

The Messy Magpie's Handmade Recycled Paper

Make your own new paper out of old, recycled paper!

You will need:

- Old scraps of paper
- Washing up bowl
- Washing up liquid
- Blender (or spoon and bowl)
- Food colouring (optional)
- Seeds/petals (optional)
- A large, deep baking tray or square frying pan
- Piece of plastic similar in size to the baking tray
- 2 tea towels
- Rolling pin



Method

1. Collect any unwanted scraps of paper and rip them into small pieces.
2. Place the scraps of paper in a washing up bowl filled with warm, soapy water.
3. Leave the paper to soak for at least 30 minutes. It will work better if it is left overnight.
4. With an adult, pour water into the blender until it is $\frac{3}{4}$ full.
5. Ask the adult to put a handful of the wet paper into the blender and mix it into a pulp. Continue to add more paper and water (if needed) until the paper is broken down into a paste. If you don't have a blender, you can use a spoon to mash the wet paper into a pulp.
6. You can also add food colouring, petals or seeds to your pulp to make your paper really fun!
7. Pour the mixture into a large, deep baking tray or square frying pan and add about 3cm of water.
8. Press the piece of plastic on top of the mixture and squeeze all of the water out.
9. Carefully, turn the paper mixture out onto a tea towel.
10. Lay another tea towel on top of the paper and use a rolling pin to roll the paper out really thinly.
11. Leave your paper to dry for 24 hours.
12. When it is dry, the paper is ready to use.



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