

Chinese Lanterns

Lanterns are an important part of the Chinese New Year. Follow the instructions below to create your very own Chinese lantern.



Materials:

- Construction Paper
- Glue stick or double-sided tape
- Scissors
- Stamps, markers or stickers
- Paperclips (if using glue)
- Ruler

Instructions:

- Cut construction paper in half widthwise.
- Using a ruler, on each of the long edges of the construction paper, mark a line approximately 1-2 cm from long edge of the paper along the entire width of the page. This will be the top and bottom of the lantern (where the umbrellas are in the picture).
- Fold the paper in half to create a long thin rectangle with the lines on the outside.
- Cut slits in the paper equal distance apart (about 1cm) from the fold all the way to the line. DO NOT CUT THROUGH THE LINE. Continue cutting slats until you reach the other side. Leave one slat at the end (it's ok if it's a little wider than the others).
- Open the fold leaving the crease.
- Decorate the outside of your lantern with designs of your choice using stickers, markers or stamps.
- Bring the short ends together and tape or glue them in place. If using glue, hold it or paperclip it until dry.
- Cut a strip about 2cm wide and of the length of your choice for the handle.
- Decorate the handle.
- Attach the handle to your lantern with double-sided tape or glue.



TIP: You can create multiple lanterns to string as a garland.

TIP: You can make larger lanterns by using the whole sheet of paper the same way you use the half sheet.