

Canned Monster Ornament

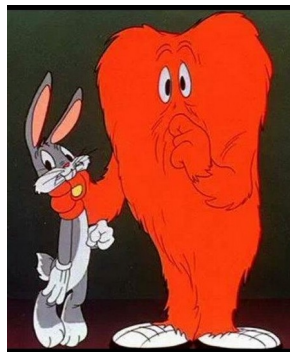
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Posted 2023 June 30

Last week I wrote about the inspiration for some of my Christmas ornament projects. One that I didn't end up including in that post was this one, inspired by the Bugs Bunny cartoon "Hair-Raising Hare". In it, the monster later known as "Gossamer" ends up literally canned, with an appropriate label attached -- hilarious to a kid.

That ornament features a mini "tin can" bauble (actually a repurposed thread spool) with the same label as the one that appears in the cartoon. Cute!

Initially thinking that I might include this ornament in last week's post, I



went searching on line for the original "Canned Monster" image. In the course of that search, I found an etsy listing for an actual tin can with a mock-up of that same label. In jest, I sent the link to my sister and suggested she might like to purchase one; she replied that rather than do that, she'd just ask her crafty sister – me – to

make one instead. So guess what?!

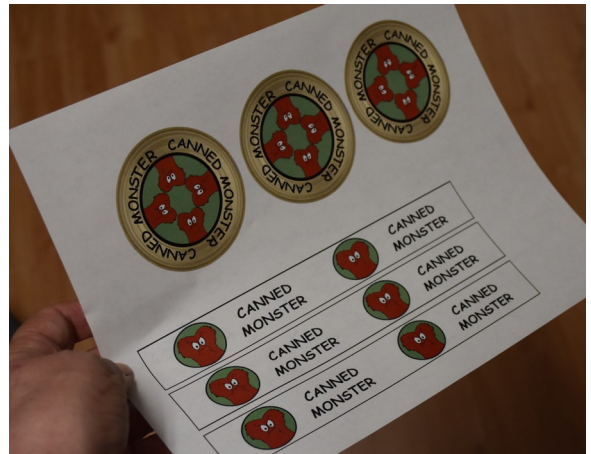
I toyed with the idea of labelling a full-sized can, but in the end I decided instead to make a Christmas ornament. The cans my cats' food comes in are the perfect size, and very lightweight, so I decided to use one of those for my ornament. I have lots of them so can make more of the ornaments if need be. I also have a supply of used Mason jar snap lids – a perfect fit for the top of the cat food tin, so I grabbed a gold-tone one of those as well and got to work.



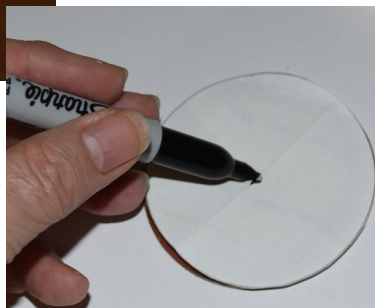
To begin, I made up some labels on my computer, printed them, and carefully cut them out. The can label measures 1x8", and the top is 2" in diameter.

I routinely use my rim-removing can opener to separate the rim from the can for use in crafting, but on reflection I think leaving it in place would give a better gluing surface.

I used matte Mod Podge to apply the paper label to the tin, and while that dried, I located the centre point of the lid by cutting a circle of paper, folding it in quarters, and snipping a tiny hole in the middle. I used that template to mark the centre point of the lid using a Sharpie, then used my heavy-duty punch to make a hole at the mark.



I Mod-Podged the top label to the centre of the lid, covering any printing that was showing there.



You could knot a piece of baker's twine and poke it through the centre hole to form a hanger for your ornament, but I used a small loop of wire and some beads instead, since I like to hang my ornaments with a hook rather than string.





Once the beads were in place, I applied Goop to the top rim of the tin, then glued it into the lid. With the inner rim of the can removed, I don't have much of a gluing surface, so if I make another, I think I'll select a tin that still has the rim in place.

I chose the red berry bead because the texture reminded me of the monster's fur.

I'm pretty happy with my ornament: it's a nice size to go on the tree and is light enough



that it won't weigh down the branches. I think my sister will get a kick out of it. Or should I say sisters, since I have a hunch I'll be making a few more of these.

When the Mod Podge is completely dry, I plan to give the labels a light coat of varnish, for a little additional protection and shine. Depending on how shiny that looks, I might also add a light touch of iridescent glitter glue to the label, just for a little more glitz.

Otherwise, I'm delighted with the result and can't wait to send it along to my sister.