

Valentine Table

By Martha Sims



Create a heart-shape cake, plates and napkins on a draped table for Valentine's Day. Next month, using a greeting card, we'll make a setting in which to place the table.

What You'll Need for Draped Table

- Foam coffee cup
- White glue
- Toothpick
- Compass
- Clear nail polish
- Sharp scissors
- Fabric for table cloth—approximately 7" square
- Hair spray
- 16 narrow hair clips, bobby pins or paper clips

1. Set compass for 3½ inches. Draw a 7" circle on the wrong side of your fabric. (If you don't have a compass, make your own with a pencil and a 3½" string or thread tied to a thumbtack.)

2. Paint a narrow line of nail polish just inside the pencil line. This will keep the fabric from fraying. Let dry.

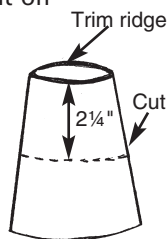
3. The bottom of the cup will be your tabletop. If your cup has a little ridge around the bottom, carefully trim it off with scissors.

4. Mark around cup 2¼ inches up from bottom. Cut on this line.

5. Cut out fabric circle just inside pencil line.

6. Lay fabric circle flat, wrong side up. Put a tiny dot of white glue in the middle of the table top and center it on the fabric. Let dry.

7. Using a toothpick, put a small line of glue on one side of the table near the bottom edge. Pull the fabric on that side straight down over the glue and hold it there with a clip or a pin. (The fabric may reach a little farther than the foam, but that's OK—it will be very stiff when you're finished and will support the table.)



8. Repeat on opposite side of the table, then half way between those two clips. Continue gluing folds around table, making each fold halfway between the next two clips, until you have made about 16 folds.

9. Spray draped table thoroughly with hair spray. Let dry. Remove clips.

10. Glue the table to a floor with tiny dots of glue around the bottom of the fabric folds. (If you don't glue your table into a scene right away, cut a circle of cardboard just a little smaller than the base of the table. Glue it inside the base to reinforce the cup.)



What You'll Need for Cake and Cake Plate

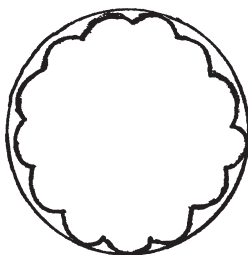
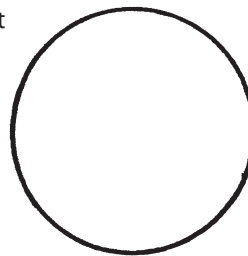
- Stiff white card from notebook cover, old greeting card, or unlined index card
- Decorative-edge scissors
- Scissors
- White craft foam
- Acrylic paint—whatever color you want for cake icing
- Paintbrush or sponge brush
- White glue

1. Trace circle on white card. Use decorative scissors to cut it out. This is your fancy cake plate.

2. Trace hearts. Cut one of each from white craft foam.

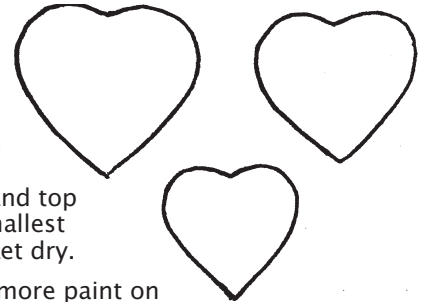
3. Paint top and edges of each heart with icing color. Let dry.

4. Spread a thin layer of white glue on bottom of largest heart



and glue in center of cake plate. Glue on middle heart, and top with smallest heart. Let dry.

5. Dab more paint on top of heart cake, leaving it kind of bumpy and swirled, like icing. Dab on a second coat if needed.



What You'll Need for Napkins

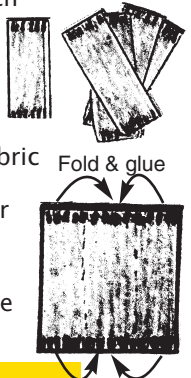
- Scraps of lightweight solid colored fabric
- Sharp scissors
- White glue

1. Cut fabric into four ¾-inch squares.

2. Pull threads to fringe two opposite ends of each square.

3. Fold one plain edge of fabric to the wrong side, and glue the opposite plain edge over it.

4. Arrange napkins on table with glued edges down. Glue them in place.



What You'll Need for Paper Plates

- White or colored cardstock
- Scissors
- Paper napkin, folded
- Pen
- White glue

1. Trace pattern and cut out circles of cardstock.

2. Lay each circle on folded napkin and press down in center with smooth flat end of a pen. This will put a dent in the center and crinkle up edges slightly.

3. Stack plates together slightly off center and glue them to table.



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