

Teen Mask Craft

1. Cut a head shape from poster board. The shape should be about the size of an 8 ½ X 11 inch piece of paper.
2. Cut a strip of poster board about 10 X 12 inches which you will later use to make a stand for the mask. Roll into a cylinder and tape edges together. If you intend to hang the mask, skip this step.
3. Using poster board and other various types of paper such as tissue paper, copier paper, watercolor paper, textured papers, make your mask. See below for descriptions various techniques you can use and see the reverse side for some sketches.

You may want to make a sketch first of what you want to make or you may want to just let your imagination lead you where it will. The mask can be realistic or fantasy, human or animal, whatever you want it to be.

You can choose to use all white paper which gives a different result than using colored papers. The choice is up to you depending on what results you want.

Paper Techniques

1. Folding – this is one of the most elementary of techniques of paper art. Before folding you should determine the direction of the grain of the paper. A fold will run smoothly with the grain, roughly against it. To test, bring together opposite edges of the sheet so it curls, then do the same with the other two edges. You will form a tighter roll with one way then the other and this is the direction of the grain. You can flatten a fold wither by hand or by using the edge of a ruler.
2. Crumpling – gives you irregular creases that can be used to form 3-D structures, surface texture or to enhance a background. Crumpling reduces the size of the paper. To build a 3-D structure, tightly crumple a flat sheet, then open it and mold into the desired shape. You can gather, pleat, or pinch into interesting shapes. Light weight papers are best for crumpling. Different types of papers will give different effects.
3. Curling – winding strips of paper around a large needle or a pencil will produce curls. You can either make scrolls which are unglued. They can be made in various shapes. If you glue the ends of the curl, you will make a scroll. Scrolls can be pinched into various shapes.
4. Tearing – tearing paper shapes offers a contrast to the sharp edge of scissor cuts.
5. Scoring – creates a fault in the paper along which it will bend. This technique creates relief and built up sculpture. Scoring also gives rigidity to a shape since the scored line acts like a spine to strengthen the paper. Using the edge of a scissor, push into the paper and pull along the edge of a ruler. Then bend the paper away from the indented line to create a well defined fold.
6. Piercing – is a means to create surface textures. You can use a variety of tools such as pins, knives, punches, scissors, or anything else you thing will work. You can make large or small holes. You can make cuts and bund back the edges.