Upcycled Crate Crafts with CBTV Live

Chapter 1 - Crate Crafts

Upcycling Crates

- Hey everybody. It's Courtney from Creative Bug coming at you live like we always do on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you're new to us and you're coming from Joann, or maybe you've been joining us every week but kind of off and on, you can like our Facebook page and get a notification every time we go live, and it's at 4PM PST. So join us, because you can write in and ask questions. That's the great thing about being live. You can ask our experts, you can ask me. When we have special guests, you can ask questions and we can answer them. And I wanted to show you some ideas for organization using crates. The aisle full of all that raw wood at the craft store, especially at my local Joann, is one of my favorite aisles to go through, because there's so much potential. There's so much that you can do with wooden plaques and little wooden balls and little elements, and, of course, crates. And so I thought I would show you some ideas for organization, also some ideas for faux-finishing. Most of the crates come in this raw wood fashion, which means they're the perfect blank canvas for painting, dyeing, you can stamp on them, you can stencil them. And I thought I would show you how to give them a really rustic look that's very popular right now. And it's a nice faux finishing technique to know for whatever kind of wooden surface. The main thing is it needs to be a raw wooden surface. And we're gonna use a variety of acrylic craft paints which I've got here. You can really use any craft paint that you like. I happen to be using some multi-surface craft paint. This one happens to be by Folk Art. But I would encourage you to just mix together whatever you've got hiding out in your stash. And I like to use a mix of a little bit of black. And I don't even bother with the squeezy bottle. I just wanna get a nice little dollop on there. Kind of an ochre brown, I want something that has a little bit of white in it, so I can get a nice gray color. And then surprise surprise, I'm using a navy or an indigo blue. It's one of my favorite colors and it works really well for this kind of technique. I used to work at Anthropologie, if you guys know that store. And I did visuals, window displays, and displays throughout the store. And I was actually talking to my friend Christina about this the other night, 'cause that's how we met. And one of my favorite projects was building this boat bed. So I had to make this bed look like a ship. And I did a similar technique to the one I'm gonna show you for faux-finishing the wood so it looked like a really old boat. And I have my three dollops of my craft paint. Remember you can write in and ask questions if you have any while we're doing this. And then I've got two brushes. I've got just a beat up old hardware store brush. I love these, you can also find these at Joann. And then a foam brush. But you can gather whatever craft brushes you like to use. This is necessary, though. I use this in a lot of my classes, in my surface design class. What I love about this kind of brush is that the grungier it gets, the more fun it is to use, because the bristles separate. And you can't really control the way the paint goes down, and I like it. We're gonna use it in a dry brush technique. So I'm just gonna pull a little bit of paint from each of these. I'm not adding water yet. And I'm basically making a muddy color. I'm gonna have this lean a little bit more toward the blue. Now you can do this on a whole crate, but I'm gonna show you just on a single piece of wood so you can get the concept down and not be distracted by the shape of the crate. This I also bought at Joann. It comes in the craft wood section. You can ake models using this. You can cut it and make little dividers in your crates, which is really nice. You can cut it easily with the utility blade. And I'm just very lightly and irregularly painting striations. I'm not overly painting it. And you can see that that separation in the actual bristles gives

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me this really great kind of rusticky look already. Now we want that to dry entirely. That takes about a minute, so let's just give that a second. And then while we're doing that, we're gonna mix up a really pale sort of gray color using our foam brush. I'm gonna pull in a little bit more ochre, and add a lot of water. Remember, if you have questions, feel free to write in. Also, while we're mixing this color, I'll mention that we have four Joann gift cards to give away. Ta-da. And they're worth 40 dollars each. And if you saw the email come out today, if you're a new Creative Bug subscriber you can get one month free for Creative Bug and 30 percent off your purchase. So if you combine that with the potential of a 40 dollar gift card you could really save a ton, And you can invest in your initial round of craft supplies if you don't already have all the stuff lying at home. To participate in the giveaway, we have three 40 dollar gift cards to give away. We will announce the winners on our Thursday live shoot, at the end of the live shoot. So tune in, like our Facebook page so that you get a notification when we go live, and we'll announce those winners then. And to enter to win, you need to share this post while it's live. And comment and let us know that you shared it, 'cause we love to know. Alright. Kind of got like a medium, muddy gray color going. And I got some black paint on my hand. That happens. Usually I have baby wipes handy. It's like a good studio thing. Alright. And we're just gonna brush this on. Some places it can be darker. You can add a little more water if you want it to be a bit lighter. It's gonna dry a bit lighter than you see here, because the water is making it a little bit darker. And you want some irregularity, that's what's gonna make this actually look like old wood and not just faux-finished wood. So depending on what your local Joann has, they sell crates that are already kind of a rusticky wood color, or they sell the unfinished crates and then you can rustify it yourself. And that's it, you can let it dry. It's so super quick to do this. And it's a really great technique. This is what it looks like when it's dry. So it gets a little bit lighter as it dries. And like I said, you can do this to an entire crate. So it's just a technique to have in your pocket of skills. And it looks pretty similar to the wooden crate that I bought that was already kind of this gray color. So that gives you a sense of it. And that's something I would do to wooden panels, I could do it to wooden crates. The other thing I found in the same aisle, which was really fun, were these great sort of boards or panels. I think they're meant to be like drink tray servers, but I think they're also a great opportunity for organization. I'll set this aside so you can see. Here's one for organizing my paint tubes. Now you can do this for any size paint tube. I just used some little office supply binder clips. And some map tacks. If you haven't heard of a map tack, it's one of my favorite tools or materials. You can see I use them all the time, 'cause I have a little jar full of them. It looks a little bit like a sewing pin head, but it has a much shorter, slightly thicker pin part, so you don't have to press into anything so much. And the nice thing about all this craft wood is it's very soft, so it's easy to press in. So I just did a little lineup. You can coordinate your map tacks or your pins to your sewing room or your craft room. And then I just hung my little binder clip. Like that, super easy peasy. And here, you can see I did it for my watercolor set. This comes in a little kit and it just worked perfectly. But like I said, you could do this for anything. You could hang your acrylic paints this way. You could hang old ribbons and trims this way. Photos would be really cute. If you look down the embellishment and scrapbooking aisle, there's all kinds of great, vintage inspired tools for hanging things and displaying things. There are these great antique jump rings, which would be great for, again, ribbons. I love these little pins which would be good for little vintage photos. Even these elastic ties, which would be cool to put into this and maybe hold together some fabric scraps or even rolls of paper. I have a couple of questions before I move on to my next project. - [Producer] Okay, so, Elsie wants to know what kind of paint you used. - Hi Elsie, welcome. Thanks for tuning in. Let me grab my paint tray, so while I'm talking about it, you guys can see it. I'm

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just using an enamel paint tray and I have three types of craft paint. I happen to be using Folk Art all-purpose craft paint, but you can use any craft paint. This is a black, a navy blue or indigo, and then an ochre color, 'cause I wanted something that had a little bit of white to it. And I mixed those for a kind of dark, sort of muddy brown with a slight blue tinge for my first layer of my painting. And then I mixed it into kind of a true muddy brown with a lot of water for my second coat, which allowed me to get this kind of watercolor effect over the brushstrokey paint. Good question. - [Producer] And then Melanie wants to know, what do they look like on the reverse side? And I assume she's talking about - This guy? - [Producer] I was thinking maybe the other one. - What does this look like on the reverse side? Let's take the sticker off so you can see it in all its glory. So this, I think it's meant to be just a tray. I was thinking like a drink tray, a serving tray would be really cute. And this is what it looks like on the back. So you can actually, you could even put a hinge on this and have it on a wall, and do something for displaying on this side, like your paint tubes. This side could be photographs or notes. Jim Holtz also makes Sorry, Tim Holtz I think it is, also makes these really cool clipboard tops. So that could be just screwed right in, and you could use that for holding paper ephemera, which would be super fun. All your little scrapbook samples or old photos. Good questions. And these come in a lot of different sizes. That's the thing, you never know what you're gonna find. There were crates of all shapes and sizes. I really liked this crate, I thought it would be good for stacking four by six or five by seven card stock. I could have all my extra card stock in here. I also thought it would be really good for a ribbon holder. So I wanted to show you how to make one of those. Put this aside. You'll need one of these craft boxes. And you could use a wooden dowel. But I also found a dozen bamboo dowel rods in the cake decorating and cookie decorating section. This one happens to be make by Wilton. And this is the perfect length to go through this box and have a little bit sticking out on either side. And you'll see what I'm gonna do with that in just a sec. So we're gonna put this rod down the center so that it can hold our ribbon. And to do that is super easy. You don't have to actually measure, we're just using a straight edge to go from one end or the other. We're gonna mark an x and that will tell us where the center of our box is. So we're gonna do this on both ends. One side. And now the other. And this dowel happens to be a quarter of an inch, so I need a quarter of an inch drill bit, which I already have in my drill. And if you saw me on the live shoot last week, I think it was last week, and I couldn't drill, it was because I wasn't high enough, because this table's rather high. So I'm gonna step up so I have some leverage, and I'm just gonna drill a hole in the center where these lines meet. One side. Second side. Let the drill bit do the work for you. I'm not pressing down, I just needed to be high enough. Now you can see that this will go right through. We don't have anything on it yet, I just wanna show you what it looks like. I might have to give it a little wiggle. And then, there are these little caps. So this is also in that raw wood section. This is by Craftwood. And it's these little tiny caps that fit onto a quarter inch dowel. Now for something permanent, you could glue these on. They fit perfectly, but they're not super snug. But because we're gonna put ribbon, we wanna be able to change that out, when our ribbon is empty, the spool is empty. So we don't wanna actually glue those on. You can glue one side and then leave one side open, so that you can pull out the dowel from this side. And let me just show you what that looks like. - [Producer] Can you remind everybody one more time about that contest, the giveaway? - If you're just joining us, welcome. You may be coming from Joann if you got the email today. You may be familiar with Creative Bug already. We do these live shoots every Tuesday and Thursday. And if you are new to Creative Bug, you can get a month of Creative Bug for free, plus 30 percent off your purchase to buy your wooden crates. And Liana is gonna be posting a link for that now. And you also have an opportunity to win one of three 40

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dollar gift cards. So to enter to win, you need to comment, share the post while it's live, and then comment, let us know that you've shared it, so we can enter you to win. And then we're gonna announce our three winners at the end of our live shoot on Thursday. So those live shoots always start at four o'clock, so tune in then to see if you're a winner. Alright. Now you've got your ribbon, which is so nice because you can stack these. Here's one I made earlier. And really, you could stack this as high as you like. You can mount these onto the wall so that you could have a ribbon wall, which would be really nice. You could do your faux-finishing on it, if you wanted a more rustic look like I showed you earlier. And I wanted to give you one more idea, which you have to join me over here. I took three crates and I put little castor wheels on the bottom, if you can see those. Those I just picked up from my local hardware store. And then I attached these three crates using half-inch screws. So this wood on all of these crates is very soft, it's a craft wood. The screws go into it really easily, so you don't wanna give it too much force with your drill. And it needs to be about a half inch, and that's the depth with two crates together. So this is another idea. It would be awesome for yarn storage. You wouldn't wanna put anything heavy in here, like books. Hi everybody. Hopefully you guys check out the triple-tiered crate with the three wheels. These crates are awesome for holding things like yarn or ribbons or anything lightweight. You wouldn't put books or something like that, because they have that open weave in the paneling. You wanna do something that they can hold easily. Like, this would be great for magazines. You can put little tiny wheels on this and just have it sitting next to a cozy little reading chair in your living room. You could stack them and have it for yarn storage. Thank you so much for tuning in and asking all those great questions like you do live. Remember, we have three 40 dollar gift cards to give away, for Joann. So make sure you share this post with a friend and comment in this post to let us know that you've shared it. We'll announce our three winners on Thursday at the end of our live shoot. And we'll see you then.

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