

Wedgewood Shaker

Here I looked back through my makes in the past couple of months & chose two to type up into projects for you, this first one because I love the ivory & cornflower blue combination as it always reminds me of the Wedgewood pottery designs my mother coveted when I was a kid.

What you will need to recreate this project:

- 14.8cm (6") square ivory base card
- 13.5cm (5 ^{5/16}") square of card matching above
- 10cm (approx. 4") square of card matching above
- Scraps of the same card for die cutting
- 14.2cm (5 ^{1/2}") square cornflower blue card
- 13cm (5 ^{1/16}") square matching above
- Square nesting dies to include one with a cutting blade measuring 8.5cm (3 ^{1/4}") & a second which is slightly larger at 9.25cm (approx 3 ^{3/4}")
- Flower layers & foliage dies
- Cutting & embossing machine
- Embossing folder
- Sequin mix in blues
- 2 medium half pearls to coordinate
- Cello card bag
- Shaker tape



The dies I have used here are all unbranded & generally available on EBay, & the embossing folder is a favourite of mine which I bought last year & is by Sheena Douglass, though unfortunately I didn't make a note of its name when I unpackaged it back then.

Step by step:

I like to do all of the cutting & embossing first then I can focus on making up the card with all of the pieces prepared. So begin by embossing the largest square of ivory card through your chosen embossing folder & put that aside.

Next you need to use the smallest of the cornflower squares to centre the smaller of the square dies upon, stick the die in position & feed it through your machine. Before removing the die from the card, centre it against the slightly larger ivory card square & press on each of the four corners of the die to leave an impressing, thus giving you a guide as to where to position the die to ensure that it is properly lined up. Remove the die & tape from the first piece of card & align it to the impressions on the ivory piece & run that through your machine. Repeat with the final larger cornflower card square.

Now before going any further I find it helpful to line all of the aperture up on the card pieces as they tend to get turned around while we are working, then I flip them over & make a pencil mark on each, above the top of the aperture, to remind me which way up they all go.

Now from the smallest square of ivory card use the two nesting square dies together to cut a frame, & then use the remaining scraps of ivory card to cut your flower layers & foliage.

The three aperture panels we cut can now all be stuck together with double sided tape or Tacky glue, using the marks we made to remind you which orientation they all go. Put these aside for the moment & glue the embossed panel of card centrally to the front of your card base.

There are lots of ways to create a shaker, with or without tools but I thought I would keep this super simple & use a cellophane card bag, or cellophane packaging from something you have purchased (I get lots of these from buying unbranded dies from EBay). If you can find one that is about the right size then that is great, if not simply cut it to size & Sellotape the edges, making sure this won't be visible through the aperture on the front of the card. You can also use page protectors used for filing if that is all you have to hand.

Sprinkle in your choice of shaker embellishments into the bag, allow a bit of air to get in so they will move around inside & then seal the top of the bag with tape, again making sure that this won't be visible through the aperture.

Next you need to secure the shaker pouch around the back of the aperture panel, as close the edge of the aperture as you can so that all of the shaker embellishments are visible. Red line tape works well for this but double sided tape will be just fine if that is all you have to hand, so long as your shaker embellishments are not too heavy.

Grab the shaker tape & run a complete border around the back of the aperture panel, peel away the carrier paper & then go around a second time to give the panel some depth & this is what gives the shaker embellishments freedom to move.

Remove the second layer carrier paper & carefully position the shaker panel onto the embossed panel on the front of your card, if you want some wriggle room add a bit of Tacky glue on top of the shaker tape & smear it around before positioning on the front of the card.

Finally attach the frame around the front of the aperture & layer up your die cut flowers with the foliage, pop a half pearl in the centres & secure around the edge of the aperture frame.