Halloween *Explosion Box*
a Paper Made *Bakery* TUTORIAL

(3)   12 x 12 cardstock (Orange and Black); scraps for tags
Variety of Halloween themed patterned papers
Ribbon & tulle
Goofy skull rose (Michaels)

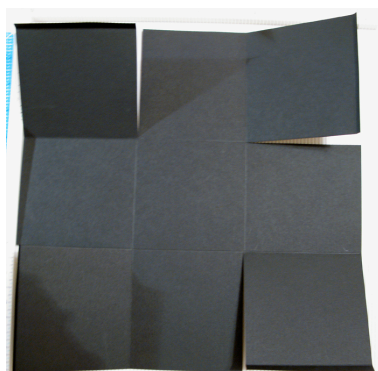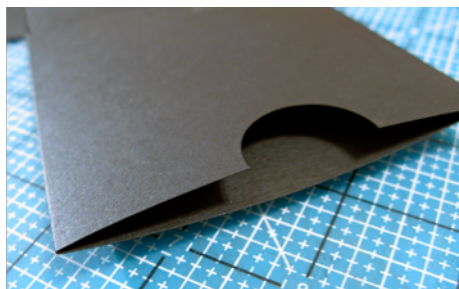Basic Toolkit with paper trimmer, scissors, variety of adhesives
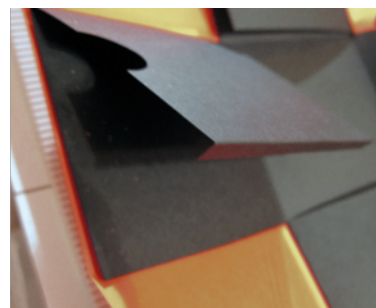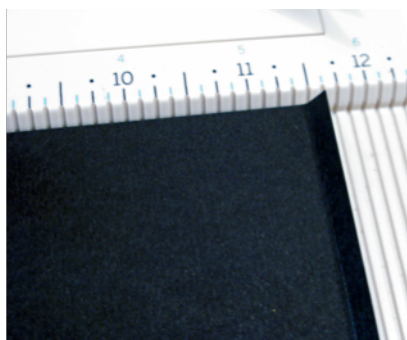Stamps/inks
Tiny Attacher (stapler)
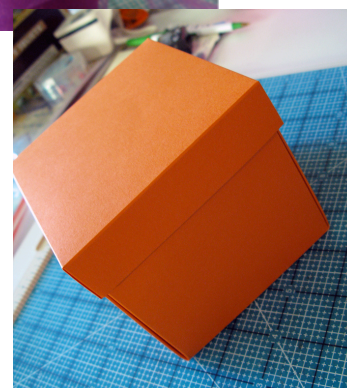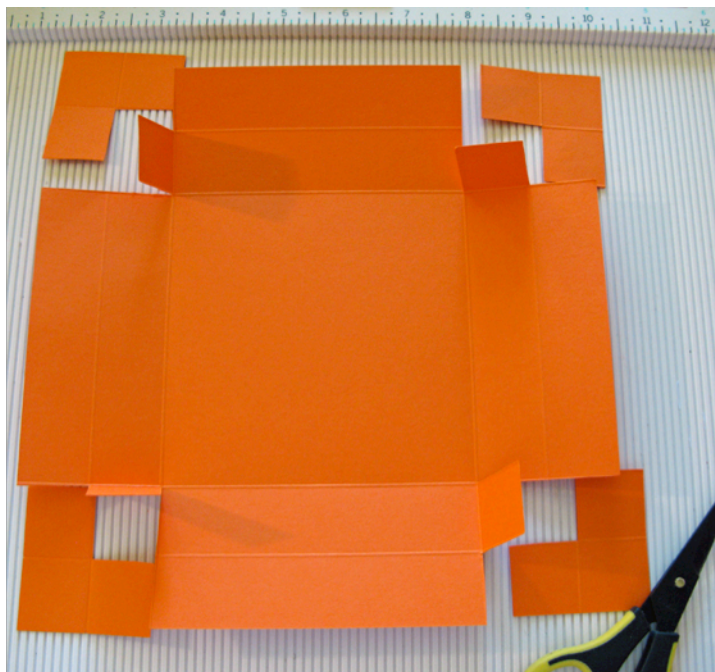¼" Strong adhesive like ATG or Sticky Tape

To create the basic explosion box begin by scoring a 12 x 12 piece of cardstock at the 4" and 8" marks, then rotate the paper once and score at 4" and 8" again. This will give you an even grid appearance. Now score each of the four corner squares diagonally. Set this piece aside and we'll create the pocket insert.

You can add several pocket inserts, if you like, by following the same procedures described here and then layering the finished pocket pages using very strong adhesive tape. For the pocket insert, score an 11¾" x 11¾" piece of cardstock in a coordinating color to the base you just finished at 4" and 7¾"; rotate once and score again at 4" and 7¾". Now you'll score at 11½" the length of one box only; rotate and do this for all four sides/squares. Cut a slit between the bottom of one of these four scored squares and the middle square below it; do this to all four squares. If you like, punch a half-circle notch on the front of each pocket. Apply strong adhesive tape to scored/folded side, fold over and adhere to the bottom to create this new pocket. Do this so you end up with four pockets. Adhere pocket page to the base by placing strong adhesive tape on the bottom of the center square and adhering that to the center square of the base.

Finally, to create the lid simply, score an 8¼" x 8¼" piece of cardstock at 1", 2", 6¼", and 7¼". Rotate once and score again at these same measurements. Crease along fold lines and then snip away three of the resulting 1" squares as shown in this illustration. Snip between the final 1" squares as shown. Fold at score lines from the outside inward to create the lid.

Cut patterned paper pieces slightly smaller than the area they'll decorate. For the notched pocket pieces simply lay down a measured piece of paper (i.e., 3¾" x 3¾") over the pocket and rub your thumbnail over the paper where the notch is below, creating an indentation. Flip your circle punch over so you can see the hole and cut the half-circle notch. Adhere the patterned pieces to their cardstock bases.

Add embellishments such as stickers, ribbons, and die cuts as desired, including tags that will fit into the pockets, too. Stamp or cut out sentiments for spooky touches. If you want, ink the edges of the exposed cardstock to give the box a grungier look! Add photos of your favorite spooky kids, dogs and neighbors. As a final touch, add a goofy or scary topper to the lid and embellish with ribbon or tulle.

Looking into box without lid…