

PAPIER-MÂCHÉ BEAST

Fun activity for adults and children with a little bit of time on their hands. You will need fairly simple supplies and no printer!

YOU WILL NEED:

- A newspaper
- Masking tape (or paper tape)
- PVA glue or wall paper paste
- A small piece of cardboard for the ears
- Scissors
- White water-based paint (you could even use house-paint)
- Anything to decorate your beast: gouache, tempura, acrylic's, coloured paper, (biodegradable) glitter etc !



Timing: It's an activity that will take 3 to 5 hours and can be spread over 2 or 3 days, as you will need to allow time for your piece to dry between steps.

STEP 1 //

Using your newspaper make a ball. roughly the shape of a potato. Mine is around 15cm length and made of 5 or 6 double pages, but you can go bigger if you want. make sure to squeeze the shape with your hands to the paper is tightly packed and keeps its shape. Using more newspaper, make 4 cylinder shapes for the legs. Mine are about 9-10cm and of a diameter of around 4cm when packed. Try to shape the top of each leg in a corolla, like petals of a flower. This will allow you to attach the legs to the body.

Note: your shapes won't look like much at all at this stage, don't get discouraged !



GIVE SHAPE

STEP 2 //

Cover each of your 5 shapes with a layer of masking tape, making sure each shape is packed fairly tightly. Leave the top corolla shape of each leg uncovered.



**COROLLA
SHAPE**

STEP 3 // Attach the 4 legs to the body, or the "belly part" of your potato, using masking tape.

Tip: start by fixing each leg by sticking the top part or corolla to the body with the tape.



ASSEMBLE

STEP 4 //

Place your piece on its 4 legs. Using more newspaper, create a head for your beast. Once you are happy with the rough shape, attach the head to the body with more masking tape. Coat the whole piece with more masking tape to hide all the remaining newspaper. Make sure to keep the bottom of the legs (or soles) flat, so the beast can stand stably.

HEAD



Give your beast ears, horns or both, using cardboard cut to the shape of your choice. Fix onto the head and cover with small bits of masking tape.



EARS

Last touch for now, the tail! It could be a simple ball or any shape that take your fancy. Attach and coat using masking tape.

Alternatively we could imagine using a woolly pompon or braid. You would then need to attach it at the very end, using glue.

TAIL



COVER

STEP 5 //

Tear loads of smallish pieces of newspaper (approx 3 to 4 cm squares or rectangles)
Cover your beast with a first layer of newspaper using large amounts of wall paper paste or PVA (if your PVA is too thick water it down slightly to obtain a shower-gel-like texture). Wait until your layer is completely dry and repeat the process once or twice.



STEP 6 //

When your piece is completely dry, use any kind of water-based white paint to give your beast a base-coat and cover all the newspaper.



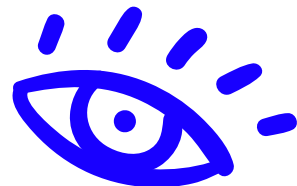
**BASE
COAT**



STEP 7 //



DECORATE!



Let your imagination go wild and decorate your beast using paint, posca pens, marker pens, stickers, anything you want!



Tip: when I feel uninspired, I like to think of a story and decorate my sculptures in surreal poetic ways, using elements of the story. For exemple, nothing stops you from painting fish, trees sun and moon on your animal!



Your beast is ready ! Share pics of your masterpiece with us on instagram and don't forget to tag **@nowgalleryse10** & **@margauxcarpe**