

DIY Cloud Stencil Mobile

Supplies:

Medium size embroidery hoop (inner hoop)
Embroidery floss and needle
Fiber-fill
Yarn
Utility Canvas (available at Joann's)
Water-soluble marking pen
Hot glue
Heat-n-bond
Scissors
Six wooden beads
Leather cord
Handmade Charlotte Stencils:
-4363 Family Message Center (cloud)
-4368 Patterns (rain drops + alphabets)

Folk Art Paint/Colors

Gesso
Chalkboard Paint
2561 Steel Gray
925 Wrought Iron
2555 Deep Ocean Blue
2549 Summer Peach
508 Orange Poppy
317 Morning Sun
735 Lemon Custard

Step 1: Pop out the inside of the cloud stencil. Using your water-soluble pen, trace 6 of the cloud shapes onto small squares of canvas.

Step 2: Stencil the raindrops onto two of the cloud shapes (OR you could also stencil front and back if you'd like). We used the Deep Ocean Blue and Steel Gray. Now, cut out all 6 cloud shapes.

Step 3: On the third cloud front shape, paint three layers of gesso then three layers of chalkboard paint (letting each layer of paint dry before you apply the next layer).

Step 4: Cut out four different rectangles of fabric (approx. 4" x 7") and paint each one a different color. We did all the warm colors (Summer Peach through Lemon Custard), then lightly trace (in pencil) the X's and O's over the painted surface. You should have a total of 12 "X's" and "O's" (24 letters total). Cut the letters out. Lightly erase pencil marks. Over some scrap paper, iron on the heat-n-bond to the backside of HALF the total painted letters. (The other half will be ironed onto the backside of the bonded letters.) Trim away the excess bonding paper.

Step 5: Cut out 12 strings of yarn (3 each @ 3", 4", 5", 7")

Step 6: Peel off the paper backing of the heat-n-bond and press the two backsides of the alphabet shapes together, sandwiching one end of the string of yarn between the two.

Step 7: Cut out 16 little ½" squares of fabric. Hot glue each string of yarn to the INSIDE of the back cloud piece and press the little squares over the yarn and hot glue to secure the strings in place. Repeat on each cloud.

Cut three long strings of yarn to create the mobile, you can trim it down later. (We used a thicker yarn for this step)

Step 8: Pin the front and back of the cloud together. Starting at one corner of the top of the cloud, with your needle going from back to front, stitch around the cloud leaving that top space open for stuffing. Hot glue one end of the long string to the top left corner inside the cloud. (We hot glued onto the back of the cloud) Fill with stuffing and continue to stitch closed, back around to where you started. Remove pins. Repeat on each cloud.

Step 9: At this point, we applied a little touch up paint to the X's and O's, just to cover up any pencil marks that we couldn't remove with the eraser.

Step 10: paint the wooden beads. (You may need up to 2 light coats for full coverage)

Step 11: Now you're ready to start stringing up your clouds to create the mobile. Evenly space your clouds in thirds around the hoop. Determine the various heights you want each cloud to fall around the hoop. (You can even mark it on the yarn with the water-soluble pen) Wrap the yarn around the hoop front to back and dap a little bit of hot glue over the yarn on the inside of the hoop. Repeat this step with each cloud.

Step 12: Now you'll want to make sure the weight is distributed evenly around the hoop. Pull up or down on certain strings until you've gotten it the way you like. Then tie a knot about 8" above the hoop. You'll want to have about 6-7 inches of strings remaining for the beads and a loop at the top for hanging.

Step 13: String the beads over all three strands of yarn. With the remaining yarn, we tied on a piece of leather cord making a tight strong knot between the two materials and then looped the leather string into a knot securing the beads in place.