

# The Christmas Card That Keeps on Giving

with Cathie Allan  
Winter 2015



Throwback  
Sunday

IT'S ALL ABOUT RUBBER

Can you believe it...

Christmas is upon us again—that wonderful season of giving and sharing. For this issue, I have created a card that doubles as a holder for a banner. This banner can be used from year to year, hung on a tree, hung on a mantel, or even on an indoor wreath. I have used pigment ink so that the

colour will last from year to year, since it is the most light-fast of all stamping and stenciling mediums.

I hope you enjoy making this project as much as I enjoyed dreaming it up and creating it. It all begins with white Super Stock, and we are going to alter the white right out of it. Can this

background idea become a scrapbook page? Can it become an art journal page? Abso“Christmas”lutely. Mine already has.

Merry Christmas, everyone, and may every single one of you have the very happiest of New Year’s. This wish comes from Brian, too!



## Joy

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SUPPLIES: Canadian Scrapbooker Super Stock, Clearsnap Top Boss ink, pigment ink, white stylus, foam tips, embossing powder and Smooch Accent tips, Aladine Izinks distributed by Clearsnap, Tombow Dual Brush pen, May Arts ribbon, Magenta stencils and stamps, Impression Obsession stamps, Sizzix dies and Big Shot die cutting machine, Dollar Store pearls, Be Creative Sookwang tape, Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L.

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**1** Use a stylus and a white foam tip to apply the pistachio colour from the Serenity pigment ink petal point to one 5" x 12" piece of Super Stock panel, one 4" x 12" panel, and one 4" x 6" panel. Pounce the colour through the Clearsnap stonework stencil.



**2** Then use the stylus and foam tip to apply the lavender colour from the petal point on all three panels. Pounce this colour through the blizzard stencil.



**3** Off load most of the lavender ink from the white stylus, and gently smear or blend the snowflakes on all three panels. Use Top Boss as a blending agent if needed.



**4** Repeat Steps 2 and 3, using turquoise pigment ink. Iron to set the ink.



**5** Cut a 2" piece off your 5" x 12" piece, and set aside.

**6** Using the iris pigment ink, stamp text phrases from the Impression Obsession clear stamp set (as shown) on your 4" x 6" panel, 4" x 12" panel, and the 5" x 10" panel created in Step 5. Iron to set the ink.

**7** Cut a 3" piece off your 5" x 10" panel, resulting in a 3" x 5" panel and a 5" x 7" panel.





## Scraps of Info

I like to use Clearsnap Top Boss clear ink as what I call an extender. Top Boss stays wet longer and makes blending inks that dry quickly a breeze. Because it is clear it doesn't change the colour of the ink you are working with; it just keeps it wet longer.



**8** On ONLY the 5" x 7" panel, use a dark blue bullet tip marker to trace around your die cut letters that have been cut from Super Stock as shown.

**9** Pour clear embossing powder over your panel to make sure that all the ink is thoroughly dry. If any sticks, you need to wipe it away with a tissue and then re-iron OR use a drying pouch to pounce over the panel to complete the drying process. Wipe any excess powder away with a microfibre cloth.



**10** Stamp "May Your Days Be Merry & Bright" with the sailboat pigment ink, and emboss with clear embossing powder on the 2" x 5" piece you set aside in Step 5. Edge and set aside.



**11** Stamp your Magenta mistletoe image with sailboat pigment ink, and emboss with clear embossing powder as shown on both the 5" x 7" AND the 3" x 5" panels.

**12** Begin applying Top Boss around one mistletoe image on the 5" x 7" panel, using your finger or a white foam tip.

**13** Now start tracing around the image using a Smooch Accent Tip and the Iris pigment ink. Blend this ink into the area surrounding the stamped image with a cotton swab. Do this in small increments adding more clear Top Boss as needed. Continue in this way around both mistletoe images and your "joy" letters.



**14** Use Izink ink to add a gorgeous blue shimmer here and there around these same images. Apply some Top Boss, and then pick up some of the Izink from a non-stick sheet and apply with a cotton swab.

**15** Repeat on your 3" x 5" panel.





**16** Cut your 4" x 12" panel from Step 6 into three equal squares that measure 4" x 4". Repeat Steps 12 through 14 on the three squares.

**17** Add more colour within the mistletoe image, using the same technique. Use your Top Boss cranberry and sailboat pigment inks, Smooch Accent tips, and a cotton swab or two to blend all the colours.



**18** Using your favourite fine or bullet-tipped red marker, add a red border within your JOY letters

**25** Using your Sizzix die and Super Stock, punch out the letters JOY. Add layers of colour with cranberry pigment ink and clear embossing powder.

**30** Use barn red Fluid Chalk ink to colour pearls for embellishing here and there. Allow time for drying or speed this process up with your hair dryer or your heat gun. Don't get too close with your heat gun you will melt your pearls.

**19** Cut a panel from dark green paper that measures 7" x 10 3/4".

**26** Adhere each letter to the centre of one of the three 4" x 4" squares created in Step 16.

**20** Score this panel at 5" and at 5 5/8".

**27** To create your banner, attach a 30" piece of ribbon to the back of your three decorated 4" x 4" JOY panels, leaving approximately 1/2" between panels.

**21** Cut four panels from the dark green cardstock that measures 4" x 4".

**28** Attach the 4" x 4" dark green panels to the back of your decorated JOY panels, sandwiching the ribbon between the two.

**22** Cut three pieces of black foam core that measure: 2 pieces 1/4" x 2 7/8" and 1 piece 1/4" x 5".

**23** Assemble the card by placing your decorated 5" x 7" panel on the front of your prepared green card and the decorated 4" x 6" panel in the interior of the card.



**24** Add your foam core pieces to the back edges of your decorated 3" x 5" panel, and adhere that to the bottom of the inside of your card. Add the message panel that you set aside in Step 10 to the centre of this piece.

**29** Cut strips of fun, assorted pieces of Christmas ribbon, and add them before and between your panels as shown in the photo. Your banner will accordion fold and then tuck nicely into the "pocket" you created on the inside of your card.

Send to someone you love a whole, Christmas bunch, and they will enjoy it from year to year. This is the card that keeps on giving.

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