

**TIME:** 2 Hours **SKILL:** Moderate

# Coffee Can Illuminaries

Use simple tin punching techniques to recycle coffee cans into garden lighting!

## Tools Required

- Small Hammer with different size nails or
- Lightweight Drill with different size drill bits
- Clamps (to hold the piece in place while you are working)
- Scrap Piece of Wood (to secure the cans onto the work surface)

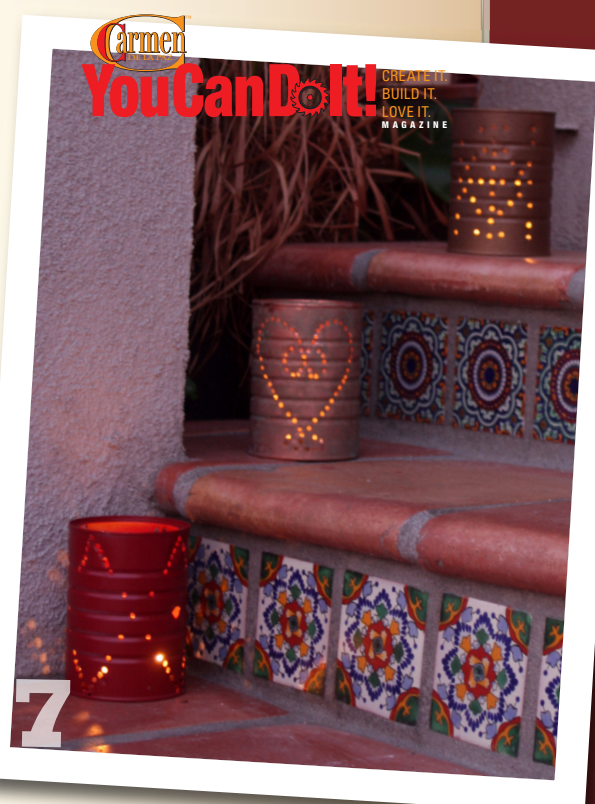
## Materials Needed

- Coffee Cans (could also be any size can—vegetable can, tomato sauce can, etc.)
- Spray Paint of Choice and Primer
- Rough Grit Sandpaper or Fine File
- Ruler
- Permanent Marker
- Optional: Speed square (for quick right angles)
- Optional: Compass (for quick and accurate circles)
- Safety Glasses—mandatory for all
- Gloves—optional for adults,

mandatory for children  
Small Votive Candle or battery-operated candle (if children are using)

## Step-By-Step

1. Remove any paper label and sand off any excess glue or paper.
2. Using a permanent marker, draw or outline the design you want to punch onto the can.
3. Using the clamps and scrap piece of wood, secure the can to a solid work surface.
4. Carefully tap with the hammer and nail or drill holes long the lines of the image you are working on.
5. Note: You can either be very exact by measuring out the space in between the holes or you can go free hand for a



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real handcrafted look.  
6. Paint, Patina—or not! You can choose to leave the natural look and not paint them. They will look awesome. I decided to paint and patina a few just to show you all the options. I applied primer first, then painted.  
7. Place the small candle inside and wait for the darkness to come.



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