**Homemade Ornaments**

**Nail Polish Ornaments**

**Materials needed:**

Clear glass ornaments

Old nail polish

Glass or plastic container (small Mason jar, water bottle, etc.)

**Directions:**

Remove the top from the ornament. Pour a little nail polish into your ornament. Gently turn the ornament so the paint covers the ornament. Add more nail polish if necessary. If you’d like, use more than one color. Pour any excess nail polish back into jar. Allow the ornament to dry upside down over a glass or plastic container. Once the ornament is dry, replace the metal top and add a ribbon or ornament hook.

The inspiration for this project: <http://www.the-nail-network.com/2013/11/how-to-make-your-own-nail-polish.html?m=1>

**Acrylic Paint Swirl Ornaments**

**Materials needed:**

Clear glass or plastic ornaments

Acrylic paints in various colors

Glass or plastic container

Embellishments [stickers, beads, etc.] (optional)

**Directions:**

Remove the metal part of the ornament. Pour a little paint into the ornament. Turn the ornament, allowing the paint to cover part of the surface. If the paint is too thick, add a little water so it flows better. Add second color of paint (if desired) and turn it to cover part of the ornament. Keep adding paint and turning the ornament until the entire ornament is covered as you’d like. Let the ornament dry upside down over a glass or plastic container so the excess paint can drip out. Once it is dry, put the top back on the ornament and embellish if so desired. Add a ribbon and hang it on your tree!

Another method is to pour the paint into the ornament and cover the opening of the ornament with a napkin and then shake the ornament until the inside is coated with paint.

The inspiration for this project: <http://bookjourney.net/2010/11/13/morning-meanderings-decking-the-halls-here-is-how-to-do-it/>

**Music Ornaments**

**Materials needed:**

Clear glass or plastic ornament

Sheet music (you can find free sheet music online or use your own)

Pencil or pen

Scissors

Glue (optional)

Music note or other embellishments (optional)

**Directions:**

Print out (or photocopy) sheet music on both sides of paper or glue together. This will prevent there being any “white space” or blank sides. Cut the sheet music up into strips. Remove the metal part of your ornament and set aside. Starting at the end of a strip of paper, wrap the sheet music tightly around your pencil or pen. Carefully insert it into the ornament. Continue until the ornament is filled with curled swirls of paper. Replace the metal part of the ornament and decorate with embellishments if desired.

Note: I used vintage sheet music in my ornament but that isn’t necessary. I found free vintage Christmas sheet music online and printed it out double sided.

The inspiration for this project:

<http://sally-drinkingfrommysaucer.blogspot.com/2011/12/project-pinterest-ornament-with-vintage.html>

An alternate way to decorate this ornament is to insert strips of the sheet music without curling it. Make sure the strips cover the inside surface of the ornament and fill completely as shown here: <http://www.bhg.com/christmas/ornaments/paper-stuffed-christmas-ornament/>

**Paperclip Angel Ornament**

**Materials needed:**

Small butterfly paperclips (also called “Ideal Clamps”)

12 mm round beads (you can use 10mm beads but they’re a little harder to thread)

Ribbon (1/8th inch width)

Paperclip

**Directions:**

Cut ribbon to 12” length. Open a regular paper clip. Fold the ribbon in half. Use the opened paper clip to help push the folded end of the ribbon through the bead. Now there should be a loop of ribbon going through the bead. Insert this ribbon loop into the center of the butterfly paperclip. Take the loose ends of the ribbon and pull through the ribbon loop. Slide the bead down to rest between the “wings” of the paper clip, forming the angel’s head. Tie a tight knot at the top of the bead to secure. Tie the ribbon ends together securely.

The inspiration for this project:

<http://www.christianitycove.com/paperclip-angel-christmas-ornament/2253/>

<http://craftyjournal.com/easy-paperclip-angel-ornament/>