

How to...



BEAUTIFUL BLUE

Blue was voted the most popular color in the US by people in 39 out of 50 states, one survey found.

Make blotting art with watercolors

What you need

- Drop cloth or plastic covering
- Plastic gloves (optional)
- Liquid watercolor paints
- Muffin tray
- Water
- Paper towels
- Plastic tray (optional)

Instructions

1. Since this project can be messy, prepare your space by covering surfaces with a drop cloth or plastic covering. To avoid staining your hands with paint, you may also want to wear plastic gloves.
2. Pour about one teaspoon of liquid watercolor paint, in various colors, in each section of your muffin tray. Then add about three teaspoons of water to each section.
3. Take the paper towels and fold them in different ways, such as into quarters or eighths. Dip the corners of

the folded paper towel into different colors in the muffin tin. Watch the towels absorb the colors, but don't soak them for too long or the towels will get too soggy.

4. Gently unfold the paper towels to reveal a colorful and symmetrical design you have created.
5. Let the paper towels dry on a plastic tray or plate.

Helpful tips

- If you don't have liquid watercolors, you can also use food dye as paint for this project.

- If you have some leftover watercolor paints in your muffin tray, you could create an inkblot painting. Fold a piece of printer paper in half. Open the paper up and then place dots of watercolor on one half of the paper. Press the two halves together and rub all along the folded edge. Open the paper up and inspect your symmetrical, colorful inkblot. Use a black marker or crayon to transform your inkblot into a creature.

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ECO TIP OF THE WEEK HELP THE EARTH IN A NEW WAY

Trash that ends up in nature, instead of being put in the garbage, is harmful to the environment because it can cause pollution and injure animals. One way to reduce litter is to try "plogging." Plogging means to pick up trash while jogging, and it's an activity that originated in Sweden. The word combines the Swedish words that mean "to pick up" and "to jog." To get started, ask an adult to go on a jog or a walk with you. Wear gloves and carry a small trash bag. If you see a piece of trash along your route, carefully pick it up and place it in the trash bag. When you get home, sort any litter that could be recycled and then place the rest in the trash.

