

Tinware

Crafted by tinsmiths, tinware is any item made of prefabricated tinplate. Tinplate originated in Bohemia during the Middle Ages, but by the sixteenth century Germany was the only source of tinplate in Europe. In 1618, the Thirty Years War interrupted tinplate production and caused many European nations to start tinplate manufacturing industries of their own.

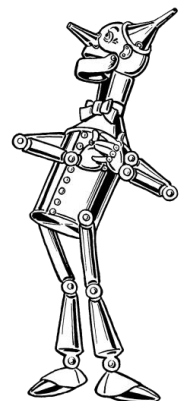
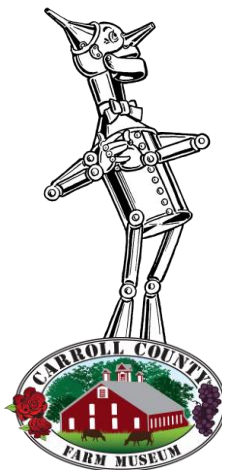
After the McKinley Tariff bill was passed in 1890, the U.S. tinplate industry became the largest in the world. During the Industrial Revolution, many inventors designed new tin creations. Tinware was often sold by traveling salesmen called Yankee Peddlers.

Tin was used to create cake pans, pie plates, serving trays, baking sheets, cookie cutters, canisters, kitchen utensils, measuring cups, plates and mugs, gelatin molds, and even housewares like lanterns and candle holders.

In the 20th century, aluminum and plastic became a more affordable material for kitchenware.

In 1970, there was an annual production of 12 to 13 million tons of tinplate – 90% of which was used to manufacture packaging like tin cans.

*If you were a tinsmith, what would you make out of tin?
Could you sell your tinware creation?
If so, to who and how would it benefit them?*



Tinware from the Collection

These tinware items are part of the Carroll County Farm Museum's collection. They have been donated throughout the years from members of the community. We rotate these items and many others on display in the Farmhouse.



Tin Punch Pie Plate Craft

Supplies

Aluminum Disposable Pie Plates

Push Pins

Scrap cardboard (old cereal or cracker boxes would be perfect)

Tape – masking or painters tape is best, but regular gift-wrapping tape will work

Templates (Page 4 of this document)*

Embellishments – ribbon, lace (optional)

Instructions

1. Print the templates*, and cut them out leaving a ½ inch border around each picture.
2. Tape the template of your choice to the center bottom of your pie plate. You will be removing the template at the end, so only use a little bit of tape so it is easier to remove later.
3. Sit your pie plate on top of a couple of pieces of card board. This is to protect the surface underneath when you start punching the tin. An old towel or newspaper would work too.
4. Use the push pin to punch holes around the lines of the picture. You want the holes to be close together, but there should be space in between the holes – about the width of a pencil tip.
5. Remove the template and hang your tin punch creation in the window as a sun-catcher. You can also glue ribbon or lace around the edge of your pie plate as added decoration.

***Note:** You can also freehand a design instead of using the included templates, or combine a couple of the templates to make a unique design as well.



Tin Punch Pie Plate Craft Templates

Use the templates below for the tin punch pie plate craft.

