



Papel Picado

¡Feliz Día de los Muertos! Día de los Muertos, the Day of the Dead, is a Mexican holiday with its origins from the Aztec peoples over three thousand years ago to celebrate the lives of their ancestors. Papel Picado, which is used to decorate for the occasion, is delicately decorated tissue paper which represents the fragility of life. This Mexican folk art uses these tissue paper designs to create banners with bright, festive colors.

1



Gather materials:

- Tissue Paper (multiple colors)
- Yarn / String
- Ruler (optional)
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Glue

2



Cut a few sheets of different colored tissue paper into rectangular shapes of the same size.



3



Take one color rectangle and fold in half to form a crease down the center.

4



Fold the right and left sides into the center line.

PRO-TIP:

It is helpful to use a dull pencil so that the tissue paper does not tear.

5



Fold in half again across the center so that your tissue paper is now folded into fourths.

6



Draw a design with your pencil at the folded edges of your tissue paper. Use shapes like squares, triangles, semi-circles to form symmetrical designs. Be sure to leave 1-2 inches at the top of your tissue paper without any design to use later for attaching the string.



7



Use your scissors to cut out your lined designs.

8



Open your tissue paper to reveal your symmetrical designs!

9



Repeat Steps 3 - 8 for the rest of your colored tissue paper rectangles.

1

0



To create the banner, fold the top of your tissue paper over a long string and secure each with glue. Continue adding your tissue papers this way to your string until you have finished gluing all of them.



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Hang your papel picado!
¡Feliz Día de los Muertos!



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