

# REPURPOSING SKILLS

## How to create your own paper from recycled materials?

### Materials:

- scrap paper (newspaper, paper from junk mail, kraft paper, etc)
- food processor or blender
- some sort of screen
- large bowl
- large shallow tub to hold water
- towels that have a fine weave or microfiber towels
- larger absorbent towels

### Instructions to make handmade paper

#### Step 1: How to make paper pulp

Rip your scrap paper into small pieces. Add water to the bowl, making sure that they are submerged. Soak the paper for an hour or two. After soaking, place the paper into your blender or food processor. Add enough water to cover. Blend into a pulp. The mixture should be smooth and well blended.





## Step 2: Create your paper

Fill your large shallow tub with a few inches of water. Add the paper pulp to the water and stir well. Submerge your screen into the water and slowly raise it, letting the paper pulp settle on the screen in a thin even layer. You want the layer of pulp to cover the entire screen. If the layer is too thin it'll be difficult to remove from the screen or may rip.

(optional) If you are adding dried flowers to your paper you can either mix them into the tub with the paper pulp initially or press them into the pulp immediately after removing the screen from the water. Both options will provide a different look— I prefer adding them on top of the paper and pressing them in, but keep in mind that several of the petals may fall off after the paper dries if you choose this option.



IMPORTANT! Do NOT pour any leftover water down the drain when you are done. It can clog your pipes. As long as you didn't use paper that had any toxic dyes or finishes the water is safe to water plants in your garden. Simply mix any paper bits into the soil.



Step 3: Remove excess water from your paper

Place the entire screen on top of one of your larger absorbent towels and use a fine weave towel (or microfiber towel) to gently press down to absorb any excess water. Repeat until you've removed as much water as

possible. Use the towel to press straight down– avoid shifting the pulp around as this may cause holes to form.

#### Step 4: Finishing your paper

Place one of your fine weave towels down and flip the screen over. Starting in one corner, gently unroll and remove the paper from the screen while it is upside down. If the paper is a good thickness it should release easily. If you are having difficulty removing the paper, your paper may be too thin or still too wet. Let the paper dry at room temperature in a warm and well-ventilated area.



### How to Make Incense with Fresh Flowers and Herbs?

#### Materials Required:

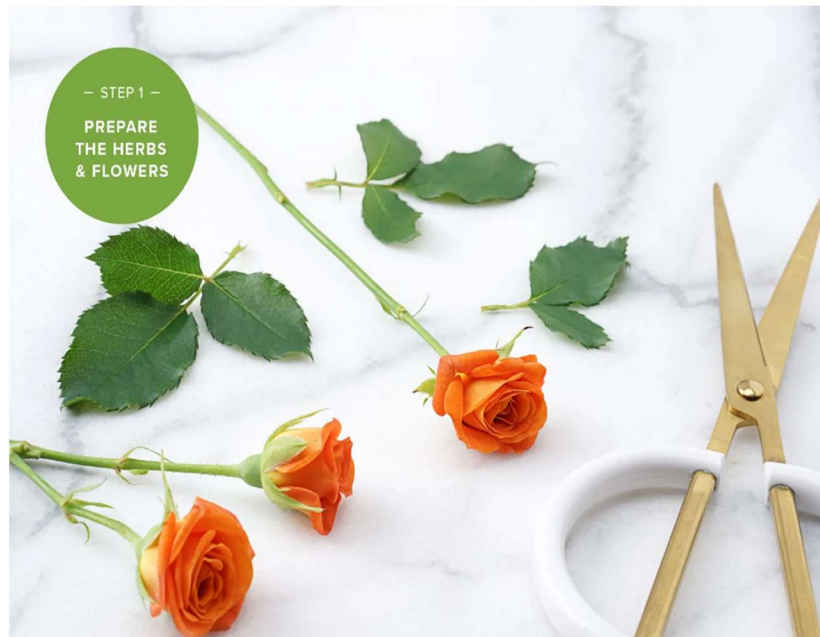
- Cotton twine
- Flowers and herbs
- Scissors
- Heat-proof plate
- Hanger

- Matches or a lighter

## STEPS TO MAKE:

Step 1: Prepare and cut the herbs and flowers.

Cut the herb stems to about six inches in length and cut the flower stems between three to six inches. Remove any extra leaves from your flowers.



Step 2: Bundle the herbs and flowers together.

Herbs with big leaves like bay and eucalyptus are great to use as a base for your bundle. Lay your flowers on top of the herbs to keep them secure.





Step 3: Use your twine to secure your incense bundle.

Unravel a long piece of twine about five to eight times as long as your bundle.

- Tie your twine around the stem-side of your bundle to keep it together. Leave about 3 inches of twine on the shorter side.
- After you've secured the bottom, tightly wrap the long end of the twine upwards around the bundle until you reach the top.
- Next, tightly wrap your bundle downwards in the opposite direction.
- Once you've reached the bottom of the bundle, you need to tie the long end of the twine to the short end to secure it.



Step 4: Hang your bundles upside down to dry for two to three weeks.

Use the long end of your twine to tie your bundle upside down from your hanger to dry. Find a cool, dry spot with good circulation to hang your bundles. Dry the bundle completely before using it or else the bundle will not burn. Check out our guide for more tips on drying flowers.



Step 5: Place your bundles on a heat-proof plate and light your incense.

Take your incense from the hanger and place it on your plate. Light the herbs until they start to smoke. Blow out the fire, let it smolder and enjoy!

Now that you know how to make incense, you can start prepping a few bundles ahead of time. This way, you'll have some dried incense bundles ready to go for your next occasion! Store your incense bundles in a cool and dry location. Exposure to moisture or heat can cause the bundles to mold or become more brittle.





## **How to make ecofriendly coconut soap tray?**

### **Materials Needed:**

- Coconut shells
- Sandpaper
- Saw (for cutting the coconut)
- Drill with a small drill bit
- Natural oil (like coconut oil) for finishing
- Optional: Non-toxic glue (if you want to add feet to the tray)

### **Steps:**

#### **1. Prepare the Coconut Shells:**

- Find a coconut that is large enough to hold a bar of soap.
- Cut the coconut in half using a saw. Make sure to cut it evenly.
- Remove the coconut meat from the shell. You can use the meat for cooking or other purposes.





## 2. Clean the Shell:

- Wash the coconut shell thoroughly to remove any remaining coconut meat and debris.
- Let it dry completely.



## 3. Sand the Edges:

- Use sandpaper to smooth the edges of the coconut shell. This will prevent any rough spots from scratching surfaces or your hands.
- Sand the inside of the shell lightly to ensure it's smooth.



#### 4. Drill Drainage Holes:

- Using a small drill bit, carefully drill a few holes in the bottom of the shell. These holes will allow water to drain, keeping your soap dry and extending its life.
- Be gentle while drilling to avoid cracking the shell.



#### 5. Finish the Surface:

- Apply a thin layer of natural oil (like coconut oil) to the shell. This will help to seal the surface and give it a nice finish.
- Allow the oil to soak in and then wipe off any excess.



## **How to make a Wall Hanging?**

### **Material Required:**

1. Cardboard
2. Hot Glue
3. Craft Glue
4. Acrylic Colours
5. Gold Acrylic Colour
6. Air-dry clay
7. Scissors
8. Clay Cutting Tools
9. Pencil
10. Knife
11. Glass Mirrors
12. Dowels
13. Double-Sided Tape

### **STEPS TO MAKE WALL HANGING**

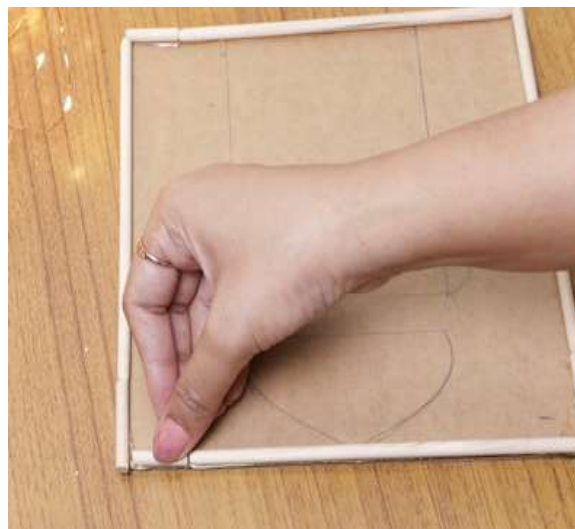
## Step 1: Prepare the Cardboards



## Step 2: Draw Patterns



## Step 3: Frame Making With Dowels



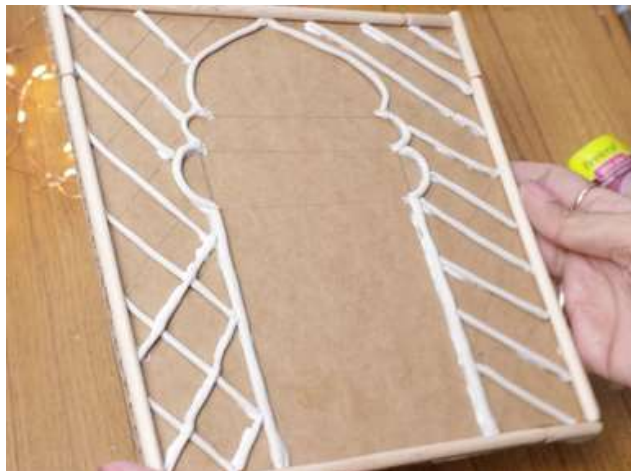
## Step 4: Roll the Clay



Step 5: Clay Work



Step 6: Design With Air Dry Clay



Step 7: Draw the Motifs

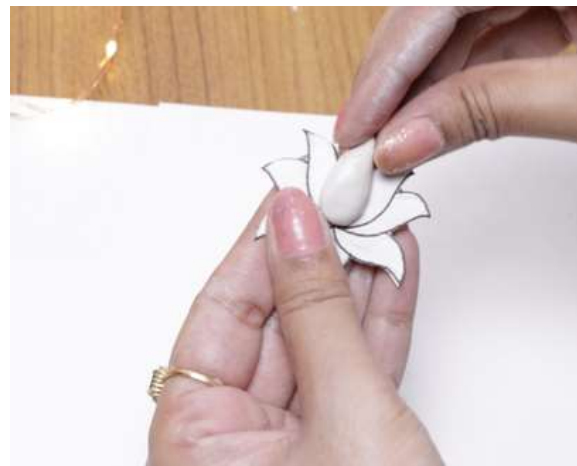




Step 8: Cut Out the Motifs



Step 9: Make the Motifs With Clay



Step 10: Engrave the Motifs



Step 11: Coloring



Step 12: Add Antique Touch to the Frames and Motifs



Step 13: Stick the Motifs



Step 14: Decorate With Glass Mirrors



Step 15: Decorate the Wall Hanging



