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MidMo Etsy: Brooke Herbst and Crafts from Missouri

by BECKY NEEMS on DECEMBER 5, 2013 4:00 PM · NO COMMENTS

Brooke Herbst makes the perfect thing for this holiday season: handmade wreaths. Herbst uses fabric and rosettes in Christmas colors for a new twist on the decoration. Besides wreaths, she makes hair clips and bows for girls, and flower bows and clothes for dolls. All these items can be found on her [Etsy](#) shop [Crafts from Missouri](#). We spoke with Herbst about her shop, inspiration and future plans for this week's [MidMo Etsy](#).



Photo courtesy of Brooke Herbst

Vox Talk: How did Crafts from Missouri come about?

Herbst: I've been crafting my whole life. I've done everything but knitting. I have a friend that makes felted hats so I make felted hair bows. I figured I can just do that and expand it in the future to doll clothes. The shop opened in December of last year. I've made things for years, but to have people be able to buy something I've made is neat. I also have a shop on Ebay under the same name.

VT: How did you think of using rosettes to shape a wreath?

Herbst: I was looking at them and thought it would be neat. I didn't see them used in that way before. The fourth of July wreath and hair bow are popular.

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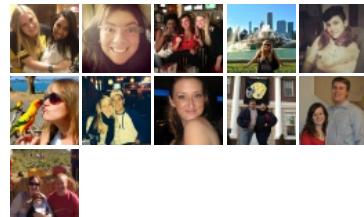
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Photo courtesy of Brooke Herbst

VT: What about the fabric wreaths?

Herbst: I liked this spring-themed fabric and didn't know what I was going to do with it, so I turned it into a wreath.

VT: How much time do you spend on the shop?

Herbst: I spend about five hours a week up-keeping the shop and at least two hours of crafting a day.

VT: Been to any craft shows lately?

Herbst: I had one recently. I sold hair bows and made a wreath repurposed from Laughing Cow cheese boxes covered with paper and ribbon. My son sold his marble keychains at the show. I've only been to one craft show this season. I went to three last season. I'm going to check out some other crafts shows and see the turnout. I'm doing less this year because I'm balancing spending time with family.

VT: Do your kids have an interest in crafting?

Herbst: My son enjoys making things of his own like the keychains. The second oldest, my daughter, likes making jewelry. I like helping them and they like watching me craft. I'm sure my youngest daughter will get into something. They're my inspiration.



Photo courtesy of Brooke Herbst

VT: Anything new you plan to add to the shop in the next year?

Herbst: I'll be adding more doll clothes. I have a partnership with Liberty Jean Patterns. They make fabric for 18-inch American Girl dolls. I'm also working on a girl scout ribbon.

VT: Why do you choose to stick with crafting?

Herbst: One of a kind crafts is exciting. It's something I really enjoy doing. It's good for relaxing. It's more than just a hobby.

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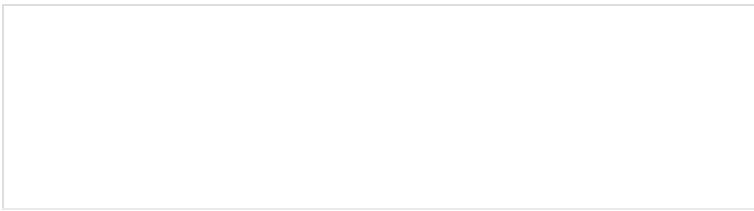
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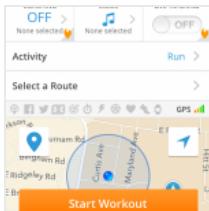
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