



How to...



Make a Diwali decoration

Brighten your home with these colourful paper creations.

Diwali is the festival of lights, a celebration marked by several religions. Hindus, Jains and Sikhs around the world gather to mark the triumph of good over evil and light over darkness. Diwali's date is based on the Moon but it's always between October and November. This year it begins on 18 October.

During Diwali, people light candles and oil lamps called diyas. Families gather for food, fireworks and fun and buy each other gifts for good luck. Diwali also symbolises new beginnings. Some people clean their homes and fill them with colourful decorations.

Try making these pretty paper decorations to bring colour into your home for Diwali. They can be made bigger or smaller, as long as all the paper squares are cut to the same size. To hang them, tape a piece of string or ribbon to the back, or fix them to a wall or window with tape or sticky tack.

What you need

- Thin card
- A ruler
- Scissors
- Coloured paper or wrapping paper
- A pen
- Sticky tape
- A small plate
- Glue
- A glue brush
- String or ribbon to hang it up



LIGHT THE DARK
The word Diwali comes from the ancient Sanskrit word *deepavali*, meaning "rows of lighted lamps".



1 Cut a 10cm x 10cm square from thin card. Put it on coloured paper, draw around it then cut out. Make 15–16 paper squares in this way.



2 Cut a piece of thin card 21cm x 15cm and roll it into a cone. Make the open end about 6cm across. Stick with tape then trim off the ends.



3 Hold one of the paper squares with a corner just above the top of the cone. Wrap the paper around the cone, stick with tape then slide it off.



4 Make more paper cones in the same way until all the squares have been used up. Roll each bit of paper the same way, so the shapes match.



5 Cut a 16–18cm card circle for the base (use a plate as a guide). Mark the centre in pen. Glue the cones on top with the points on the centre.



6 Make 12–15 more cones from 5cm x 5cm squares. Use the card cone to form them. Glue them over the first layer, points in the middle.

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SCAN ME