

Sparkly Christmas Bell Card with Alcohol Marker...

18 NOVEMBER 2024



Create a festive Christmas card featuring beautifully illustrated golden bells adorned with green holly leaves and red berries. This project uses alcohol markers to add realistic shading and dimension to the bells, creating depth and a professional finish. The sentiment 'It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas' completes this charming seasonal greeting card.

From our live show **MY PODCAST - Catch my latest updates broadcast 18th November 2024** (18 November 2024) - watch it from 8:00.

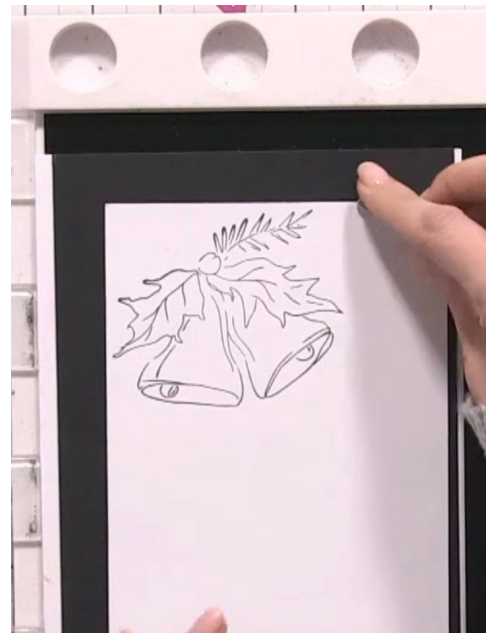
WHAT YOU WILL NEED

See the show for everything used.

Stamp the bells image onto white card using black ink. Position the stamp carefully and press firmly to ensure a clear impression.

Watch this step: 9:30 into the show

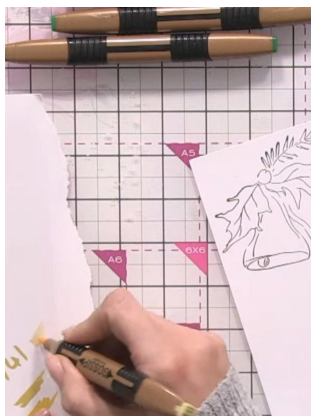
STEP 2



Select three shades of yellow alcohol marker: light, medium, and dark. These will be used to shade the bells on your stamped image.

Watch this step: 12:45 into the show

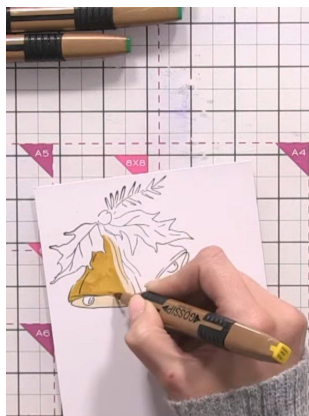
STEP 3



Colour the first bell entirely with the lightest yellow shade from your alcohol markers.

Watch this step: 17:00 into the show

STEP 4

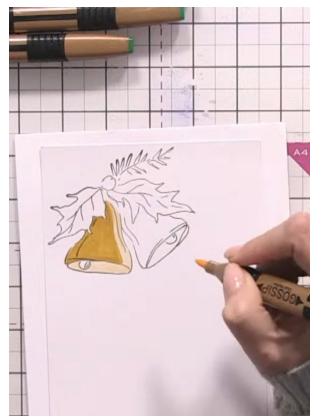


Using the medium yellow marker, colour approximately three-quarters of the bell.

Leave one side lighter to show where the light is coming from.

Watch this step: 19:30 into the show

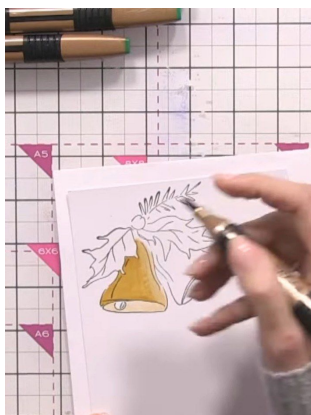
STEP 5



Blend the medium and light colours together using circular motions with the light marker to soften the transition between the shades on the bell.

Watch this step: 21:00 into the show

STEP 6

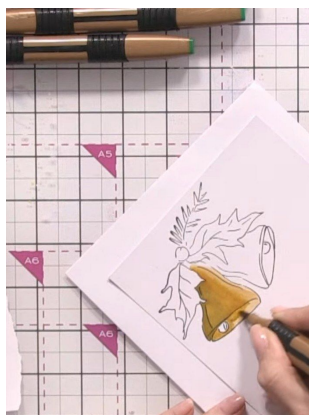


Apply the darkest yellow marker to the remaining uncoloured area of the bell.

Blend the colour smoothly with the medium yellow shade where they meet.

Watch this step: 22:15 into the show

STEP 7



Using the same three-shade technique, colour the second bell.

Keep the light source consistent, placing the highlights on the same side as the first bell to maintain a cohesive look.

Watch this step: 24:45 into the show

STEP 8



Select three shades of green marker. Begin colouring the leaves on your stamped image, applying the lightest green shade all over each leaf, keeping your light source in mind.

Watch this step: 27:15 into the show

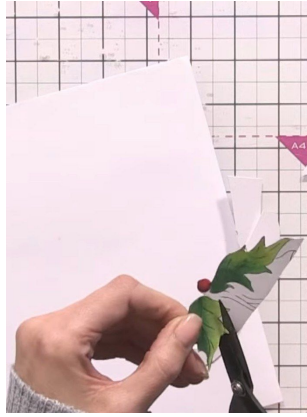
STEP 9



Colour a small red berry with light red marker. Add dark red shading to create depth, then blend the colours together smoothly.

Watch this step: 34:30 into the show

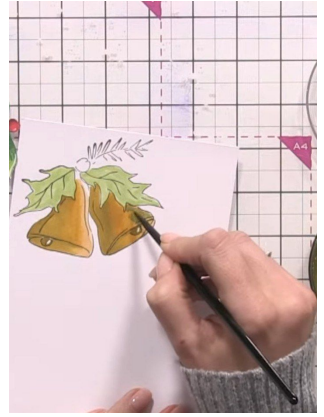
STEP 10



Add white gel pen highlights to the berries to enhance dimension. Focus on the light areas of each berry to create shine and depth.

Watch this step: 36:30 into the show

STEP 11



Using a fine brush, paint a thin layer of gold shimmer paint along one side of each bell where the light would naturally catch. This adds dimension and a metallic sheen to the bells.

Watch this step: 43:45 into the show

STEP 12

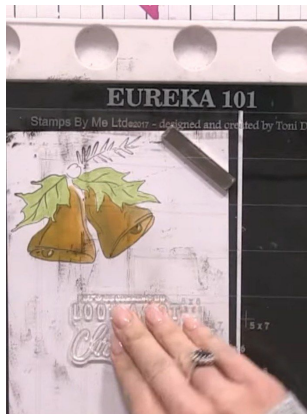


Using a wet brush, drag the gold ink across the coloured bells to blend it smoothly over the surface.

Allow the gold to dry completely.

Watch this step: 44:45 into the show

STEP 13



Cut out the coloured bells and leaves using scissors or a craft knife. Mount the cut-out image onto your card base using 3D foam pads or foam tape to create dimension.

Watch this step: 46:00 into the show

TIPS FROM THE SHOW

- Always place paper underneath your work when using alcohol markers so the ink is absorbed and doesn't puddle on a glass mat.
- Keep your light source consistent from the same direction across all elements of your image.
- Use just three colours—light, medium, and dark—to keep shading simple and avoid overwhelming yourself.



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