



Simple Paper Flowers

Spring is here and there are lots of colourful flowers appearing out in our gardens and parks. Wouldn't it be lovely to have them bringing some colour into our homes? We can make some paper flowers which we can keep forever, to display on a windowsill or make a beautiful picture for the wall.



Things you will need to make these flowers:

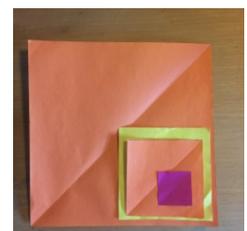
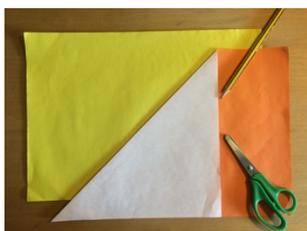


- Colourful squares of paper
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Glue
- Felt pens/colouring pencils/crayons
- Sticks/plastic straws/lollipop sticks/pipe cleaners
- Sticky tape
- Optional extra decorations: paper cake cases, buttons, foam shapes, feathers etc

You can use all sorts of paper for these flowers as long as it's not too thick (card is too thick) You can make your own coloured paper by drawing patterns on plain white paper or you can cut squares out of old magazines, especially the colourful bits.



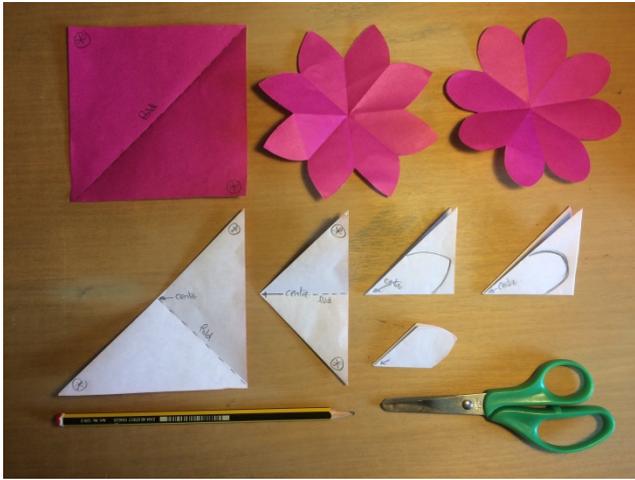
How to make a square out of a rectangle piece of paper:



- Take one corner of your rectangle and fold it diagonally to the opposite side, lining up the edges.
- Draw down the side of the triangle and cut the strip off. Unfold the paper and you have your square!
- Don't throw the strip away! Fold down a corner at each end, as before and you get two small squares. If you do the same again with the little piece that's left over you can get two tiny squares!
- You can also cut a square into 4 smaller ones by folding it into quarters, then cut along the fold lines.
- Now you have lots of sizes - the yellow one in the picture is a quarter of the large one, the small orange square comes from the spare strip off the large sheet and the tiny pink square is from the left over scrap of paper.
- You can also use these squares to draw round and help you cut squares from the pages of old magazines.



HOW TO MAKE YOUR PAPER FLOWERS



FLOWERS

1. Take your square of paper and fold one corner over diagonally to meet the opposite corner
2. Taking care to remember where the centre of the square is, fold the triangle in half again, joining the other two corners together (corners marked with *).
3. Repeat again (always keep the centre point at the middle of the folds)
4. Draw a petal shape onto the small triangle (with the centre at the bottom of the petal)
5. Cut out the petal and open up your flower. Petal shapes can be pointed or rounded, you can experiment.

LEAVES

This one is easy, just cut lots of leaf shapes out of any green paper or colour in your own leaves. They can be any size or shape you like.



1. When you have a few flowers of different sizes you can arrange them on top of each other and when you're happy with how your flower looks you can glue them together in the centre of each flower.
2. If you want to add more decoration you can use felts and draw patterns or you can use any crafting decorations you might have. (if you want to glue buttons on you will need a stronger glue like PVA)
3. When the glue is dry turn the flower over and tape on whatever stick or straw you have for the stalk. Also tape on any leaves.
4. There you are, you have the start of your own collection of colourful flowers!
5. Display them in a jar or vase, make a picture by gluing them onto card or stick smaller ones onto a folded piece of card to give to friends and family as a greeting card.

Curious

All instructions courtesy of Jessica Kemp & Sarah Manton of Curious Nottingham Ltd
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