

MAKE YOUR OWN DOVE KITE

Paper Dove kite - based on a design from the Australian Kite Association, with instructions by Infinite Arts.

You will need:

- 1 x A4 sheet with the dove kite print
- 1 x small piece of card with hole punched in
- 5m length of yarn (wool, thin string, strong thread)
- 3 x 1m of polythene strip cut from a plastic bag
- 1 x plastic straw
- sticky tape / sellotape (there is some on the back of the pack)
- a pair of scissors and a stapler if you have one.



What you do:

First check that you have all the items listed above:

1. If you are planning to colour the dove – it's best to do it before you start the making. Colour gently so the paper doesn't tear or get too wet, or curl up.
2. Fold the bird picture in half down the middle – with the drawing on the outside.
3. Hold it up to the light and check that the image matches on both sides.
4. Carefully cut round the shape of the bird starting at the tail and stopping at the beak.
5. Then fold the kite along the dotted line that runs through the eye – you can see the line on both sides so fold one way and then refold on the same line from the other side. This folded section will be the body of the bird. With the kite resting on the table open out one of the wings but keep the body section folded. You are looking at the back of the kite (with no drawings). Use a length of sticky tape to fix the sheets together down the back of the kite, along the folds.
6. The bird needs a spreader spar (a drinking straw cut to 12cm long) to hold its wings out. You can fix this on with staples if you have a stapler or try sticky tape if not. Fix the straw between the two points marked with a cross. The straw is a bit shorter than the space between the two points – but that is how it's meant to be – it means that the body will project out a bit and make a triangular space behind the wings. This helps it to fly.
7. Now your kite needs a tail. You need to cut 3 strips from an old carrier bag forming hoops of plastic. Open them up, cut each hoop once so that you have 3 strips of plastic about 1metre long) Three should be enough but use 4 if it's very windy.
8. Twist and knot the three tails together at one end and then fix them on the back of the kite, (the side with no drawing) at the bottom in the centre with two bits of sticky tape, one above and one below the knot to hold it on.
9. Now you can make a flying line, using some wool and a piece of card. It should be about 5m long. You need to unwind it from the card as it's not tied on!!! Let it fall gently onto the desk or floor as you unwind it. Take the piece of cardboard with the hole in and poke one end of the wool right through the hole and tie it securely back to itself with a double knot then wind all the wool onto the card winder. There should be a cut in the side of the card to lock the line into when you are flying.

You can watch a video from Infinite Arts about how to make this kite at:

<https://vimeo.com/435098249> - or scan the QR code to take you to the video

Now you can go and fly your kite after you have had a think about flying your kite safely

- Choose an open clear area, away from the public if possible.
- Never fly near overhead power lines, roads, footpaths, canals, railways, rivers, cliff edges
- Don't fly too close to buildings or animals,
- Don't fly if the wind is too strong, NEVER in a thunderstorm as the lightning will be attracted to it
- Stand with your back to the wind to launch the kite and try not to run - you might fall over especially if the ground is uneven or you are running backwards.

