

Hello! Thank you for choosing Melz Mumz for your homecoming supplies!
I hope you find these instructions helpful and also visit vintagescrapping.typepad.com to see lots of step by step picture braid tutorials as well.

Making a homecoming mum can be lots of fun and a memorable experience.

Just remember to take your time and you will end up with a GREAT mum!

Good luck and I hope you enjoy your mum making adventure!

Let's get this party started!!!

DOUBLE HOMECOMING MUM



Here are the ribbon numbers you will see in the instructions and what they mean:

#3 Ribbon (3/8" Wide Ribbon)

#5 Ribbon (7/8" Wide Ribbon)

#9 Ribbon (1.25" Wide Ribbon)

#16 Ribbon (2" Wide Ribbon)

PLEASE READ THROUGH ENTIRE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE YOU START!

This will give you a better feel for what you are doing and that way you won't miss any tips or tricks listed.

Step 1: The Backer

Personally I always start with the backer. Once you determine how you want your loops styled, then you can cut your ribbons accordingly. Here is a picture of two ways to do the ribbon on the backer. You can do loops and points or double loops.



Backer with loops & points



Backer with double loops

Decide which ribbons you want to use for your backer. In this example I did the loops and points. For the loops I used #16 ribbon in red, #9 ribbon in white and #5 ribbon in black. You don't have to make the loops with 3 layers of ribbon, you can do it with only one layer or two just as well. Once you have decided which colors/ribbons you want to use for the loops, cut ribbon into 6" strips and fold over to make a loop and staple. Make 12 of these.



Picture of Loop

Take a backer and start attaching your loops. Start with one at the top and then do one on the bottom directly across from the one on the top (keeping that hole directly in the middle). Then do one on the left and one directly across from it on the right. Next fill in between your 4 loops.



Loops on top, bottom, left & right



Add one to each side of left & right



Finish the corners at an angle

Now we want to decide which ribbons you want to use for your points or your second set of loops. Once again you do not have to use multiple layers of ribbons for your points or loops. In this example I made points using #9 in black, #5 in red and #3 in white. For these I cut the ribbon into 6" strips then folded them to a point and staple. Make 12 of these.



Back View of Point



Front View of Point

Then start stapling your points in between each loop. Try to look at how close to the top of each loop you are stapling the point and it will keep your points even all the way around. Once you are done with this, set the top aside.



Step 2: The Homecoming or Name Loop (if desired or skip this step)

There is enough ribbon in the kit to make a homecoming or name loop. You could however skip making the loop and just have extra ribbon streamers.

If you do want to make a loop, the following instructions will guide you. The loop will require 2.5 yards of #16 and 2.5 yards of #9 ribbons for this. In this example I used #16 in black and #9 in green.

(Here is a tip: try to use one of your darker colors for the #9 ribbon - this is where your homecoming stickers will go and the darker the ribbon the more the glitter stickers will "pop") Cut 6" strips. For Homecoming 2013 you will need at least 14 loops (in this example I made 15 loops - I like to have an extra one at the top that can go somewhat "under" the mum top). Go ahead and make all your loops.



Staple one loop towards bottom



Layer loops going up covering staples



Finished Loop

Then take a 1 yard strip of #16 ribbons and starting at the bottom staple each loop onto the ribbon, overlapping at the top to hide the staples. Make sure to leave enough room at the top to be able to staple to the backer. Set aside.

Step 3: Prepare Flower

(Note: You do not HAVE to do this process. You can just glue the flower directly to the backer later. The reason most mum makers use the pipe cleaner method is because it helps stabilize the flower to the mum a little better.) Take the piece of pipe cleaner and tie a knot onto the end of it.



Knot in end of pipe cleaner



Middle Inside of Flower

Find the middle of the flower and then take the green plastic piece off the back and trim the little stem left (HOLD TIGHT TO THE FLOWER THOUGH! If you let go, the petals will start to fall off the back). Insert the pipe cleaner into the middle of the flower and pull it through tightly. The end will be sticking out the back with the knotted end hidden inside the flower. Use a little hot glue on that knot to keep it in place and then use a bit of hot glue on the back where the pipe cleaner is sticking out to keep the flower together (if you bend the pipe cleaner sticking out of the base really tight it helps keep the petals from getting loose). Once cooled - set aside.



Snip off end of green stem in back



*after pulling pipe cleaner
Through put glue on it*



*Glue on back of flower around
stub of stem*

Step 4: Cut the ribbon & Hang Trinkets and Bells

Now with the remainder of your ribbon, cut it into 1 yard strips for the streamers (or whatever length you are wanting). Then decide how you want to apply the trinkets to the ribbon. I like to use the curling ribbon and make little bows and tie them onto the honeycomb ribbon (like in the model) but you can do this however you like! You could just glue them directly onto a ribbon too! Another method I use is to make little starbursts with some of the ribbon and glue it behind the trinkets.



Trinkets tied on with ribbon & bells



Trinkets glued on with cut ribbon behind

In this step you will want to decide where you want your bells. Many different things you can do. In the model, I used the pull bow and fed the string through the cowbell and used it to hang from the bottom of the military braid. You can use some of the curling ribbon to attach the jingle bells to the honeycomb ribbon or make little bows with the curling ribbon and attach to bell and glue in mum top. These are just a couple of examples.

Step 5: Attaching Streamers/Braid/Garland and other items

Take one of the backers and start attaching the streamers. I like to use my biggest ribbon in the back and staple a couple to the left and a couple to the right and then work my way in. This keeps the ribbon overlapping evenly and gives it a full appearance.



Staple neck ribbon holder

Then staple your Honeycomb Ribbon and other printed and metallic ribbons in various places. Then attach the Homecoming Loop and the Braid. Glue your garland on. VERY IMPORTANT! - You need to attach your neck ribbon to the top of this backer. Cut it in half and staple one on the middle left of the backer and one on the middle right. Then you can tie it at the top to whatever length you need. (Sealing the ends - if the satin ribbon for the next starts to fray on the ends, take a lighter and run the flame over the ends SUPER FAST and it will seal the end of the satin ribbon) If you have more items to hang from the mum such as a feather boa or more braids, this is the step where you would do that as well. I attach boas by stapling them to either the left or right side.



Step 6: Attaching the Top

Now get that mum top and make sure it is close to you (go ahead and figure out which loops/points you want at the top and bottom and set it next to you exactly how you want to position it on the mum so you don't mess this up when you are attaching it). Next you need to grab that backer with all the streamers/braids/garland etc and apply lots of hot glue **onto the backer with the streamers**. Grab that mum top and position it over the backer with all the glue keeping the holes lined up press down and hold until the glue is set.



Lots of Glue on Backer



*Line up holes on top backer
With holes on streamer backer
Press and hold until dry*

Step 7: Attaching the Flower

Apply lots of hot glue onto the mum top backer now and the using the pipe cleaner as a guide, stick the pipe cleaner into the holes of the mum top and streamer backers and pull through nice and tight. This will help secure your flower to the top. Press on the front of the flower until the glue is set. Once cooled, turn the mum over and put lots of glue on the back and attach a plain backer to cover all the staples and the pipe cleaner.



Lots of glue on backer



Using pipe cleaner to guide



Twist pipe cleaners together



glue and smooth

(one flower at a time)

flower pull through to back

to secure the flowers

clean backer

Step 8: Decorate!!

Turn the mum back over, put your stickers on the ribbons and decorate the top! Now you're done!!



I hope you enjoyed making your mum!

Feel free to share pictures of your completed mum or if you have any suggestions about these instructions or the mum kit please feel free to email me at melzmumz@gmail.com!

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