

Tutorial: Waldorf Paper Lanterns

Modified from <http://willywamwhimsy.blogspot.com/2014/03/tutorial-waldorf-paper-lanterns.html?m=1> by Harpswell Heritage Land Trust



A (mostly) visual tutorial on how to make these Waldorfy paper lanterns. They are quick and easy to make and look magical, perfect for a Lantern Festival, Martinmas, or Winter Solstice celebration.

Step 1.



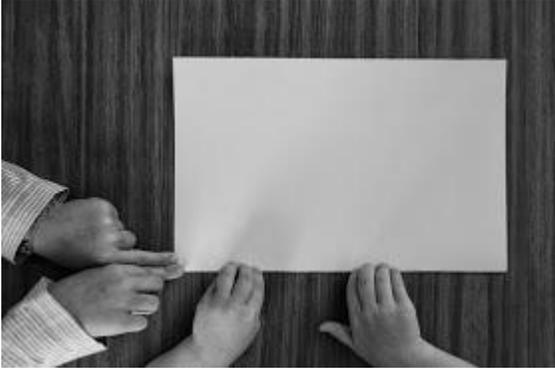
Take a large piece of paper. I use a standard large watercolor pad (11x15). Have the children paint one side of the paper with watercolors and/or pastels, covering as much of the white as possible. For this tutorial I have left the paper blank. Let paint dry.

Step 2.



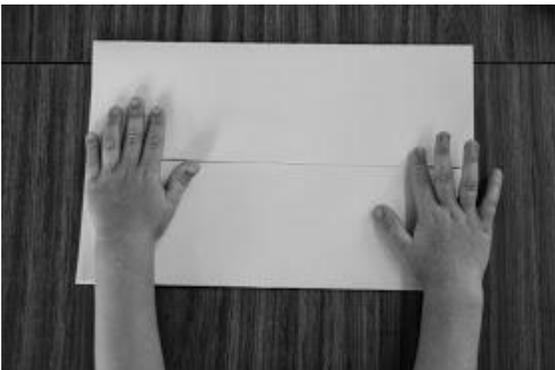
On one short end of the paper, fold a small edge over, around one inch wide.

Step 3.



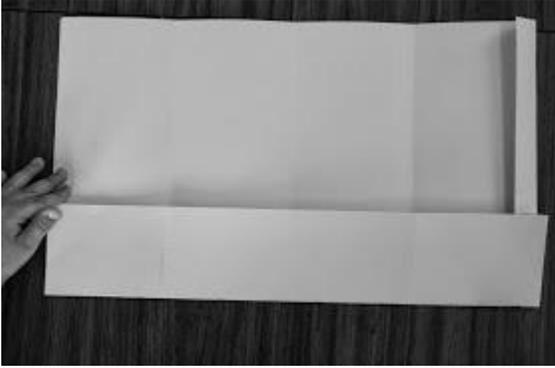
Keeping the 'small fold' you made in Step 2, fold the whole piece of paper in half, short ends together.

Step 4 & 5.



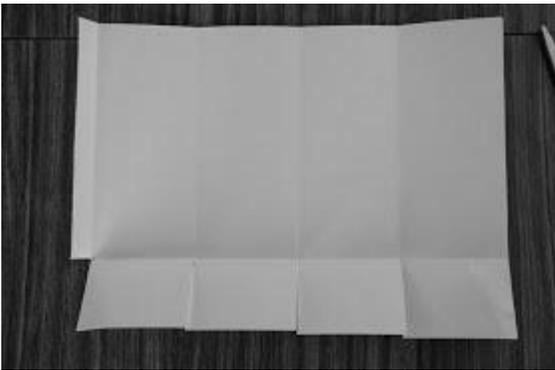
Open the paper back out, and then fold short ends in to the middle.

Step 6.



Open paper out and fold along the long edge, roughly about 8cm (3.25 inches) from the bottom. I don't measure lengths, but as long as it is <10 cm, it'll be fine.

Step 7.



Make a fringe by cutting up the 4 fold creases from the bottom of the paper to the (approx.) 8cm fold you made in Step 6. Then cut out the extra little bottom corner bit as shown in the picture (on the bottom left).

Step 8.

I forgot to take a photo of this stage, but it's simple enough. Punch patterns on all four sides of the lantern, or use scissors to cut shapes. When using the punches, make sure they are lined up so all four magnets are sticking. Press down HARD.

Step 9.



Put the lantern together as shown. Glue the thin side flap inside the lantern to make a square and use a paper clip to close it temporarily while the glue sets.

Step 10.



Fold the base in and glue BOTH on the outside and on the inside of the lantern.

Step 11.



Decorate with tissue paper and/or glitter glue (optional).

Step 12.



At the top of your lantern, use a hole punch or needle to tie string from opposite sides of your lantern, and then tie the lantern onto the end a child sized stick, kind of like a fishing pole.