

1941

## Express Ingenuity in Holiday Greetings

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Express Ingenuity in

## *Holiday Greetings*

*Turn creative talents to the making of personalized Christmas cards, says Doris Plagge*

**S**AYING Merry Christmas can be easy and fun if the college woman transfers her creative flare to the making of holiday greeting cards.

It's best to choose a process which yields uniform, attractive results with a minimum of time and effort. Cutting, pasting, stenciling and block printing are favorite methods of decorating cards.

Why not try squares of bright desk blotters or the filmy paper from a mimeograph stencil sheet backed by a square of checkered gingham with pinked edges?

An outdoor girl whose personality is best expressed in bold, pure colors could use brown wrapping paper for her cards, pinking the edges and dashing bright paint on the envelope. The color may be applied by using shiny red stars in orderly rows or in casual hit-and-miss arrangement. Gummed stickers aptly fulfill the requirements of being inexpensive, quick and easy to apply.

If a block print or stencil design needs added sparkle, cut out leaves from gold or silver paper and paste them on flower forms or add flames of metallic paper to the tops of candles. A covering of blue cellophane over a stiff white card makes an attractive background for simple line designs done with pen and white ink.

Slightly more complicated but most effective and unusual is the popular third-dimension effect. It can be achieved with inexpensive bits of perky ribbon, soft yarn or sparkly buttons which are pasted on the card to resemble hair or clothing. Another popular device is the use of cut-out shapes in simple geometric forms, backed with bright bits of color.

If you can't find the type of paper that's best suited to you in the range between decorative wall paper and cleansing tissue, try your design on a fabric with an interesting texture, or simply cut an oblong of slick, firm oil cloth and type your greeting in red on the inside.

An investigation into the available sizes of envelopes on the market will save last minute worry. If your card is an "out-size" and requires a special envelope, remember to be creative here, too! Add a design to the envelope and stick the flap tight with bright stars or a strip of colored gummed tape, both quick and sure ways of sealing.

An unusual idea is to combine your Christmas greeting with something useful, as illustrated by the bookmark designed by Winnifred Herzberg, H. Ec. Sr., for the Bookmarks section of the Homemaker. The receiver of this type of greeting will have a year around reminder of you.