

Make Your Own Kite

Have you ever flown a kite before?

Materials You Will Need:

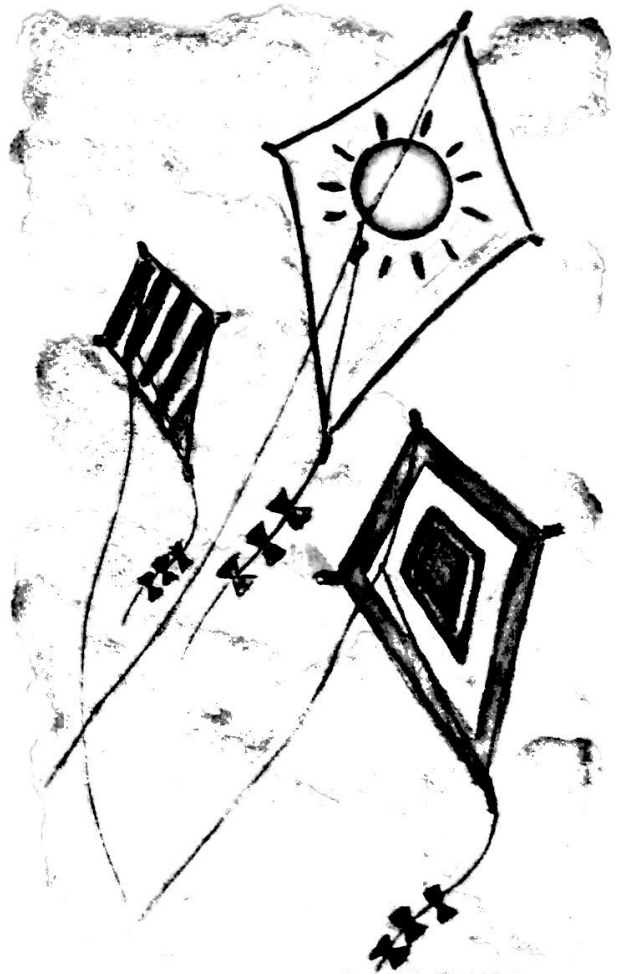
one 20-inch wooden dowel rod; one 24-inch wooden dowel rod; a pencil; a ruler; a craft knife; wood glue; fishing line; a piece of heavyweight paper, at least 26 inches square (can be found at craft stores); scissors; tape; a sewing needle; string; ribbon

Optional Materials:

stickers, paint, markers, and rubber stamps

Directions:

1. Ask a parent or other adult to use the craft knife to make a notch across the flat end of each dowel rod.
2. Make a mark with a pencil 6 inches from the top of the large dowel rod and 10 inches from the top of the small dowel rod.
3. Place the smaller dowel rod on top of the larger one. Glue the two rods together at the places where you made a mark. Be sure that the notches at the ends of the rods are horizontal when your kite frame is lying flat on a table.
4. After the glue has dried, wind some fishing line around the intersection of the two rods to make sure they stay securely joined together. The fishing line should form an X at the intersection of the rods.
5. Now take the fishing line, which should still be attached to the X in the center of the frame, and thread it through the notch at each end of the dowel rods. Thread it through each notch a second time, and then return the fishing line to the center X. Make a few more loops around the X. Then knot the line and cut off the excess.
6. Place the kite frame on the piece of paper. Trace the shape of the kite, and then add two inches to the border. Cut out the larger shape. Center the frame over the paper, and then fold the edges over the frame. Tape the folded edges securely.
7. If you like, you may decorate your kite with the stickers, paint, markers, and stamps.
8. Use the needle to make a small hole in the paper at the top and bottom of the kite. From the frame side, push a piece of fishing line through each hole and knot it. Take the rest of the fishing line (which should still be wound on the spool), and tie the loose end of it about one-third of the way down the middle piece.
9. Attach a 6-foot-long piece of string to the base of the kite. This will be the kite's tail.
10. Use the ribbon to tie a bow every 10 or 12 inches along the kite's tail.
11. Your kite is complete. All you need to do is wait for a breezy day, take your kite to the park, and see how high it can soar!



Write the words from the passage that have the meanings below.

1. not required

_____ materials list

2. a v-shaped cut

_____ Step 1

3. parallel to, or level with, the horizon

_____ Step 3

4. the point where two things meet

_____ Step 4

5. an amount greater than needed

_____ Step 5

6. Where can you find the heavyweight paper to make your kite?

7. Name two optional materials you can use to decorate your kite.

8. For which task will you need the help of a parent or other adult?

9. How much larger than the kite frame should your piece of paper be?

10. Check the line beside the word or words that best describe what type of selection this is.

_____ fiction

_____ how-to

_____ persuasive