

Canoy Studio

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Basic Papermaking

Supplies

- Blender
- Sponge
- Paper making mould and deckle
- Vat, wash tub or sink (larger than mould and deckle)
- Couching sheets, for soaking up water (cut up cotton sheets, rags, felts)
- Paper pulp or scraps of paper



Optional Supplies

- Iron, rolling pin,
- Additional decorative items such as flower petals, glitter etc., that can make your paper more interesting.
- Cheesecloth or paint strainer to drain your excess pulp upon completion

Instructions

1. If you have purchased frozen pulp, defrost your pulp (can be put in microwave for about 10 minutes).

2. Take a handful of pre-made pulp and agitate it in a blender that's 3/4 full of water for about 20-30 seconds. If you are making your own pulp, blend until it is a smooth consistency.



3. Add blended pulp to vat that's already half filled with water. Note: You'll need to blend and add more pulp to your vat as you continue



4. Align deckle (frame) directly on top of mould (framed screen).



5. Use your hand to vigorously agitate the pulp and water in your vat to evenly disperse the pulp into the water.



6. Hold assembled mould (and deckle) tightly with your hands on the short sides, and starting vertically, run it to the bottom of the

vat's far side as you pull it towards you making the mould horizontal. With the mould at the bottom of your vat, lift it up out of the pulp keeping it level.



7. Hold mould above vat while the water drains from your newly formed sheet of paper.



8. Set down mould and carefully remove deckle (be careful that water doesn't drip from deckle on to your paper).



9. Flip screen over on to a couching sheet where you'll transfer your paper ("couch" means to adhere to a surface).



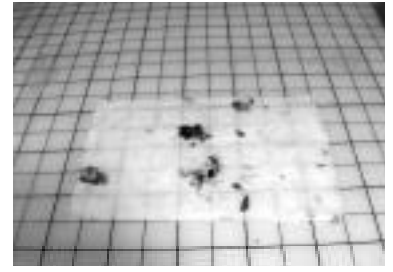
10. Press your sponge gently over the entire back of screen to remove excess water. If you have a detachable screen that is not connected to a mould, you may want to use a rolling pin to further adhere the paper to the couching sheet.



11. Carefully, starting at one end and moving slowly, remove screen so that your paper is left on the couching sheet. (You may flip the screen directly on to a smooth counter top, foam core etc. and couch paper directly on to that surface and leave there to dry for paper with one rough side and one smooth side)



12. Leave sheets with paper on them to dry overnight on a flat surface. You may iron wet paper sandwiched between 2 couching sheets until the steam disappears for instant drying or iron dry paper for a smoother sheet. Carefully peel dry paper off sheets when dry.



13. Enjoy your new handmade paper! Experiment with making stationary, journals, scrap books, lanterns and more!

Note: You make save leftover pulp by putting your vat contents in a container that will last forever in a freezer or drain pulp using cheesecloth or a paint strainer and freeze in a plastic bag. Don't put pulp water down the drain! If you aren't going to strain the leftover pulp you can flush the water down the toilet.