

How to make a paper mache hot air balloon

This is really easy to make but very effective. Once you have your balloon you can decorate it in any way you like. How about using paint, fabric, or collage to create different patterns and textures? You might even want to attach a basket to the bottom!

You will need

- One balloon
- Newspaper
- Paper mache paste (two parts PVA glue to one part water)



How to make

Blow up your balloon. Tear newspaper into squares a few centimetres in size and make a paper mache paste. Cover your work surface with newspaper, roll up your sleeves and be prepared to get messy! Dip your newspaper into the paste and layer onto the surface of the balloon until it is totally covered, leaving a gap around the balloon tie so you can remove it later. Apply three coats, leaving it to dry between each coat.



Once the mache is dry, pop the balloon. Don't be worried if it starts to implode, you can push it back into shape once the balloon is out. Cut a hole around the base and remove the popped balloon.

Next decorate the hot air balloon in any way you want. The more colourful and imaginative the better! You could even attach a little basket or box to the balloon using a needle and embroidery thread or string.

Other projects

Make your own model of the Emerald City, using cardboard tubes and boxes or any other objects from your recycling collections.

Colour-in a pantomime poster or decorate a hot air balloon template. Both documents can be downloaded from our website (www.georgiantheatreroyal.co.uk— see a show— The Wizard of Oz) or pick up copies from The Georgian Theatre Royal Box Office, Victoria Road, Richmond.

