Creative Napkin Folding with CBTV Live

Chapter 1 - Napkin Folding

How to fold napkins

- Hey, everybody, it's Courtney from Creativebug, coming at you live, like we always do on Tuesdays and Thursdays. And I'm joined with, - I'm Julie. - She's one of our founders here at Creativebug. You're very crafty though. You've been doing a lot of crafts, recently. - A lot of crafts recently, yes. - And we really heard, because we're doing these live, we really heard your comments about how interested you were in napkin folding. And because we're like right on the edge of the holiday break and lots of great eating and dinners, we thought we would bring you some really fun napkin folding ideas. And before we get started, I also wanted to say that I like when we were kind of practicing in the office with all these different napkin-folding techniques, everyone had kind of a tradition from when they were a kid. Like, for mine it was always setting the table. Faith was always ironing her mom's napkins and putting, like, a sterling silver napkin holder on them. And you said that you're starting new traditions with your family, right? - Yeah. Every year I try to pick a new tradition for us to follow and just to kind of build upon the whole family tradition that we have. - Which I love. - So, we've done Christmas pajamas, we've done Christmas crackers, this year's the Christmas pickle ornament. - Yeah, the pickle ornament went over really well at our white elephant party earlier today. What is that tradition, if people haven't heard of it? If you guys know the pickle ornament, shout out. - So, there's a glass pickle and you hide it in the Christmas tree, and then the first person to find it in the tree on Christmas morning either gets an extra present or a full year of good fortune. - That's awesome. So you have to look in the tree for the pickle. - Um-hmm. - So this will be the first year that you're doing it with your boys? - First year, uh-huh. - You'll have to report back and let us know which of your kids finds it first. - Yeah. I will. (laughs) - Are they competitive? - Very. (laughs) - Two boys. That makes sense. Alright, so, napkin folding. We're going to show you a variety of styles and these all have to be used with a square napkin, but the size of the square napkin doesn't matter. So, what do we want to start with? Do you want to show me the rosette one? - (Julie) Sure. Yeah-- - (Courtney) Let's do. I was going to do, we have two-- - (Julie) Red and green for Christmas-- - (Courtney) Napkin styles here. - So, I'm really excited about this for Thanksgiving I followed your buffet. - Oh, yeah. Fun. - Which is so beautiful. And then, I followed your table setting. - But it had just a plain, rectangle napkin so it was very boring. So, I'm really excited to add one of these napkins this year. - Yeah. Hopefully, there's something for everyone here. So, how do we start? - (Julie) So, for the rosette, let's turn it and make a triangle. This is really easy and it looks really fancy so I'm super excited about this one. And then, we're just going to start folding it almost like a bandana, about an inch or so around. And we'll keep folding it and leave about, somewhere between three to four inches at the top, a small triangle there. Until we get to something about this. This is probably close to four inches. And then we take one end, either end, I think, will work, and just start rolling it into a little ball. It's probably better if I turn. Good thinking. - (Courtney) So this is totally something you could do in advance. - (Julie) Or, get your kids to do. - (Courtney) I think a lot of kids would love making this. So this last little guy-- - Yeah, when you get about three or so inches, the last little part you can tuck it into this diagonal seam you have remaining. - (Courtney) Okay. Nice. - (Julie) That nice, and tucked and firm. Stand it up. Pull the triangle part and it makes your little leaves. - Oh, cute. Oh my God, I love it. - (Julie) Then turn it over and there you go. Isn't that so fun? - (Courtney) This is so, so cute. (laughs) - (Julie) Really

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good for Christmas. - That's so cute. You could totally fill a basket of these, have them if you do-- - Oh, yeah if you do a buffet-- - Some people do a Christmas buffet. - Oh, that's perfect, yeah. - I thought it was really pretty in this kind of slightly glittery, woven style too. - (Julie) Oh. That's gorgeous. - And you can experiment. The napkins we're using are kind of stiff because they haven't been worn and used over many many years. They're just a year old, I guess. So, as you work with something softer you get kind of different textures in your roses which is really pretty. - (Julie) Yeah, that's really lovely. - (Courtney) I love that. Okay, cool. And you had another? Another one too? Do you want to do another one too? - Yeah. This is what they call the triangle restaurant folds. If you recognize this from being a kid, going to the restaurants, and trying to entertain yourself by figuring out how the napkin's folded. So then since-- - (Courtney) Now we're doing Cal Berkeley colors. - (Julie) Exactly. - (Courtney) Blue and gold. - (Julie) Perfect. So this is also really easy. We're going to start with a triangle as well. Fold that up there. And this time instead of doing a bandana fold we'll fold up each corner of the triangle to the top. - (Courntey) It's like origami. - (Julie) It is kind of a little like origami. So you've got, now, a square. Flip it over. - (Courtney) Okay. - (Julie) Fold it up and get another triangle again. And then you take this top side with all the pieces, you fold it together, turn it over. - (Courtney) Oh, I love that. - (Julie) Isn't it fun? - That's so cute? - Recognize this from your days as a kid? - Yeah. This is great. I like this. It's a little more sculptural, right? It sits up on the plate and then you can put a place card leaning up against this, which would be really nice. - You could. And then, you could tuck something into here. - Cute. Like a little Christmas cracker, like you were saying, for your tradition. Oh my God, that's so cute. Those are two great ideas. I love that. And these worked with, like I said, kind of stiff napkins, and they worked really well. So then, I had two that I was going to show you. Let's do another set of stiff napkins. I think a stiffer napkin works really well for this next one. This creates like a little pocket that allows you to tuck your cutlery into. So, for this one, starting with a square again, we're just going to fold it in half, and then fold it in half again, so you have a square. And have all your opening corners at the top, right. And then, you're just going to roll back each individual layer, so we'll start with the top and we're doing tiny little rolls. Remember, we're live, so if you have any Christmas memories you want to share, holiday memories, or if you have any questions about napkin folding. - (Julie) Do you have any traditions you suggest for next year for me? - (Courtney) Yeah. Julie's always looking for more. - (Julie) You're so much faster than I am. (laughs) - (Courtney) Lots of little rolls here. - (Julie) This is looking really nice. - (Courtney) It's pretty fun. These hold their shape pretty well. I think this is just a 100% cotton woven napkin. Alright. So, I think it's good to just kind of finger press, as our sewing instructors say, everything kind of flat. Oh, and keep your last one open. - (Julie) Oh, that's right. Sorry. - (Courtney) No, you're fine. So you have three stuck down - (Julie) Nobody saw that. - (Courtney) And one, this is going to be the back of your pocket. Then, kind of hold your hand over your folds and flip this whole thing over. And then we're going to fold this into thirds, so, we're just basically tucking back the right side and tucking back the left side. When you flip it back over you have this nice little pocket that your cutlery can go into. (cutlery clanging) This here and try yours. (cutlery clanging) Yeah. So that could just sit onto your plates. And again you could tuck a little place card in here. I think it would be cute to do a little diagonal name. You could check out Maybelle's Calligraphy classes and do someone's name there. - (Julie) Oh, that's beautiful, yeah. - (Courtney) That'd be so nice. - [Person] Do we have a comment? - (Courney) Yes. - [Person] Stephanie says, "We did the Christmas pickle thing when I was a kid "I'm 34 now. I think it is a super-old tradition "that is making a comeback." - Totally. Stephanie was saying that their family did the pickle tradition. She's 34 now, she's still doing it and it's an older tradition that's making a

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comeback. And, like I said, in our white elephant gift exchange that we did in the office earlier, Julie gave a pickle and she included the history. So, do you know a little bit about the pickle ornament history? - Well, the history is kind of a mystery. - Yeah. - So, there is some saying that it's an old German tradition, and then there's some saying that it's an American tradition, but kind of with the marketing theme, so back in the 1800's in Woolworth, they were promoting all of these glass-blown ornaments from Europe. They had different vegetables and things like that that were back in the day and the pickle was one and so they were trying to sell more pickles. - I love that. So they were like, "Oh, it's a new tradition." I love that. It's so funny. These are such interesting things to kind of look back at traditions that you've been celebrating and as an adult, being like, "Why did we do that as a family?" Like, for whatever reason, we always opened all of our Christmas presents on Christmas Eve and I think that came from my dad's side and then we would go to sleep and Santa would come and bring us the really good gifts and then we would open those Christmas morning. - Yes. And were those wrapped or unwrapped? - Oh, it depends. One year I got this really amazing baby buggy with these Victorian porcelain dolls inside-- - Wow. - And even the porcelain doll had a baby doll that, like matching outfit, those were not wrapped. They were just in their buggy with a bow. - So cute. - And how about you? What do you guys do? - We wrap them. - Wrap them all? Yeah. Okay. Next one. For this one, I think a kind of softer napkin works better. This is a linen napkin from Lianna Allday's class on how to sew napkins. I love these. They're so pretty. I think she calls these the Farmhouse Napkins. - (Julie) They're so soft - (Courtney) You just start with a triangle which is obviously very common in the napkin folding world and we're, again, going to roll it kind of like Julie said, a bandana, just kind of a soft roll. - (Julie) Soft roll. - (Courntey) And before you get to the top, you're actually going to tuck this little, kind of, corner in. And we're just going to roll up until those meet. Yeah. Perfect. And then you're going to fold it over so you take like a third and fold it and a third and fold it and it looks like a little boy scout handkerchief. Like that. And then, you need a napkin ring for this one. (clunking) - (Julie) Thank you. - (Courntey) And then you're just going to kind of tightly squeeze this whole thing through the napkin ring and then you can adjust and this creates a bow, which I think is so cute. You just have to do some fiddling to get it to lay how you like. - (Julie) This is really cute, it would also look good with a holiday print as well. - (Courtney) Yeah, that'd be adorable. I think it would be really cute too, for a Mother's Day tea. - (Julie) Oh yeah. - (Courtney) Festive. I think it's so cute. And I'll show you with this different napkin, I did one earlier. - (Julie) Love that orange. - (Courntey) I know. This combination is nice, just because this particular napkin ring has better contrast than the linen. I like the contrast here. So you have a light with a dark, and then a dark with a light, which is really nice. - (Julie) Yeah. I love it. - (Courtney) Yeah? Do you think you'll-- - (Julie) Fantasic-- - (Courtney) Use one for your holiday dinner? - (Julie) Which one though? - You like the rosette, I think. - (laughs) I'm kind of liking the rosette these days, but-- - The rosette's really fun. (cutlery clanks) Let's show some options. (clanking) - (Julie) Do one for Christmas Eve and one for Christmas Day. - (Courtney) This is so fun and I like ... We had this kind of pack of napkins where it kind of had every color in the rainbow which would be a really fun thing to do too because then you could do some variation and keep the same folding idea but kind of change up your prints or your patterns. You could check out Rebecca Ringquist's embroidered heirloom napkins. - (Julie) Oh, yes. - (Courtney) If you wanted to have some kind of napkin, definitely check out Lianna Allday's class on how to sew your own napkins. We also have a great napkin class on ombre dip-dyed napkins with Kelly Wilkinson. And will we see them next week? We will. I think we'll see you, We won't see you next week for live shoots. - Yeah. - So, we're wishing you all a happy holidays. Thanks for joining us live and we'll be back in the new

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year. - Happy New Year. We'll be back on Tuesday, the third. - Yep, that's right. We'll see you then.

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