot the end.



10. Fold the cotton fabric over the cardboard & anchor your thread through the cotton on the side of the template next to the flat bottom edge. Start with the same scooping stitch that we have done before.



11. Scoop the needle & thread near your starting point again to secure the knot.



12. Fold the cotton on the opposite side over the cardboard & scoop stitch (parallel to the edge) as you did on the opposite side. Pull on the thread to tighten the cotton.



13. Scoop back and forth to each side of the cotton taking care to keep your stitches parallel to the edge & maintain the tension as you go. Cardboard is a little easier to pull too tight—do not pull too tight to let it curl.



14. Stop lacing just as you lace into the curved area. It is helpful to put a knot through the fabric here to preserve your previous tension. Do not cut the thread.



15. Run the needle through the curved section with large basting stitches as if you were gathering it.

16. Pull the thread to create a smooth front (but do not distort the cardboard). It is helpful to place another knot here through the fabric.





17. Fold the bottom edge of the cotton fabric up over the cardboard & secure the corner with several small stitches as we did in step 12.



18. Lace back & forth from the straight edge to the curved edge. Secure the opposite corner with several small stitches, knot & trim.



19. This is what the inside of your ornament back should look like.



20. Grab the coordinating matboard pattern. Remove the DS tape & lay onto 2 layers of cotton batting. Trim batting away with a scant bit showing as before.



21. Center & hold your stitching up to the light to adjust.



22. Carefully place the centered stitching & matboard right side down and trim the linen 3/4" away from the matboard. Lace the linen as you did in the previous steps. **NOTE:** before you start the basting at the top curve—check your design & adjust as necessary to keep it centered.



23. Cut a 10" piece of the jute ribbon. Fold in half & tie a knot so that a 3" loop is above the knot.

24. Cut a small piece of DS tape and place it on the backside towards the top of your cardboard covered piece.



25. Remove the paper backing from the DS tape & place the jute hanger into the exposed tape so that the knot is just above the top center of the ornament back.



26. Thread the sharp needle with lacing thread & tie a knot in the end. Anchor the thread on the back of the cardboard piece through the cotton fabric so the needle comes out through the fabric at a corner.



27. Lace the back of the ornament to the front of the ornament with the same type of ladder stitch that we used to construct the box.



28. Another view of the ladder stitch to show lacing the front to the back.



29. Run your needle & thread through the base of the knot when you reach the top of the ornament to help secure the hanger. Continue ladder stitch around the ornament. Make a knot through the edge and bury the thread. Trim.



30. Grab the remaining poms that you have separated from the tape edging. Anchor an end at a corner with a straight pin.



31. Run a thin bead of glue along the very edge of the ornament. Place the poms into the glue. Secure with a pin in a few places until the glue dries.

32. Cut another 10-12" piece of jute ribbon & make a bow. I attached the bow at the top of my ornament with a straight pin.

YOU ARE DONE!!





A little picture gallery for your project!

I am so disappointed that we will not be able to spend time in class this month! Let's gather to Zoom & share a laugh or 2.

If you are familiar with my designs, you know that I have a 'thing' for both ornaments & beach designs. I was thrilled to learn that I could combine the 2 of them for our class!

Thank you for making the choice to sign up for our retreat at Brick City (a HUGE thanks to Jean!).

Be well as we embrace all that is going on around us.

Cathy, Hands On Design
cathy@handsondesign.biz