

How to make hand-made paper.

Discussion Questions:

- 1) What is paper made from?
- 2) How can paper be made at home?
- 3) What can be added to the paper for decoration?
- 4) How does recycling paper help the environment?

Paper is torn into small pieces and soaked overnight with water. It needs to be mixed thoroughly with a blender to break down the fibres of the paper as much as possible.





- The paper making frame consists of a set of two frames. The bottom one contains a fine wire mesh, the top one forms the border for the paper.
- The mixture is stirred to ensure the fibres are well distributed.
- The frame set is dipped into the mixture to catch the paper mush. The frame is gently moved to a horizontal position making sure to distribute the mushy water evenly in the tray.
- The frame is carefully lifted out of the mixture, allowing excess water to drain through the wire mesh.





- The top frame is removed and the meshed frame, containing the wet paper pulp, is flipped onto a piece of cloth. The wet paper sticks to the cloth.
- Repeat the process again and stack each new 'paper and cloth' layer on top of the last.
- Place something heavy on top of the stack to squeeze out the water. Leave overnight.

The pieces of paper can then be peeled away from their cloth backings and air dried.



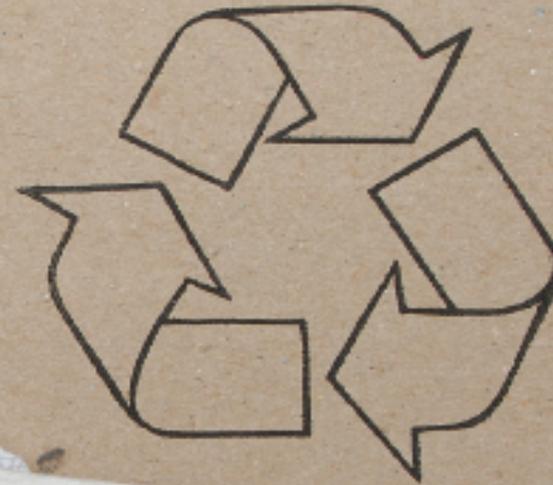
The recycled paper is now ready to be drawn on or written on!



- Dyes can be added to the paper pulp to make different coloured paper.
- Dried flowers can be sprinkled across the pulp in the frame to make decorative paper.
- Perfume can be sprayed across the pulp in the frame to make scented paper.



Making your own recycled paper is fun and good for the environment!



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