

Written Language:

Storing knowledge

Making recycled paper

Many types of paper can be used including:

- Computer paper (unprinted)
- Newspaper (If you want a greyish coloured paper)
- Magazines
- Egg cartons
- Old card (for heavier paper)
- Toilet paper
- Paper bags
- Non-waxed boxes (pre-soak in warm water)
- Tissue paper (for finer paper)
- Kitchen paper

Equipment

- Sponge
- Wire or plastic mesh (mould)
- Wood frame - an old picture frame can be used (the deckle)
- Plastic basin/tub (large enough to totally immerse the frame and move it from side to side)
- Food processor or blender
- White felt or flannel fabric
- Staples or tacks
- Liquid starch (optional)
- Grease proof paper

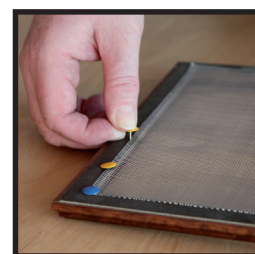


Instructions

- 1 Select the pieces of paper to be recycled. You can mix different types. Rip the paper into small bits, and place into the blender (about half full). Fill the blender with warm water. Run the blender slowly at first then increase the speed until the pulp looks smooth and well blended (30 - 40 seconds).



- 2 The next step is to make a mould. Stretch the wire or plastic mesh over a wooden frame and fix it. Make it as tight as possible.



- 3 Half fill the basin with water. Add 3 blender loads of pulp. The more pulp you add the thicker the finished paper. Stir the mixture.





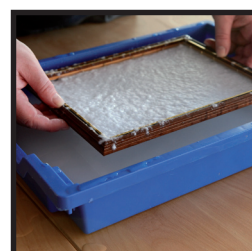
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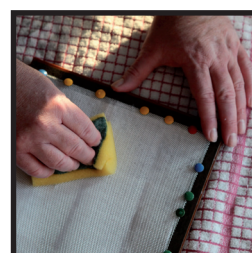
- 4 Stir 2 teaspoons of liquid starch into the pulp. Place the mould into the pulp and then level it out while it is submerged. Gently wiggle it side-to-side until the pulp on top of the screen looks even.



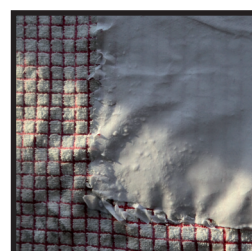
- 5 Slowly lift the mould up out of the level of the water. Wait until most of the water has drained from the new paper sheet. If the paper is very thick, remove some pulp from the tub. If it is too thin, add more pulp and stir the mixture again.



- 6 When the mould stops dripping, place one edge on the side of a fabric square (felt or flannel square). Gently ease the mould down flat, with the paper directly against the fabric. Use a sponge to press on the mesh to squeeze as much water as possible from the paper. Wring the excess water from the sponge back into the large plastic tub.



- 7 Hold the fabric square flat and slowly lift the edge of the mould. The wet sheet of paper should remain on the fabric. If it sticks to the mould, you may have pulled to fast or not pressed out enough water. Gently press out any bubbles and loose edges in the wet paper.



- 8 Repeat the steps above to create more squares of paper. Leave a piece of fabric between each sheet. Stack the fabric squares on a sheet of grease proof paper. Put a fabric square on the top of the stack to cover the last piece of paper. Use another sheet of grease proof paper to press the remaining water out of the stack. Do this outside or in the sink, it can make a mess.

