Let’s Get Started!

1. Tear a sheet of newspaper or several sheets of paper into smaller pieces with a hand mixer. If the initial results don’t quite measure up to what you’re expecting, try it again! You’ll soon get the hang of it with a little practice.

2. Thoroughly stir the fiber pulp one more time to distribute the paper fibers as evenly as possible in the paper molding tray and place one of the pieces of netting on top of it. This is how you can gradually work through your raw material, you will just need newspaper, toilet paper, paper towels, or paper napkins. Paper towels or white paper napkins will also produce bright paper.

3. Lay the screen insert into the paper molding tray and place one of the pieces of netting on top of it.

4. Now lay the second piece of netting on top of the paper pulp in the paper molding tray and stroke the yellow pressing tool over it. This pushes the water out of the paper pulp and compresses the paper fibers.

5. Finally, you will have to carefully pull away the two pieces of netting. It might take a little practice. Now your homemade paper will just need a little time to dry.

6. Now when you can’t push any more water out, tip the tray over a dry cloth and push the screen out of the frame. This is how you can gradually work through your paper pulp until it is all used up and you have made many sheets of paper.

7. If your first result doesn’t quite measure up to what you’re expecting, try it again! You’ll soon get the hang of it with a little practice.

8. Warning! — This set contains chemicals that may be harmful if misused. Read caution on individual containers carefully. Not to be used by children except under adult supervision.

9. Caution! — Dye tablets: The dye tablets are non-toxic, but as a precaution they should not be ingested. Avoid contact with eyes and mouth.

A Note to Parents and Supervising Adults

Please stand by your child’s side in the work area. Keep small children and animals away from the work area. Ensure that any accidentally spilled water won’t cause any damage. The ink from the newspaper and residue from the dye tablets can cause stains too. Keep small children and animals away from the work area.

Before You Start

Find a quiet work area and cover the work surface so that any accidentally spilled water won’t cause any damage. The ink from the newspaper and residue from the dye tablets can cause stains too. Keep small children and animals away from the work area.

Basic Paper-Making Instructions

1. Tear a sheet of newspaper or several sheets of paper towels in the smallest pieces you can, and put them in an old bowl or a basin. Add about one liter of warm water. If you like, you can also add a spoonful of powdered laundry detergent, which will make the paper a little brighter.

2. Thoroughly stir this paper pulp together and let it stand for a few hours, ideally overnight. If you want finer paper, let an adult help you break up the paper into smaller pieces with a hand mixer. If the fiber pulp is too thick, add a little more water.

3. Now lay the second piece of netting on top of the paper pulp in the paper molding tray and stroke the yellow pressing tool over it. This pushes the water out of the paper pulp and compresses the paper fibers.

4. When you can’t push any more water out, tip the tray over a dry cloth and push the screen out of the frame.

5. Finally, you will have to carefully pull away the two pieces of netting. It might take a little practice. Now your homemade paper will just need a little time to dry.

6. If your first result doesn’t quite measure up to what you’re expecting, try it again! You’ll soon get the hang of it with a little practice.

Tip: The ink in newspaper will turn the paper grey. If you want to make brighter paper, just use the unprinted edge of the paper. Paper towels or white paper napkins will also produce bright paper.

Additional Items

Plastic bowl, cotton cloths (old dishrags or similar rags), powdered laundry detergent, water, hand mixer, newspaper, paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, and other scrap paper.

Read through the instructions together before beginning the experiments, and follow them. Please be sure that no small pieces get into the hands of young children. Provide your child with any required items that are not contained in the kit, and encourage your child to repeat the experiment if the initial results don’t meet expectations.

Let’s Get Started!

Your homemade paper will be 100% recycled. As your raw material, you will just need newspaper, toilet paper, paper towels, or paper napkins. Also get your other required equipment ready: an old bowl, so shallow as possible, or a plastic basin, and an old cotton cloth (e.g., a dishcloth).

Paper

2 Pieces of netting

Paper molding tray with removable screen insert

(You will find the screen beneath the package’s red plastic insert)

3 Pieces of netting

Yellow Pressing Tool

4 Dye Tablets (There are two toxic watercolors)

String

Tip: In case the fiber pulp looks a little yellowish, add a spoonful of powdered laundry detergent, which will make the paper a little brighter.

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Tip: In case the fiber pulp looks a little yellowish, add a spoonful of powdered laundry detergent, which will make the paper a little brighter.
Experiment 1: Colored Paper
Dissolve a dye tablet in a cup of water and add the dissolved solution to the paper pulp. This will give you paper with a delicate shade of color. As an alternative, you can use colored napkins for your paper pulp. That will give you a stronger color. Caution! The colored paper pulp can stain things! Only use old cotton cloths to press it out.

Experiment 3: Textured Paper
Press a stamp onto the freshly made paper (use a pre-made stamp or invent a design with a nail or a screw). Use anything that has a raised shape. Try it with a fluted or corrugated glass rolled over the pressed paper.

Experiment 4: Bleed Pattern with Watercolors
If you paint a pattern onto fresh, still-wet paper, it will produce a really cool effect. The colors create beautiful designs as they run and bleed through the wet paper.

Experiment 5: Make Designs with Colored Pieces of Paper
To make this experiment, scatter finely shredded pieces of colored paper on the paper pulp before applying the second piece of netting. That will create beautiful and surprising effects as well.

Experiment 6: Pattern Paper with Napkin Pieces
Cut a design out of a paper napkin and lay the upper layer on the smooth paper pulp. The napkin paper will soak up water and dry along with the paper.

Experiment 7: Pattern Paper with Flowers
Lay flower petals or flat blades of grass onto the paper pulp before applying the second piece of netting. That will create beautiful and surprising effects as well.

Experiment 8: Greeting Cards
If you have made a selection of various kinds of paper, you can naturally combine these with one another. Try it with some homemade greeting cards for your friends’ birthdays or design your own invitation cards for a party. Use your imagination!

Experiment 9: Make Your Own Book
Here’s a great gift idea: As soon as you have made several kinds of paper, you can easily combine them into a book. Make holes in all the sheets of paper and stack them on top of one another. Place a specially designed cover sheet on top. Tie the sheets together with a piece of ribbon or yarn. You could use your book as a small photo album, for example.

Paper-Making Experiments
Once you have mastered the basic paper-making process, you can try all these variations to create your own unique, personalized paper designs.

About the History of Paper Making and Paper Recycling
In today’s industrial paper production, new materials (recycled paper, recycled paper, forms, and water) are mixed into a homogenous pulp in a pulper, which is a kind of giant stirring bowl. This thin pulp is taken from the supply vat onto a movable screen. The movement helps the fibers to entangle as tightly as possible. In the process, most of the water runs off. There, the web of soaked paper comes to the press. The paper web is guided through rollers in an absorbent felt cloth and the rest of the water is thereby removed. This pressing process makes the paper structure denser and firmer. Then, the paper web runs through heated drying cylinders. Finally, it is smoothed and rolled up.

Paper Recycling
Most of the paper manufactured today comes from trees. By recycling paper, we can reduce the number of trees that are cut down to make paper pulp. Paper recycling starts by collecting paper. There are three sources of paper for recycling: mill broke (paper that has been used by people and is no longer needed), post-consumer waste (waste is discarded paper that has not been used by people yet, for example, the scraps left over from turning paper into books), and pre-consumer waste (paper that has been used by people and is no longer needed). These three types of paper are collected by various recycling programs and sold back to paper mills that use it as a raw material. By recycling paper, we can reduce the number of trees that are cut down to make paper pulp.