

CARDBOARD PAPER MACHE



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Do you have excessive amounts of cardboard left over from the holiday season? Learn how to transform your cardboard clutter into a strong and versatile sculpting material with just a few simple steps.

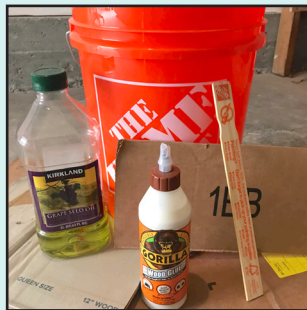
Visit our past exhibition, [Elevated Corrugated](#), to gather some additional ideas on how to repurpose cardboard for art.

RECOMMENDED AGE/SKILL LEVEL

Recommended for ages 6 and up with adult supervision.

MATERIALS

- Cardboard
- Mixing container
- Mixing stick (paint)
- Water
- Glue
- Oil (optional)
- Scissors (optional)

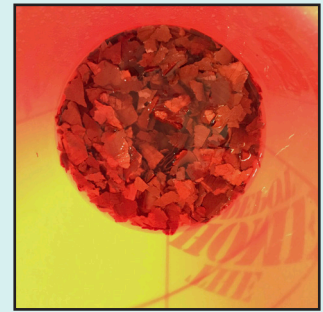


INSTRUCTIONS

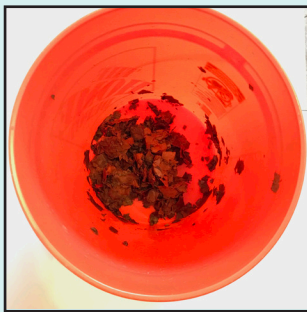
- Gather discarded or pressed cardboard.
 - Remove tape, plastic, and other materials which may prevent the cardboard from successfully absorbing water.
- Grab a mixing container and soak cardboard overnight, using enough water to fully submerge the cardboard.

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- Strip, break down, and agitate cardboard further until water has penetrated thoroughly.
- Drain all the water from your container.
 - Squeeze pieces of cardboard to extract excess water.
 - If you have any cheesecloth available, you might use it here to really squeeze out extra moisture.
 - Remove any missed bits (tape pieces, staples, etc.); small pieces of colored paper are OK.



- Place your lump of cardboard back into your container and begin adding glue and oil.
 - **Suggested measurements:** 1/3 cup of glue; 2 tablespoons of oil.
 - Feel free to personalize your ratio.
 - More glue will make a stiffer mixture; more oil—runnier.
- Mix your contents for approximately 10-15 minutes.
 - *TIP:* Using a power mixer will help a lot.



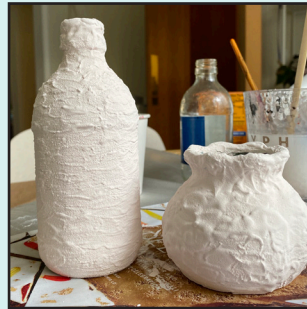
- When you are satisfied with your mixture's consistency, begin molding it or applying it to an armature.
 - For best results, apply 1/2–3/4 inches to your preferred surface.

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- Allow the mixture to dry for about 24 hours.
- After the compound has hardened, scrape, paint, and detail as you wish.
- For ideas as to how to combine your homemade clay with other materials, view works by featured MCD artist, [Adam Shiverdecker](#), or try using premade dishware as a base to form the clay around.



Amphora, 2018 by
Adam Shiverdecker



Andrea Magsaysay

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

CONNECT SOCIALLY AND LEARN MORE

Facebook & Instagram: @MuseumofCraftandDesign

Twitter @SF_MCD

Share your project! Post and tag #MCDatHome

Related materials: Check out past MCD exhibiting artist [Adam Shiverdecker's work in the MCD Store](#)! Find inspiration in how Jacqueline de la Fuente [creates amazing vases out of cardboard and paper waste](#).