



CREATING A GIFT BOX FROM SCRAPS

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- An old tin or box
- Ribbon, lace, rickrack, doily or fabric scraps
- 15-25 buttons, with one or two nice large ones
- A few beads
- Low temp glue sticks
- Glue gun
- Optional – small cord
- Optional – glitter glue



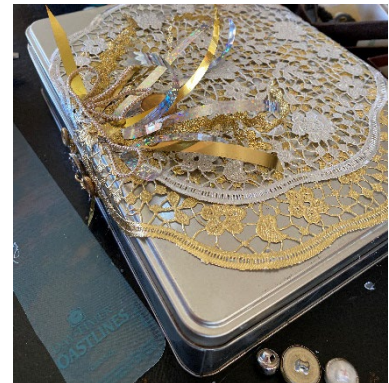
THE BOX

This project used a scratched and slightly dented tin box. A shoe box or USPS flat rate box would work, too. Just cover them with wallpaper, fabric or papers you have decorated with drawings. The personal touch gives value to your project!

Notice any booboos on your used box that you want to be sure to cover and plan a design that will provide camouflage.

THE BUTTONS

Because this tin had a metallic finish, a mix of metal buttons were used to create the decorative “bow.” As you select your buttons, be sure to look closely and be sure none are collectible. I’ve sorted through these craft buttons many times, but one more sorting for this project and I found a GLASS WWII German navy uniform button with a gold finish! Plus, a 19th century US-German steamship company uniform button, and two lovely little picture buttons.



THE GLUE

Always use a low temperature hot glue gun and sticks. This glue can be easily pulled off buttons to rearrange, or to salvage the button for another project.

ASSEMBLY

1. I used a glue stick to attach two torn paper doilies to the top of this tin, offsetting them for a bit of texture, and placing the torn sections together at one side where one side of the box is scratched. This will be the area for the button and ribbon bow.
2. Next, cut lengths of a variety of ribbons and cording, folding each length in half or making loops with tails. Glue the folds together. As you place the ribbons, alternate the colors and textures.





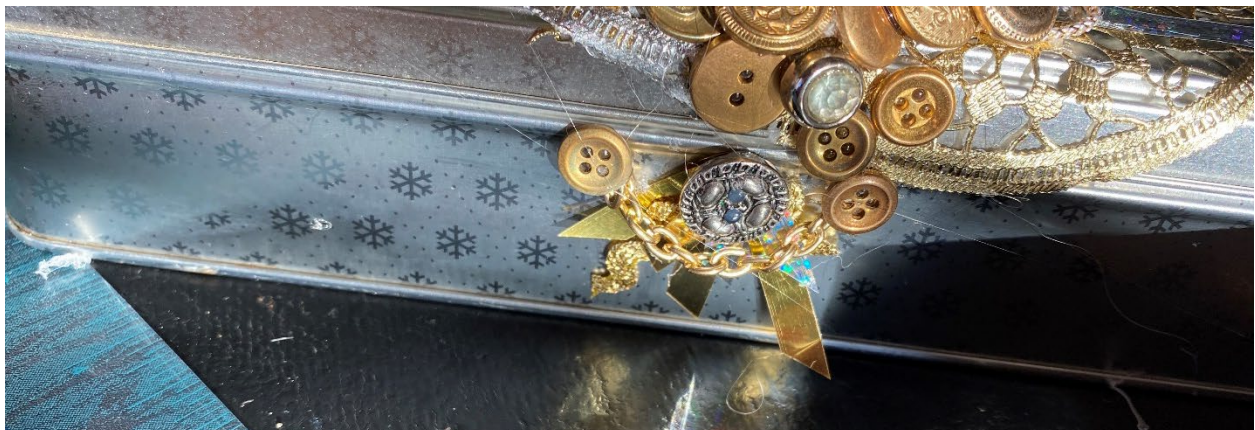
This creative project was shared by the National Button Society.

3. Cover any scratches or dents with a few buttons, gluing the buttons in place with low temperature hot glue.
4. Glue some of your largest buttons into a base layer, putting some over the ends of the glued ribbon folds and some under some of the ribbons, clumping them together.
5. Next glue a second layer of buttons, mixing the colors and textures of buttons. Finish the cluster with the two large ones.



6. Check for any little places that might need a touch. You can place small buttons or beads here. Use a pair of needle-nosed pliers to hold the beads while you apply glue and to place the bead in place. Because you will be using small amounts of glue for these beads, you do have to place them quickly. If the glue set up too fast, just pick it off the bead and start over.

7. Pull off hot glue “cobwebs” – there will be lots!





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8. Give your project a final check. For this project, there was dust on the lips of the box. I chose to glue a cream/gold cord in the two rims, using an awl to push the cord under the doily edges. You could choose to squeeze a bead of glitter glue here instead.



NOW FILL YOUR GIFT BOX WITH COOKIES, CANDY, OR ANOTHER FORM OF LOVE AND GIVE IT AWAY!!!



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