

Crafty Gifts for Mother's Day

*This free tip sheet was produced by the Cheapskates Club –
www.cheapskates.com.au*

Inexpensive Gift Tags

Make inexpensive gift tags by saving old cards and cutting them to the appropriate size, putting a hole through them and attaching to the gift with some gift ribbon or string etc -
Contributed by Rebecca, Tamworth, 21 September 2004

A Memory Box

Create a Memory Box for Mum. Fill it with things that have a special meaning for the two of you - a favourite saying, nicely printed on a card, a CD with music from your childhood on it, a favourite soap or lotion from your childhood that evokes warm memories, or another item that brings back memories of growing up with your mother. Perhaps you could include the ingredients for a favourite meal and a voucher saying you'll come and cook the meal and clean up after. Write a note to Mum, telling her why she's so special and what the contents of the box represent.

Contributed by Cath

Scented Pillow

Take two pieces of fabric measuring 15cm by 22cm each (scarves are lovely). Pick a pretty fabric that's not too fragile. Sew the pieces together inside out, leaving a one-inch opening on one of the sides. Turn the pouch inside out and fill with 1 cup small grain rice. Add scented flowers like lavender and chamomile and a drop of Mum's favourite essential oil or perfume. Sew or glue up the opening. You can vary the size with different sized pieces of cloth, to make it square, really big for a head, round for a seat or back, etc. It's a great way for Mum to relax with her favourite scent.

From the May, 2004 Cheapskates Journal

Fleece Warmmy

I have one of these and it is so cosy and warm. And it was so easy to make, no sewing! Just a fold and then a careful trim and the wrap was made. Oh, and my daughter named it warmmy when she was little and wanted it to wrap herself in. It took me a few minutes to figure out what she wanted, and the name has stuck. You will need 2 metres of polar fleece. Polar fleece is readily available at craft shops and fabric stores such as Spotlight and Lincraft. You can usually pick it up for around \$7 a metre and it comes in a myriad of colours and patterns. Fold in half lengthways and mark the middle of the length.

This will form the neckline of your wrap. Now, carefully with a tape measure and a piece of tailor's chalk, starting at one end of the length, measure in 5 cm from the fold and mark a line with the chalk up to the middle of the length. Using the edge of a saucer, round off the line, drawing towards the fold. You should now have a line drawn from the bottom edge of the length to the middle, curving out towards the fold. It only needs to be a gentle curve. If you are happy with the curve (it forms the neckline of your wrap) you can now carefully cut along the line. And your fleece wrap is complete! And shouldn't have cost more than \$15! - *From the May, 2004 Cheapskates Journal*

Cheap Cards

Save money on greeting cards and postage by sending an e-greeting (electronic greeting) instead. There are several sites on the internet that provide the service for free! There is a large selection of greeting cards to choose from and you can personalize the card with your very own message too. There are some great websites out there, with absolutely wonderful, **free** e-cards you can send. There are birthday cards, get well cards, mother's day cards, bon voyage cards, friendship cards, even condolence cards. These sites have some of the best e-cards I've come across:
<http://cards.123greetings.com>
<http://www.2000greetings.com>
<http://www.bluemountain.com>

Greeting Card Bookmark

Recycle the greeting cards you have received!

You will need: Used Greeting Cards, Poster board or Cardboard, Crayons, Markers, or Paint, Glue

Instructions: Cut a strip from the poster board or thin cardboard, about 8 inches x 2 inches. Cut out the picture on the front of a greeting card. Glue the picture at the top of the strip. Allow the glue to dry. Write a message on the strip if you want. If the bookmark is a gift, you can simply write "to:" and "from:" To make your bookmark more durable, cover it with clear contact paper or laminate it.

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and energy and still have fun!
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