

These instructions are provided by Arnold Grummer's®. More instructions on other ways to make paper are available on the Montessori By Mom website in your resources section.

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*Arnold Grummer's*®

Arnold Grummer's® Cookie Cutter Paper Project Directions

In addition to your paper making supplies, please gather:

- 5" diameter empty can or bowl
- 8" brownie pan
- Standard cake or pie pan
- 16 oz cup
- 16 oz jar or container with tight fitting lid
- Roll of toilet paper
- Paper towel or old kitchen terry towel
- Heavy book in plastic bag
- **Optional:** Watercolor paints, water base markers, watercolor paints; use a kitchen blender\* to experiment with other kinds of paper; use an iron\* to dry papers

**Directions:**

1. Fill a brownie pan with 1 inch of water. Soak the blue paper making screen for 10 minutes. It will turn slightly darker when it's ready to use.
2. Tear off 15 squares of single-ply or 8 squares of double-ply toilet paper.
3. Cut or tear toilet paper into small pieces – no larger than 1"x1".
4. Place torn pieces in a jar or container. Use a cup to add 12 oz of water. Secure lid.
5. Shake jar or container vigorously until no large pieces of toilet paper can be seen. You have recycled toilet paper into 'pulp'.
6. Remove lid. Carefully pour pulp back into the cup.
7. Assemble your paper making station in the cake pan (to catch drips):
  - Place clear plastic canvas on the empty can or bowl
  - Place the blue, wet paper making screen on top of the plastic canvas
  - Put the round cookie cutter on the center of the paper making screen.
8. Gently pour pulp into the cookie cutter. Try your best to make an even layer of pulp in the cookie cutter.
9. Hold the cookie cutter steady until the water has drained into the bottom can or bowl
10. Lift the cookie cutter straight up off the paper making screen.

*You have now formed a new sheet of paper. It is on the paper making screen.*

11. Carefully lift the paper making screen with your new sheet off the can or bowl. Place it on paper towel or a kitchen terry towel. Place the grey cover screen on the new sheet.
12. Take the sponge and press it down repeatedly on the cover screen to remove water. Wring out the sponge and repeat until no more water is removed.
13. Carefully peel off the cover screen.
14. Place a white couch (kooch) sheet over your new wet paper. Now you have a sandwich with a paper making screen on the bottom, your new paper circle in the middle, and a couch sheet on top.
15. Carefully pick up the sandwich, flip it over and set it down so the couch sheet is on the bottom and the paper making screen is on top.
16. Use the sponge again. Press down hard on the paper making screen to remove more water. The new sheet will transfer onto the couch sheet.
17. Carefully peel off the paper making screen, leaving the paper circle on the couch sheet. (Note: If the new paper remains on the paper making screen, dampen the sponge and repeat step 16. Press hard to assist transfer.)
18. Place a dry couch sheet over your new paper circle. Use a heavy book in a plastic bag to press down hard.
19. Remove the top couch sheet. Now you can handle your new paper!
20. Drying options:
  - Carefully pick up and place your new sheet on a paper towel or flat surface to dry.
  - Stack new, damp papers between paper towels. Set the stack under a heavy book in a plastic bag to dry overnight.
  - Set clothes iron to highest setting. Turn the steam off. When the iron has heated, move it slowly but steadily over your new sheet until it is dry.

Take care of your paper making supplies. If you do, you can use them over and over.

- a) **Paper Making Screen:** Swish in water after each use. Rinse thoroughly under running water before putting it away.
- b) **Couch Sheets:** Do not throw away. Use them – dry them – reuse them.

**WARNING: Always dispose of paper making water and fiber outside or flush away in toilet. Do not pour leftover water or fiber down kitchen sink or other drain. It can clog and cause plumbing issues.**

Fun Ideas for Cookie Cutter Paper Making:

- Choose cookie cutters from your own set to make a variety of shapes.
- Use watercolors to add color to recycled paper. Dab wet pulp with a color-filled brush just after the sheet is formed, or paint when dry.
- Use a kitchen blender. Blend a 5"x5" piece of any kind of paper. (Use more for thick paper like cardstock; use less for thin paper like Sunday funnies.) Follow the same directions for fun – and surprising! – results.
- Add small confetti, bits of thread or yarn, even seeds (marigolds and zinnias work well) to your pulp. Don't overdo it. A little goes a long way.  
**OR** Fill the cookie cutter halfway, then lightly sprinkle with small items. Cover items with remaining pulp.