

Chrismon Ornaments

Chrismons are Christmas decorations with Christian symbols on them. They help Christians to remember that Christmas is the celebration of Jesus's birthday. They are often used on Christmas Trees in Churches and homes.

Chrismon is a combination of the words “Christ” and “monogram”, and that is what a Chrismon is, a symbol of Christ.

Chrismons are traditionally white and gold. White is the liturgical (or Church) color for Christmas and symbolized that Jesus was pure and perfect. Gold symbolized his majesty and glory. Chrismons can be made from nearly anything, but paper and embroidered ones are the most widely used.

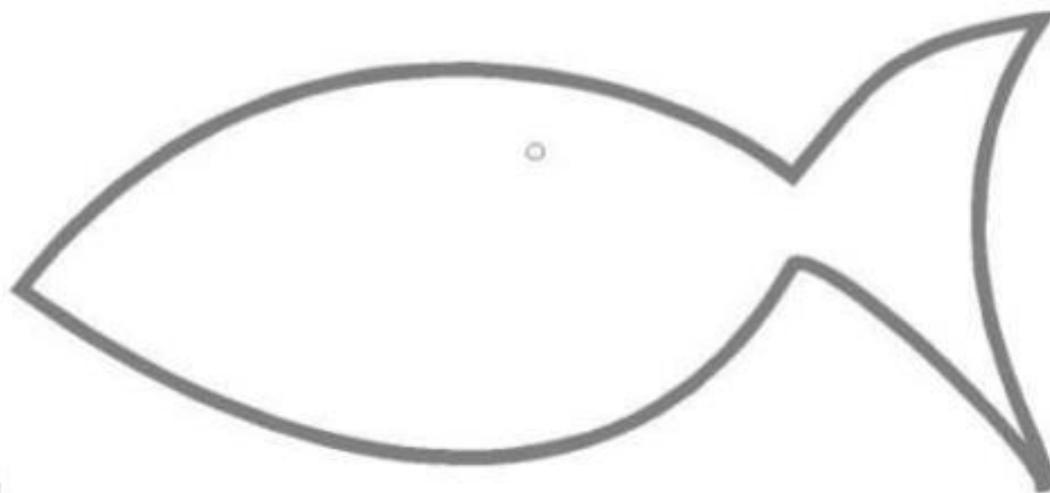
Below you will find 3 different ways to make Chrismon ornaments: one easy, one of medium difficulty, and one a little harder.

Easy Ornaments: Fish (Ages 5+)

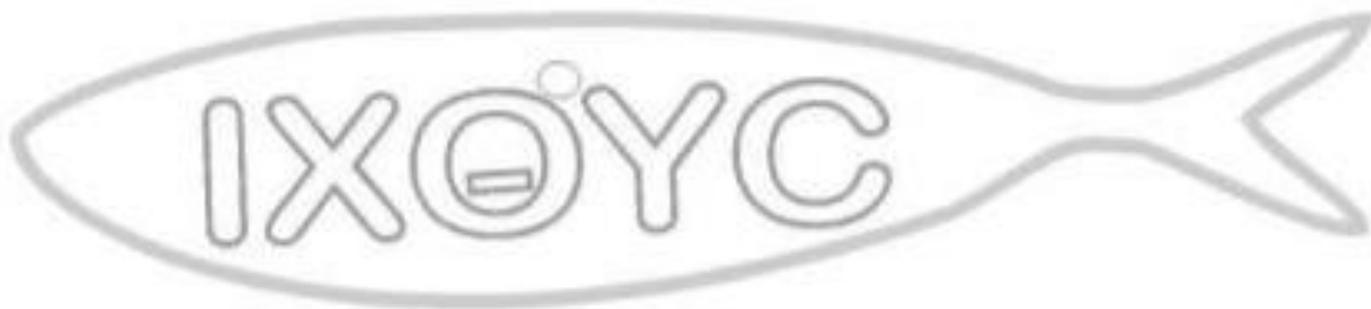
Materials Needed:

- White card stock (using card stock makes the ornaments a little sturdier)
- Hole Punch
- String
- Gold Glitter
- Glue

The sign of the fish was used by early Christians as a secret symbol that they were followers of Jesus.



This fish included letters representing the first Greek letter in the (translated) phrase, "Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior." The letters of this acronym spell the Greek word for "fish." The Greek word for fish is "ichthus."

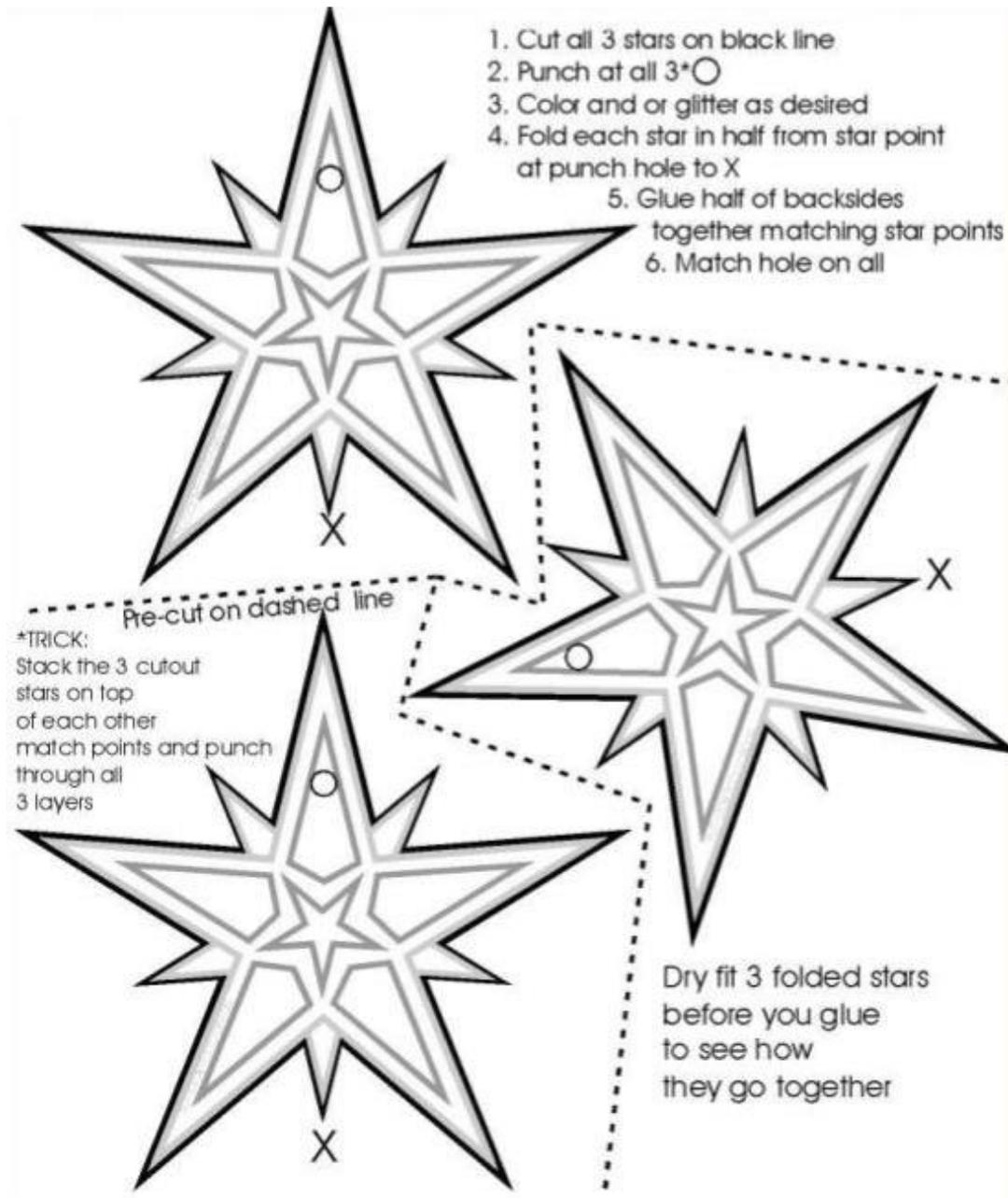


Intermediate Ornament: Star of Bethlehem (Ages 8+)

Materials Needed:

- White card stock (using card stock makes the ornaments a little sturdier)
- Hole Punch
- String
- Gold Glitter
- Glue

The star of Bethlehem is a symbol of the epiphany of Christ. Epiphany is derived from a Greek word meaning appearance or revelation. The star reminds us of the sign in the sky that led the wisemen to the Christ child.



Beaded Angel Ornament (Ages 12+)

Materials Needed

- 65 4mm white or pearl beads
- 49 3mm gold beads
- 1 12mm pearl bead
- 1 yard 26 gauge wire (use thinner wire if you have trouble getting it through the beads twice)

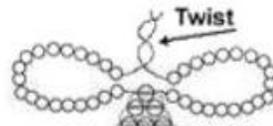
The angel reminds us of the nativity of the Lord. Angels are God's messengers to the world. An angel was sent by God to announce the birth of Christ.

Instructions:

1. Find the center of your wire and bend it into an "L" shape at the center. String 10 pearl beads onto it.
2. Slide 9 beads onto one end of the wire, keeping them near the end. Thread the other end of the wire back through the 9 beads and pull tight.



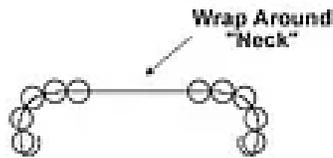
3. Start the third row of the dress by sliding 8 beads onto one end of the wire and pushing the other end through all 8 beads. Pull tight. Continue doing this and subtracting one bead for each row of the dress until you are down to just one bead. Use the same method from step 2 to create each row, including the last row of just one bead. You should have a triangle of 10 rows.
4. Take the longer end of the wire and thread 18 of the gold beads on it. Do the same thing with the other end of the wire. These will be the wings. Pull both ends tight and then twist them (like a twist tie) together to secure the wings.



5. Take one end of the wire and string on the large bead. Then string 13 gold beads. Pull tightly and then thread the wire back through the large bead. Wrap the wire around the "neck" of the angel to secure. Clip both ends of the wire.



6. String 5 pearl beads on one left over pieces of wire. Bend one end of the wire over so that the beads won't fall off. This will be the first arm.
7. Push the beads from step 6 down to the end of the wire where it is bent. Wrap the other end of the wire around the "neck" of the angel as close as possible to the beads. This will secure the "arm" onto the angel. To create the other "arm" string on the last 5 beads. Wrap the wire over the last bead to hold it into place and cut the wire.



8. Bend the arms into a "C" shape, round out the wings, and make sure the halo is round. Tie a piece of gold or silver thread to the halo and you're done!



Finished Angel

Sources:

<https://www.sundayschoolkids.com/menu-kids-christmas.htm>

<https://geekdrop.com/content/beaded-angel-ornament>