

A Pop-out Christmas

Create your own 3-D window scenes that are mailable, lovable, and full of holiday cheer

By Melanie King

There's something magical about the festive window displays that pop up in store fronts during the holidays—from the splendor and pageantry of New York's Fifth Avenue down to the cozy, homespun delights of small-town Main Street shops.

Sherry Morley of Anaheim, California, crafts her own version of delightful window displays using paper and stamps!

"I think these diorama cards must be my favorite kind to make," says Morley, who was first introduced to the concept at a Stampin' Up! workshop in Florida she attended with her sister Jayne. "I just love how it gives the stamp images a 3-D look and makes a whole little window scene!"

There's no special template or pattern required for creating a diorama card, although a simple template is included here. What's most needed is a little patience for measuring and cut-

ting. In the end, your diorama cards will fold flat for mailing out in envelopes. Recipients will be able to open up the cards and display them on a flat surface to show off the 3-D style. You can easily change the size and shape of the window openings and vary the sizes of the card panels in order to accommodate different stamp images and scenes.

Morley followed a Splitcoaststamper's tutorial as a reference for creating the bones of her diorama cards (you can see the tutorial here: www.splitcoaststamper.com/resources/tutorials/diorama_card/).

Basic Diorama Assembly

Here's the basic recipe for creating a stamped diorama:

1. Cut two rectangles of cardstock (these will be your front and back panels). Score the panels 2" from each short end. Valley-fold the back panel on the score lines. Mountain-fold the

Handy Tools

Sherry Morley recommends having a few trusty tools on hand to make the process go smoothly:

- Scoring board such as a Scor-Pal
- Paper-trimmer
- Dies and a die-cutting machine (Morley uses a Sizzix Vagabond)
- Ranger Jet Black Archival ink
- Lifestyle Crafts QuickStik tool (her go-to tool for placing glitter stickers)

front panel on the score lines.

2. Cut one slightly smaller rectangle of cardstock (this will be your middle panel). Score the panel 1" from each short end. Mountain-fold the panel on the score lines.

3. Die-cut a window in the front panel and a slightly smaller window in the middle panel.

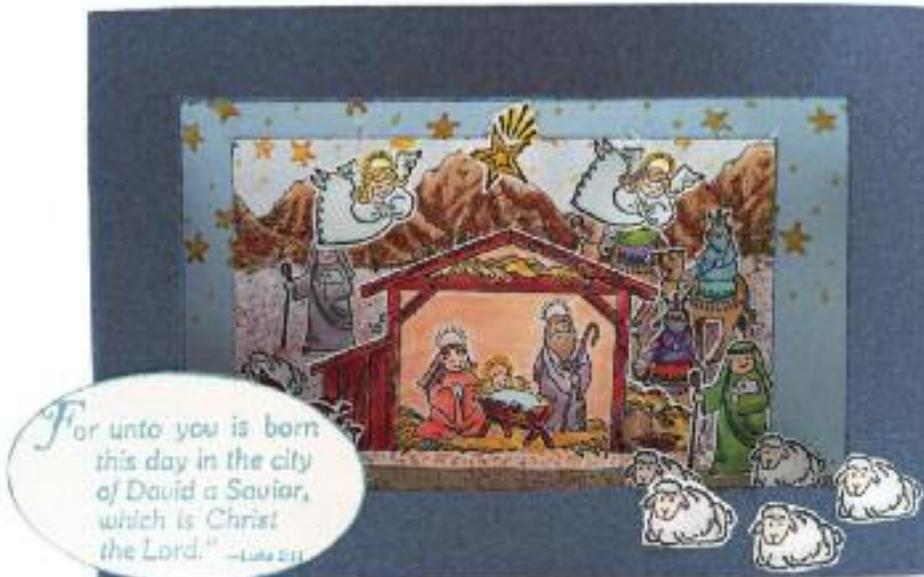
4. Emboss or embellish your panels as desired.

5. Stamp and color your images. Adhere any cutout images to the panels as desired. The more layers, the more depth your diorama will have!

6. Apply double-sided tape to the scored flaps on the middle panel. Now attach the scored flaps on the middle panel to the scored flaps on the back panel. Apply double-sided tape to the back of the scored flaps on the front panel. Attach the front panel to the back panel, with the middle panel sandwiched between.

Manger Scene Diorama

1. Cut two 8½" x 3" rectangles of cardstock. Score and fold as indicated in Diorama Assembly.



Manger Scene / Sherry Morley

(Stamp credits: Manger scene stamp set—ANT Transfer [Magenta];" mountains—Stamperious; speckled sand—Printworks; tiny stars—Rosie's Roadshow.)

2. Cut one 6¹/₂" x 3" rectangle of cardstock. Score and fold as indicated in Diorama Assembly.

3. Stamp and color the mountains, stars and sand on the back panel.

4. Stamp and color the manger scene pieces on cardstock and cut them out.

5. Adhere the wise men, shepherd and sheep to the back panel.

6. Adhere the manger, barn animals, shepherd, sheep and star to the middle panel. Attach an angel on either side of the star using a needle and thread.

7. Embellish the star, angel wings and baby Jesus' halo with glitter glue.

8. Stamp the sentiment on cardstock, punch, and ink the edges. Adhere to the front panel with foam tape.

9. Stamp, color, cut and adhere additional sheep to the front panel.

10. Finish the card following the steps in Diorama Assembly.



Fat Snowman / Sherry Morley
(Stamp credit—MorningStar.)

Fat Snowman Diorama

1. Cut two 5" x 9" rectangles of cardstock. Score and fold as indicated in Diorama Assembly.

2. Cut one 5" x 7" rectangle of cardstock. Score and fold as indicated in Diorama Assembly.

3. Die-cut a window in the front panel with Spell-

binders Labels One Dies (the largest die).

4. Die-cut a window in the middle panel with Spellbinders Labels One dies (the second-largest die).

5. Emboss all three panels with the Darice Snowflake embossing folder.

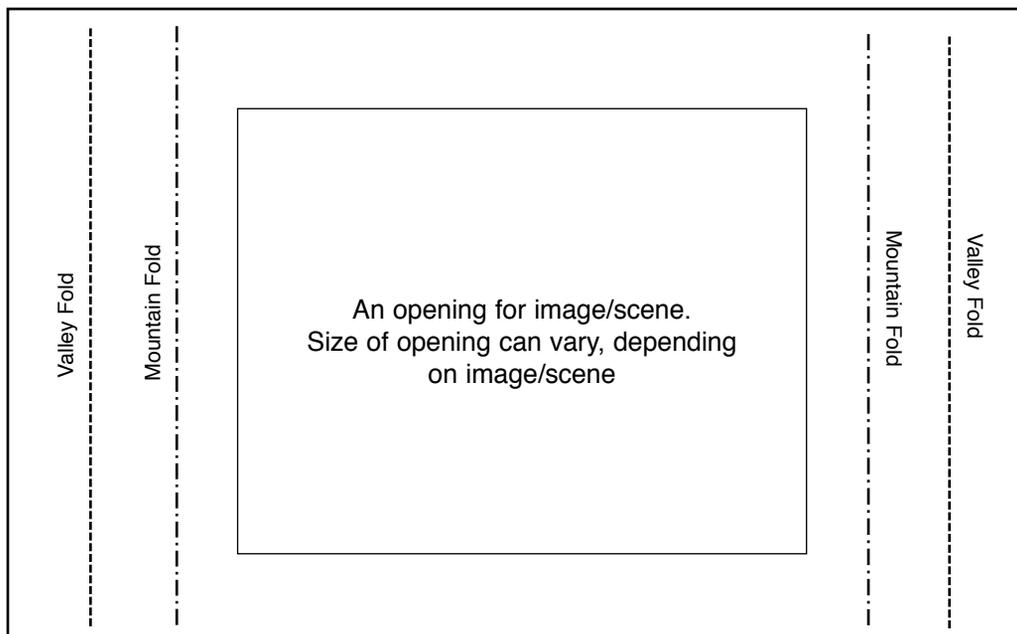
6. Color the snowflakes on the front and back panels with a white Sakura Gelly Roll pen.

7. Apply Ranger Stickles glitter glue to the embossed snowflakes on the middle panel and to the edges of the die-cut opening.

8. Die-cut Lawn Fawn's Forest Border and Stitched Hillside from white cardstock and adhere to the back panel.

9. Die-cut three Lawn Fawn snowflakes and adhere near the top of the middle panel. Stamp, color and cut out the snowman and adhere it to the middle panel. Embellish with clear glitter glue and Ranger Glossy Accents.

10. Stamp the sentiment on cardstock and



TEMPLATE FOR 3-D CARD

To make the cards shown here, you will cut two rectangles, which will serve as the front and back panels. A third panel for use in the middle is needed, too. This middle panel needs to be smaller than the other two.

punch it out. Mat the sentiment with two punched cardstock ovals. Adhere it to the card.

11. Finish the card following the steps in Diorama Assembly.

Supermoose Diorama

1. Cut two 4" x 8½" rectangles of cardstock. Score and fold as indicated in Diorama Assembly.

2. Cut one 4" x 6½" rectangle of cardstock. Score and fold as indicated in Diorama Assembly.

3. Die-cut a window in the front panel with Spellbinders Labels Twelve (the largest die). Emboss the panel with The Paper Studio Bricks embossing folder.

4. Die-cut a window in the middle panel with Spellbinders Labels Twelve (the second-largest die). Stamp the star in all four corners.



Supermoose / Sherry Morley

(Stamp credits: Cityscape—Hero Arts; Supermoose—Riley & Co.; tiny flag—Rosie's Roadshow; cloud—Stampendous; sentiment—Impression Obsession; stars—Stamps by Judith.)

Love at First Sight

Sherry Morley's love affair with stamping started the day she purchased her first stamp (an All Night Media design) at Michaels, but it really took off when she met her husband's hairdresser,



Sherry Morley and Cinnamon

Irene. Hairdresser and rubber-stamp-designer Irene invited Morley to a convention in Carson, California, where she was selling her stamps by the name Mothers. "It was about 30 years ago or more and I still have those rubber stamps," says Morley.

Since then, her stamp assortment has grown immensely—and now includes a collection of animal stamps featuring plenty of dogs (including lots of Snoopy), and moose of all varieties from subdued to super.

Morley adores her holiday stamps, especially Halloween images and, of course, Christmas designs. She finds great joy in making birthday cards for friends and family, as well as stamping ATCs for holidays. Her fun sense of humor comes through in the stamps and sentiments she pairs.

When she's not busy stamping for the holidays, Morley enjoys taking walks with her husband and their Chow Chow, Cinnamon.

5. Stamp the Supermoose on cardstock. Color the image with Copic markers, cut it out and adhere it to the middle panel.

6. Use a Stamp-a-ma-jig (or other stamp positioner) to center the cityscape stamp on the back panel and the flag on top of the building. Stamp the images, then color them with Copic markers. Apply Ranger Glossy Accents to the clock.

7. Stamp the sentiment and die-cut it with Spellbinders Labels Four (the third smallest die). Ink the edges, attach two brads and adhere it to the card.

8. Finish the card following the steps in Diorama Assembly.

A regular contributor to RSM, Melanie King lives in Herriman, Utah.