

PAPER BRACELETS

Supplies

- Your choice of paper – I used recycled dictionary paper and card stock with the color that goes all the way through it, (you don't want to see white edges on the colored paper
- Fast Drying PVA glue
- E 6000 glue
- Paper cutter
- Bracelet band – I used recycled heavy canvas (see supplier below) but leather would also work
- Velcro for the closure on one style
- Circle punches – various sizes depending what you are making
 - 3/4 inch
 - 1 inch
 - 2 inch
 - 1/8 inch
- Bracelet size memory wire
- Inexpensive chain
- Lobster clasp
- Approximately 50 clothes pins

This all started as an experiment and part of the 20th anniversary challenge for PaperWorks in Tucson. It is time consuming but is a great project to work on while watching tv! It was suggested that I make 20 of them for the 20th anniversary and I thought it was a crazy idea as they take awhile to make. But I got hooked and ended up making a total of 49!!

The canvas I used is a repurposed canvas. The canvas has come from a shop in the Seattle Area. Here is the information if you wish to order it:

Second Use Seattle (seconduse.com)
322 6th Ave S, Seattle, WA 98134
(206) 763-6929

It comes in a 5 foot by 10 foot piece for \$10. Item number 828997-S

Warning! It is heavy and the shipping will easily at least double the price! You may want to get several people together and share the canvas. I have also used it for painted book covers.

It is a super heavy weight canvas used in acrylic fusion production and was previously used as a heat protection layer between acrylic sheets.

Have fun and experiment!!

Examples # 1 & # 2 - the paper was cut on a paper cutter.

- Cut all of your paper and then fold either in half or diagonally.
- Clip 10 folded sections (they are similar to a signature) together using the clothes pins and glue the folded section with the PVA glue. I found a section of 10 still gave me flexibility to make different designs and was a reasonable number of pieces to work with. Smaller became too fidgety and a larger number became cumbersome.
- Make all your sections and let the glue completely dry. I left mine to dry overnight.
- The canvas bands I used were left from another project but I really like the weight of the recycled canvas. I painted mine with acrylic paint and the paint prevents the canvas from unraveling.
 - o You will want to cut your canvas slightly narrower than the finished width of your bracelet. It gives it a more finished look when wearing it!! I cut mine approx.. 1/4inch narrower leaving about 1/8 of an inch on each side.



- Glue your sections to the band with E6000 glue. Standing the sections up next to one another so they are tight. You might want to use a small block of wood to help hold them next to one another.
 - I left a small strip of canvas on one end and approximately 1 inch on the end where I glued the Velcro closure. The end with the little extra canvas was then cut off when the glue was all dry.
- After all the sections are completely dry - glue the pieces of Velcro appropriate for the size of the bracelet. You will need two pieces. One is glued on the extra 1 inch strip on the top of the band next to the papers. The other piece is glued on the bottom of the band at the end where you trimmed off the excess band.



The band is not tapered - it is just the angle of the picture!!

Examples #3 - #4 - the paper was cut using different sizes of paper punches.

The circles were then folded in half. Follow the steps for gluing, the band, and Velcro for examples 1 & 2.

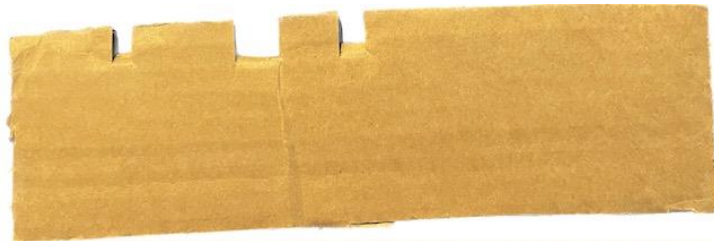
Examples #5 - #6 - the paper was cut using different sizes of paper punches.

- Decide what size paper punch you want to use. The $\frac{3}{4}$ inch punch makes a very comfortable bracelet. The 1 inch punch makes a fun chunkier bracelet! Punch a bunch!!!
- Using one of the circles punched out of cardstock and punch a center hole - use it as a template for punching the center section of all your circles.
- I found it easier to punch them and then string them onto a section of 18 gauge wire (any thickness of wire will work). It makes it easier to judge how many circles you need and to keep them neat and organized.



I did this for both the colored cardstock circles and the ones punched out of dictionary pages.

- Cut a piece of bracelet memory wire (use wire cutters from the garage...not your good jewelry wire cutter. Memory wire is so hard it will break the cutting edge of jewelry wire cutters. Carefully and with a lot of strength bend the wire into a loop and one end so your circles don't fall off the end! I used a chain-nose or needle-nose plier to do this.
- Start stringing sections of your punched circles. I made a template using cardboard so I didn't have to count the number of pieces I wanted when making a pattern. I also made bracelets with random sections.....it is all your choice and the design you want!



- String enough paper to form your complete bracelet and then carefully bend the end of the wire in a loop as close as you can to the paper circles.
- Memory wire is designed to hold beads and to have several "wraps" to go around your wrist. This doesn't work with the paper as it is big and bulky. The memory wire will easily support the paper but it needs a closure so the bracelet doesn't fall off!
- I added a short length of inexpensive chain and a lobster clasp to hold the bracelet together and to also make it somewhat adjustable for different wrist sizes.



I hope you have enjoyed the presentation. I would love to see what you make and the new designs you come up with!! Please send me pictures!!

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