

Sizzix Balloons Die



Today is what you call 'a *slow news day*', so I thought I would post a project from the stack I didn't get around to posting before. Those of you who have been reading this blog for a while will remember the challenge I set myself last year, to dust off and use my old Sizzix Originals Dies. Some of you may still have these trusty old dies in your cupboards too, which you haven't used in a while. Actually, I didn't get that far with this series but I was up to B using the Balloon Die. So here is a card idea using this die if you have it.

The Balloons die actually cuts really large balloons. I'm a card maker and not a scrapbooker, so I'm not really sure why I bought this die, although I think it was cheap at the time.



Anyway, I've never used it, so it was ideal for the Challenge. I decided to cut my balloons from shrink plastic, to get the scale needed for a card rather than a scrapbook page.



After shrinking them, I've stamped one of the balloons with 'Happy Birthday', using Stazon ink. I didn't stamp the other two until after shrinking, as I wanted them plain but then decided they looked too plain.

No problem, you can stamp them after shrinking by just using a small design stamp. I've used stamps from the Whispers sets.



To colour the balloons, you can use Alcohol inks. Just drop drops of ink onto the back of each shape, rather than using the ink tool.





These almost look good enough to eat!

Next, I've just mounted the balloons onto an aperture card. I've added a piece of acetate behind the window, to make it a bit more stable and coloured the reverse of the acetate with some alcohol ink too. For balloon strings, just wind some craft wire around the bottom of the balloons and curl them as you like.



The card blank was a bit plain, so I've stamped with motifs from the Whispers stamp set using a Versamark pad and then dusted over the top with chalk. This gives a subtle background design. Finish the card off with some border stickers and a greeting.

I'm not sure I really like this die but my daughter reacted very favourably when she saw this card, so perhaps it is saved from going in the bin for the time being at least!

There is one more post in this series, which I'll post tomorrow and then I'll decide whether I'll continue with it or not, so visit again if you are interested in that. Until then Happy Crafting!

Mementoes In Time 2014