

# How Lovely are Your Baubles

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Back in the days of my youth, before Hallmark specialty ornaments, most of the decorations on the tree were made of mercury glass. There were fancy shaped ones, of course, but the most common ornaments were plain glass balls that came in boxed sets, much like the one at right.



Inspired by dollhouse miniatures I saw on line, I thought how cute it would be to make a teeny box of ornaments that is itself an ornament for the tree. Adorable!

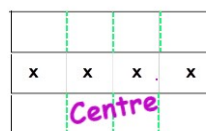
I found a suitable box image on line and drafted this design.



To position the “ornaments” (8mm fused beads) I glued them to an insert panel. To begin, I folded up the sides of the centre section, then snipped along



the green lines. I glued the centre piece to the insert



panel, then glued the fused beads where marked by the Xs. When those were dry, I inserted the narrow cross pieces into the three slots. The completed insert just drops into the finished box bottom, before the lid is glued on.

To make the “window”, I used a piece cut from salvaged bubble packaging. After pre-folding the box top, I cut away the opening and glued the plastic in position. Then I formed the box top and bottom by folding and gluing the tabs to the box



sides. That done, I dropped the beaded insert into the box bottom. Before gluing on the top, I poked a hole in the upper edge and inserted a head pin, then twisted it to form a loop so I can add a hook to hang the ornament on the tree. Then I glued the box top to the box bottom, enclosing the beaded insert so that it shows through the window. Done!

I'm not sure the photos capture fully how cute these are. DH, who loves miniatures, has declared them a favourite.

For the future, I'd like to make some with a different box top (there are some super cute ones out there), and with three different colours of beads for a “variety pack” of mini ornaments.

