



Day of the Dead

Día de Muertos

Papel Picado Activity



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Museum

Papel Picado (Punched Paper)

Papel Picado, or punched tissue paper, is a form of Mexican folk art made for many different celebrations including *Día de los Muertos*. *Papel Picado* artisans usually stack forty or fifty pieces of tissue paper together and punch out designs using a hammer and *fierritos*, or chisels. *Banderitas*, or banners, of *papel picado* are hung to decorate homes, *ofrendas*, and marketplaces.

Materials Needed:

- Colorful tissue paper, approximately 6" x 6"
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Tape
- String or yarn



Instructions:

1. Fold your piece of tissue paper in half, and then fold in half again.



(cont'd)



Instructions (cont'd):

2. Cut small shapes from your tissue paper.
You can use a pencil to draw your shapes prior to cutting if you want.
3. Unfold your paper.
4. Fold one side of your paper down approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ " – $\frac{1}{2}$ ".
5. Place a piece of string or yarn under the fold and use tape to secure your paper. You can make a banner by using a long piece of string and adding several pieces of *papel picado*.

