TIN CAN CANDLE HOLDER

Tin was used to make lanterns, candle holders, cups, and all sorts of household items from the 1600’s until the late 1800’s when other options became widely available. You can make your own punched tin candle holder with some upcycled materials you probably already have in your home.

*This project requires the supervision and help of an adult*

What you need:

- A clean empty tin can
- Water
- Hammer
- Nail
- Freezer
- Marker

To make your candle holder:

1. Fill the can with water and place in the freezer overnight or until the water is frozen solid.
2. Remove can with frozen water from the freezer and place it on a towel on the ground or table.
3. Using a marker, mark out the pattern you wish to punch in your candle holder. (shapes like stars, suns, and letters are common)
4. Place the point of the nail on one of the dots and strike the nail with the hammer. If the nail doesn’t go all the way through, hit it again. You may need an adult to help.
5. Repeat on all the dots until you have the design you want
6. Place the can in the sink, or outside where it won’t make a mess when it melts.
7. If there is still marker on the can wash it off, or ask an adult to use rubbing alcohol to remove it.
8. You can now put a tea light candle in your candle holder (the battery operated ones are great!) or use it as a vase for artificial flowers, or as a pencil holder.

**Be careful, the top edge, and inside will be sharp!**
Here are some sample patterns to use: