

Let's Make a Kite!

Spring and summer are the perfect seasons to fly a kite! There are usually many days that are breezy enough to go out and fly. If you don't have a kite, you can make one of your very own at home with some simple materials. Here is what you will need:

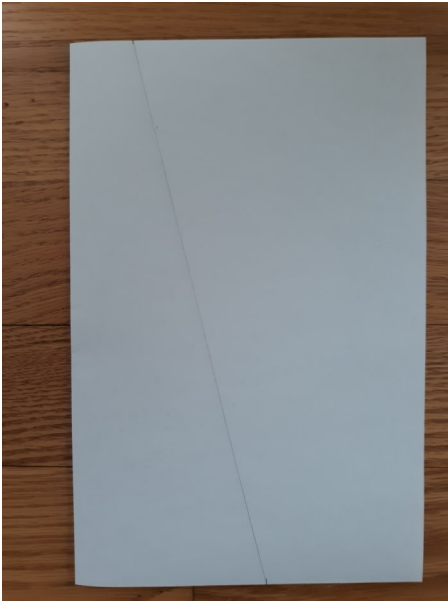


Materials

- Piece of regular (8.5" X 11") paper
- 8" bamboo skewer (plastic coffee stirrer or straw will work too)
- 10' kite string (or more if you want to fly your kite higher)
- 6'-10' plastic ribbon OR plastic grocery bag cut into a strip 1" wide and 6'-10' long
- Stick to wind string around
- Tape – scotch OR masking
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Scissors
- Tape measure
- Hole punch
- Colored pencils, crayons or markers

Directions:

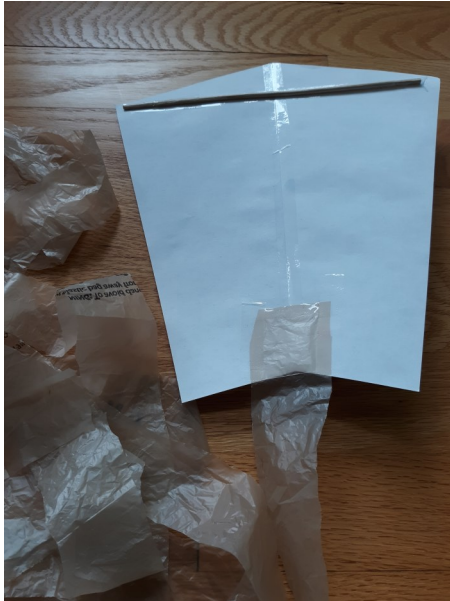
1. Fold the paper in half.
2. With the fold on the left, use your ruler to make a mark 1" from the fold at the top and 3" from the fold at the bottom.
3. Put your ruler edge on the two marks and draw a line between them.
4. Fold the paper on this line, then fold it back the other way on the same line.



5. Fold back one side to form a kite shape and put tape on this fold line from top to bottom. This is the back of your kite.
6. Turn the kite over and decorate the front. (The top of the kite is the wide end.)



7. Turn your kite over to the back. Tape the bamboo skewer or straw to the back between the top corners of the kite.
8. Cut the 6'-10' tail from a grocery bag or cut a 6'-10' piece of plastic ribbon. Tape the tail to the bottom of the kite at the seam.
9. Turn your kite over to the front and fold the flap back and forth until it stands up. Put a mark on the flap 2.75" down from the top of the kite. Fold a piece of tape over the flap at this mark as reinforcement and then punch a hole through the tape.



10. Measure and cut the kite string. Tie one end to the hole and the other end to the stick. Wrap the string around the stick.
11. Stand with your back to the wind and fly your kite! Happy flying!

