

Activity Idea

Make Your Own Pride Parade Fan

Recommended for adults

Introduction:

June is Pride Month, which means there will be celebrations in multiple locations in LA County throughout the month. Keep cool and show your support by making your own fan to bring to the parade!

Materials:

- Cardstock, 8 ½ x 11, 1 piece
- Coffee stir sticks or craft sticks, 6-12 (depending on fan size)
- Markers/Paints/Crayons for decorating fan
- Scissors
- Exacto knife
- Glue
- Paper clip



Directions:

Step 1

Decide on your fan design. The sample shown here is based on the colors of the Pride Progress Flag.

Step 2

Cut a strip of cardstock that it is 4" – 4 ½" in height. You can keep the length of the paper strip at 11" or trim it shorter, depending on how wide you want your fan to be.

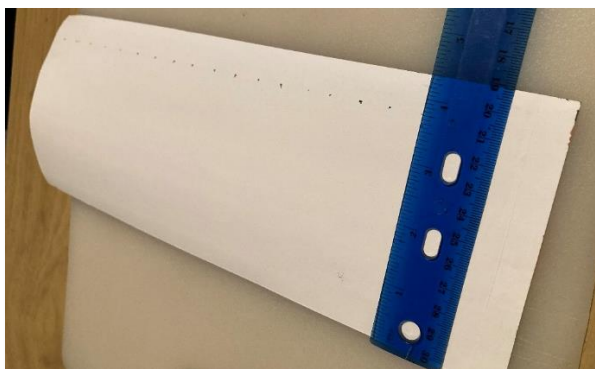
Step 3:

Use markers, paints, or crayons to make your fan design on the cardstock strip.



Step 4:

Score your cardstock to make it easier to fold. Use a ruler to measure your fold intervals on the non-decorated side of your fan, marking them with a pencil or pen, and then lightly score the back of the fan with an Exacto knife where the folds will be. The width of your fold will depend on the size of the sticks. The fold should be wider than your stick.



Step 5:

Fold your strip in an accordion fold (alternating folding to the front and back). To begin your fold, place your cardstock strip with the design face down, and make your first fold in. Then alternate folding out and in until the strip is completely folded accordion-style.

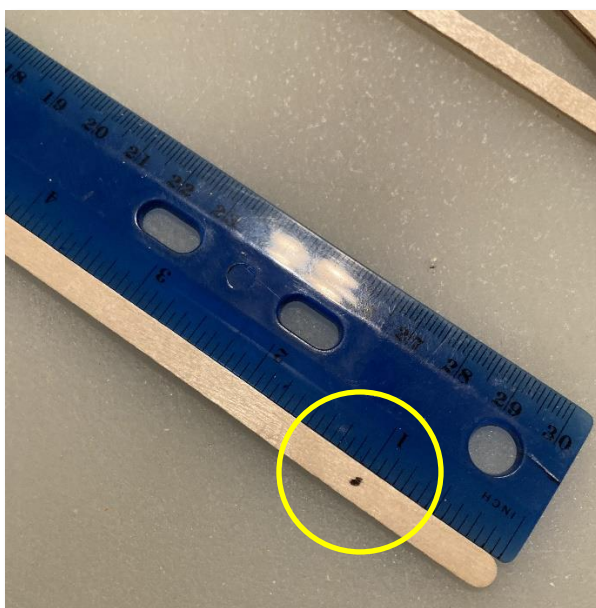


Step 6:

Count out the number of stir sticks or craft sticks you will need. If you look at your cardstock strip with the decorated side up, the number of sticks needed should equal the number of points in the folds.

Step 7:

Use your scissors or Exacto knife to put holes in the bottom section of your stir sticks or craft sticks – between $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to 1 inch from the bottom. Use a ruler and mark each stick before making the holes so the holes would be in the same location for each stick if the sticks were stacked on top of each other.



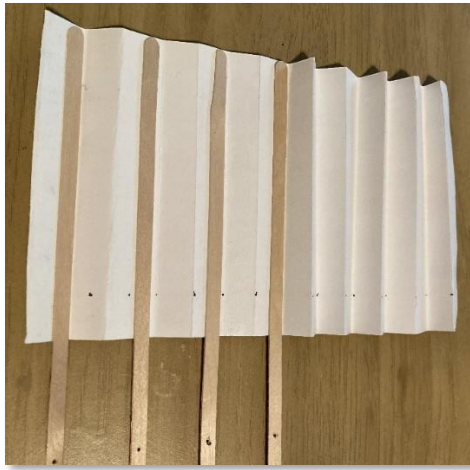
Step 8:

Straighten the paperclip and make sure the hole for each stick is wide enough for the paper clip to go through. Then remove the paper clip and set aside, for now.

Step 9:

Glue the sticks, one-by-one, to the undecorated side of your cardstock strip. Begin by placing your cardstock strip decorated side down. Compare the length of the stick with the height of the cardstock strip and decide how much of the craft stick you want at the bottom of the fan; make sure at least 2-3 inches of the stick will not be covered by the cardstock strip. Glue the part of the craft stick that will be covered by the cardstock to the left-hand side of the first V-shaped fold, in line with, and close to, the point of the fold. Skip the next segment of the cardstock strip so that your 2nd stick will also be glued to the lefthand side of the next V-shaped fold, with the top of the 2nd stick in the same position as the 1st stick.

Continue until all the sticks are glued to the cardstock. If you end up with an extra fold at the end (1/2 of a “V”), use the scissors to remove it.



Step 10:

Pull the bottoms of the sticks together so that they're stacked and push the paper clip through the holes. Make sure your cardstock is “fanned” out how you like it and secure the sticks in place by wrapping the paper clip around the point where the sticks meet up.



Step 11:

Practice your “fan wave” in preparation for the parade!



Additional Resources for Celebrating Pride Month:

- LA County Library Pride Month Events: [Celebrate LGBTQ+ Pride Month – LA County Library](#)
- Celebrate Pride for Adults Booklist: [Pride Booklist Adults – LA County Library](#)
- LA County Library Department of Mental Health’s blog post about Pride flags (which includes images of various designs): [A Brief History of Our LGBTQIA2-S Pride Flag - Department of Mental Health](#)
- Library of Congress, History of Pride: [The History of Pride](#)