



Decorative Designer Series Paper Bird
An Inspiration in Action Tutorial by Gretchen Barron
www.gretchenbarron.typepad.com

Supplies Needed:

- 12x12" Double-Sided Designer Series Paper – 1 sheet per bird
- SNAIL Adhesive, Sticky Strip Adhesive
- Paper Snips and Bone Folder
- Scoring Tool or Straight Edge ruler
- Pencil or Pen
- Self-Adhesive Basic Pearls

There is a definite learning curve to this project. It is recommended that you practice one or two birds first using cardstock or heavy-weight paper before you try this project with the Designer Series Paper that you want to use for your finished project.

Please read through the basic instructions before trying to assemble the birds!



Using the template provided with this tutorial, cut 2 bird body pieces and 2 top/bottom pieces. Be sure to cut the birds so that the desired pattern shows on both the left and right side of the bird body!

Reducing or increasing the side of the template when you print it out will result in birds that are larger or smaller than the one shown. This will also affect the amount of paper that you need to complete your project.



Score $\frac{1}{2}$ " from each long edge on each of the top/bottom pieces. Fold on Score lines.

Using Sticky Strip Adhesive, run a continuous line of adhesive along the fold on both sides of both top/bottom pieces.



Remove the Red backing from the adhesive on one long edge.

Using Paper Snips, cut along the entire long edge. At the top (narrowest point), cut about $\frac{1}{4}$ " tabs and lengthen to about $\frac{1}{2}$ " by the time you get to the bottom. This will allow you to maneuver the curves of the bird's head easier



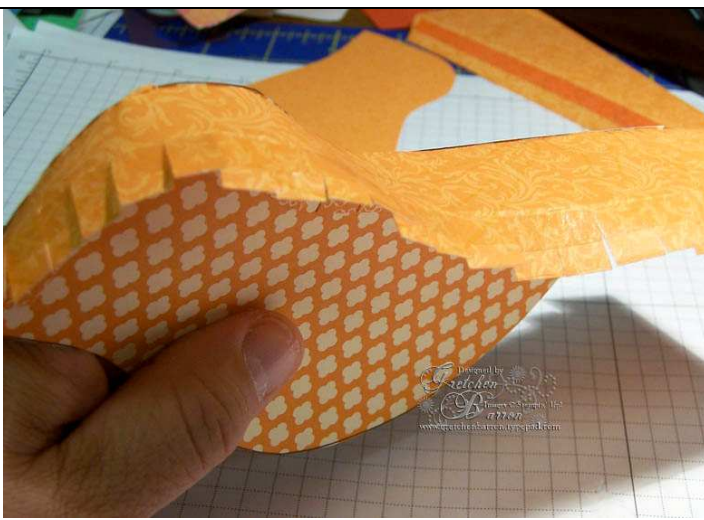
Working slowly and carefully, begin to attach the top to one side of the bird's body, curing the top piece and molding it to the curves of the bird as you go.

Work slowly with this and guard against the Sticky Strip adhering where you don't want it to stick!

Continue working from head to toe until one entire bird body is adhered to the top strip.



Here's what it looks like when you get this first part put together!



Remove the adhesive backing from the other side of the top strip and again, cut hash marks starting with $\frac{1}{4}$ " toward the head of the bird and widening to about $\frac{1}{2}$ " as you move down to the tail.

Once again, working slowly and carefully and from head to toe, attach the second body side to the top strip.



Once both sides are attached to the top strip, run your Bone Folder or finger along the “seams” on the inside to set the adhesive.

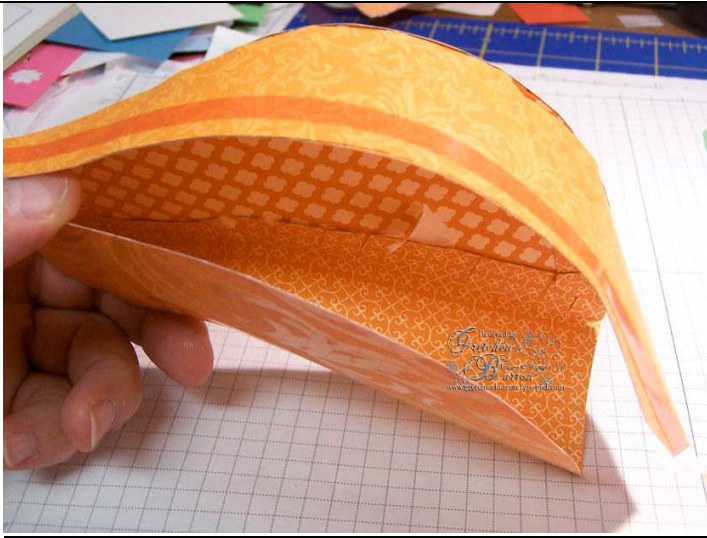


There will be a piece of the top left-over when you get to the tail. Trim this even with the tail on the body of the bird. Discard this extra piece.



Repeating this process for the bottom of the bird, again attach the bottom strip to the bottom of one bird side, working slowly and carefully. It's even more challenging now because you have less access to the inside of the bird.

You can do it, though, just keep trying!

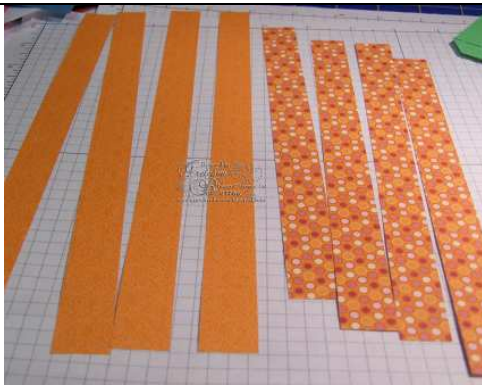


Here's what it looks like when 3 of the 4 edges are adhered together.

Remove the final row of sticky strip backing. Make your hash marks as you've done before and once again, adhere the bottom to the final bird body side, curving and molding the bottom piece to the curves of the bird.



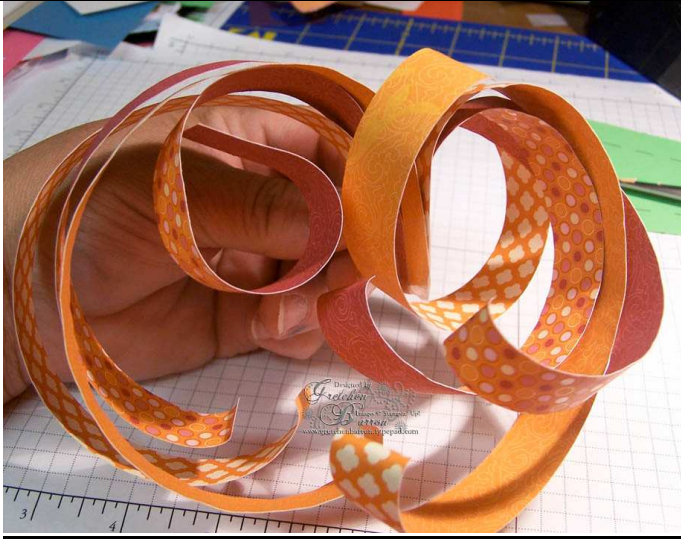
Congratulations! You did it!!!!



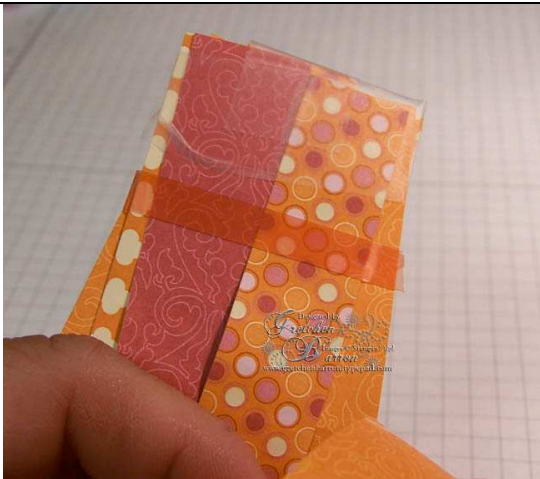
Cut 6-10 strips of matching or coordinating DSP at about 6-8" long (you can vary the length). The strips should be about $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide. These will form your tail. Cut more strips for a bushier tail and fewer for a less dramatic effect!



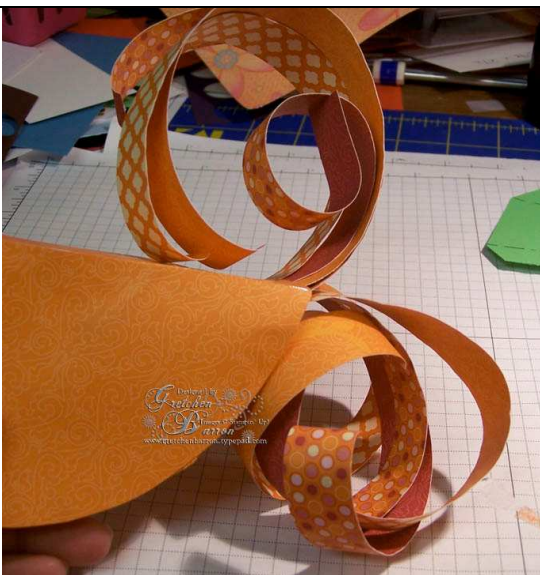
Using your Bone Folder, run each strip of paper tightly between your thumb and your Bone folder to curl the paper (much as you would curling ribbon on a package). If you want both sides of the DSP to show, be sure and flip some of them over before curling.



Arrange the curled strips in a plume with half the curls going one direction and the other another direction. Secure the ends with a bit of Scotch Tape or another adhesive.



About 1" from the end of the tail feathers, run a strip of Sticky Strip on both the top and bottom of the strips.



Remove the red backing from the adhesive and insert the tail feather plume into the "slot" at the tail end of the bird. Once you have it positioned the way you want, put pressure from both the top and bottom to set the adhesive and seal the slot closed.



And here is how your little bird looks once you've completed him! Beautiful, don't you think!

I added a self-adhesive Basic Pearl on each side for an eye but this is an optional step.

See how proudly he displays his tail feathers! He's doing a Happy Dance!!!!

Have fun creating these delightful DSP birds!

Notes: All references to products and colors are copyright of Stampin' Up! You may use this tutorial for your own use and as a guide for leading classes and workshops with customers. Under no circumstances may you duplicate and sell this tutorial as your own.

This project was inspired by the ones seen on page 173 of the Stampin' Up! 2010-2011 Idea Book and Catalog.

Any questions regarding the use of this project for Publication or Contest Submission should be directed to Stampin' Up!

*Gretchen Barron,
Independent Stampin' Up! Demonstrator*

Decatur, Illinois

www.stampinwithgretchen.stampinup.net

gbarron56@comcast.net

Inspiration in Action

www.gretchenbarron.typepad.com