

How To Make 'Basketball Soldiers' From Wrappings

Christmas - what a fabulous, fascinating, thoroughly fantastic day for the children! It's a day for eating the tastiest goodies, opening the most exciting surprises from Santa, playing with the most wonderful toys, dolls and games.

In fact, it's so exciting that sometimes even the liveliest youngsters want to rest.

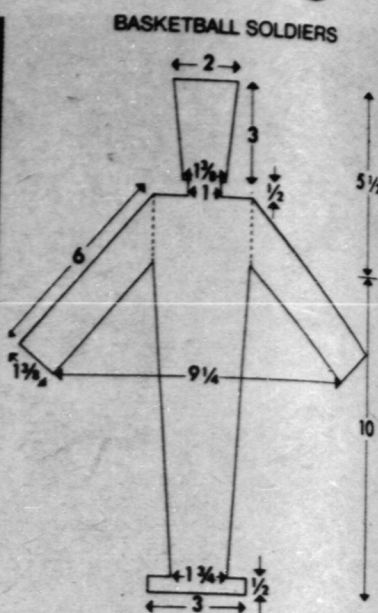
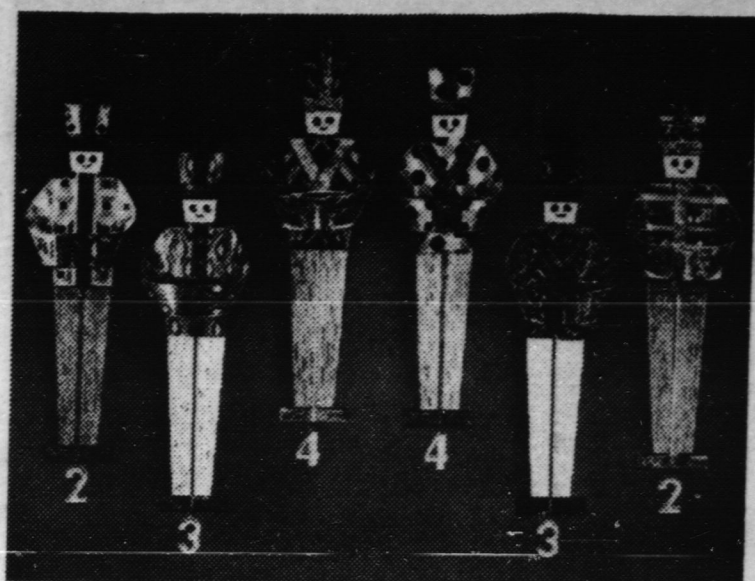
This is the signal for Mom and Dad to suggest a change of pace, such as a slow-paced game to play or something that's fun to do or make.

"Basketball Soldiers" could be the answer.

The soldiers can be made from leftover ribbons and wrappings in the house on Christmas Day, or even from gift wraps and ties that the kids have removed from their own share of Santa's bounty.

Material not immediately at hand can be added later, but if there are corrugated board and ping-pong balls around, the soldiers can be used at once for an impromptu basketball game.

A diagram accompanying this article shows dimensions to follow in cutting out the soldiers. The whole idea was developed by the Norcross design studio.



Fun to make on Christmas Day are "Basketball Soldiers," which can then be mounted on covered, corrugated board to become part of a game played with ping-pong balls. Numbers on the board help in totaling up game points. Materials are gift wraps and ties, either leftovers or those removed from packages. Suggested by Norcross Design Studio.

Diagram shows dimensions for making the soldiers in the "Basketball Soldiers" game. Dash lines indicate where arms should be scored and folded.

The following materials, or substitutes, can be used. Solid-color glazed gift wrap; patterned gift wraps; Foil gift wrap; Cord and ribbon; Ribbon spools, 3/4" wide x 3" diameter; Stapler; White glue, rubber cement, spray adhesive; Corrugated board, poster board or heavy cardboard; Numbers cut from gold paper.

- Using spray adhesive, cover corrugated board (26" x 36") with red gift wrap. Edge board with gold ribbon.
- Cut soldiers from poster board. Score arms on

back at dash lines (see diagram) and fold forward.

GOAT GIVES

One of Santa's most unusual stand-ins is the "Jul-Bock," a goat, once the Danish gift-giver.

EXAMINE GOVERNMENT

OAKVILLE, Ont. (CP) - An examination of government in Peel County is the subject of six sessions conducted by the Sheridan College of Applied Arts and Technology. Prominent guest panelists take part in each session and those participating in the course learn through discussion and assignment.

- Cement patterned gift wrap to hat and shirt area, including backs of arms.
- Cement foil gift wrap to legs. Glue a piece of cord down center of legs to divide trousers.
- Add sequins for eyes. Cut mouths from gift wrap.
- Decorate hat and add other decorations, from shredded ribbon.
- For the ring or "basket," remove top and

bottom from ribbon. Cover the inner ring with foil. Place arms around and staple in place. Staple to body. Basketball soldiers are then be glued to corrugated board and numbers glued in place under each figure. Object is to toss ping-pong balls into rings. Numbers on board under the soldier determine the score.

Merry Christmas

As the season's glow spreads its magic, we wish for you and your family all the best the season has to offer. Happy holidays!

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Art Spreads Story Of His Birth

Nativity scene has stimulated and engaged painters and artists through the years, enriched the lives and enhanced the spiritual insights of millions.

the lives and enhanced the spiritual insights of millions. Earliest Christian art was simple and graphic, as clear and easy to appreciate as a comic strip.

Later, religious paintings became stilted.

Then, Italian Renaissance painters instilled renewed warmth and humanity into art appreciation, through their natural, lifelike creations.

Their work gained much from the stimulus of the changing times and the new approach to art, fostered by the support of the Medici and commissions for paintings and sculpture from the church.

For instance, Raphael, famous for the "Sistine Madonna," came to Rome from Florence to do a fresco decoration in the Vatican at the same time that Michelangelo was painting the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.

Artists from other countries, too, traveled to Italy, there to experience and be influenced by Renaissance thought and feeling.

Men and women behind bars are able to share in the blessings of Christmas through The Salvation Army, whose blue uniforms penetrate prison walls. Those who are parents are enabled to send personal gifts to their children and experienced Salvation Army officers help them prepare for the day when they will return to their families.

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Since days of old, replicas of the manger scene have helped to bring mankind closer to the meaning of Christmas. The crib or creche here is typical, in its presentation of Mary, Joseph and the Infant Jesus, with the shepherds and Wise Men and, of course, the animals of the manger. It's typical, too, of the way the Nativity and the events surrounding it have long inspired artists and craftsmen, musicians and singers, poets and writers.

EXPAND LANDS

TORONTO (CP) - The Ontario government has announced a three-year expansion program for eastern Ontario winter deer-grazing lands. To establish the ranges, crews of local men will be hired to cut non marketable hardwoods and remove shade-producing trees to stimulate regeneration of hardwoods and growth for deer grazing.

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