

## Recycled Art Hamsa

Designed by Eleanor Levie

See wonderful student work on my blog post,



### What you'll need:

- Empty, clean foil-lined packages from 8 oz. coffee, single tea bags, and the like
- Ellison machine die hamsa motif, 3 1/2" high, or pattern for a hamsa of that size
- Glue stick
- Two 9" x 12" pieces of felt in a color to enhance composition
- Rick rack in a color to enhance composition
- Sewing machine and thread to match or contrast
- Assorted sew-thru buttons
- Assorted plastic bottle caps, with 1 or 2 holes drilled
- Scissors and rotary cutting tools (optional)
- Permanent markers
- Floss or pearl cotton
- Ring tab from a soda can

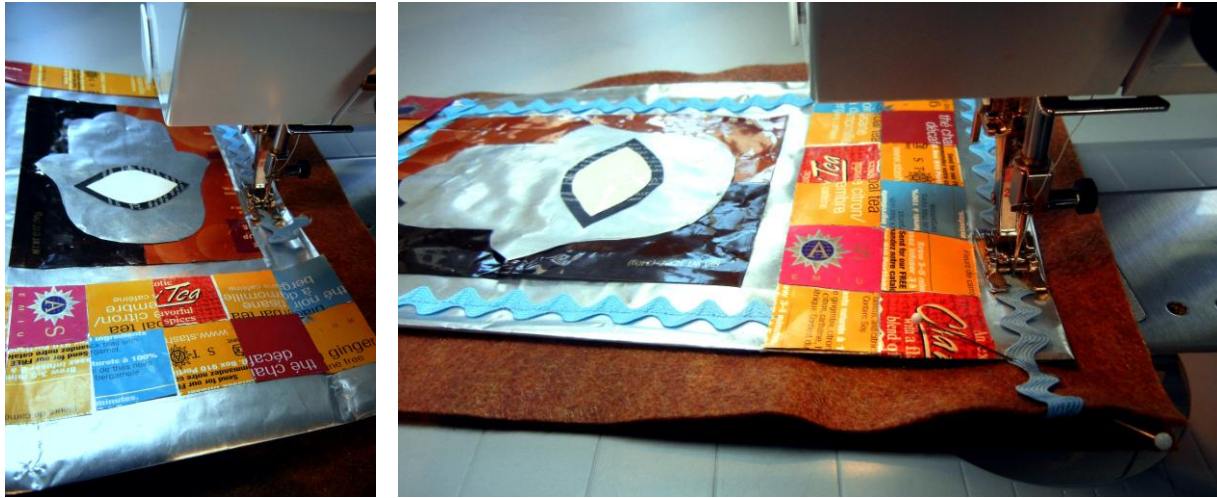
## What to do:

1. Cut a 6" x 9" rectangle from a coffee bag for background: You'll use the silver lining side.
2. Trace the shrink art plastic hamsa onto the silver side of another large scrap of coffee bag; cut out.
3. Cut a 4" x 5" rectangle from coffee bag to contrast with silver hamsa. Using glue stick, adhere hamsa to center of rectangle.
4. Cut 1" strips from tea bag envelopes in 2 to 3 colors of your choice. Re-cut to obtain one 1" x 4" strip, and fourteen 1" squares...or pieces as desired!
5. Arrange hamsa on its background and tea bag strip and squares on the large coffee bag background....as shown or as desired. Addition several compositions until you like the arrangement, then use glue stick to adhere everything in place.
6. Using other packaging scraps cut an eye shape, 1 1/4" x 2 1/4" long; glue to your hamsa.



7. Use felt, 7" x 22", in a color to match or contrast; fold crosswise in half, and lay packaging patchwork on top. Alternatively, use two pieces of 9" x 12" felt. Choose buttons, rickrack, and bottle caps, with drilled holes. For strong design, strive for color contrast, balance, and repetition.

8. Use dark thread to machine-stitch packaging patchwork to double layer of felt, along all edges. Also stitch around eye and hamsa. Machine-stitch rickrack in place, using thread to match.



9. Hand-stitch buttons on eye and elsewhere. Thread floss or pearl cotton through holes in bottle caps, and through bottom edge of felt; knot to secure.

10. Use permanent markers to decorate the shrink-art hamsa, and then bake for 3 minutes in a 325-degree oven until it shrinks. See Before and After designs below. Use the same floss or pearl cotton to add this as another dingle-dangle.



11. Finally, hand-stitch a ring tab from a soda can to the back of your little piece, so you can hang it from a nail or hook.