

## MAKE YOUR OWN PAPER

Learn how to make your own paper out of recycled material. You can use it for notebooks, postcards, gift cards, wrapping paper and many other applications.



### Materials:

Old newspaper

Bucket

Water

Wooden spoon with long handle

Square tray or pan

Thin mesh or netting

Flat piece of wood or a large book

### What to do:

1. Tear up two to three sheets of newspaper and put them in a bucket with about five cups of water and leave to soak over night.
2. When the paper is soft use a wooden spoon (or your hands) to mush it into soft tissue.
3. Pour one cup of water, or to a depth of about 2 cm, into the square pan and lay the mesh in the pan.
4. Take about one cup of mushy paper from the bucket and pour it over the mesh. Spread it evenly over the mesh using your fingers.
5. Carefully lift out the mesh and place on some spare newspaper to drain.
6. Place another piece of newspaper on top. Carefully turn the whole thing over so that the mesh is now on top. Leave both sections of newspaper in place.
7. Place your wood or book on top of the newspaper and push down to squeeze out the water.
8. Remove the top piece of newspaper and the mesh. Then leave to dry for at least 24 hours.

### Other Suggestions

- Add petals or leaves to the mushy paper for decorative paper
- Add ink or food colouring to make coloured paper

(Adapted from [www.recycle-more.co.uk](http://www.recycle-more.co.uk))