PROJECT CENTER

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TODDLER TEEPEE - SOUTHWEST DESIGN CONTEST

Design by: Rice (4 Projects)
About me: I've had my E2 for about a year, but I'm still trying to get the hang of it (especially layers).
Project skill level: moderate
Project time: 2 hours to 3 hours
Project tags: Birthday Family Home Décor/Accents Fall Summer Thanksgiving Vacation/Travel House Warming Boy Girl Kids Teen College Baby Décor Party Decorations/Favors Grade School Sports/Fitness Outdoors Outdoor Recreation Gifts Kids Crafts Holiday Décor Playful Geometric Friends Southwest

Making this teepee is surprisingly easy and fun, too! I made this one for my great-nephew's 2nd birthday. This makes a toddler-preschool size teepee (approximately 4-ft. tall x 4-ft wide at the base). A 12-ft. x 9-ft. canvas dropcloth would make a teepee about 6-ft. tall x 6-ft. wide and a 15-ft. x 12-ft. canvas would make a teepee about 7.5-ft. tall x 7.5-ft. wide. (That would be fun for the whole family!) Or you could just embellish a ready-made teepee.

CRICUT®: WHAT WAS USED

Cricut Expression® 2

Cricut Craft Room Basics

Cricut® Everyday Cartridge, Southwest

OTHER MATERIALS NEEDED

- Canvas Dropcloth (9-ft. x 6-ft.)
- Measuring tape or yardstick
- Pencil
- Sewing Machine (optional)
- Pins
- Leather lacing or jute twine
- Fusible web
- Cardstock
- Distressing ink
- Fishing line
- 5 or 6 bamboo or wooden poles or PVCpipe
- Non-stretch string
- Scissors
- Glue
- Eyelets or grommets (optional)
- Various fabrics for appliques
- Iron
- Poster Board
- Brad

PROJECT CUT FILES

Rice - SouthwestTeepee.ccr

STEP 1

Tip: I strongly suggest making a small sample from a scrap of fabric or paper using inches to represent feet. (For a 9x6-foot canvas, use a 9x6-inch piece of paper or scrap fabric.) This might prevent you from ruining your large canvas and gives you a better feel for what you're doing.

Spread out the canvas dropcloth, and then fold in half (short sides together).

STEP 2

Using a non-stretch string (slightly longer than the shortest side of the canvas. Have someone hold one end of the string on one of the folded corners. Take the other end of the string and wrap it around a pencil. Holding the pencil upright, draw an arch (should be 1/4 of a circle) from the corner of the shortest side of the canvas to the edge of the longer side.

STEP 3

Cut along the curved line. Hem the cut curved edge. (For a completely no-sew project, before cutting the canvas you could follow your marked cutting line with tacky glue, fabric glue, or Fray Check. Let the glue dry completely and then cut along the line. Or you could just let the bottom fray.)

STEP 4

Lay the poles on the floor and tie them together approximately a foot from one end using leather lacing or jute twine.

Stand up the poles with the tied end at the top, and spread the "legs" out to form a teepee shape.

Wrap the canvas around the poles like you would wrap a shawl around your neck. Find the center of the long straight edge of the canvas, hold it on the back of the tied poles, and wrap the canvas around the frame. The straight edges should meet in the front, forming the opening to the teepee. Pin this in place temporarily.

STEP 5

Mark your holes for the lacing. I put mine starting about 4-5 inches from the top and then spaced them 4 inches apart. Follow the directions for your eyelets or grommets, or you can just cut small holes and reinforce them with glue. I reinforced mine with glue even though I used the eyelets. Just make sure you let the glue dry completely before inserting the lacing.

STEP 6

Plan your design. Iron the fusible web onto your chosen fabrics. Peel off paper backing and stick fabric to a sticky cutting mat. Use a new blade to cut your fabric appliques. Another option is to use a Cricut marker to draw the design onto the paper side of the fusible web, fuse the web to the fabric, and then hand-cut the appliques.

STEP 7

Position your appliques on the teepee while it is assembled. Mark lightly with pencil or disappearing ink where each applique will be applied. When you have them all temporarily positioned and/or marked, remove the canvas teepee from the frame.

Following the directions on the fusible web, fuse all your appliques to the teepee canvas. Return the teepee canvas to the pole base. Lace leather cord or jute twine through eyelets/holes and tie the ends to hold teepee in place.

STEP 8

To make the name sign, cut three layers from poster board and glue them together for sturdiness. Ink the edges. Cut out shapes to form the letters you need to spell whatever you want on your sign. Be creative. The symbol only has to resemble the letter. Glue the letters on the sign. Tie jute twine or leather lacing to hang the sign.

Cut out and assemble the dream catcher. Add a brad to the top and wrap fishing line around the brad to hang it from the teepee.

STEP 9

Cut out the two layers of the cactus from poster board and glue together. To make the cactus stand up, cut out the yucca plant. Cut a slit in the bottom center of the cactus (about 1.5 inches) and a slit between the two tall flowers of the yucca plant starting from the top and cut about halfway down toward the bottom. Fit the two pieces together at the slits. (This will be sturdier if you glue at least two layers of the yucca plant together.

Cut out the critters and place them around for fun.

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