

# creative cards

Where card makers come to share their love for techniques.

BY LAURA BASSEN

**Laura Bassen here, and I'm so very thrilled to be contributing to this issue of *Scrapbook & Cards Today!*** I absolutely love using metal dies for my cards.

Dies add such a professional look to your designs, while adding dimension and versatility (hello!... you can die cut everything from felt to chipboard to cardstock). Dies can be expensive though, so I try to come up with new techniques to get as much mileage out of my dies as possible. I hope you will be inspired to try these fun die cutting techniques on your own projects!

## card 1

### DOUBLE DIE CUTTING

Take die cutting to the next level by adding a die-cut pattern to a large shaped die cut. For this design, I cut a triangle pattern from a large heart. It's a great way to add detail!

- 1 Make card from cardstock. Trim strips of cardstock and adhere to card base.
- 2 Die cut triangle pattern from white cardstock, and then die cut heart from die-cut triangle piece.
- 3 Adhere triangle heart to card base with dimensional adhesive.
- 4 Die cut you from black cardstock and adhere with dimensional adhesive.
- 5 Stamp and heat emboss sentiment on pink cardstock and adhere with dimensional adhesive.

**DESIGN TIP: With a bold, colourful background,** it's important to choose a chunky sentiment so it doesn't get lost in your design.

### pretty amazing

**supplies** CARDSTOCK: Papertrey Ink, Simon Says Stamp; DIES, EMBOSSING POWDER, STAMPS: Simon Says Stamp; INK: Tsukineko; ADHESIVE: 3M



**TIP: Cover plate dies are the perfect choice for this technique!** Use a metal shim to get a crisp, clean cut with detail dies and thicker cardstock.

**TIP:** To partially die cut, position your die on the cutting plate so that only the parts you want to cut are beneath the plate. Use a craft knife to cut the tiny areas that your die cutting machine doesn't reach when partial die cutting.



card 2

### STACK AND LAYER DIE CUTS

Get the most out of your nesting dies by layering them in a variety of colours to draw attention to your focal point and then partially die cut the fox for a seamless design.

- 1 Make card from cardstock.
- 2 Partially die cut fox outline from orange cardstock.
- 3 Partially die cut circle around the fox piece leaving the fox intact and creating a window.
- 4 Die cut rectangles from scarlet and purple cardstock and die cut circles from each panel. Set aside circles.
- 5 Layer and adhere panels with dimensional adhesive.
- 6 Die cut fox details from cardstock and assemble.
- 7 Stamp and die cut bow tie and adhere with dimensional adhesive
- 8 Stamp sentiment and adhere panel to card base.

### wanna hug?

**supplies** CARDSTOCK: Neenah, Papertrey Ink, Simon Says Stamp; DIES, STAMPS: Simon Says Stamp; INK: Tsukineko; ADHESIVE: 3M, Ranger Industries



card 3

### INLAID DIE CUTTING

Die cutting from cardstock and then die cutting the same thing in a different colour of cardstock and placing it in the negative space is called inlaid die cutting. It's a super way to create a ton of interest while keeping a design flat.

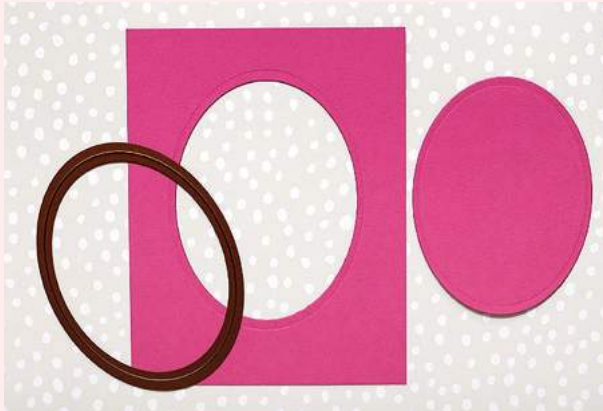
- 1 Make card from cardstock; trim and adhere cardstock panel to card base.
- 2 Create focal panel following Step Outs on pg. 53.
- 3 Stamp and heat emboss sentiment on cardstock, trim, and adhere to oval with dimensional adhesive.
- 4 Adhere focal point to card with dimensional adhesive and adhere sequins.

### love you always

**supplies** CARDSTOCK: Neenah, Papertrey Ink, Simon Says Stamp; EMBOSSING POWDER, STAMPS: Simon Says Stamp; INK: Tsukineko; DIES: Simon Says Stamp, Spellbinders; ADHESIVE: 3M

## step-by-step process

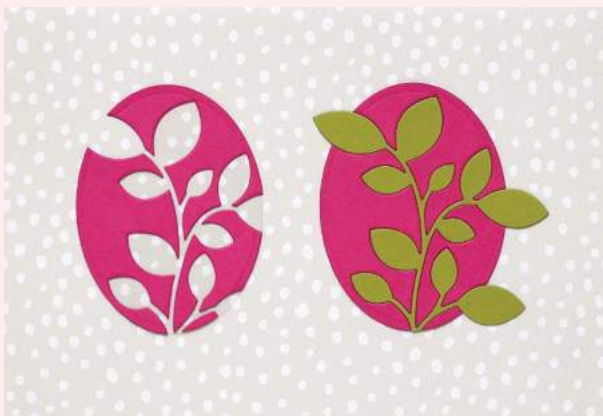
TECHNIQUE: INLAID DIE CUTTING



1 Die cut oval from pink cardstock and white cardstock. Set aside white oval to easily adhere your die cuts.



2 Die cut leaves from green cardstock.



3 Die cut leaves from pink oval and inlay green leaves.



4 Die cut *love* outline from white cardstock and *love* from black cardstock; adhere pieces together.



5 Die cut *love* outline from pink oval with leaves, inlay and adhere *love*.



6 Adhere inlaid pieces to white oval, and then adhere focal point to card base with dimensional adhesive.

For more amazing cards from Laura, check out her blog at [laurafadora.com](http://laurafadora.com)