

Beautiful BOXES



How to make Beautiful Boxes

Things you will need:
Scissors, white paper glue (PVA).

Getting Started:

- When making the boxes it will help to look at the illustrations on the box, so don't throw it away.
- Lines on the boxes show you where to stick the straws. These are only a guide; don't worry if you can't stick the straws exactly between the lines.
- Double-sided sticky tape can be used instead of glue to secure the flaps and tabs, take great care if you do because once stuck, they cannot be easily adjusted.
- If PVA glue is used, it is a good idea to hold the flaps and tabs in place with clothes pegs, paper clips or elastic bands whilst the glue dries.
- Decide which box you want to make first. Before folding and glueing, carefully press out the box shape and trace around the template to making other boxes in future.
- Read the detailed instructions over the page before you start.
- There is no need to cut the boxes out of the card because they have been pre-cut. Read the sections on Decorating, Colouring and Sticking before you start to make your first box.



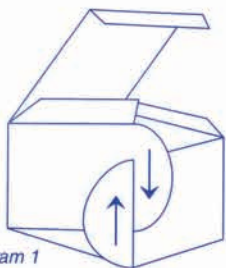


Diagram 1

Secret opening
(do not glue)

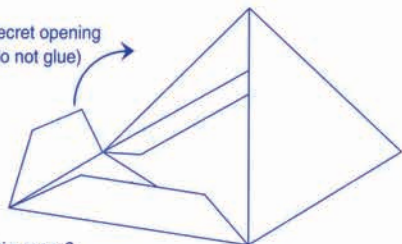


Diagram 2

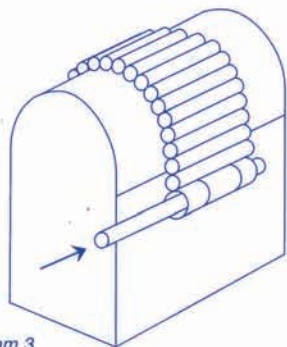


Diagram 3



Diagram 4

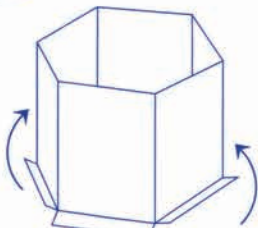


Diagram 5

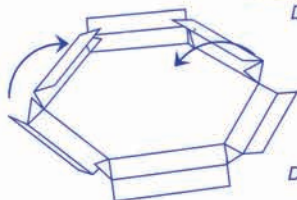


Diagram 6

Japanese Box

Press out the box shape and fold along the creases. Fold the box together by carefully slotting cuts A and B to act as a locking device. (Diagram 1).

Now choose a decorative handle (there are extra ones on some of the other sheets) and thread it through slots C and D.

Egyptian Box with Secret Opening

Press out the box template and fold along the creases. Glue the two black tabs to secure the base of the box (Diagram 2).

Stick a coloured Artstraw, 2.5cm long, to each of the 4 sides to act as a handle and for decoration.

Treasure Chest

Press out the box shape. Stick down coloured thin Artstraws, 4cm in length, to the guides shown. Cut one piece of thick Artstraw to 2cm in length and two pieces of thick Artstraws to 1cm in length. Stick these down on the indicated guides and leave until they are stuck.

Now fold the box, take a thin Artstraw and cut to 8.5cm. Thread this through the 3 sections of thick Artstraws. (Diagram 3).

Turkish Box

Press out the box shape. For an optional lattice work effect, flatten some thin Artstraws, colour them and stick them down as illustrated on the front of the box. It is best to stick down the Artstraws in one direction before laying down the cross over straws. (Diagram 4). Fold along the creases.

Push out the base and fold along the creases. Stick one flap to one of the sides of the box and continue around to form a base. (Diagram 5).

Gently flatten a thick Artstraw, colour and wrap around the base of the box.

Now push out the lid template and fold along the creases. Fold over the outer flaps and at the same time tuck in and glue in the triangular flaps so it is sandwiched between the two. (Diagram 6). Wrap a flattened thick Artstraw around the sides.

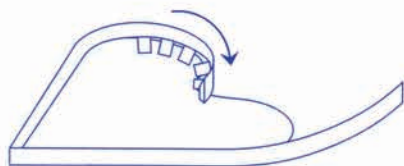


Diagram 7

Heart Shaped Box

Push out the heart shaped templates from the card and fold along the creases. Carefully glue each tab to the underneath of the heart following the curve. (Diagram 7).

Add an Artstraw flower of your choice to the lid to add extra decoration.

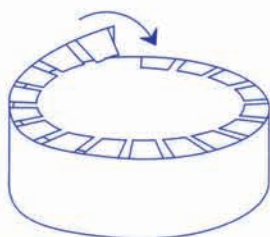


Diagram 8

Trinket Box

Press out the two templates marked A and fold along the creases. Carefully stick each tab around the edge of the circle. (Diagram 8).

Now press out the templates marked B. If you want to you can stick down coloured Artstraws, 3cm in length, over the yellow and blue stripes (see illustration on the front of the box). Glue the tabs as shown above.

An alternative top for the lid is printed on the same card as the Egyptian Box.

Two circular disks are available to add to the lid for an extra decoration option.

Artstraw Decoration

Flowers created from Artstraws make pretty box decorations (see back page).

Colouring the Straws

It is best to colour the straws before use with either paints, food colouring or large felt tip pens. The best way is to dip a piece of damp J-cloth into the paint, wrap it around the straw and slide it along. Colour the straws first and leave them to dry before cutting or sticking. (Diagram 9).



Diagram 9

Sticking

Use white paper glue (PVA) because it dries colourless. It is best to apply the glue to the straw rather than to the card. The straws will stick with only a little glue so do not use too much. Double sided tape can be used to speed up the construction but much more care and accuracy is needed because once the tape has been stick down, it will be permanent. When gluing the boxes together, it may be helpful to use either a clothes peg or a paper clip to hold the flaps and tabs in place while the glue dries. Elastic bands can also be used to stretch around the boxes for further support.

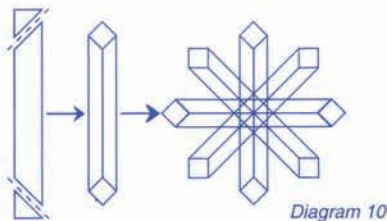


Diagram 10

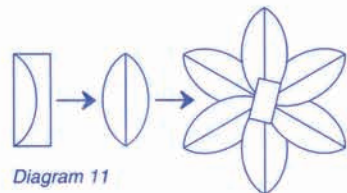


Diagram 11

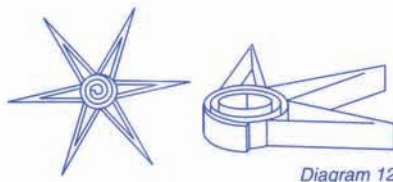


Diagram 12

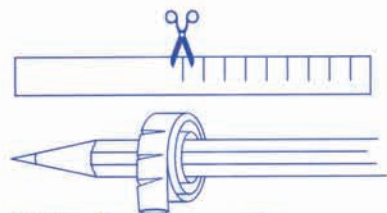


Diagram 13



Instructions for different flower ideas:

Flower 1

Gently flatten a thin Artstraw and cut into four pieces, each 4cm long. Cut both ends of each length, half turn and flatten again. Glue on top of each other. (Diagram 10).

Flower 2

Flatten a piece of thick Artstraw. Cut as shown and open out to form petals. Repeat this 8 times and glue on top of each other to form a flower. Cut a piece of thin Artstraw to about 1cm long, and glue to the centre. (Diagram 11).

Flower 3

To make the centre of the flower, flatten an Artstraw and roll it up, sticking the end to hold it in place. Cut off several pieces, about 6cm long from a flattened Artstraw, fold these in half and stick them around the centre. (Diagram 12).

Flower 4

Flatten a thick Artstraw, and for 10cm make cuts at one end. (Diagram 13). Starting with the uncut end, roll around a pencil, glue the end in place and gently fold out the cut pieces to form petals.

Artstraws can be cut, curled, folded, plaited and woven to create cards, pictures, masks, flowers, figures, animals, decorations, 3D structures, vehicles and much more.

Artstraw kits and Activity Packs can be found in most good toy, craft, book and stationery shops.

Artstraws are also available in large economy packs for schools and clubs.

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