Easy Twist Pop-Up Panel Card

These cards are very popular, and the instructions online vary greatly. Some are just way to complicated. This is the easiest way I’ve found to make it. I hope it helps you.

For the card base:

Cut card stock to 4-1/4” x 11”. Score at 5-1/2”.

For the mechanism:

Cut card stock to 8-1/2” x 10-3/4”.

(SEE DIAGRAM A)
With the short (8-1/2”) side at the top, score at 2-1/4”", 4-1/4”", and 6-1/4”.

With the long (10-3/4”) side at the top, score at 3-7/8”, 5-3/8”, and 6-7/8”.

Cut away the rectangle at each of the four corners. This will give you a cross shape with two larger arms and two smaller arms. Angle the two smaller arms slightly by trimming each side approximately 1/4” in. It should look something like DIAGRAM A2.

Okay, here comes the most confusing part of the directions. Basically, you’re going to fold it diagonally. (SEE DIAGRAM B)

Hold your finger at the intersection of score lines in the center of the cross. Fold one arm over so that the score line in its center meets the score line in the center of the adjacent arm. Press the fold that this creates with a bone folder.

Now do the same thing for the opposite side. You should have two new score lines that make an x in the center of the cross.

(SEE DIAGRAM C)
Hold the two smaller arms in your hands and fold them up (valley fold.) You will see how they naturally want to move toward the inside as the larger arms close on them.

Press it all with a bone folder to sharpen the creases.

For the panel:

(SEE DIAGRAM D)
Cut card stock to 3” x 11”. Score along the long (11”) side at 2-3/4”, 5-1/2”, and 8-1/4”. Fold the score lines to get a W shape.
To decorate the mechanism:

Cut two pieces of paper to 4” x 5-1/4” each. Using the folded up mechanism as a guide, use scissors to cut the appropriate angle at one end. You can then use this piece as a guide for the second piece of paper.

If you prefer, you can just cut each piece of paper to 3-3/4” wide x 3-1/4” tall, and not worry about covering the part that goes to a point.

Glue to the mechanism interior.

Note: I do not recommend using Stampin’ Dimensionals or any other thick adhesive on the inside of the card. There are plenty of layers inside already.

To decorate the panel:

Cut four pieces of paper to 2-1/2” x 2-3/4” each. Glue each one to one of the four sections of the panel.

To attach the panel to the mechanism:

(SEE DIAGRAM E)
Unfold the mechanism and lay it out flat with the smaller arms at the sides. Lay the panel down flat across the center of the mechanism from left to right. Make sure the center of the panel lines up with the center score line of the mechanism.

Holding everything in place, lift the left section of the panel, and apply adhesive to the lower section of the mechanism arm. Do not get any adhesive on the other side of the arm’s score line. Lay the panel section back down and press to adhere.

Do the same thing on the other side except put adhesive on the upper section of the arm. Do not get any adhesive below the score line on the arm.

Open and close the mechanism to make sure it works correctly. The ends of the panel will stick out slightly from the end of the mechanism. This is fine.

To attach the mechanism to the card base:

(SEE DIAGRAM F)
Fold up the mechanism, and line it up on the bottom half of the card base interior. Make sure the top point of the mechanism doesn not go past the card base’s score line. The mechanism should be 1/8” smaller than the card base on all sides. Adhere to the card base.

Adhere the other side of the mechanism to the other half of the card base. Open and close to make sure it works properly. The ends of the panel should not be seen outside the card.
CUT AWAY YELLOW AREAS, THEN CUT AWAY GREEN AREAS

DIAGRAM A
MECHANISM

DIAGRAM A2
FOLD THE RED SCORE LINE DOWN TO MEET THE GREEN SCORE LINE TO CREATE THE BLUE DIAGONAL SCORE LINE.

SPIN 180 DEGREES AND REPEAT THE PROCESS.

MECHANISM

DIAGRAM B
PUT ADHESIVE IN BLUE AREAS

YELLOW AREA IS THE PANEL

PUT PANEL ONTO MECHANISM
DIAGRAM F

MECHANISM ON CARD BASE