

Museum of Craft and Design

SPRING WINDOW CLINGS



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Brighten up your home and neighborhood with DIY window clings. These flexible, reusable tactile stickers can be found in many stores—but with this recipe, you can design your own. Make enough to try out many different shapes and styles, including rainbows to share with your neighbors!

RECOMMENDED AGE/SKILL LEVEL:

Recommended for ages 7 and up.

MATERIALS

- PVA (polyvinyl acetate) glue
Note: Elmer's School Glue and Elmer's Glue-All contain some PVA and will work, however, other glues with a higher PVA content will work better.
- Small containers
- Food coloring (alternate, liquid watercolor)
- Mixing tools
- Flat plastic surface such as a sheet protector or taped down plastic bag
- Measuring spoons
- Dish soap
- Small craft paint brush (stiff bristles)

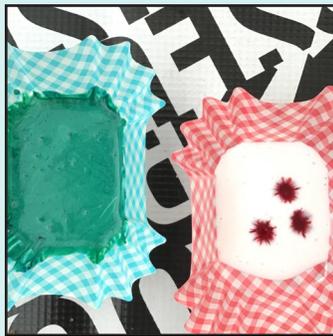
Optional: glitter, cookie cutters



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INSTRUCTIONS

- Consider what sort of designs you'd like to put on your window, and what colors you'd like to use. Sketch some designs if you like.
- Measure 2 tablespoons of glue and 2 drops of dish soap into a container. Mix them well.
- Distribute the glue mixture into as many containers as you would like to have different colors.
- Mix approximately 1–4 drops of food coloring into each container, stirring well. If you are adding glitter, sprinkle a little in. Too much glitter will make it slightly more difficult to stick to windows.



Note that glitter is mixed into the yellow color.

- Set your flat plastic sheets on a surface where they can stay overnight.
- Paint directly onto the plastic to create your shapes.
Optional: Use a cookie cutter as a stencil.
- Use your paintbrush to gently push the colored glue into the corners. Be cautious not to overfill your cookie cutter, as glue will spread over time.
- Leave the cookie cutter in place for at least two hours



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- If you are painting, make sure your shape is solid and that the glue appears thick.
 - If you wash your brush in between colors, make sure to dry it thoroughly.
- Let your shapes sit flat overnight as the glue dries.



- Once the glue is dry, lift up your plastic surface and gently peel the window cling off.
- If your shape moved outside its borders, trim it with scissors after you peel. (MCD's test variations came out as abstract experiments at times—if your shapes moved or changed, give them another try!)
- Press it to a window to share your work outside!



Variations:

- Try writing individual letters backwards, so that they will rest flat against the window, facing out.
- Test out mixing the colors—be aware that they will spread out over time!
- Insert a white sheet in a sheet protector to see your designs more clearly as you work. Draw your designs on the sheet first, for guides.
- Using two colors in one shape will work, but be prepared for colors to swirl together as they dry.
- Creating a series of shapes, as shown with leaves, will leave you lots of flexibility when you place your pieces on a window.

Note: In direct sunlight, clings will become brittle over time. Remove with caution.

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