

CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN 2010

by Karen Gist



## You need

TANDO        2x SML RUNNING REINDEER  
                  2X SML TROTTING REINDEER  
                  SML SLEIGH

Canvas - I used a 16x12 inch oval canvas but any shape would do!

Chipboard letters (I used 2 sizes)

Die-cut piece for number board

2 x 'L' shape screw in hooks

Gesso

Acrylic paints (I used Eco Green paints in sky blue, bark, tomato red & white)

Distress Crackle paint in Rock Candy

Tinselly decoration, cut up

4x little red bells

Stamps - Santa , a Flourish, robin, teddy & numbers

Nestabilities (sm oval)

Laminator or cold laminating pouches

Bubble wrap

Silver embossing powder & embossing ink

Fine glitter

Silver marker pen

Black gemstones

Mix of pale blue/green papers

White copier paper

White card scraps

Patterned paper scraps

Ribbon scraps

Fine brown twine/fibre

Lace to fit around outside of canvas

PVA

There are so many different parts to this canvas that I am going to take you through the separate elements rather than a step by step from start to finish, thought it easier that way!

## PREPARE THE BASE



Tear the blue, green & white paper into rough strips and glue onto the canvas base as shown in the picture. Selotape some bubble wrap around a large acrylic block and using white acrylic paint, stamp all over the paper. Quickly shake some glitter over so that it sticks to the paint as it dries. Cut down your glittery decoration and glue some pieces to the bottom of the canvas. Glue the lace round the outside edge. Don't worry if the lace is wider than the depth of the canvas as it softens the whole look. Paint the letters with Sky Blue acrylic & when dry go round the edges with the silver marker pen before adding a coat of Crackle Paint. Glue in place as shown.

## THE REINDEER



Prepare the reindeer with gesso. Take the Bark paint & mix with white and paint the body of the reindeer. Paint the antlers, hooves and a teensy dot for the nose with just Bark and then the tail tips with white. Remember that the front reindeer is Rudolph so make his nose red!!!! Cover with the crackle paint. When dry add the gemstones for the eyes. Take a small piece of the twine/fibre and thread a bell onto it & stick the ends down on the back using a small piece of selotape.

## THE SLEIGH



After applying Gesso paint the sleigh with the Tomato Red & Bark as shown in the pic. Stamp & emboss the flourish in silver onto the ends of the sledge. Cover in Rock Candy Crackle paint. When dry go round the edges with the silver marker pen. Using the scraps of white card stamp the robin, teddy & Santa in black & colour in. Glue the teddy & Santa behind the sleigh as shown. The robin comes in later! Using the pattern scraps & ribbons make up fake parcels & glue these behind as well.

## COUNTDOWN BOARD



Cover the chipboard shape ( this could be any shape really) with some of the pale blue paper and stamp with the bubble wrap & white acrylic, adding some glitter too, in the same way as the base. Go round edges with the silver marker pen. Cut & glue some small pieces of thick card together to act as 'foam pads' (couldn't think of any other way to describe them hahaha) and use these to glue your board to the canvas. Stamp & silver emboss the numbers onto white card ( you will need numbers 1-9 and two 2's & 1's). Colour in with a red felt pen. Cut out in an oval shape (I used a Nestie for this). Laminate these and then punch a hole in the tops. Place your oval number pieces on the little board & mark where to put the hooks & then screw them in. Glue the little stamped robin in place.

## ATTACHING SLEIGH & REINDEER



Take one running reindeer and some more thread/fibre & stick the fibre to the back of the reindeer's neck, Thread it through the neckband and then through the neckband of a trotting reindeer, leaving the end dangling. Glue the 2 reindeer in place as in the pic. Do the same to the other reindeer but instead of just glueing you need to make a few more of those cardboard 'foam pads' (still wish I could think of the name haha). Use these to raise these reindeer so that they sit 'over' the other two. Take the ends of your thread/fibre and stick them down with a bit of selotape where the sleigh will cover them. Using yet more of these cardboard fixer thingies, attach your sledge so that the thread/fibres look like reins!

**If you make one of these do tell us as we would love to see it!!!!**

Karen XXX