

# PRODUCT PICKS

## Finger Gloves Follow-Up

Last month I reported on a product called Finger Gloves. Instead of a glove that fits your whole hand, these are individual fingers that you can easily cut to size, allowing you to cover any or all of your fingers (or fingertips) when you work. I mentioned that I would be trying them out while putting the April issue into envelopes to go out to you and would report back.

When putting issues into the big booklet envelopes, your fingers tend to hit the edges of the envelope repeatedly. When doing this, not only do I usually get paper cuts, but I usually tend to hit the same spots over and over again, so I get cut on top of cut and wind up with bleeding, bandaged fingers.

This time I used Finger Gloves on the three fingers that tend to get hit and it worked wonderfully. I didn't get a single paper cut. I did find that wearing the gloves for long periods made my fingers sweaty (as most latex gloves will do). Sprinkling some baby powder into them took care of that. If you are looking for a way to protect one or more fingers while you are crafting, this is a product I recommend trying.

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## Carl Personal Rotary Trimmer

The folks at Wilde-Ideas recently gave me the opportunity of trying out Carl's 12"/A4 Personal Rotary Trimmer (PRT 100). I really like this one. If you are looking for a compact paper cutter that will cut a straight or decorative line . . . but that also has the capacity to handle wider sheets of paper, this one looks like a very good choice.

The cutter base is less than 5" wide, but there is a nifty swing out arm on the left hand side that increases the measurable cutting width to 14". The cutting base is almost 17" high with a cutting height just a little short of 13". This is a great compromise if you have limited counter space and/or if you want to be able to easily carry a cutter with you to class. The cutter is marked in both metric and 1/16" increments. The cutter comes with a straight



rotary blade, but there are another ten decorative blades that fit into this cutter, expanding the possibilities further. The blade slides along a translucent plastic guide, so it is easy to see exactly where the cut will be made.

slightly swist open the blade housing to drop out one blade and drop in another. (Note: These are the same blades used in other RT series and CC-10 Handheld cutters.)



Like other Carl cutters I have reviewed, there is a replaceable cutting mat strip built into the cutter. You can flip and rotate it to extend the life of the mat surface.

This cutter can handle plastic, cardstock, photos and up to seven sheets of paper. My experiments with both straight and decorative blades resulted in crisp, straight cuts.

Wilde-Ideas sells the Carl line of cutters. I have personally ordered from Wilde-Ideas quite a few times and have always gotten excellent service.

The suggested retail price on the PRT 100 is \$29.99, but Wilde Ideas is currently offering it for \$24.99 (with free shipping within the forty-eight states.) The 6 Pack Designer Blade Set shown here is \$34.99. Other sets of blades or individual blades are also available through Wilde Ideas, as well as replacement cutting mats.

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Checks, Credit Cards, Paypal  
Will Ship Overseas

Changing the blade is easy. Just

## Kreinik Iron-On Metallic Threads

This month's sample comes courtesy of Kreinik, makers of a wide variety of thread, braid and cord. This particular thread is especially nifty because it has a dual use. You can tie it, stitch it and dangle it like regular thread . . . but you can also iron it on to a project so that the thread is attached flat to the project surface. This lets you create borders of thread and easily attach thread accents and elements. You can also attach the thread to your card at one end and let the rest dangle.

This product really is very easy to use. Kreinik explains, "Just place the thread where you want it, cover it with a piece of teflon press cloth, and use an iron [set to high - linen or cotton setting] to adhere the thread to any paper, cardstock or fabric. You can create wavy lines, circles or even write your name. Your creativity is virtually limitless with this new thread." Note: The iron setting is important. Ironing on medium instead of high for example may result in only temporary sticking.

Iron-On threads are available in two thread sizes, 1/8" Ribbon and Medium (#16) Braid in Silver, Gold, Red, Pink, Green, Sky Blue, Pearl, Confetti and Pink.

To use the thread, Kreinik recommends two "Must-Have Accessories": Clover's Mini-Iron: "Small, lightweight, powerful, convenient, the Mini Iron makes Kreinik Iron-On threads even easier to use." And their Teflon Press Cloth: "Keep your iron clean with this handy accessory. It is see-through so you can see where you're applying the thread. [It is] available in two sizes."

I asked Kreinik's Dena Lenham about project care. Dena advises, "When used on fabric, hand wash in cool water, hang to dry. Don't machine wash or dry them. (Treat it like you

### SilverCrow Creations

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would a jacket or something hand painted). If it needs a touch up, just re-adhere the threads with a hot iron."

Since the adhesive is heat activated, I wondered if there were any potential problems with projects moving in hot mail trucks. Dena says, "I don't think there will be a problem with cards sitting in hot mail trucks. We ship things back and forth, like scrapbook pages, cards, etc, and we've never had any problem. They often sit in hot warehouses waiting for trade shows."

See Judi Kauffman's article on page 18 for how-to details for using the thread and project ideas to get you started. Be sure to also check out the new Challenge on page 43 to use this month's iron-on thread sample.

Kreinik also has a very nice web site, full of information about their products and free project directions. There is a store locator page on their web site that has a partial list of

stores, both in the US and internationally. Alternatively, you can call the toll free number (below) to find the closest store or mail order source.

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Sample Here!!!

**Editor's Note:**  
***This article was originally printed in the May '03 VSN. This space in the printed article contains an actual sample of Kreinik Iron-On Metallic Thread (courtesy of Kreinik). All VSN issues are still available as back issues. See back issues page on web site.***  
**www.vampstampnews.com**