

# Papercut Pandas

By Rebecca Yue

Paper cutting has a long history in China. The original paper cuts were predominately one colour adopting a silhouette effect. The design I am showing here uses two colours. Once you get used to the paper cutting technique, there will be no end to how your creative mind will lead you.

The full size pattern sheet below shows all the pieces necessary for the design.

## Materials and Tools Required

A craft knife or scalpel.

A pair of scissors.

Tracing or transfer paper.

Black paper (KA024P)  
120mm x 80mm.

Green paper (KA012P)  
120mm x 40mm.

Spray mount or glue.

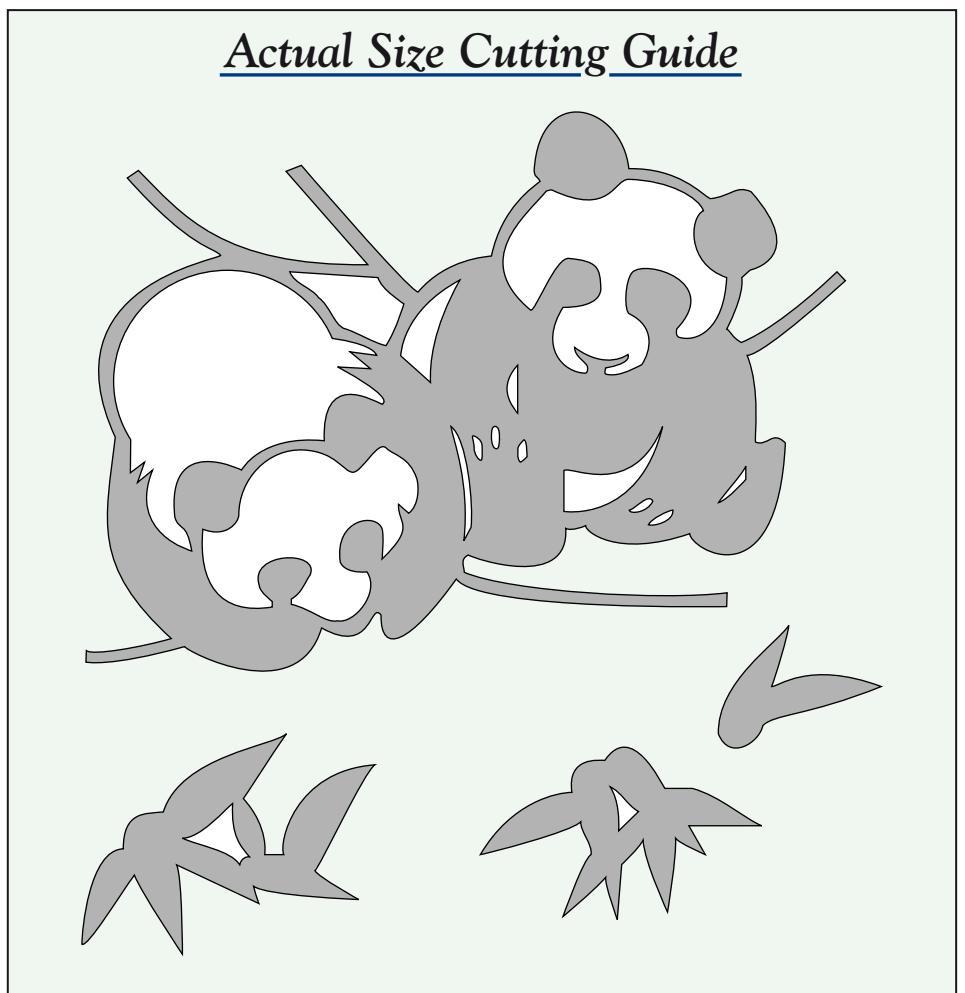
Card (PS014) 150 x 203mm  
with crimped edge.

Use the tracing paper to transfer the pattern onto the relevant coloured paper and then cut out all the pieces.

## Hints for Cutting

It is easiest to cut out pieces on the inside of the design (shown as white on the pattern) with the craft knife first, then cut the outline with a craft knife or scissors. See illustration.

When cutting, cushion the paper with at least 10 layers of soft paper (telephone directory or clean newsprint are better than newspaper as the latter tends to smudge onto your work). This will give you a



clean cut as well as protecting your work surface.

Always keep your hands clean to avoid ruining your masterpiece.

Arrange all the cut pieces on the card until you are happy with your design. All the pieces will be separated again for applying adhesive so, if you want some guidelines for remounting, use a pencil to lightly mark the positions of the different pieces on the card before taking them off.

Separate all the pieces and arrange them face down on a clean sheet of paper. Arrange them slightly apart. Spray them with spray mount or apply glue lightly to the back of each piece.

Carefully lift each piece and arrange them



back onto the card with the right side up. Press each piece slightly. Put a piece of clean paper over the top of the design and press firmly.

Your card is now finished!

## Hints & Tips

Try using double sided sticky tape or Photomount instead of glue when mounting your work in a card. It is much cleaner to use than glue and there is less chance of it spoiling your work. It also stiffens the card and stops it buckling.

J.N. Davies, Gloucester.

I back my cross stitch with a piece of white felt when mounting it into a greetings card blank, as well as stopping the dark colour of the card showing through it gives a padded finish.

Pauline Jones, Cornwall.

To make your own insert sheet verses, put a light source behind a commercial card verse, place your blank sheet on top and trace over it on to your insert.

Norman Lazarus, Lincolnshire.

If you have some embossing stencils, use the smaller designs to decorate the edges or corners of your cards. Simple but very effective.

June Kearley, Tottenham.

When mounting an embroidery or cross stitch in a dark coloured card, I attach a piece of iron on interfacing to the back of the work. This plus a small amount of wadding stops any dark colours showing through.

Avril Wallis, County Durham.

Many cross stitch patterns can be easily altered for use with beads. e.g. on a floral design do the stems and leaves in cross stitch and the flowers and buds in beads. Simply stitch a bead in place of the cross.

Jenny King, Hertfordshire.



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