

Treat Bags

These treat bags are fun to make and are a wicked way to stash your goodies! They also make boo-ti-ful party favours.

This project is a makeover of plain black, store-bought gift bag. The metallic marker pictures are drawn onto pieces of card, which are stuck onto the front of the bag. The cauldron is a see-through cellophane cut-out, so your sweets are visible inside the bag.

You will need:

Pilot Super Color Markers: Gold (Fine , Extra Fine), Silver (Fine, Extra Fine)

18 x 21cm gift bags (black)

White A4 card

Black A4 card

Scissors

A ruler

Sticky pads

You also need:

Treat Bag Ghost:

A scrap of orange paper

Zigzag paper edgers (optional)

Cauldron Bag:

A piece of clear cellophane

PVA glue; a glue spreader

To Make Up:

Tombstone Ghost Bag

1 Print out the pattern and then trace the tombstone outline (not the ghost) onto a piece of black A4 card. A good way to trace onto black card is to go over the outline with a stylus like a used-up fine point pen. The impression will show on the card. Go over the outlines in pencil, so you can see them more clearly.

2 Using Pilot Gold Markers, draw the design. Use extra fine point for the angel, mouse, grass, and "stone carvings" at the top. Use fine point for the straight lines. To draw straight lines, hold the marker against a ruler. Wipe the ruler clean with a piece of kitchen roll after each line. Cut out the tombstone shape from the card when the ink is dry.

3 Trace the ghost onto white card. Go over the outlines in silver markers - extra fine point for the ghost's face, fine point for the body outline. Cut the ghost out when the ink has dried.

4 To put the bag together, fix the tombstone onto the front of the bag by placing a sticky pad under each corner. Attach the ghost to the tombstone with several sticky pads placed underneath - this creates a floaty effect.

Treat Bag Ghost

1 Print out the pattern. Copy the stars and moon onto a piece of black A4 card, in the same way as for step 1, Tombstone Bag, above. Draw these in gold marker - fine point for the moon, extra fine point for the stars. Cut out the black card as marked.

2 Copy the bat onto a small piece of black card. Draw it - in silver extra fine point for the face, fine for the wings and body. When the ink is dry, cut out the bat and bend the wings upwards.

3 Copy the ghost and two hands onto white card. Draw the face in extra fine point and the body outlines in fine point Silver. Cut out the ghost and each hand when the ink is dry.

4 Mark the jack'o'lantern on a piece of orange card. Colour the face in extra fine point Silver and the outline and stem in fine point Silver.

5 Cut out the ghost's treat bag from black card. If you wish, trim the bag top with zigzag paper edgers. Cut a thin strip of paper and glue either end onto the bag back to make a handle. Glue the jack'o'lantern onto the bag front, then glue a ghost hand onto either side of the bag, using PVA glue. You only need to glue the fingers.

6 To put the bag together, glue the "night sky background" onto the bag front using a sticky pad in each corner. Next, glue the ghost onto the bag front, also with sticky pads. Next, glue the jack'o'lantern bag (with hands attached) onto the bag front with sticky pads. Finally, stick the bat on in the upper righthand corner of the bag.

Cauldron Bag

1 Print out the Cauldron design and trace it onto a piece of black card, as for Step 1, Tombstone Ghost. Draw the cauldron outline, the fire, and the dashed swirls with a fine point Gold marker. (Outline the fire first, then colour it in.) Draw the squiggly swirls in extra fine point Gold. Draw the logs and "stars" with a fine point Silver marker. Let the ink dry.

2 Ask an adult to cut out the inside of the cauldron for you. Cut around the flames.

3 Ask an adult to cut a square window into the front of your gift bag, right behind where the cauldron would be. Glue a piece of clear cellophane over the window. Apply PVA glue around the edges of the cut-out. Smooth the cellophane down. Let dry.

4 Fix the cauldron picture onto the front of the bag using sticky pads - one sticky pad in each corner. Also place a few sticky pads around the cauldron itself, so the card does not gap out away from the cellophane .

if you can't find an 18 x 21 cm gift bag, simply fix your picture onto a larger bag, centred. Your picture will look as if there is a frame around it.

You can use these Halloween pictures as jumbo greetings cards. Write your message on the back, using Gold or Silver markers.