



Chameleon Pens – Treats for Halloween

By: Judi Kauffman



The Halloween in Frame peel-off sheet I chose includes a witch, spider, and Jack 'O Lantern plus candy corn, an extra broom, stars, and a mouse – enough components for three or more cards, three pencil toppers, a hanging decoration, gift tags, place cards, or whatever project mix you have in mind. Peel-off colors include Black, Silver and Gold. I like Black best and use it most often because stray pen marks don't show and staying inside the lines is fast and easy.

Switch to different peel-offs if you want to create projects for other occasions. Among the many options: Santa's elves, Dragonfly Ladies, owls, flowers, butterflies, and fashion dolls, all of them designed within easy to cut out circles, ovals, or label shapes.

SUPPLIES:

Chameleon Pens Purple Grape, Seville Orange, Cool Grey, Summer Sun, Warm Sunset, Spring Green, Deep Black, Aquamarine, Olive Green and Bark, Elizabeth Craft Designs #2585 Halloween in Frame outline peel-offs in Black by Judi Kauffman (also available in Gold and Silver – specify color when ordering; www.ecraftdesigns.com), WorldWin Papers ColorMates Smooth & Silky 90# cardstock in White, Pencils, tape, foam tape or dots, fine point scissors, solid color cardstock, 8mm Lure Eye stickers (Stanislaus Imports, www.lasioux.com), patterned papers (An Eerie Tale Collection from Graphic 45)



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place peel-offs onto smooth white 80# or 90# cardstock.
2. Experiment with Chameleon Pens on a piece of scrap cardstock to choose a color combination and get a sense of how much toning medium you'll want to use to get the blends and tonal effects you desire. (Read over the manufacturer's instructions if this is the first time you've used Chameleon Pens.)
3. Color the peel-offs as shown or with whatever palette you prefer. Stick to traditional Halloween colors, use exclusively Earth Tones or Pastels, or choose a monochromatic tone on tone effect. (Your pumpkin doesn't have to be orange; it can be 50 shades of gray.)
4. Use short, sharp point scissors to carefully cut out the colored peel-offs staying as close to the outlines as possible without cutting into them. Tip: As soon as you cut them out, put the pieces into a sandwich baggie so the stars and other small bits don't disappear.

PROJECTS

Pencil Toppers – Tape the colored peel-off to the eraser end of a pencil. Use low-tack tape (painter's or wash tape) so the decoration can be removed. Tip: If you can't find Halloween theme pencils substitute solid colors or add glitter to a standard office pencil.

Cards – Create a left side fold card base measuring 4.25 x 5.5 inches for each card (standard A2 size). Create a frame on the card front with simple rectangles or die cut shapes, centered and layered for symmetry. Incorporate patterned papers that coordinate with the colored peel-offs or use only solid colors. Optional: Use foam tape or dots for added dimension when adding the colored peel-offs.

Doorknob Décor – Add a row of colored peel-offs to a .5" wide ribbon. Leave 3" at the top just above the witch and final candy corn kernel. Fold to the back and glue behind the witch to create a casing (think of it as a 1.5" deep hem). Add the hanging loop (twine) through the casing. Display on a doorknob or hang from a mantel. Tip: Leave more space between the elements for a longer decoration. As shown the finished length is 16" plus the hanging loop. (Size the hanging loop to fit over the door knob.)

Tags (not shown) – Punch a hole at the top and hang from narrow ribbon or twine.

More Ideas –

- *Add colored peel-offs to treat or gift bags.
- *Make place cards or other party decorations.
- *Go for more sparkle: Embellish with adhesive-backed gems, Glitter Dots peel-offs, glitter glue.
- *Use Lure Eye stickers so the spider, Jack 'O Lantern, and witch have even spookier faces! (8mm Lure Eyes shown on Silver peel-offs in photo 3.)
- *Punch a 1/16" hole in two of the candy corn kernels and dangle them from jump rings to make lightweight earrings.