

# How To Make A Lantern

## YOU WILL NEED:

### Sticks

- 4 x 40cm for the base
- 4 x 55cm for the upright sections
- 4 x 15 cm sticks for the window
- 1 x carrying stick

1 x glow stick or other form of lighting to light up the lantern

Greaseproof paper

A selection of tissue paper

Wire for the lantern hook and carry stick loop

Masking tape (good quality) cut into 8-10cm lengths

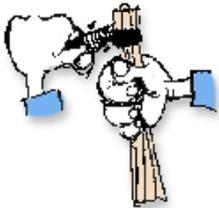
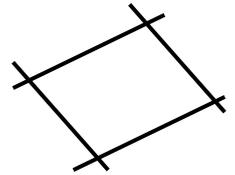
white PVA glue – dilute 50:50 with water,

a sheet of black plastic (or something similar) so you won't dirty the floor (or yourselves) and

a sponge

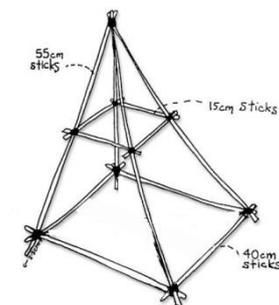
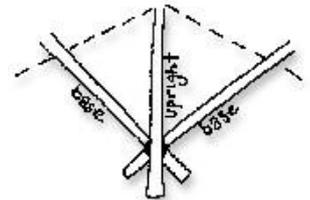
## The Frame

Join the four base pieces (40cm sticks) into a square with masking tape. Make sure you leave a small overlap (about 2.5 cm) on each corner. When you wrap the sticks together at each corner with the masking tape pull the tape tight and press it down as you go. The tighter the wrap and the harder you press, the better the sticking power.



Take the four uprights (55cm sticks) and hold them in a bunch in one hand, wrap masking tape around the top of the bunch, about 2.5cm down from the top. Slowly and gently pull the end of the sticks outwards to create an even pyramid shape.

Join the legs of the uprights to the base square, on the outside of the angles, leaving about 2.5 cm for the feet (so the base of the lantern is off the ground)



Join the 15cm sticks in place about 1/3<sup>rd</sup> down from the top of the pyramid. It is best if they are joined to the outside of the pyramid (it is easier when sticking the paper to the frame).

## The Lantern Hook

Fold a 30cm length of wire in two, twist for about 8cm down from the bend and form a hook.

Divide the two ends and thread them through the top of the pyramid frame and twist each one down around opposite upright sticks.

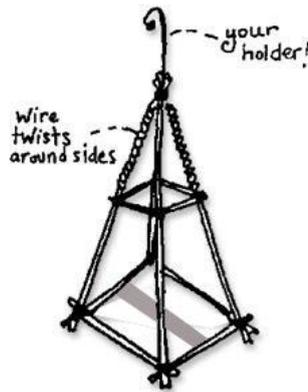
Wrap in tape to cover any sharp edges



## The Carry Loop

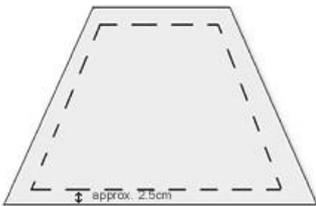
Do similar with the carrying stick but make this a loop so your lantern can just hook into it. Fix the wire to the carry stick.

Your preferred form of lighting the lantern will hang from the top of the lantern.



## The Paper

Cut the shapes of the triangle sides, leaving at least a 2cm-seam allowance. Cut a little of the top off to make a triangle.



Mix the glue and water to a 50:50 mix and sponge onto the greaseproof paper.

Place the first triangle piece on a side of the frame, dab the edges down with the sponge so that they fold over the sticks. You **MUST** make sure that all these seams are well stuck down. Repeat for all four sides. Leave to dry. It will go tight on drying.

## Decorating the Lantern

After the lantern has dried, brush the dried baking paper with glue again and place the dry tissue paper on the glued areas. You can do this in whatever design you want.

Do not glue the tissue paper and try to stick onto the baking paper, it will just tear.

If you want to smooth the tissue paper down flat, work with the sponge and more glue when applying it to the greaseproof paper. A creased look does look pretty good though.

### DECORATING SUGGESTIONS:

- Tear the tissue paper into smallish pieces and overlap them, leaving no white spaces. This creates new, rich colour blends.
- Try colour graduations; one dark colour blended into another, using long torn strips – either horizontally, vertically or diagonally.
- Try cut out images, in a random or repeat pattern. You can overlap any design of your choice.
- As an additional option, when dry, you can spray with clear Estapol - which further strengthens the paper and enriches the colour and makes it slightly water proof, just in case there is rain.

