

Recycling old paper to make Paper Mache Pots



You will need:

A plastic container to form the base of your paper mache pot. Ensure the sides are smooth and that the opening of the container is wider than the body.

Magazines, newspapers or coloured paper

White PVA based craft glue or water and flour paste. (You will find the recipe at the end of these instructions.)

Water

A small, low sided plastic tray to hold the glue (I recycled a meat tray)

Plastic food wrap, cling film

How to make the pots:

1. Tear the paper into pieces, 3-4cm
2. Prepare the pot base by wrapping the cling film around the outside of the pot. This stops the paper mache from sticking to the pot.
3. Prepare the glue, if using PVA add a little water to make it slightly runny and pour into a low sided tray.
4. Turn the covered pot upside down, dip pieces of paper into the glue until it is saturated and layer it onto the pot. Smooth each piece.



5. The pot needs two or three layers of overlapping paper pieces.
6. Allow the pot to dry completely.
7. Gently slip the pot from your hardened container.



8. Gently pull the plastic wrap off the inside of your pot. Trim the top edge if required



How to make your own paper mache glue'

What you need

Flour

Water

Mixing bowl

Spoon

How to make it.

1 cup flour and 1 cup of water

Mix well with a spoon to get rid of all the lumps. If you find you are getting lumps in your glue, you can use a small kitchen electric mixer to whiz them out.