

## Think Outside the Trash Can

by Alissa Trowbridge

I'm not a pack rat. I promise. However, I do hesitate to throw away cool alterable items. In this new monthly column, I'm going to show you one item I could have tossed into the recycling bin, but decided to turn into something fabulous instead. It's the scrappy version of reduce, reuse, recycle. I hope this column inspires you to think outside the trash can and use up those scraps while you're at it!

This month, my family received a wonderful food basket from a thoughtful friend. Most of the goodies were in boxes, except for a chunk of cheese. Not only was it tasty, but the paper container was just too cute to toss! The cheese itself was shrink-wrapped and then placed in the box, so I didn't have to worry about the container being dirty. Note: You could purchase an inexpensive container at a craft store for this project. Look for a plain 4" round paper box.

The container before:



The first thing I did was lightly sand the sticker on the top of the box. Then I applied three thin coats of orange paint inside and out, letting it dry between each coat.



Using my Curvy Cutter, I cut paper circles using scraps from this month's Scenic Route kit to fit the outside and inside of the container. I then embellished the outside of the container with leftover kit bits. I made this to hold a gift card for a two year old, so make the sticker embellishment work for your use.



Here's how it turned out!

It's fun to turn what was once worth nothing into something fabulous. Not only did I use up my scraps, but I now have a cute box to send to my friend. I don't even have to wrap it!