

**GEEK
& CO.
CRAFTS!**

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

SPiN ART REVOLUTION



THAMES & KOSMOS



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SAFETY INFORMATION

WARNING.

Not suitable for children under 3 years of age. There is a risk of choking due to small parts that may be swallowed or inhaled.

Do not ingest paints. Avoid contact with eyes and mouth.

Save the packaging and instructions. They contain important information.

Dear Parents,

With this paint spinner, your child will be able to have lots of fun creating colorful and unique pictures.

For the painting and playing surface, we recommend a sturdy, well-lit table with a surface that can take a little abuse and is easy to clean. You might also want to protect the floor, with an old newspaper for example. The work surface should be cleaned and hands washed immediately following completion of work.

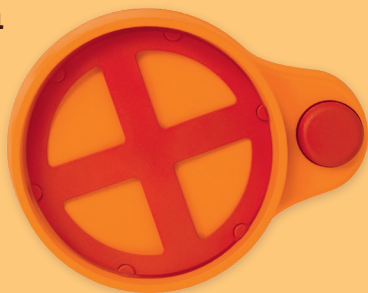
The water-based hobby paints contained in the kit are suitable for use by children. They are harmless and easy to wash off the skin. As a

rule, they are also easy to wash out of fabrics at temperatures above 30 °C. Even so, we suggest wearing old clothes while painting with the paint spinner. If a T-shirt or pair of pants should still get some paint on it, soak the dirty item of clothing in lukewarm water and then wash it in the washing machine.

**We wish you and
your child a lot of
fun with the paint
spinner!**

KIT CONTENTS

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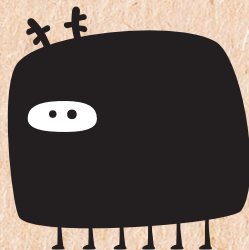
- 1 | Paint spinner
2 | Paper disks (10)
3 | Paint bottles (3)

- 4 | Small measuring cups (3)
5 | Pipette

YOU WILL ALSO NEED: Colored pencils or crayons, toy figure made of rubber, old newspapers, teaspoon, cup of water, various kinds of paper, pencil, scissors, small plastic bag, masking tape, painter's palette, paintbrush, paper towels, hole punch, string

Dear Paint-Spinner Artist,

Are you tired of painting with brushes or drawing with crayons? No problem. This paint spinner will give the word "painting" a whole new meaning. Discover crazy patterns and color combinations and try out all kinds of cool spinning techniques.



PART 1

OFF WE GO!

Let your ideas run free...

Artists look for inspiration from the world around them and from within before they start painting a picture. You can do that too! If the weather's warm, look for a nice green lawn. If it's cold, find a cozy sofa. And get comfortable.

Lie down and start to let your **thoughts run free**. Gaze up at the blue sky or close your eyes. What's the first thing to pop into your head? It could be lots of different things.

For example, it could be certain **experiences** that preoccupy you or a **wish** that you've been nurturing for a long time and is still unfulfilled. Sometimes you may have to laugh when something really funny comes to mind.

Thoughts and feelings are easy to depict with paints, by working calmly or frantically and choosing different colors according to your mood.

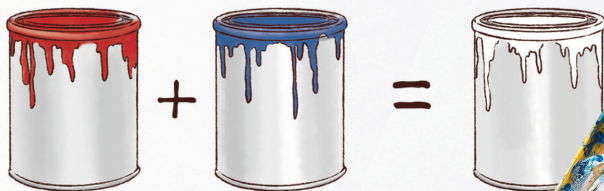
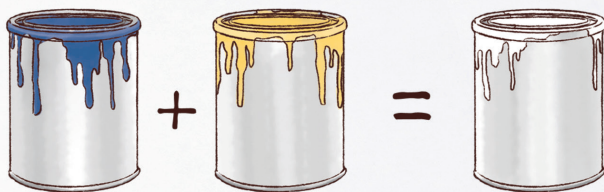
Think about the colors that match whatever it is you have in mind. You can choose from all the colors in the rainbow, since the **paints can also be mixed** to form new ones. You will learn a little about that on the next page.

Do you know what else is exciting? You can try spinning yourself a painting without thinking beforehand about what you want to depict. Let it dry and study it at your leisure. What can you see? Maybe a spiral, a drip, or maybe a volcano or a sunrise? **Give your imagination free rein!**



Did you know that you can mix the primary Colors yellow, red, and blue to create new ones?

Grab your colored pencils or crayons and fill in the white paint pots with their proper Colors. If you aren't sure what they should be, simply take your box of paints and see what happens when you mix the different colors.



PART 2

SPINNING- TECHNIQUES

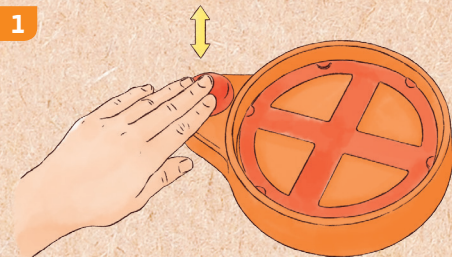
Drying practice

You will need:

Paint spinner, paper disk, non-breakable object (such as a toy figure made of rubber)

Here's how:

- 1 Take the paint spinner out of the box and start by trying it without any paint. To get it moving, simply push repeatedly on the button. The disk in the center will start to spin.
- 2 Let the disk come to a stop. Then take the paper disk and clamp its edges under the six tabs.
- 3 Next, place a light, non-breakable object, such as a toy figure made of rubber, in the center. Get the disk spinning again by pressing repeatedly on the button. What happens to the figure?



What's going on?

Pressing on the button powers the spinner. The faster you push, the faster the disk with the paper will turn. When that happens, the figure moves from the center to the edge. The cause is something known as **centrifugal force**. It's nothing unusual, really! You are already familiar with this force from those swing rides at fairgrounds — when your swing is pushed outward as the carousel turns. The same thing is going to happen a little later on with the paints that you'll be dripping onto the paper.



Spinning colors

Now that you know how your new machine works, it's finally time to give it a proper workout. Grab your paints, get set, and go!

You will need:

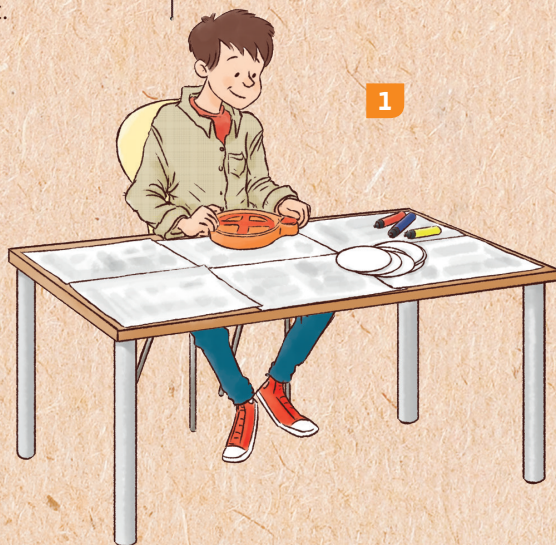
Paint spinner, paper disks, paint bottles, old newspapers

Here's how:

1 Prepare your work area and put on your painter's smock.

TIP!

To really have fun with your paint spinner, find a work area where you don't have to worry about making a mess. Ideally, cover the table with old newspapers, since paints can sometimes spill. Your old shirt might not seem too stylish, but that's how all the great artists look.



2 Clamp the paper disk firmly into the spinner.

3 Get the disk spinning and slowly drip the different paint colors onto the paper. Also, try seeing what happens when you first drip on the paints and then start spinning.

Now it's time to get a little crazy. What happens to the paints when you spin them? Drip them gradually onto the paper or try painting entire lines.

You will also get different effects depending on whether the paints are still wet or you let some of them dry before applying another. Let your imagination run free.



TIP!

If the paints in the bottles are too thick and don't run easily enough, don't worry. Just take the tip off the bottle by holding the bottle in one hand and pushing the tip to the side with the other. Then add a few drops of water to the bottle with the pipette — careful, don't add too much! — and set the tip firmly back on. Finally, replace the cap on the bottle, shake vigorously, and you're ready!





Spinning watercolors

You will need:

Paint spinner, paper disks, paint bottles, cup of water, teaspoon

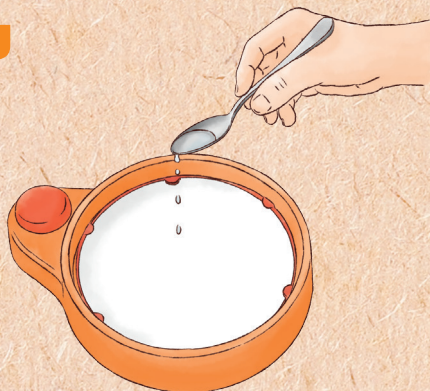
Here's how:

- 1 For this technique, you will need a little water. Place a new paper disk in the spinner and dribble a teaspoon of water in the center.
- 2 Now drip a few drops of paint onto the pool of water. Then give it another spin! Do you see how quickly the paint spreads out in all directions?

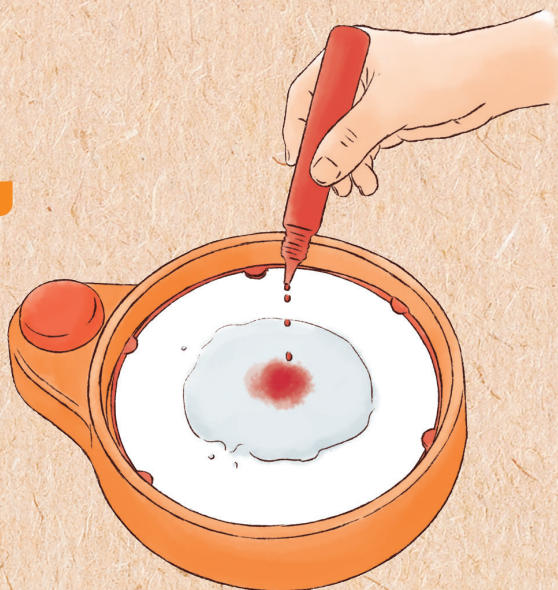
TIP!

Take one of the paper disks and trace its outline onto a sheet of paper. That way, you can cut new disks any time you want to make an unlimited number of cool pictures. Of course, you can also try using different colors of paper.

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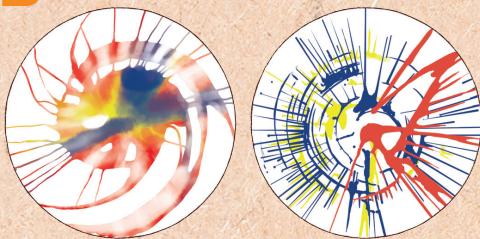


3 Let your work of art dry and place it next to your first piece of paper. Do you see how different the paints look?

4 You can also use this technique in reverse, of course. Place the paints on the disk and then start spinning. Once you reach top speed, take a teaspoon of water and dribble it slowly over the entire disk.

Keep spinning a little longer to let the water spread out over the entire piece of paper.

3



TIP!

Your pictures might wrinkle a little when the water dries. If that happens, just place the fully dried pictures between some old sheets of newspaper and set a few heavy books on top for a few days.

4



Spinning designs

You can also use the paint spinner to make real works of art with little designs embedded in them.

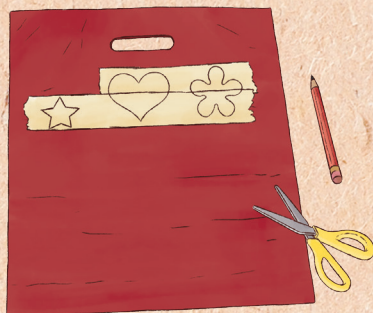
You will need:

Paint spinner, paper disks, paint bottles, small plastic bag, masking tape, pencil, scissors

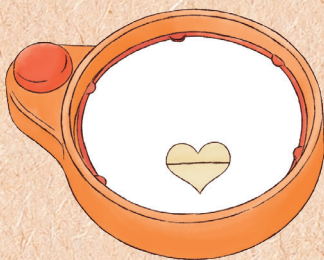
Here's how:

- 1** Spread out the plastic bag flat in front of you and stick a piece of masking tape on it. If you want to draw larger designs, tape several strips of masking tape alongside one another, overlapping each other slightly. Draw your design with pencil on the masking tape and cut it out with the scissors.
- 2** Now you can carefully peel the design off of the plastic bag and stick it onto a paper disk. Then clamp the disk into the paper spinner.
- 3** Next, apply paint to all areas of the paper disk and start it spinning.
- 4** Remove the disk from the spinner and let the paint dry well. Once it has dried, carefully remove the masking tape stencil. See how easy it is to fool the paint? The spot where the stencil was taped on is still white.

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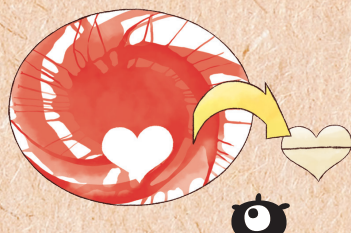
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TIP!

Of course, you can also tape two or three stencils to the paper disk. That way, you will get more than one design in a single work of art.

Mixing paints

You will need:

Paint spinner, paper disks, paint bottles, 3 small measuring cups, pipette, water

Here's how:

- 1 Grab your three paint bottles and mix up your favorite color. Check page 3 to remind yourself which colors you will have to mix to get the specific one you want.

Then, drip a little of the first color in a small measuring cup. Add the other color to it and stir with the pipette. If you don't like the result, try adding a little more of one or the other color.

- 2 If you like your new color, you can drip it with the pipette onto a spinning paper disk, or use it with one of the other techniques described before. If the paint is too thick, simply add a few drops of water.



TIP!

You can also make a paint color lighter or darker by adding white or black paint, resulting in pink or dark blue, for example. But take it slowly, particularly with the black, since otherwise the paint can quickly get too dark.

PART 3

GAMES AND HOBBY IDEAS

Your paint spinner isn't just great for creating all kinds of crazy paintings — there are lots of other things you can do with it too. What are you waiting for? Give these games and hobby ideas a whirl, now that you have the hang of it!

The paint oracle

Do you ever argue with your parents about chores you don't want to do? Of maybe you're not sure whether you head straight to a party or first do your homework instead? The paint oracle will give you the answer.

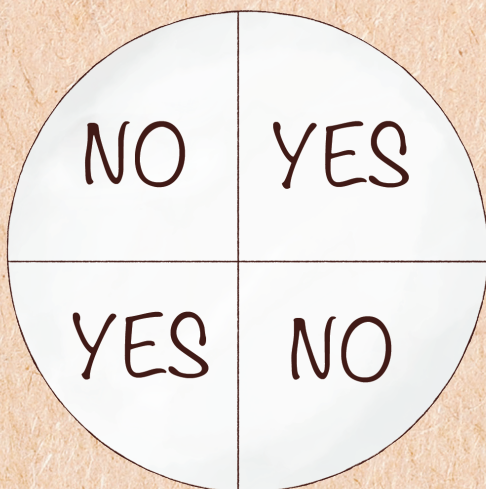
You will need:

Paint spinner, paper disks, paint bottles, pencil

Here's how:

- 1 Draw a cross on a paper disk, with the center of the cross running through the center of the disk to divide it into four equal-sized segments. Write "Yes" and "No" in the quarters as shown to the right.

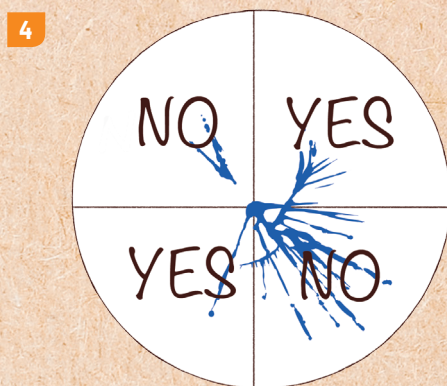
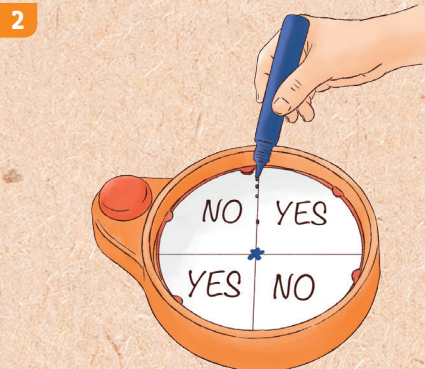
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2 Then clamp the paper tightly in the spinner and place a few drops of paint right in the center of the paper disk (where the two lines cross).

3 Now ask the oracle a question that can be answered with a “Yes” or a “No.” Push the button and get the disk spinning.

4 Let the spinner come to a stop and look to see which segment had the most paint run into it. The word written in this segment is the answer to your question. So if your parents ask you to take out the garbage, it may well happen that the oracle overrules them. Call it fate!



TIP!

Of course, you could also write something other than “Yes” and “No” in the segments. For example, you could ask the oracle whether you should wear the red or the blue outfit to the party. Or you could try to find out whether your new cat would prefer to be named Fred or Johnny.

Battleship

You know the game Battleship, right? Don't worry, you won't have to draw a huge graph with lots of numbers and letters on the paper disk. We have a simpler but equally exciting version to offer you. Like the original, this is also a game for two people. So grab a friend and let's start.

You will need:

Paint spinner, paper disks, paint bottles, pencil

Here's how:

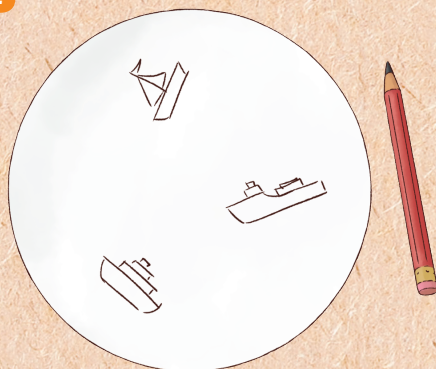
1 First, each player takes a paper disk and draws three ships on it, anywhere on the paper. Each ship should be about the size of a quarter. Once all the ships are drawn, the game can start

2 You can be the first player. Mount your disk on the paint spinner and start it spinning. Your opponent has to try to sink your ship. He or she is allowed to drip three drops of paint onto the spinning paper — ideally in such a way that some of the ships get wiped out.

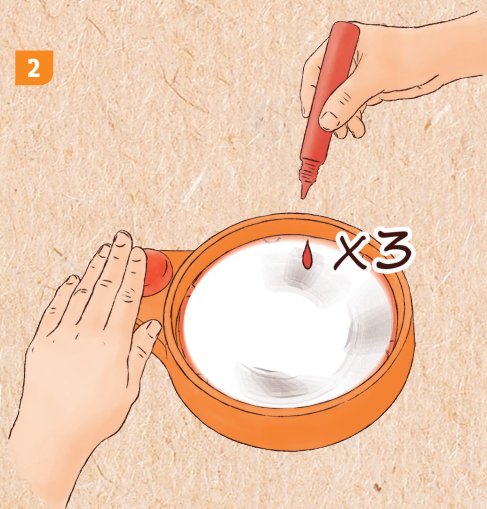
Then replace the paper and it's your turn. Now you have to try to hit as many ships as possible with three drops of paint.



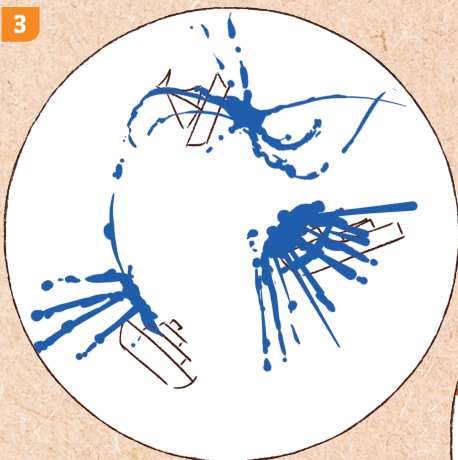
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- 3 Keep switching paper disks. The winner is the one who is the first to completely cover the opponent's ships with paint, thus sinking them.



Every man for himself!!



Viscosity

The scientific term for the thickness of a liquid is "viscosity." This is the measure of how resistant the liquid is to deformation, or changing shape, when other objects push on it or come into contact with it. A thick milk shake has a higher viscosity than milk, for example. The cause of viscosity is the friction, or resistance to movement, that occurs between the tiny individual particles in a liquid. Viscosity is studied as part of a branch of physics called fluid mechanics.

The paint in this kit is more viscous than water, so it would move slower through a tube, and on the spin art turntable, it resists movement towards the outside a little more than a thin liquid would. When you water the paint down, it becomes less viscous, and therefore would move through a tube faster, and should spread out faster and thinner on your spin art turntable.

Color record player

Build yourself a multicolored instrument!

You will need:

Paint spinner, paper disks, paint bottles, measuring cup with mixed paints, paint palette, paintbrush, cup of water, paper towels

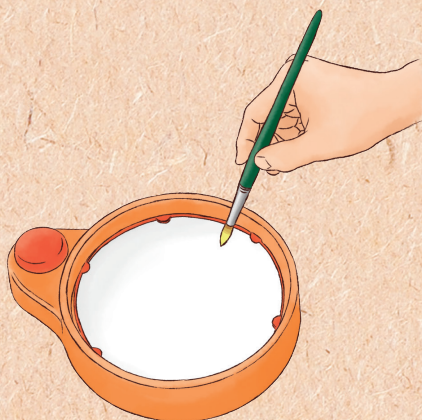
Here's how:

- 1 Take a paper disk and clamp it firmly into the spinner. Drip a few drops of whichever colors of paint you like onto the paint palette. Of course, you won't have to do that with your own mixed paints.

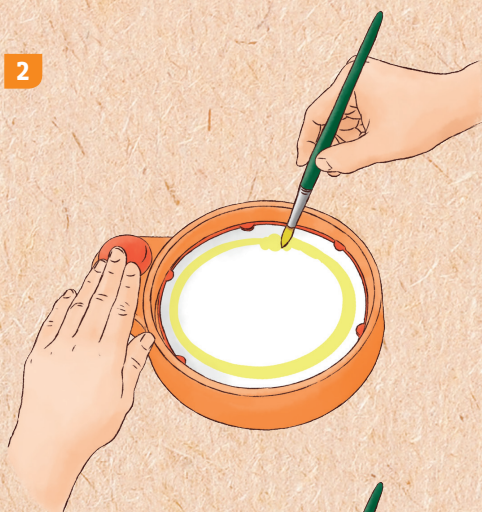
Dip your brush in the paint and hold it near the edge of the spinner with the brush just touching the paper. Your color record player is ready!

- 2 Get the spinner moving and watch how the brush makes a magical circle on the paper.
- 3 Let the disk come to a stop and remove the brush. Clean it in the cup of water and dry it with a paper towel. Now you can apply a second color. This time, hold the brush so that it touches the paper disk in a different location.

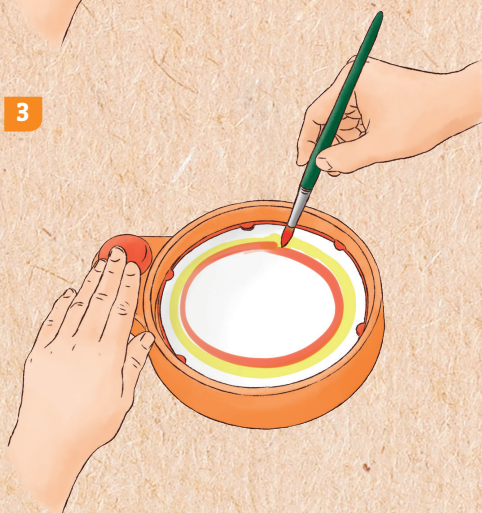
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Garland

By this point, you've collected a big stack of colorful paper disks. Have we got a fun idea for you!

You will need:

A lot of colorful paper disks, hole punch, string

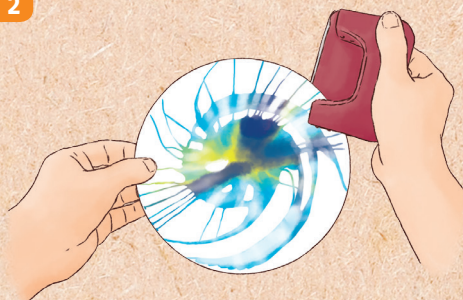
Here's how:

- 1** Grab your ten nicest-looking disks and lay them in a row on the table.
- 2** Now use the hole punch to make holes on the left and right edges of each disk. The holes should be opposite each other.
- 3** Pull a piece of string through the holes and — ta da! — your homemade garland is ready!

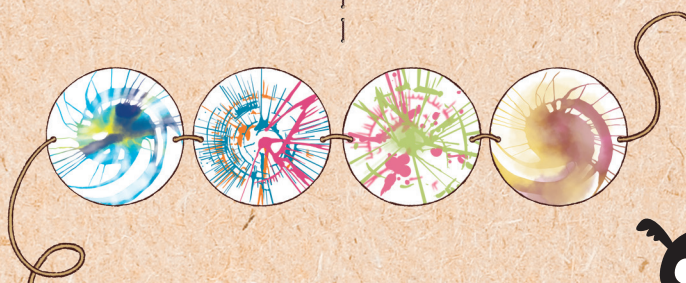
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TIP!

If someone is having a birthday, use the stencil technique from page 9 to create 13 disks with the letters for "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" written on them. You don't have to cut out the letters, just "write" them with masking tape. Then spin paints onto your disks. When everything is dry, remove the tape and thread your disks together to make a garland. You can create one for any occasion, and the cool thing about it is that each one is completely unique!



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1st Edition 2014

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Idea and concept: Andrea Kern

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Manual layout: Michaela Kienle, Fine Tuning, Dürmentingen

Manual illustrations and photos: Andreas Resch, St. Ulrich am Waasen (title image); artentot, front cover center left, p. 1 bottom right, 9 bottom right, 10 bottom right, 12 bottom left, 16 bottom right, back cover bottom right; grafvision, p. 3 (background, both © shutterstock.com); artentot, front cover center right, p. 3 bottom left, 5 center right, bottom left, 6 top right, 7 bottom left (© shutterstock.com, edited by Michaela Kienle); Michael Flaig, Pro-Studios, Stuttgart, p. 1 top center; Kristin Albert, p. 13 top right; Tino Hemmann, p. 14 top right (© fotolia.com), Bianca Meier, Hamburg (all experiment illustrations and p. 3 center)

Packaging design concept: Peter Schmidt Group GmbH, Hamburg

Packaging layout: Michaela Kienle, Fine Tuning, Dürmentingen

Packaging illustrations and photos: Gemenacom (Polaroid frame); Seregam (tape) (both © shutterstock.com); artentot (creature with paintbrush, © shutterstock.com, edited); artentot (all other creatures, edited by Michaela Kienle); Andreas Resch, St. Ulrich am Waasen (title image); Michael Flaig, Pro-Studios, Stuttgart (materials); Matthias Kaiser, Stuttgart (Polaroids)

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Editing: Ted McGuire; Additional Graphics and Layout: Dan Freitas, Ashley Greenleaf

Distributed in North America by Thames & Kosmos, LLC, Providence, RI 02903

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We reserve the right to make technical changes.

Printed in Germany / Imprimé en Allemagne