



Craft



Ken®vention Table Gift - Retro Television by Ann Grahek

Inspired by an empty Nutella & Go container that was just too cool to throw away and the theme of Ken®vention – Ken®’s Space Age Bachelor pad I came up with what I think is a nifty retro style TV for Ken® Doll.

Boy was I thrilled when my TV actually coordinated with the fabulous centerpiece and convention gifts we received!

Because of this I thought maybe everyone would like to know how I made them so you too could add one to your collection.

Supplies needed: Nutella & Go container, non slip shelf liner, foam core, pieces of a silk plant, 1 ½” square of faux moss, 1 penny, clay, 1” foam ball, TV screen paper image, 9” of 10 – 12 gauge wire, Modge Podge - Glossy, E6000 adhesive, ¼” metallic tape, optional acrylic paint & fusion paint

Tools needed: scissors, foam brush, X-acto knife, wire cutters, toothpicks or bamboo skewer, very lightly damp paper towel, pen.

Time needed: You should be able to do this project in 1 – 1 ½ hours

The main component of this project (and my favorite) is the Nutella & Go container. I have found these in the checkout lanes of Wal-Mart. Once you have enjoyed your snack you need to clean the container in hot soapy water, this will take the labels off too.

Once dry, flip the container over, the bottom of the container has a compartment that will become the planter and a side shelf.

You will want to cut a 3 1/3” x 2” rectangle of foam core, then take the Nutella container and put E6000 adhesive around the lip of the container (this is now



the bottom of the TV formally the top of the container), I like to use a bamboo skewer as an applicator it is easier to hold than a tooth pick, but a tooth pick will work. Then place the container in the center of the foam core rectangle and press down and hold for a few seconds until it starts to set, place to the side and let set for a couple of minutes.

Take your X-acto knife and trim the excess foam core from around the base of the container. If it is not perfectly smooth do not worry the accent tape or paint will disguise this, but make it as clean as you can.

You will want to print out the TV graphic on at least 20 lb white paper, don't use card stock it will be too heavy for this project. Then cut out the graphic out and set to side.

Next you will need to cut out a U shape in your non slip shelf liner to do this cut a $3 \frac{3}{4}$ " w x 3" high rectangle out of the liner material, then cut a $2 \frac{3}{4}$ "w x $2 \frac{1}{8}$ " rectangle out of the middle of that piece of liner to make a U shape.

At this point use the foam brush to apply a liberal coat of Modge Podge Glossy to the entire front of the container, you can give it a few seconds to start to become a little tacky then gently place the TV graphic centered along the top edge (non foam core side) of the container, smooth the graphic out gently with the lightly damp paper towel so all the bubbles are out. Apply another layer over top of the graphic you can add to the sides as well, this product will dry clear and give you a sheen that looks good.

Once graphic is on, place the shelf liner on the front on the container so it frames the graphic. This part is very forgiving and you can take your time to get it right. You may need to add a little thicker Modge Podge under the shelf liner component so it will stick, once it is centered how you like it, make sure it is pressed down and let it sit for a while to dry and you will get a good stick.

While this dries you can cut the square out of the faux moss, use wire cutters to cut a piece off of the silk plant you found, you will want to make sure you have about a 3" stem.

To anchor the plant in the planter portion I took a penny and then put a ball of clay on top of it and then I skewered the plant stem through the moss, the foam ball, and then stuck in the clay ball attached to the penny.



This little do-dad will fit in the planter compartment of the container perfectly and weighs down the plant nicely, once it is in place, use your bamboo skewer to tuck in the moss edges into the planter. Do this step last!

For the TV feet, use heavy gauge wire, I used copper wire found at a craft store but you can use any metal you like the look of. Cut 3 - 3" pieces with your wire cutters; bend them



gently around a pen so you have 2- U shaped pieces and 1- V shape.

Then on the foam core bottom of your container center on the straight side the location for the V shaped leg, then towards the front on the right and left sides, center a location for each of the remaining 2 U legs. You will have a triangle effect when finished. To attach the legs, use your bamboo skewer to poke holes in the area you marked for the legs, then fill the holes with E6000 adhesive (put a heavy amount) then push the wire feet into the holes and hold for a few seconds. These legs will have to dry for a few minutes before you can flip them over to stand.

While they are drying you can add the decorative edge, I used copper sheeting that I cut in a ¼" strip and glued on, but you could use metallic tape found in a hardware store which would be a lot easier! Or if you want even easier you can paint the foam core with acrylic paint.



Once everything is dry you can stand up your TV and place the plant in the planter.

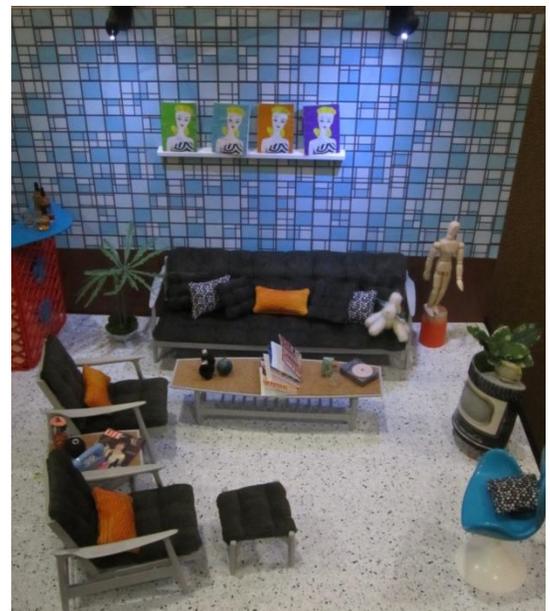
Voila a wonderful up-cycled project that will make your vintage Ken® display that much more fun!

If you would like to switch this project up, here is a variation idea: for my Live Auction Ken®'s Bachelor Pad I made a black & gray version.

For this version use Fusion Paint in gray and painted the Nutella container prior to applying the decorations. I also used black acrylic paint to paint the shelf liner and the base of the foam core. I used a different graphic (both graphics are available to print out) and placed it center on the bottom of the container verses the top edge to give it a different look.

If you like you can decorate the shelf with a sculpture piece made out of a giant bead glued to an earring base, vase or some other cute knick knack, a glue dot it the perfect way to secure this to the TV.

This is a great project to do with friends so you can share some of the expenses of purchasing the items which come packaged in more than you need for just one. I will make up kits with all the supplies you need and mail them to you if you are interested for what it costs me just let me know if you are interested.



Have fun! Feel free to email me if you have questions at amgrahek@yahoo.com or find me on Face Book

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/V4-Designs-by-Ann-Grahek/143289839019223?fref=ts>

Happy Crafting!

Ann Grahek

Below (next page) are the TV screens to print out!

