Victorian Tree Ornaments

Christmas trees became a popular part of the holiday season in 19th-century Europe and America. The Victorians (people who lived in the 19th century during the reign of the English Queen Victoria) typically decorated trees with lit candles, sweets, small gifts, and home-made ornaments like paper fans and cornucopias.

Victorian Fan

Paper fans are made by folding and snipping paper to create a pleated, lacy ornament.

What you will need:

- 6 x 11 inch piece of paper (or similar)
- Scissors
- Stapler
- Ribbon
- Optional: glue, sequins, pressed flowers
- 1. Fold the paper back and forth in accordion fashion, making each fold about 3/4 inches wide.
- 2. Staple the end of the fan, about one inch from the end, to make a handle.
- 3. Cut notches from both edges in the shape of triangles, half hearts, or other simple shapes. *Tip: The more that is cut away from the folded edges, the lacier your fan will be, but leave enough uncut along the edges to hold the fan together.*
- 4. Cut two tiny notches into either side of the fan's handle, just above the staple. Tie a ribbon bow around the handle where the notches are. The notch will hold the ribbon in place.
- 5. Stretch the top of the fan into an open position.
- 6. Display the fan on a branch of a Christmas tree, in a window, or anywhere else you choose!
- 7. Optional: Decorate your fan further! Glue ribbon on the paper edges, weave ribbon through the notches, or glue sequins or pressed flowers onto the fan.

Cornucopia

Cornucopias were cone-shaped ornaments filled with nuts, candies, dried flowers, or small gifts. The name comes from the Latin words "cornu" (horn) and "copia" (plenty), referring to a horn-shaped container overflowing with food that symbolized the blessings of abundance.

What you will need:

- 8.5 x 5 inch piece of paper
- Tape
- Hole punch
- Ribbon
- Optional: stickers, markers, special treats or holly
- 1. Roll the paper into a funnel shape. Make sure the opening is the widest part of the cone, and that there is a pointed flap of paper at the back of the opening.
- 2. Tape along the rolled edge and at the base to hold it in a funnel shape.
- 3. Decorate the funnel with stickers or markers.
- 4. Use a hole punch to make one hole in the pointed flap at the opening of the ornament. Loop a ribbon through the hole to make a hanger.
- 5. Put special treats or holly in the cornocupia.
- 6. Hang it on a tree or door!





