

How to Make

“Moonlight”

a No-Sew Fabric Ball Christmas Ornament



*A tutorial on making a basic 6-panel Kimekomi style ornament,
written for you by Staci Ann Lowry, The Ornament Girl*



THEORNAMENTGIRL.COM

A Note from The Ornament Girl...

“This easy ornament pattern is the perfect way to get started with the Japanese art of Kimekomi!

With only 6 panels, it's not only quick, but the possibilities for color combinations and fabric choices are just about endless.

Try making your ornament in all one color, with a high contrasting trim, as I've done in this tutorial. Or, mix it up with several different fabrics and colors, for your own unique variation! With this one pattern, you can create limitless designs.

I dare you to not get addicted as you watch your beautiful ornament come together! Happy Ornament-ing!

*P.S. — I'd love for you to join my Ornament Club!
Go to www.OrnamentGirls.club for details!*



”
Staci Ann

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Staci Ann

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Materials You Will Need

This is your supply list. Some of these items are [CLICK-ABLE](#) links.

- **A 3” foam ball that is SMOOTH**

It is very important that the ball is NOT rough. Soft, smooth foam balls are available in my supply shop ([CLICK HERE](#)), or you can find various brands of smooth foam balls in most craft stores.

- **An X-Acto knife or a Dremel Hot Knife** (*Page 10 has info on this*)

- **6 pieces of fabric**, cut out using the printable template found at the end of this tutorial.

- **A thin butter-knife or fabric tucking tool** (*pictured below*)

I highly recommend a tucking tool like this if you will be making a large number of these ornaments. These are available in my supply shop... [CLICK HERE](#).



- **Scissors**

- **Flexible tape measure**

- **A small piece of fine sandpaper**

Supplies to Decorate Your Ornament:

- **Decorative Trim and/or Ribbon** (*about 40" total... about 32" to wrap around the ornament plus 7 - 8" for a hanger*)

- **A good craft glue** (My favorite glue is Beacon's 3-in-1 Advanced Craft Glue, found [right HERE](#) or at most craft stores. It grabs quickly, dries clear, and holds super strong once it sets. Beacon Fabri-tac Permanent Adhesive is also a good option, found [right HERE](#).)

- **Straight pins** (*about 20*)

- **Embellishments like Beads & Rhinestones** (*if you want them*)

I used silver seed beads, crystal beads, and Swarovski rhinestones. (PS: You can find beautiful, custom-made crystal beads in my supply shop. [CLICK HERE](#) to see what's currently in stock!)

- **Tweezers** (*to help place the rhinestones, if you use them*)



Please note that any product created using this eBook may contain and/or require the use of pins, tools, and other materials which could be hazardous to children and pets.

Please keep them away from children and pets!

Let's Begin...

First, we will draw our design onto our ball. When we finish, there will be 6 equal sections drawn onto the ball.

Look closely at the foam ball, and you should see a line around the circumference of the ball, marking the “equator”:



Want to make this part SUPER EASY??

Check out the PRE-MARKED foam balls in my ornament supply shop! ([Click HERE](#))

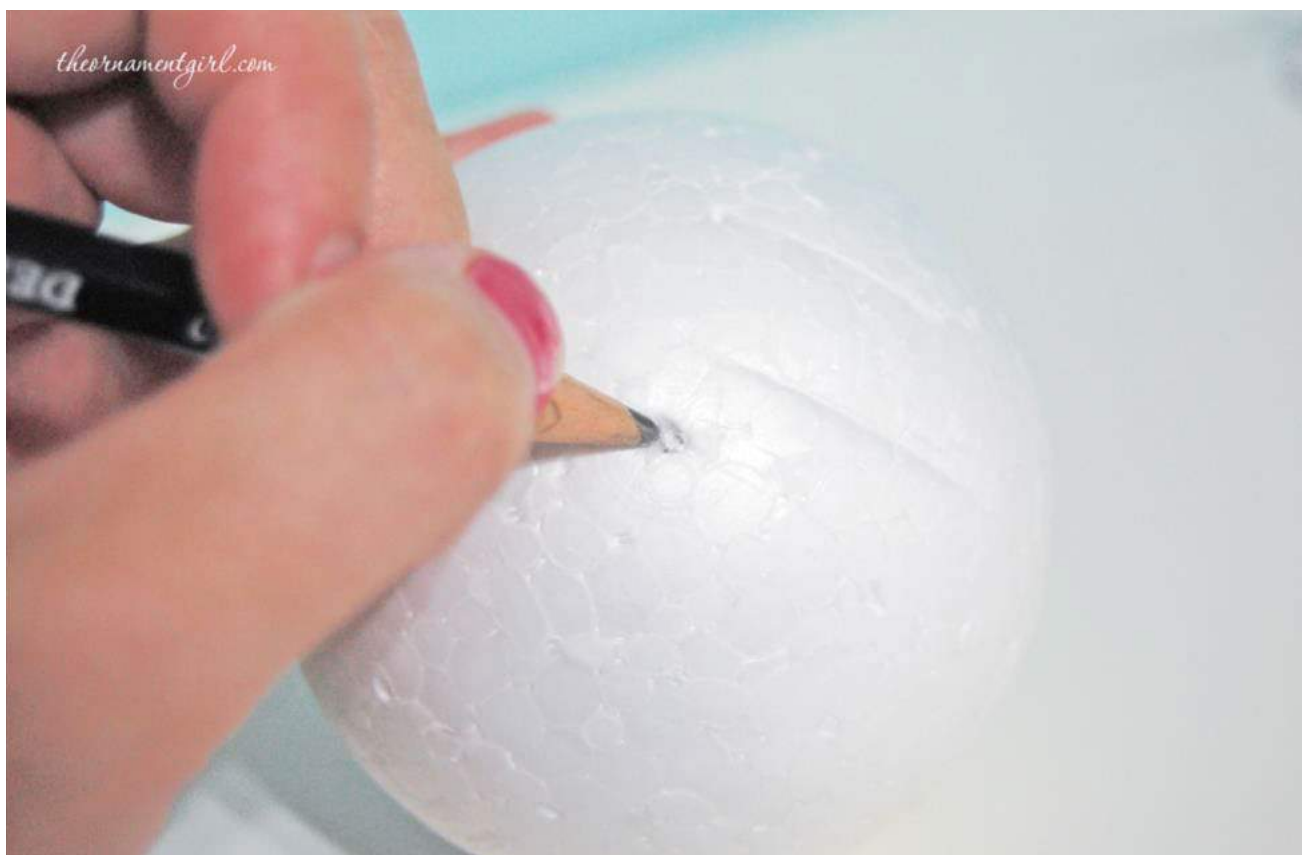
Having the 6 sections pre-marked makes this pattern a BREEZE!



Also, most smooth foam balls have indentations marking the two “poles” at each end of the ball, as shown below:



Since the poles can be difficult to see, it helps to mark them with a pencil:



Your ball may have some other minor indentations and imperfections, like mine does in the above photo. But as long as they aren't too deep and the ball isn't misshapen, don't worry about those just yet. We will be taking care of them after the design is drawn and cut out on the ball.



Now, using the equator as a guide, pin your measuring tape around the ball, with the centimeter side directly lined up along the equator line. (*Place extra pins to keep it from slipping, if necessary.*)



Make a pencil mark on the foam about every 4 cm until you have 6 marks at equal intervals around the ball.



When all 6 marks are made, remove the measuring tape.



Now you will draw lines from the top pole to the bottom pole to divide the ball into six segments. I like to use the edge of the measuring tape to help draw straight lines. Pin one end of the tape so its edge sits right beside one of the pole markings.



Now bring the tape down to the other pole, lining up the edge with one of the 6 marks that you made along the equator.



I like to pin it at all 3 points (at each pole and the equator).



Now lightly draw along the edge of the tape.



Remove the measuring tape...



Now repeat the process 5 more times, making a mark from pole to pole at every mark around the equator. When all 6 marks are made, your ball should look like this:



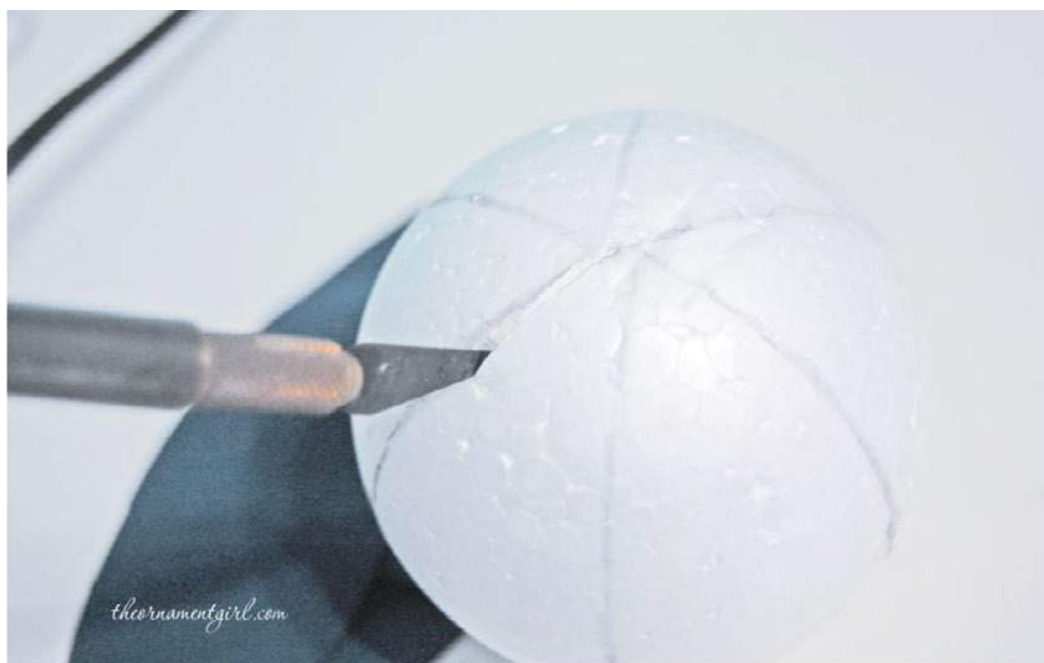
Your 6-panel design is done and ready to be cut.



An X-Acto knife will work for cutting the design, but if you plan to make a lot of these ornaments (They make wonderful Christmas gifts!), I highly recommend the small investment of a hot knife. I use this **Dremel Hot Knife (click here)**, and it makes this step a breeze! It cuts effortlessly through the foam!



Cut along your lines, about 1/2" deep.

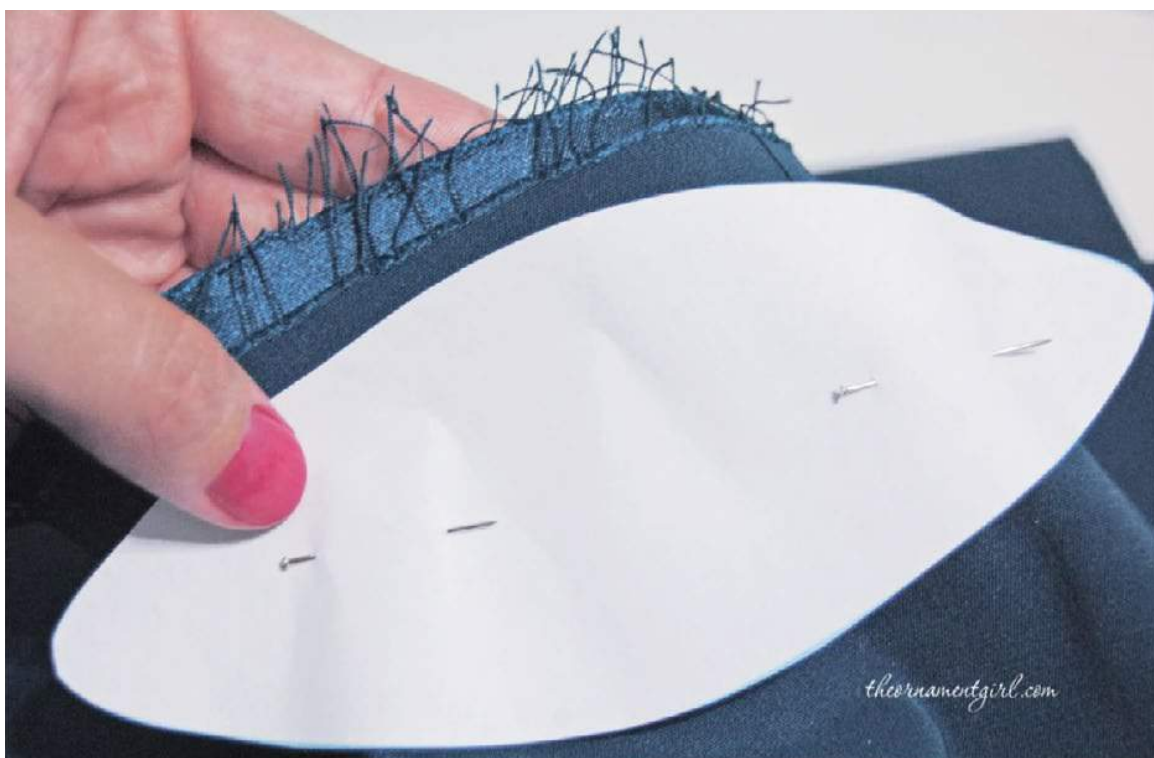


The ball prep is almost done! This is where I am a little picky... I like to make sure the ball is nice and smooth, because any indentations or bumps will be felt or seen through the fabric after it is on the ball. *(Some people add a layer of thin batting under each fabric piece, which can help hide imperfections, but I prefer to skip the batting and just smooth out the foam.)*

Using a very fine grit sandpaper, lightly sand any surfaces that are not smooth. I also sand the equator to make sure it does not show through the fabric.



Now the ball is ready for fabric! You will need 6 panels of fabric. There is a template at the very end of this tutorial which you can print out and use to cut out your fabric.



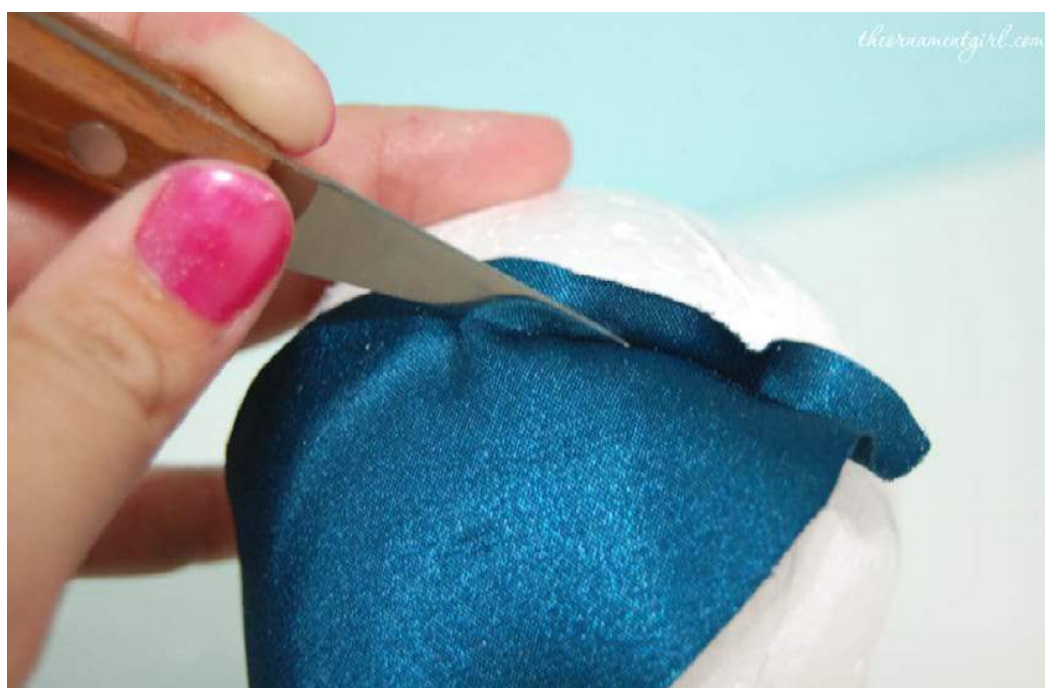
Lay one of your pieces of fabric over one of the cut-out sections on your ball.



Using a thin butter knife or a **fabric tucking tool** (**available in my supply shop... [click here](#)**), begin gently tucking the fabric into the grooves that you cut into the ball.

You will tuck the fabric from one pole to the other.

Hold the fabric in place with your other hand as you go to keep it from slipping around.



Now tuck the opposite side...



The tucking takes a little bit of practice. I often have to pull the piece of fabric right back out and try again when I've misaligned it or when it just doesn't seem to want to lay smoothly. With practice, it does get much easier after a few tries, I promise!

Once the fabric is tucked in and laying as smoothly as possible, trim the excess edges, I have found that using tiny scissors makes this much easier.

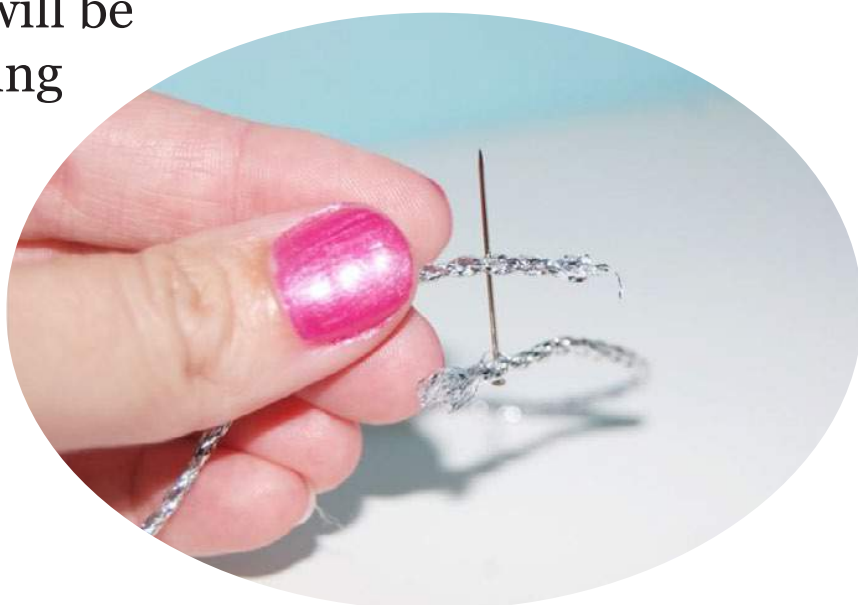


Now repeat with the other 5 fabric pieces. As you can see in the photo below, it will not look perfect between sections. That is fine, as the grooves will be covered with trim. Just be sure that there isn't excess fabric sticking out that would not be coverable by them.



Before adding the trim, we will add a hanger. I like to add the hanger first so the trim will be layered over the hanger, giving it additional security.

For this ornament, I use a length of silver braided trim as my hanger. Simply stick a straight pin through each end of the trim to form a loop...



Pick which end of the ornament you would like to be the top and put a dab of glue there. Then simply pin your loop into the center of the ornament, right down through the glue.



It's okay if it doesn't look perfect. The ends of the loop and the glue will be covered by the trim.



Adding the trim is my favorite part... It seems to magically transform lonely fabric pieces into a beautiful ornament! Starting at the top, run a thin line of glue down one of the grooves between sections. Do this one section at a time, and be careful not to get glue outside of the grooves, as it will leave a permanent residue on the fabric.



Starting at the top, situate the trim over the groove and press it down until the glue grabs.



Continue gluing the trim around, and when you come back to the top, simply turn the trim and continue down another groove.



Cover all edges, finishing at the top of the ornament. Cut off any excess trim. Then tuck the loose end under the layers of trim, adding a little glue underneath to hold it in place.

Tip: I use my tucking tool to help push the end of the trim under the other layers of trim, tucking it securely underneath.



For this particular design, I thread a crystal bead onto a pin and add it at the top of the ornament. Add a tiny bit of glue to the end of the pin for extra security.



And now you can further embellish the ornament however you'd like! For this *Moonlight* ornament, I'm adding crystal beads, seed beads, and tiny Swarovski crystal rhinestones...

To do this, thread a silver seed bead and then a clear crystal bead onto a pin.



Then add a *very tiny* dab of glue to the end of the pin, and place it on the ornament.



I added three beads in each fabric section...





I then glued Swarovski crystal rhinestones between the beads.
(Tip: For tiny pieces like these, tweezers are very helpful!)

Let the glue dry completely....



...and your ornament is finished!



YOU ARE DONE!

And it is beautiful!

These make incredible gifts too... Your recipients will be stunned!



I hope you enjoyed this tutorial!

I would love to see the ornament you made!

Please share a photo with me on Instagram, and use the hashtag
#ornamentgirls so I can see!

And, if you're an Ornament Girl Club member,
you'd better show us in the private Facebook group! (wink)



I hope you enjoyed this tutorial.

Questions?

I am more than happy to answer questions you may have about making your ornament. Just send me an email, at staciann@theornamentgirl.com.

I will get back to you as soon as I can and will answer your question(s) to the best of my ability.

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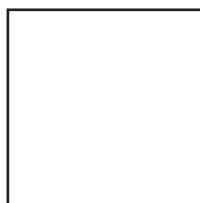
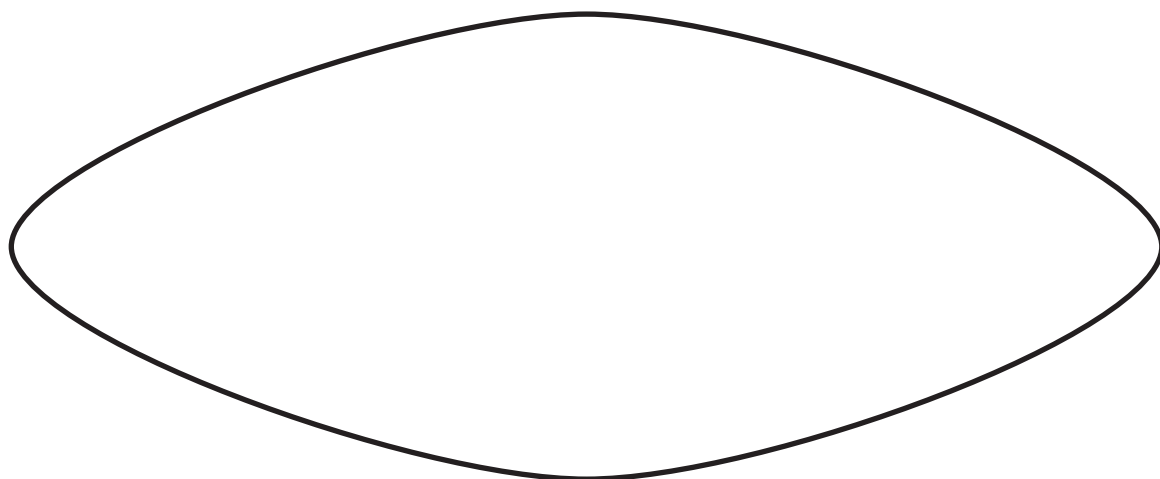
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Fabric Template for The Ornament Girl's "Moonlight" ornament

This page should be printed on regular, letter-size (8.5 x 11") paper. When you print it, TURN OFF any page scaling and "Fit to Page" settings to help ensure that it will print at its actual size (100%).



(For reference, this square should be about 1" x 1" when printed.)

