Debby’s Touch
by Debby Forshey-Choma
Snow Cap Ornaments

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**Royal Brushes** available through [www.RoyalBrush.com](http://www.RoyalBrush.com)

- #1360 – sm Debby Forshey’s Texture brush
- #3080 – 1 Oval Wash Combo
- #4150 – 0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 Majestic shaders
- #4160 – 5/8 Majestic angle

- #4170 – 4 Majestic filbert
- #4585 – 5/0, 0 Majestic liners
- #4700 – ½ Majestic glaze wash

**DecoArt Americana Acrylics** available through [www.DecoArt.com](http://www.DecoArt.com)

- Black Plum 172
- Blue Mist 178
- Camel 191
- Deep Midnight Blue 166
- Eggshell 153
- Honey Brown 163
- Santa Red 170
- Slate Grey 068
- Snow White 01
- Winter Blue 190

**DecoArt Sealers/Finishes**

- DuraClear Matte Varnish DS60

**Surface Source**

- X3 – Bottle Caps (1-3/4”) available through Amazon; [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).

**Misc Supplies**

- C-Thru Graph ruler
- Spray Sandable Primer - Grey
- Spattering Tool
- Drill; 1/16” drill bit
- 30” – 3 ply jute
- 18” Fun Wire (22” gauge, Icy Silver #84717) available through Toner Plastics, Inc., [www.tonerplastics.com](http://www.tonerplastics.com).

**Prep**

1. Drill two holes at the top of each bottle cap (approx. at 10 and 2 o’clock).

   Spray the entire bottle caps with the sandable primer.

   Basecoat the entire bottle caps with Deep Midnight Blue; using the glaze wash brush, to achieve an opaque coverage.

   When dry, transfer the designs to the surfaces.

   Use the graph ruler to aid in the transfer of any straight lines, by dragging the stylus along the ruler’s edge.

2. Corner load the angle with Winter Blue, float a wide shade across the top of the snow hills, floating down into the land areas.

   Now corner load with Snow White, float a narrower float over the Winter Blue float; to brighten.

   More snow will be added after the designs have been completed.

3. Transfer a center line for each background pine. Work only on a couple of pines at a time.

   Slightly pre-dampen the surface area with clean water; this will help the paint bleed, giving the boughs a softer effect.

   Load a 4 filbert across the chisel edge with Snow White.

   Up on the chisel edge vertically, slightly pull the top of the pine. Then horizontally, tapping from left to right for the boughs, slowly and slightly widening as you work towards the base of the pine.

   Allow a bit of the background to show through; so the pine doesn’t look like a triangle.

   Repeat the same steps with the remaining pines.
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When dry, load the 4 filbert with Snow White, lightly and randomly dance on the boughs; to brighten for snow.

Background Shrubs

4. With the appropriate size Texture brush and Snow White, dance in the background shrubs.
   Repeat step lightly and randomly over the shrubs; to brighten for snow.

   For proper use of the Texture brush, use the following method.
   Dampen the bristles with water to start the separation of bristles. Tap bristles into the paint on your palette, hold it perpendicular to your palette, pounce it up and down to get some of the paint off – keeping the paint sparse on the brush. Note – this brush can be used on the whole foot or just the toe.

   Tap lightly on the surface, dance with the brush up and down, rolling the brush in different directions in between your fingers when it is up in the air (like dancing the twist, light on your feet). Allow some drying time in between dances so the paint sets up and you don’t end up with a globby or muddy look.

Painting Structures

5. Use the appropriate size shaders to basecoat the structures.
   The appropriate size liners to pull wall lines.
   Use the appropriate size shaders to wash over the shade side walls; corner load the angle to float shade on the opposite wall.
   Each numbered step will contain instructions to complete the structure.
   Roofs, windows, doors will be completed in a later step.
   Refer to line drawing for numbering.

Structure Setting #1

6. Camel – basecoat walls
   Honey Brown – pull wall lines, wash over right side wall, float shading across top of left walls

Structure Setting #2

7. Blue Mist – basecoat barn walls
   Eggshell – basecoat silo wall
   Slate Grey – pull silo wall lines, float shading down the right side
   Deep Midnight Blue – pull wall lines, wash over right wall, float shading across top of left wall, down right side of left wall

Structure Setting #3

8. Santa Red + Slate Grey – basecoat walls
   Santa Red – re-basecoat walls
   Black Plum – pull wall lines, wash over left wall, float shading across top of right wall

Roofs

9. Basecoat the roofs with Snow White; using the appropriate size shaders.
   Corner load the angle with Deep Midnight Blue, float a shade across the top of each roof.
   Double load the 0 liner with Snow White + Deep Midnight Blue, pull the side roof lines and silo lightning rod.
   Then with the 0 liner and Snow White, pull a line above the roof lines; to brighten.

Windows and Doors

10. With the appropriate size shaders and Deep Midnight Blue, pull the windows.
    Using the 4 shader, pull the doors –
    Eggshell – white door              Camel – yellow door and bell

    Corner load the angle with Deep Midnight Blue, float shading across top of Eggshell door; Honey Brown across top of Camel door.
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Foreground Pines
11. Repeat step in Background Pines to complete the two foreground pines on structure setting #1.

Ground Snow Piles
12. With the sm Texture brush and Snow White, dance snow piles under the structures; refer to photo for placement.

Ground Snow
13. To add more snow, corner load the angle with Snow White, randomly chisel float* snow along the horizon, under structures, snow piles and over foreground land areas; refer to photo.

*chisel float by corner loading the angle, blend off on your palette, lay the bristles of the brush flat on the surface, chisel edge up. Push the paint on the bristles front left to right in a scratching motion, allowing the bristles to pull a broken line that is slightly floated.

Falling Snow
14. With the Spatter Tool and thinned Snow White, lightly spatter over the designed surfaces.

Finishing
15. To protect finished pieces, varnish the entire caps with the DuraClear Matte Varnish.
Use the Oval Wash Combo to apply the varnish; this brush doesn't leave any visible brushstroke marks after the varnish has dried.

Finishing Touches
16. Cut the Fun Wire into 3 – 6” pieces.
Pull the pieces of Fun Wire through the holes on each cap, form a loop to hang, then twist ends around.

Cut the jute into 3 – 10” pieces, tie into a bow on each Fun Wire loop.

For questions concerning this project, you can contact Debby at debbyforshey@gmail.com, visit her website at www.DebbysTouch.com or on Facebook.
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#1

#2

#3
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