

## Kite Making !

## Step 1: Gather materials:

- Scissors (Xacto knife or Utility Knife will work too!)
- String (embroidery string, sinew, Fishing line, wrapping paper ribbon etc.)
- Glue (Hot Glue works wonderfully!,

Elmer's, or craft glue will work too!)

- Two thin sticks (BBQ Skewers, twigs from a tree)
- Ruler or straight edge
- Tape (masking, scotch, or packing tape)
- Marker (this is optional but having a Sharpie on hand is helpful)
- 2 recycled plastic bags


## STEP 2: Build the Kite Frame!

- Gather two sticks - approx. 15" and 10". (One stick should be 5 " less than the other. This dimension fits well with grocery shopping bags - but you can size up if you like!)
- Cross the smaller stick over the longer stick in the shape of a lower case t. The horizontal stick will be about 1/3 of the way from the top of the vertical stick.
- Secure the sticks together by wrapping string and adding a dot of glue to ensure a strong
connection. (cutting a notch where they meet can be helpful too!
- Cut small notches on each of the four ends of the sticks. (If you lay the kite frame flat on a table, each of your notches should be parallel to the table.)
- Hot glue or tie a not of a long piece of string at the bottom of the longest stick. Now wrap this string around the edge of the kite frame to create an outline that defines the kite's shape. The notches will help keep the string in place, do this a few times and glue or tie a not where you began.


## STEP 3: Cutting out the sail!

- Cut the plastic handles off your bag.
- Cut the sides of your plastic bag so it becomes a flat sheet.
- Lay the kite frame on the flat sheet of plastic to make sure it fits. If your frame is too large, use a second bag and tape the two sheets of plastic together.
- Draw a line or use a straight edge to cut the sail. The sail should be an inch wider in all directions than the frame itself.


## STEP 4: Connect the Kite Sail to the Frame!

- Place the frame of the kite in the center of the kite sail.
- Start on one side and fold the excess plastic over the string of the frame.
- Using tape, secure the folded edge to the sale. Cover the entire length with tape to prevent the wind from coming between the layers.
- Repeat until all edges are secured to the sail.


## STEP 5: Attach the Fly Line:

You have the main body of your plastic bag kite and now it's time to add the accessories to help it fly.

- Cut a piece of string that is the length of the vertical stick plus 5 inches.
- Tie one end of the string tightly to the top of the vertical stick and the other end to the bottom of the vertical stick, outside the kite sail.
- Repeat the process with the horizontal stick. The string should be as long as the stick plus 5 inches.
- Use tape or glue to make sure these knots don'† slide around on the sticks.
- Where these two strings intersect, tie the spool of string you'll use to fly your kite. You can also create
your own spool by wrapping a length of string around a toilet paper roll.

STEP 6: Add Kite Tail with Ribbon
Using another plastic bag, cut a strip that is up to 3 feet long. Tape the strip to the bottom point of the kite
Cut at least three 6" pieces of ribbon and tie them to the kite tail. Add others for decoration or additional weight.
Other tails can be added o $\dagger$
STEP 7: Go Fly your Kite!


