

PAPER ROLL PUPPETS

Construct your own functioning puppet using recycled household materials. Add unique decorations and share your creation with your friends.

Materials

- Masking tape
- Scissors
- Paper towel roll
- Thin cardboard e.g. from a cereal box, biscuit box, toothpaste box, etc.
- Any other recycled materials you would like to use to decorate your puppet

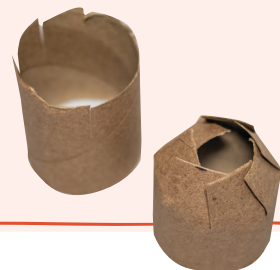


How to make your puppet

- 1 Cut the paper roll into 4 equal tubes. Place two aside.



- 2 Cut approximately 7 slits (1.5cm deep) in the top of the two remaining tubes.



- 3 Fold the slit sections down to form small dome shapes. Tape your domes from the inside of the roll.



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4 Cut a semi-circle out of the side of each dome.



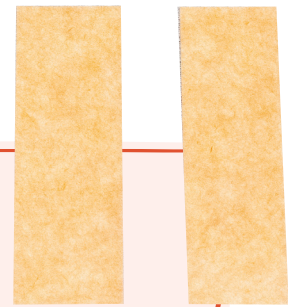
5 Flatten the two remaining tubes. Place one aside again.



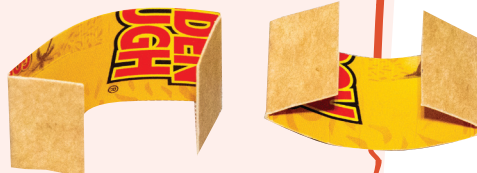
6 Trim the flattened roll to match the width of the dome rolls. To check this, sit a dome roll on top of your flattened roll. Place the dome rolls aside.



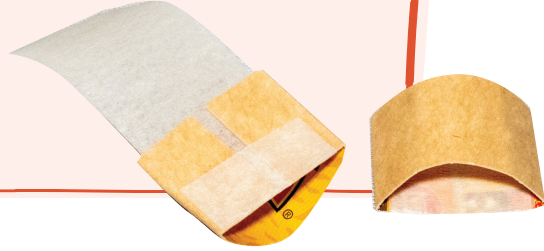
7 Cut two long rectangles out of thin cardboard, long enough to wrap loosely around your finger.



8 Fold both ends inwards on each rectangle.



- 9 Tape the folded ends flat to create two small bridges.



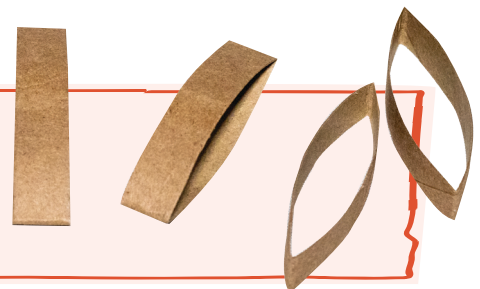
- 10 Attach the bridges to the flattened roll. Centre and line them up with the edge of the roll. Make sure both bridges are attached along the same edge. This is the puppet's mouth.



- 11 Tape a dome on top of the mouth, with the semi-circle in line with the bridge. Do the same with the other dome on the bottom edge of the mouth.



- 12 Cut the remaining flattened roll into four equal sections.



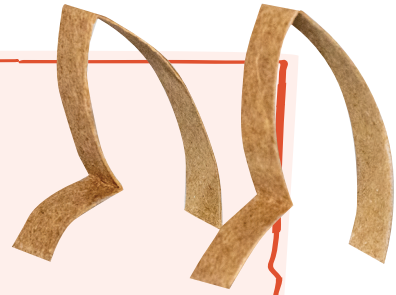
- 13 Cut one of the folded ends on each.



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- 14 Two of the long rectangle pieces will be the puppet's legs. The bends in the middle are the knees. Fold one end of each piece to create feet.



- 15 Fold the upper section of each leg in half. To attach the legs, tape this section to the underside of the puppet.



- 16 Cut the two remaining rectangles in half along the bend line. You will now have 4 smaller rectangles. Place two aside.



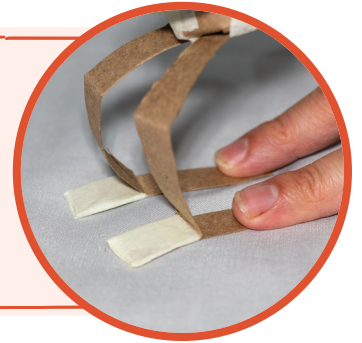
- 17 Fold two pieces in half. This will create the elbow bend on the arms. Fold one end of each piece to create hands. Fold the upper section of each arm 1 cm in the opposite direction.



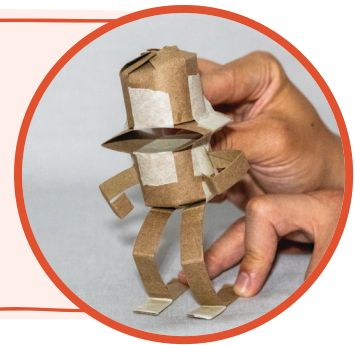
- 18 Tape this folded section to the side of your puppet, just below the mouth. Repeat this step to attach the second arm to the other side.



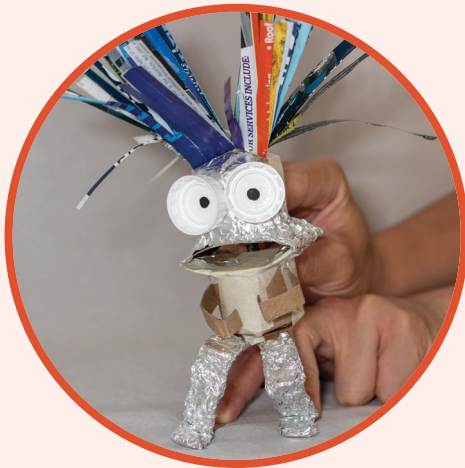
- 19 Tape the final two rectangular pieces to the bottom of your puppet's feet, with the long part of the rectangle pointing behind your puppet.



- 20 Place your finger and thumb into the bridges above and below the mouth. With your other hand, hold down the paddles at the back of the feet. These feet paddles allow you to keep your puppet grounded when it is moving or dancing.



- 21 Decorate your puppet. Have fun and get creative using other recycled materials.



This workshop was developed in partnership with Trash puppets.

