

Quilled Snowflake Craft

Winters Heritage House Museum, Elizabethtown, PA www.ElizabethtownHistory.org



To complete your Quilled snowflake will need; Printed pattern(s), round toothpick (needle, skewer or quilling tool), square of thick cardboard or corkboard, wax paper to cover cardboard, straight pins, scissors, ruler, and white glue.

Skills; Scissors cutting, hand mobility. Concepts; Creation, history learning, Creativity

1. Cut the solid lines on the printed sheets to form paper strips. (If you have access to a paper trimmer, they make this step much easier. Please be sure to properly use and supervise this method.)
2. Once paper strips are cut. Holding 1 paper strip, take your toothpick and placing it perpendicular to the strip at one end start wrapping the paper strip tightly around the toothpick. When you get to the end put a small dab of glue on the strip and press tight to the roll.
3. Now repeat step 2 to make more tight coils. To make loose coils let the strip unravel slightly before gluing. To make teardrop shapes let the coil unravel slightly then pinch one side and glue end. To make additional shapes see the tips and tricks section below.
4. Use the wax paper covered cardboard to lay your pieces on to dry. You can use straight pins to secure pieces to the cardboard by sticking them down through a quilled piece into the cardboard. This also comes in handy when you are gluing small pieces together to form a larger one.
5. Designs can be mounted on construction paper, framed, or used alone as decorations to make cards, valentines, etc.



Quilling History

The origins of Quilling is somewhat mysterious. Some date it back to ancient Egyptians, but it is known to be used by French and Italian nuns to decorate reliquaries (containers to hold holy relics) and holy pictures in the 1600s. Pieces were often gilded with gold or silver, making it hard to distinguish, at a glance, from pieces crafted by a metal worker. It became fashionable with “ladies of leisure” starting in the 1600s up until about the mid 1800s., before it’s popularity started to fade. Women would often cut the gilded edges of book pages to use. Recently there has been a resurgence of popularity in the craft, due to newer tools and it’s economical cost.

Common Shapes

Common Quilling shapes used as building blocks in patterns. Use these shapes to develop your own patterns and designs.



Tight coil or circle: wrapping the strip tightly around the toothpick or tool, glue the end to roll.



Loose coil or circle: wrap strip tightly around tool, remove the roll and let unravel slightly gluing end to coil.



Teardrop: make a loose coil, after gluing pinch one side to form a point.



Marquise: make a teardrop shape, then pinch opposite side of point to form another point.



Square: make a marquise, then turn 90 degrees and pinch opposites to form a square.



Open Heart: crease a paper strip in the center, roll each end toward the inside center crease, glue rolled sections together.



V Scroll: crease a paper strip in the center, roll each end toward the outside center crease, glue if desired.



S Scroll: Holding the paper



Tips and tricks

When quilling let your creativity flow, there is no right or wrong. Quilled designs can be glued to greeting cards, used to make jewelry, pretty framed pictures, and even 3D items.

Use a cookie cutter to trace a shape, then fill it in with the same or different shapes.

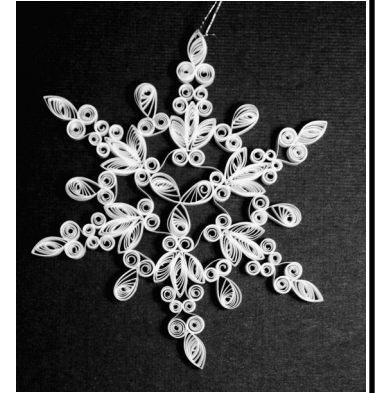
A tiny drop of glue goes a long way. Too much glue can be messy.

Use a ruler to measure paper strips to maintain sizing. A circle template, if available, can also help in keeping sizing uniform.

Straight pins can be helpful when gluing pieces together, sticking a pin through spaces in the piece into a wax paper covered sheet of cardboard. Sticking the pins close to each other pushes and holds pieces together.

If you take the blunt end of a bamboo skewer, you should be able to use a knife to make a small split in the bamboo to receive the strip of paper to make rolling the strips easier. Note be careful using the knife or better yet, get the help of an adult.

If you search quilling on the internet there is a wealth of information to be found, including more shapes, designs, and helpful tips.



Designs

