

Lucky Penny



Total Time Needed:
30 Minutes or less

This cute coin-headed doll, good for one wish, makes a great New Year's party favor.

Materials « We'll need »

- Poster stick (we used Staples brand reusable adhesive)
- Paper clip
- Two pennies

- Card stock
- Scissors
- Marker or crayon
- Magnet strip

Instructions

1. Choose a piece of colored paper.
2. Place the dress pattern on the colored paper. With a pencil, trace the outline of the dress on the colored paper.
3. With scissors, cut out the form of the dress.
4. Form a small ball of poster stick. Mold the poster stick around the end of a paperclip.
5. Stick a penny to one side of the paperclip so that the “heads” side is visible. Stick another penny on the other side of the paperclip, leaving the “tails” side visible.
6. Press on both pennies so that the paperclip and the poster are sandwiched between them. Together they form the head of the doll.
7. Slide the paper dress into the paperclip. Voila! Lucky Penny is ready!
8. Write your resolution or your New Year's wish on the dress.



9. Glue a magnet strip (or use self-stick magnet strip) to the back of Lucky Penny's dress and stick her to your refrigerator.

This craft combines two American traditions: New Year's resolutions, and lucky pennies.

In American culture, pennies are often considered lucky. If you find a penny on the ground with its "heads" side facing up, you pick the penny up. If the "tails" side is facing up, you flip the penny over and leave it for somebody else to find. Some superstitious people believe that leaving a penny on the ground will doom you to a life of poverty: if you leave the penny on the ground, you'll wish you'd picked it up later in life.

It is also considered lucky to wish on a penny and then toss it into a fountain. You take your penny, make a silent wish, and throw it in the water. If you don't tell anyone what your wish was, it will supposedly come true. Public fountains all over the United States are littered with coins.

The other half of this craft is rooted in the tradition of New Year's resolutions. The beginning of the New Year is a good time for new beginnings, so Americans often make resolutions or wishes for the coming year. By sticking your written resolution to the refrigerator, you are sure to be reminded of it everyday.

Lucky Penny will help you to remember your wish, while bringing you good luck in the New Year.