



Paper Beads

(Suggested Ages: 8+)

Gather

- Toothpicks, drinking straws, coffee stirrers, chopsticks, or skewers
- Paper (magazine pages, newspaper, wrapping paper, computer paper)
- Scissors
- Template (see below)
- White glue
- OPTIONAL: Mod Podge or other clear sealant
- OPTIONAL: Paint



Let's Create!

1. Print the downloadable template (or free hand draw your own)
2. Cut strips of paper in the shapes on the template.
3. Beginning with the widest edge of the paper strip, roll the paper strip around your stick. When there is about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch of paper left to roll, add a dab of glue to the outer part of the bead to hold the last bit in place.
4. Smear the glue all over the outside of the bead to secure and seal the paper.
5. Set the bead aside to dry.
6. For beads formed on a solid forms (toothpicks, skewers, chopsticks), when dry, slide the bead off of the form.
7. For beads formed on the drinking or stirring straws, cut the straws at the edges of the beads, leaving the straw inside the bead.
8. For a stronger bead, seal the finished beads with Mod Podge or other sealant. Paint can also be used to both seal and add color variety.

How Does it Work?

Paper beads have been a popular decoration for hundreds of years. Before the wide availability of paper, beads had to be shaped out of natural materials like stones, shells, or pieces of bone. Beads would then be strung onto jewelry or sewn onto clothing.

Take it Further!

Find out more about the history of bead making in Native American cultures by visiting:

<https://www.kshs.org/kansapedia/native-american-beadwork/17880>



AMAZEMENT
SQUARE

27 Ninth Street Lynchburg, VA 24504 □ www.amazementsquare.org





Paper Beads

(Suggested Ages: 8+)

