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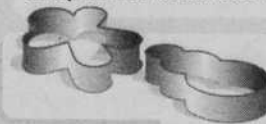
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Fun and simple ornaments

Receiving or creating a handmade gift can be very meaningful. This holiday season, try something as simple and fun as making tree ornaments out of scraps of wood using a cookie cutter.

A gingerbread man, a toy soldier, a snowman are all shapes that can be trimmed out of plywood, particle board or dimensional scrap lumber in minutes with nothing but a jig saw.

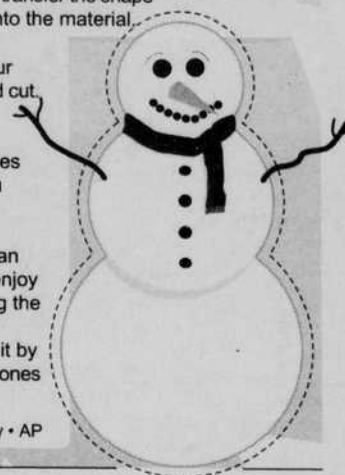


1 Use a cookie cutter to transfer the shape onto the material.

2 Clamp it to your workbench and cut.

3 Sanding the edges completes the job unless you enjoy carving.

4 You can then enjoy handpainting the figure or personalize it by writing someone's name on it.



Siobhan Dooley • AP

Nontraditional: Breaking Free gives two workshops

Continued from page 2C

potential assailants and learn ways to deter or avoid them.

"I think it is a great gift to give because what could be a better gift than to give the women in your life a sense of empowerment, confidence and strength both emotionally and physically," said Meghann Leighton, a self-defense student.

Breaking Free, a nonprofit organization in Eugene that helps women develop self-defense skills, offers two

different classes. The first is called "Self-defense From the Inside Out" and is not a physical class. The second, called "The Monthlies," is a three-hour self-defense workshop the first Saturday of every month.

Whether it is a thrilling skydive or a lesson in self-defense, nontraditional gifts have the potential to win over a significant other, provide a new gift for an old friend or offer a fun experience for the giver and receiver to share.

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