

How to make a Christmas Bauble!

To do this activity, you need some scraps of Christmas wrapping paper - they can all be the same kind (as we have here), or lots of different pieces. You also need to make a template out of cardboard to cut out identically sized circles (you could draw round the bottom of a jam jar, for example). The idea is to stick 8 of these circles together, a bit like a chocolate orange - but without the chocolate!



1 Take your template and draw around it 8 times with a pencil (so it won't show through your wrapping paper) to make 8 circles.

2 Carefully cut out your 8 circles - try and make them as even as possible as it makes it easier when you're glueing everything together.

3 Fold them all in half - keep the patterned side in the inside, so that it's just white on the outside (this is where the glue will go).



4 Run your fingernail along the fold line of each 8 circles. This is going to make the centre of your bauble and you need it to hold its shape.

5 CAREFULLY glue the white side of one of your circles. Just put glue on one half - NOT both - and do take care as it's very easy to tear the paper with the gluestick. Do it SLOWLY!

6 Gently press down your glued side onto the unglued white side of a 2nd circle. Repeat steps 5 & 6 for each of the remaining circles until you've used them all up.

AND FINALLY!



7 Take about 12cm of paper curling ribbon (this glues better than real ribbon), hold the two ends together and place them on the last unglued side of your bauble. Put some glue on the ribbon; then glue the last white side of the bauble and firmly press together. If you've done this correctly, this should close your circle and at the same time, attach a hanging ribbon to it.

8 And that's it - your bauble is complete!

POSSIBLE DISASTERS

- If your wrapping paper is thin (and a lot of it is), it can be very easy to tear it when you're cutting out the circles or glueing it together. So take care and take your time!
- Don't over-gluе the edges of the circles! If you do, your different 'segments' (think of chocolate oranges again!) will become stuck together and it'll be difficult to unstick. So the answer is to glue within the edges of each circle - but again, with care!
- Sticking the different pieces together can be fiddly, but just take your time and do it slowly!