

## Time for New Year



Love or hate them we all use clocks as our lives revolve around time. These clocks have a nod towards Steampunk. It's a stylised Victorian-era industrialism genre that was created in the late 1980s describing a fantasy fiction featuring technology powered by steam. It tends to be dark and grungy but not always, if you search online you will find many different steampunk genre. It has a huge following worldwide with regular running festivals and conventions and can be spotted being used within the movie industry. It's one of my favourite styles for jewellery craft and other crafts.

### Materials:

- Wooden clock face blank (if you search 'wooden clock face' online you will find various styles)
- Clock mechanism battery operated
- Clock face positioner (or print out a clock face template), ruler, pencil
- Paints, wood stain, glitter glaze, clock background paper, decoupage glue
- Cogs, watch movements, clock numbers (or stickers), contact dries clear adhesive, vinyl die cut word stickers

### Instructions:

1. Prepare your clock face with whatever medium you decide to use not forgetting to cover the back as well as the front for a better finish.
2. The bottom two clocks on the image above I used wood stain. The one on the left simply had wood stain added with swipes over the bare wood to create an oak wood grain. The one on the right had cream paint added first then wood stain over that. The wood stain was not waterproof, by dabbing on glitter glaze, it reactivated the stain and I was able to create a burr wood effect. I added cogs and vintage watch mechanisms as numbers to the oak design. I added black painted wooden numbers to the burr design finishing with vinyl word stickers centrally.
3. The top left hand clock on the image above has been paint crackled using PVA glue. There is no need to buy specific crackle mediums which cost a lot more. It has a cut away chipboard clock face overlay crackled with a darker colour glued onto the back wooden clock face.
4. The top right hand clock has been painted to match the clock background paper before attaching to the clock face with decoupage glue. The gold number stickers were included with the clock movement.

5. Add the clock movements after decorating following any given directions. Ensure all pointers move freely without colliding into each other.
6. To set the time put all pointers to 12, add the battery, move pointers clockwise to the correct time.



#### DIY paint crackle with PVA glue

Paint your surface with the base colour that will be showing through the crackle. Cover with a generous coat of PVA glue. While the glue is still tacky paint over your contract colour. Leave to air dry or speed up with a craft heat gun.



#### Wood finish effect

Sponge on wood stain. Make swipes across in same direction to create a wood grain effect. Using a clock face positioner and ruler mark lightly with pencil where the numbers should be. Do not remove the positioner until you are sure your 'numbers' are in the right position.



As 24<sup>th</sup> January is the International Day of Education I wanted to include a DIY for crackle painting technique (as well as summarising steampunk style) which is so easy to do and can be used on much bigger items. It is lovely watching the crackle develop as the paint dries. You can run your fingers over as I've done so larger flakes peel away.

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