Greeting Cards with Buttons

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

Old or new greeting cards

Spare envelopes in varying sizes

Light cardboard, used file folders, or card stock to protect the cards during mailing.

Strong scissors for cutting the cardboard

Sharp scissors for cutting the cards and decorations

A collection of colorful buttons, mostly sew through

A few beads

Low temp glue sticks and Glue Sticks for paper

Glue gun

Small cord, ribbon, lace, rickrack, or fabric scraps

Optional – glitter glue

THE GLUE

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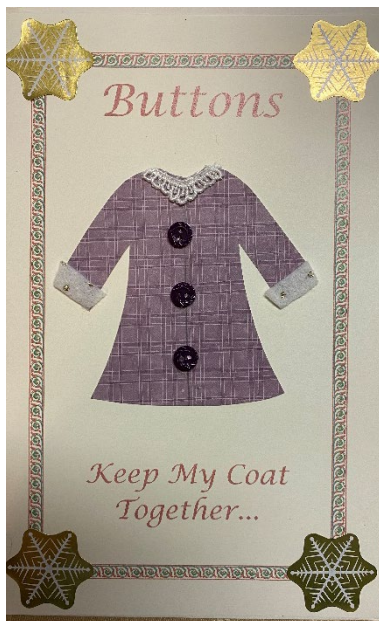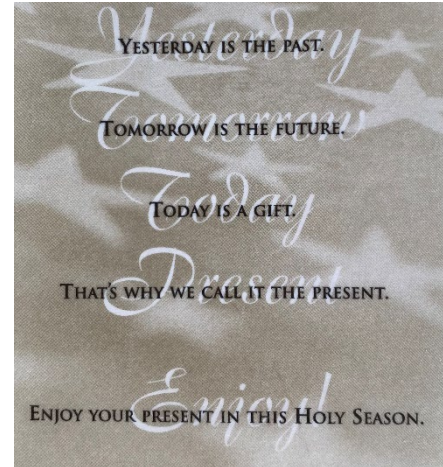
NEW CARDS

If using new cards, you will focus on decorating the front, then cutting a cardboard protective sheet to slip in the mailing envelope to protect the front of your card.
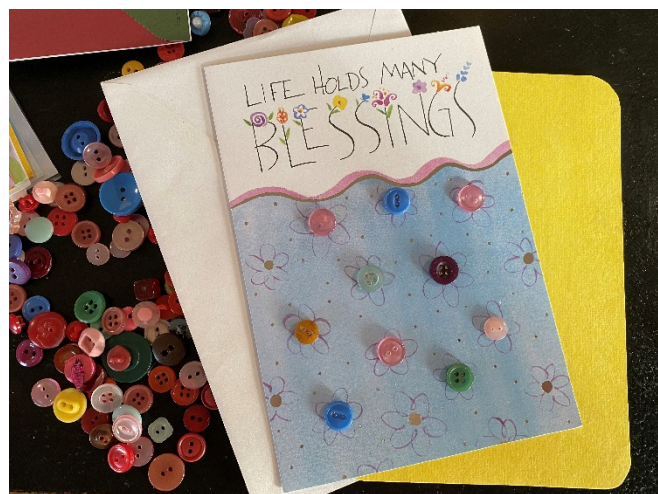
DECORATING USED CARDS

1. ENVELOPE -- Select an envelope for the card you will create. Choose one that is larger than the image you have. If you don't have a spare envelope that is large enough, you can make your own envelopes to hold your creation.
2. INTERIOR SENTIMENT -- As you receive cards, record or save any sentiments in the cards for inspiration when you create your own cards. For instance, here is one of my favorites that I have kept to use again and again.
3. CARD PROTECTORS – A card with buttons on the front will need a protector so that the buttons don't tear through the envelope in the mail. I use colorful used file folders, and cut the protectors with rounded corners to be ½' smaller than the finished card in height and width. The smaller size and rounded corners make it easy to slip the protector into the envelop.
   a. Select a color of cardstock for your protector.
   b. Trace around your card, and then cut inside the lines by ¼", cutting rounded corners.
   c. Keep the cardstock with the card, and place it on top of the card in the envelope to protect the buttons during mailing.
4. CARD COVERS -- You can create special cards of your own by painting or drawing your own card, or by using pictures cut from cards you have received.

Several samples are shown here to inspire you in selecting your cards and embellishing them with buttons. It is also fun to attach stickers.

You can cut images from used cards and glue them to folded card stock bought at the local paper store.