

This versatile project can be used as a tealight lantern, hung up as a garden decoration, or used as a favor box. It's a great example of how papercutting can personalize and elevate a simple DIY project.

Tool kit

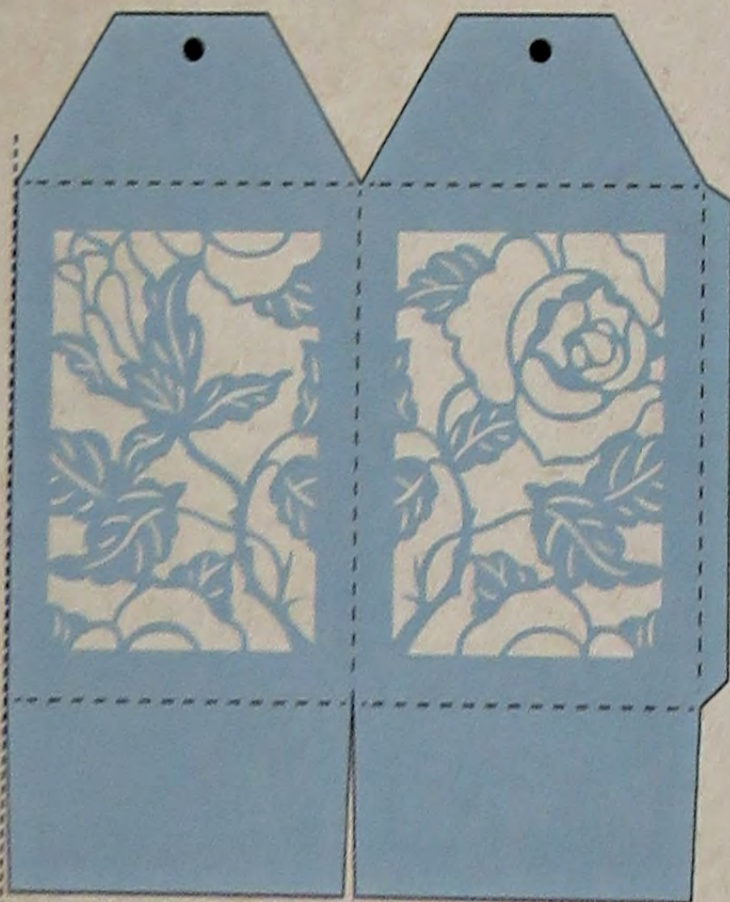
- Bone folder
- Metal safeguard ruler
- Self-healing cutting mat
- Craft knife and blades
- Craft screw punch

Materials

- Medium-weight cardstock
- Rice, tissue, or vellum paper
- Sticky tape
- Twine
- Glue

Choosing materials

You want the lantern to stand up and maintain its structure, so a cardstock of about 60-65 lb cover (160-176 gsm) would be ideal. You could use a lighter-weight cardstock if the lantern is going to be purely decorative. Choose a light color for the tissue, rice, or vellum paper so lots of light can shine through like a stained-glass window.



Template is on page 119

1 Cut out template 35 on page 119. To use the template more than once, print, copy, or transfer the template using one of the methods on page 16.

2 Take a piece of your chosen cardstock that is at least as tall and twice as wide as the template. Using a metal ruler and bone folder, fold the paper in half widthwise. Scoring the line first will help you to create a sharp crease.

3 Place the printed template on the cardstock with the tab-free edge flush against the folded edge. Tape the template in place. From here we have removed the template for clarity.

4 Use a screw punch to create the two holes at the top of the template.

5 Using a craft knife on a cutting mat, first cut the ribbon-like details in the leaves.

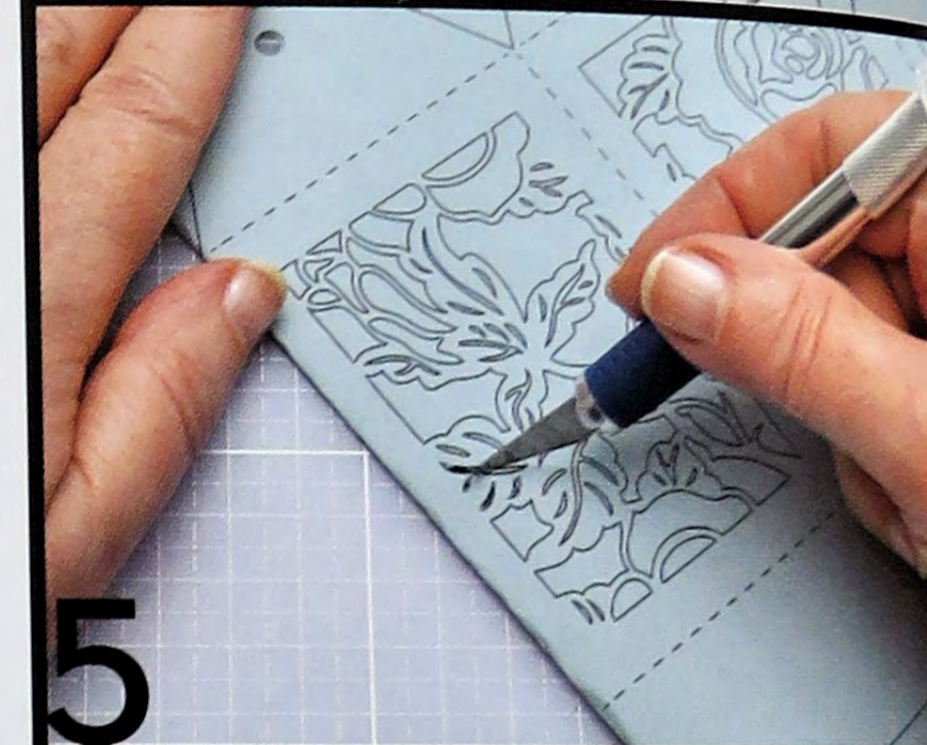
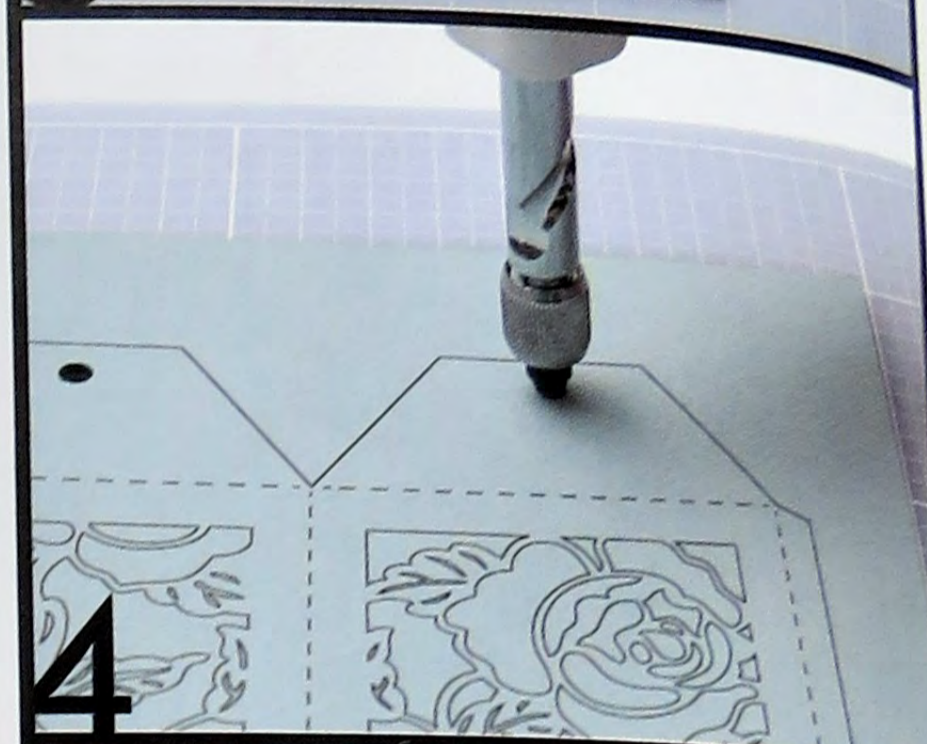
6 Cut out the center petals in the large rose on the right-hand panel.

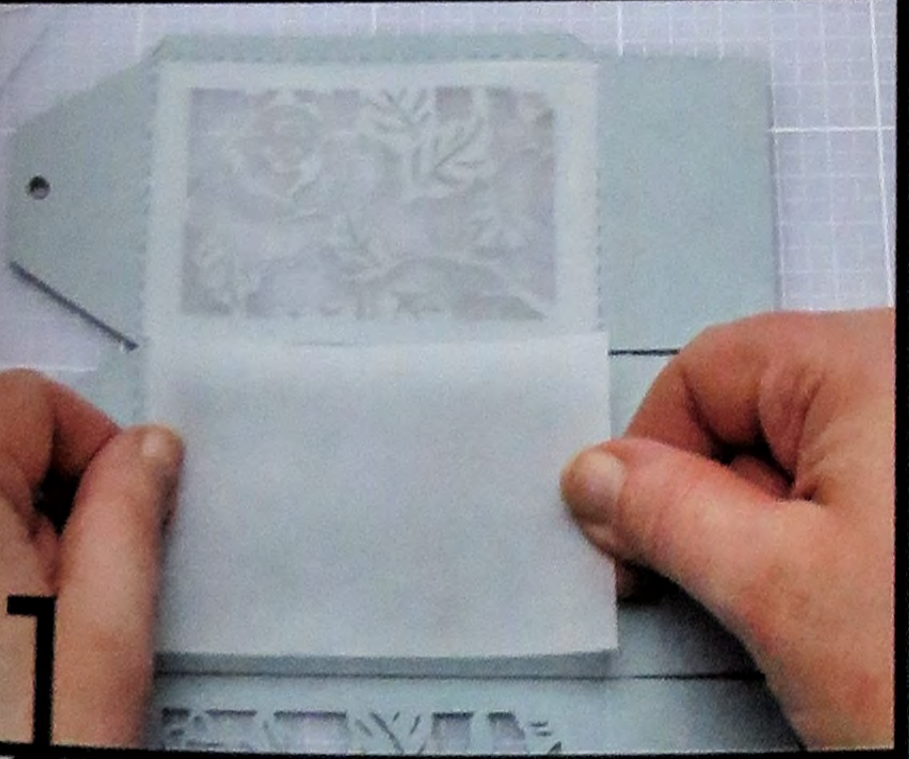
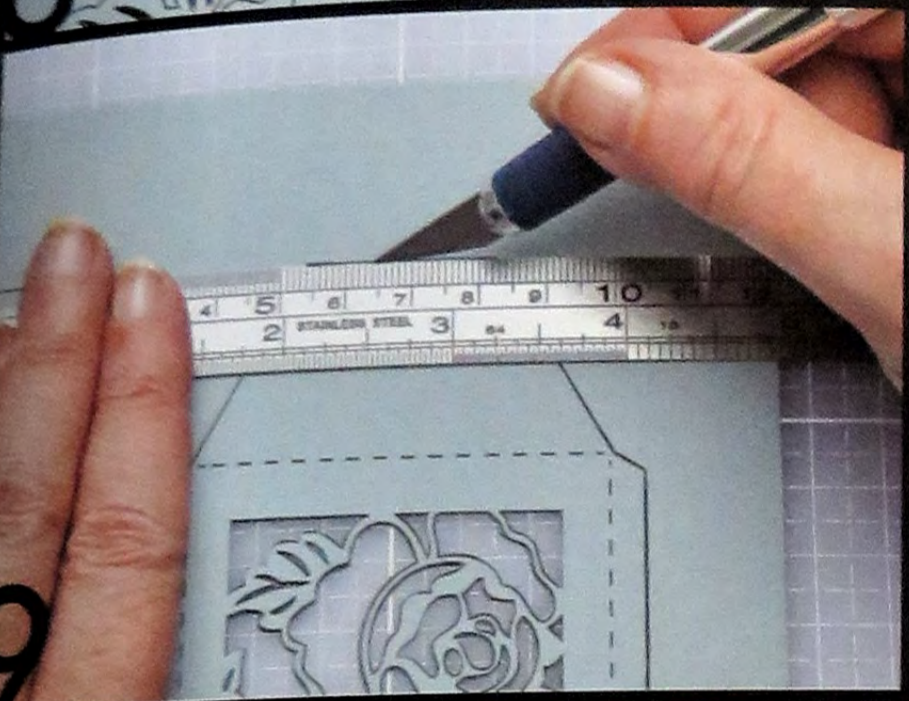
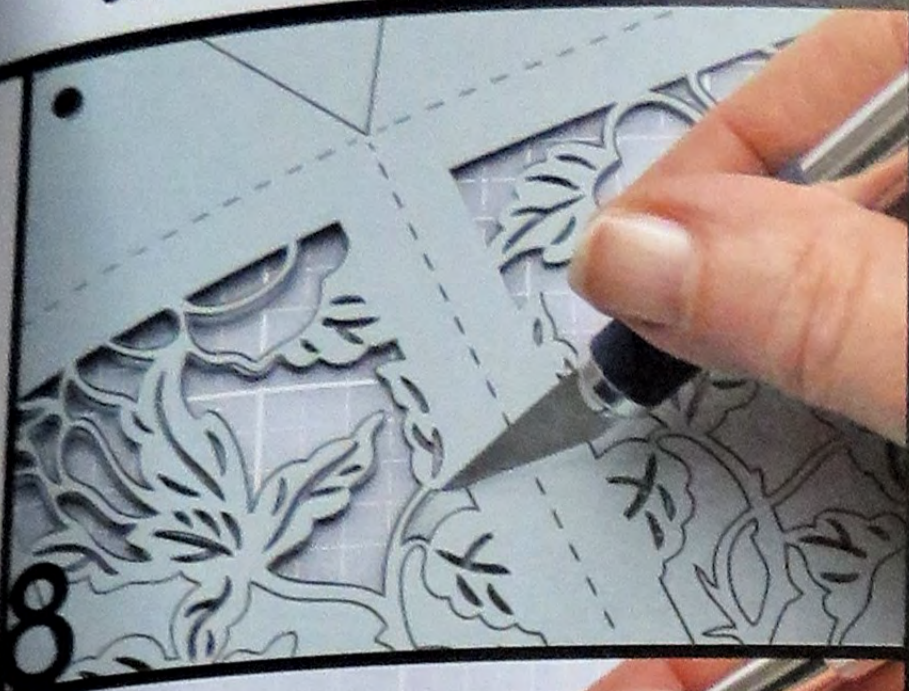
7 Using a metal ruler to help you, cut along all the straight edges.

8 Cut the remaining shapes on each panel. Start from the top and work your way downward.

9 Using a metal ruler, cut along the outside edge of the template.

10 Unfold the papercut. Use a bone folder and metal ruler to etch along all of the dotted fold lines, then remove the template.



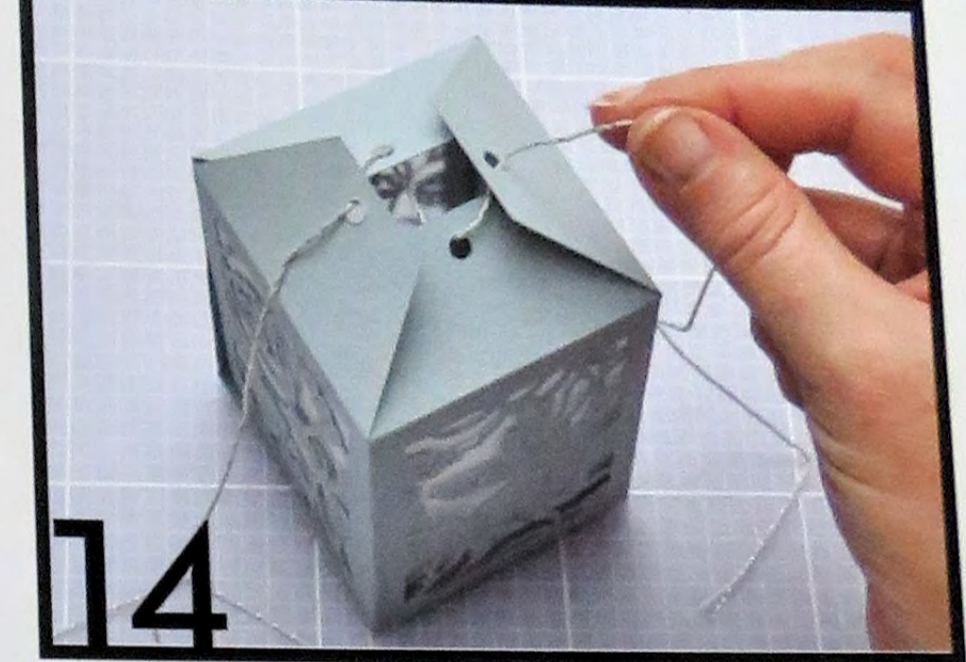


11 Take a sheet of rice, tissue, or vellum paper and cut out 2 1/4- x 3 1/2-inch (6- x 9-cm) rectangles. Using a glue stick, attach one rectangle to each of the papercut panels.

12 Using the craft knife and metal ruler, cut off the slim tab on one end of the papercut only.

13 Flip the papercut over so the tissue paper is at the back. Fold along each of the etched lines to form a box shape, and use glue or tape on the side tab and the two bottom tabs to secure.

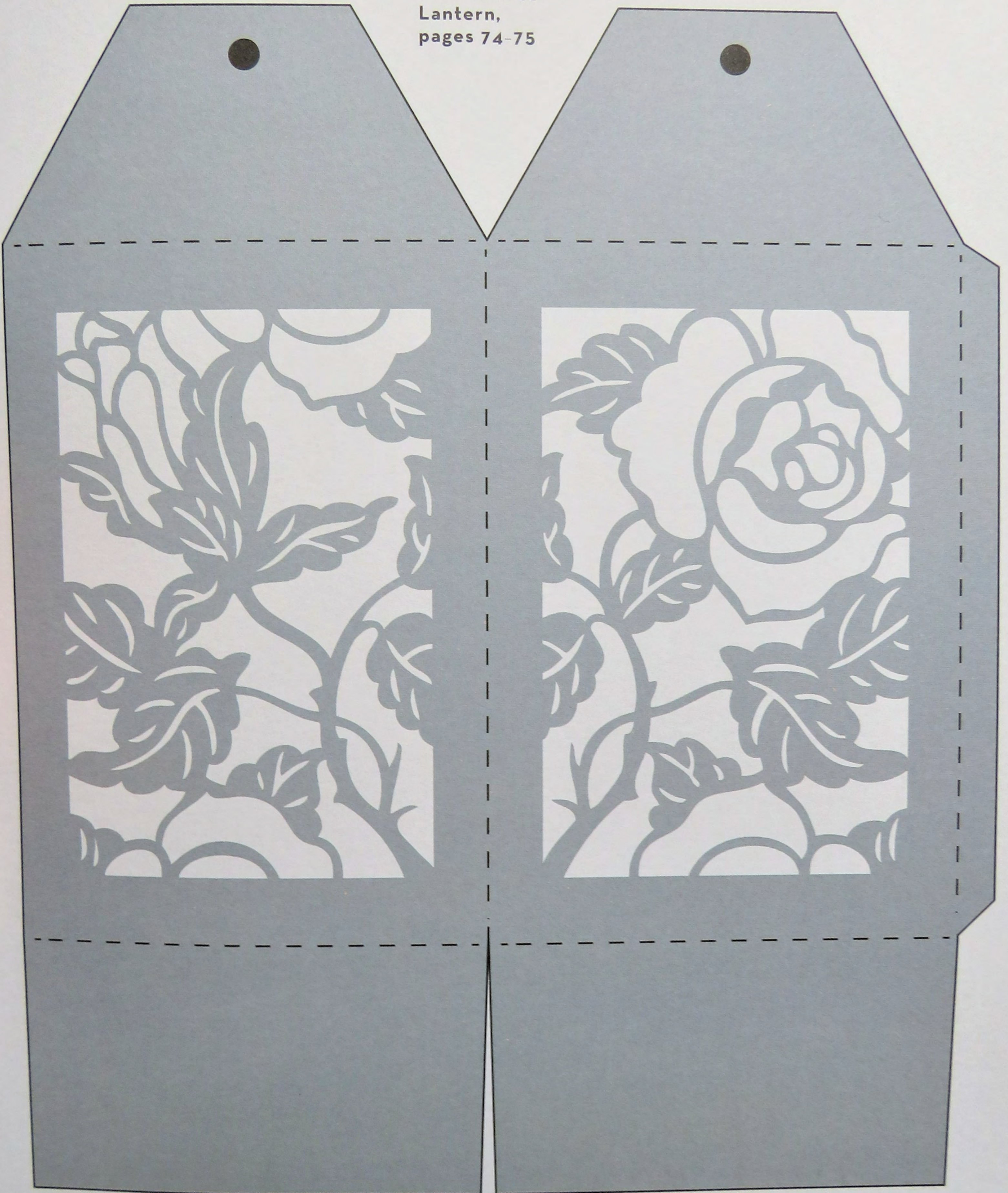
14 Place your tealight or party favors inside. Bring the top panels together and thread some twine through the holes and tie in a bow to close the lantern.



Safety first!
Only use battery-operated tealights with this project.



TEMPLATE 35
Lantern,
pages 74-75



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