

Beginner



Intermediate



Advanced



4-H Gift Wrapping



Keep this manual for all the years you take Gift Wrapping

GIFT WRAPPING

GENERAL RULES—FOR ALL DIVISIONS

1. Package for exhibit purposes should NOT contain a gift.
2. Packages are NOT to exceed 24 inches in any directions for any division.
3. One exhibit per person.
4. 4-H'er is to exhibit in each category within each level only once.
5. Exhibits using purchased bows will not be accepted. Bows **must** be self made. It is recommended to use double stick tape.
6. Definition of a bow is left to the judge's discretion.
7. Exhibit package must have been wrapped by 4-H'er since the end of the previous year's fair.
8. Tie an information card onto a bow or decoration and place on top or side of package. The information card must be visible for the judge and viewers and needs to include the following information:
 - a. Occasion for gift
 - b. Is recipient of gift male or female?
 - c. Age or approximate age of recipient
 - d. Total hours spent on project
 - e. Exhibitor's Name
 - f. Exhibitor's Club
 - g. Exhibitor's Grade just completed
9. Premiums will be awarded per divisions Beginner, Intermediate and Advance. One overall Grand and one Reserve Grand Champion will be chosen for the project.

GIFT WRAPPING REQUIREMENTS

BEGINNER-GRADES 3-5

- A. Must wrap (5) packages during the year, not including the exhibit package. You may want to do more, but list all packages wrapped on record sheet.

- B. Choose from square or rectangular shapes.
- C. Make your own simple bow using any type of ribbon, yarn or cord. It must be a SELF-MADE bow.
- D. Commercial paper is permissible.
- E. Give a demonstration on how to wrap a package or make a bow to a group of 3 or more people.

EXHIBIT

Grade 3: One rectangular package (shirt box) using a self made bow and commercial wrapping paper.

Grade 4: One cubic (six equal square sides) package larger than 6" x 6" x 6" using a self-made bow and commercial paper.

Grade 5: One small box suitable for a ring or pin using a self-made bow and commercial wrapping paper.

INTERMEDIATE-GRADES 6-8

Must wrap eight packages during the year, not including the exhibit. One half of the packages must be wrapped with paper and accessories you designed. Give at least one demonstration to a group on how to make paper or decorate a package

Some suggestions for making wrapping paper are"

1. Roller Painting
2. String Pulling
3. Dip Dying
4. Potato Printing-Using a potato as a design stamp
5. Also, you may use fabric, felt, cut-outs from the newspaper, burlap or any other idea you can create.
6. In place of ribbon and bows, you might use yarn, strips of fabric, pine cones, small articles, felt, burlap flowers, fabric flowers, etc.

EXHIBIT

Grade 6: One cylindrical package, using a self-made bow or other decorations and commercial wrapping paper.

Grade 7: One package with **top** and **bottom** of box/container **wrapped separately** and properly folded liner inside. Use self-made bows or other decorations and commercial wrapping paper. Box WILL be opened by judge.

Grade 8: A series of two or three packages in a tiered effect coordinated as one complete package. For example: 3 stacked cylinders; 2 rectangular boxes; 1 box and 2 cylinders; etc., each wrapped individually. The tier must be securely tied or fastened together in such a way so that the individual packages will not move easily in the tier. Use self-made bows or other decorations and commercial wrapping paper.

ADVANCED-GRADES 9-12

- A. Must wrap eight packages during the year, not including the exhibit package. You may want to do more.
- B. Incorporate fancy ideas: Make box or package into a clown, animals, flowers, bells, drum, train, house, etc.
- C. Be creative and imaginative.
- D. May be assorted fabrics, scarves, etc. instead of paper.
- E. Give at least one demonstration to a group of 3 or more on this project.

EXHIBIT

Choose one of the following exhibits. These categories can be done in any order. Choose a different category each year you are in the advanced level.

- a. One package wrapped in materials other than wrapping paper. The outside wrapping materials must be part of the gift item. For example: dish towels, scarf, baby blanket, diapers, etc. The materials must be wrapped around some sort of box or container that would conceal or enclose the rest of the gift item. Do not put the rest of the gift in the box or container.
- b. One creative exhibit of any shape that has been covered in some fashion. Your outside decorations and/or “wrapping” are not a part of the gift. The package does not have to be a box, but a container that would conceal or enclose a gift item. The container should be covered in some fashion such as fabric, paper, cardboard, foil, plastic, leather, cellophane, etc. Do not use commercial wrapping paper. You do not need to have bows if they are not in keeping with the design of your package. Be as creative as you can be, have a theme.
- c. One decorated or disguised display which is the gift. The actual gift item is decorated or disguised in some way. For example: a clothes basket made to look like a jack-o-lantern, a jar of preserves made to look like ‘Santa’, an umbrella made to look like a tree, etc.-or - the actual gift item can be folded or arranged in some way that is a package in itself. For example: bath towels folded to look like a wedding cake, a table cloth folded into a bag with barbecue tools or kitchen items inside, baby blanket folded into a bunting with baby items inside, etc. All items used in the display must be part of the gift.

- d. One self-made gift bag. Do **not** use commercial wrapping paper. Examples of some materials to use: construction paper, grocery bag paper, wall paper, fabric, etc. Gift bag may or may not be decorated depending on the materials used.
- e. One package of any size wrapped **only** in self-made decorations and paper. This category is different from the creative exhibit above in that you must use some sort of paper to put your own creative design on such as roller painting, stenciling, pulling, potato printing, spin art, etc. Use a self made bow or other decoration. This category will be judged on the neatness and creativity of paper design along with the proper wrapping.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To learn different box shapes.
- To select proper box for the shape and type of gift.
- To learn how to place gift in the box for a neat appearance.
- To select the proper paper for the occasion, age and sex of the receiver.
- To select the proper paper according to size and shape of the package.
- To learn wrapping procedure for rectangular, square and cylindrical packages.
- To learn how to make a neat, tightly wrapped package.
- To select the type of ribbon which is suitable for your package.
- To select the type of trim best for a package.
- To learn the basic bows and perhaps learn how to use a bow maker.
- To learn the importance of the overall appearance of a package.
- To learn proper way of folding tissue for inner lining.
- To discover ideas that you may use in place of bows and ribbons.



BOX SELECTION

The wrapping of a gift begins with preparing the gift to be wrapped. Putting the gift in a box enables the giver to wrap the box with greater ease. Most articles need to be put in a box to maintain the gift's shape, or because the article has an unusual shape.

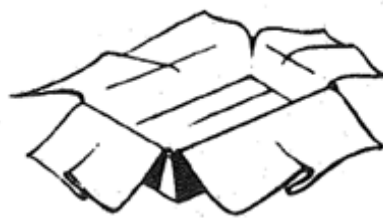
In selecting a box, you should follow these guidelines:

1. Select a clean box in good condition.
2. The box should be sturdy with straight corners.
3. The gift would fit the box, leaving only a small amount of space between the sides of the box and the gift.
4. The box should be well shaped. Odd shaped boxes are difficult to wrap. Common box shapes are rectangular, square, and cylindrical.



After the box has been selected, white or pastel tissue paper should be placed in the box before the gift. The paper should cover the bottom of the box and completely cover the top of the gift.

- a. Items such as clothing should have one or two pieces of tissue paper, folded in the center, and placed in the box before the article is put in. Often a combination of both procedures can be used to make your package neat on the inside.
- b. With toys or household articles, small pieces of tissue paper should be crumpled and placed at proper points so that the item won't break or rattle.



SELECTION OF WRAPPING PAPER

When you select the gift wrapping paper, you need to ask yourself these questions.

1. What paper is available?
2. Is there enough paper to wrap the gift?
3. Does the paper suit the occasion?
4. Does the paper take into account the age and sex of the receiver?
5. Is the design in proportion with the size of the box?

Once the paper has been selected, you can continue the wrapping of the gift. The shape of the box dictates how you will wrap the gift.

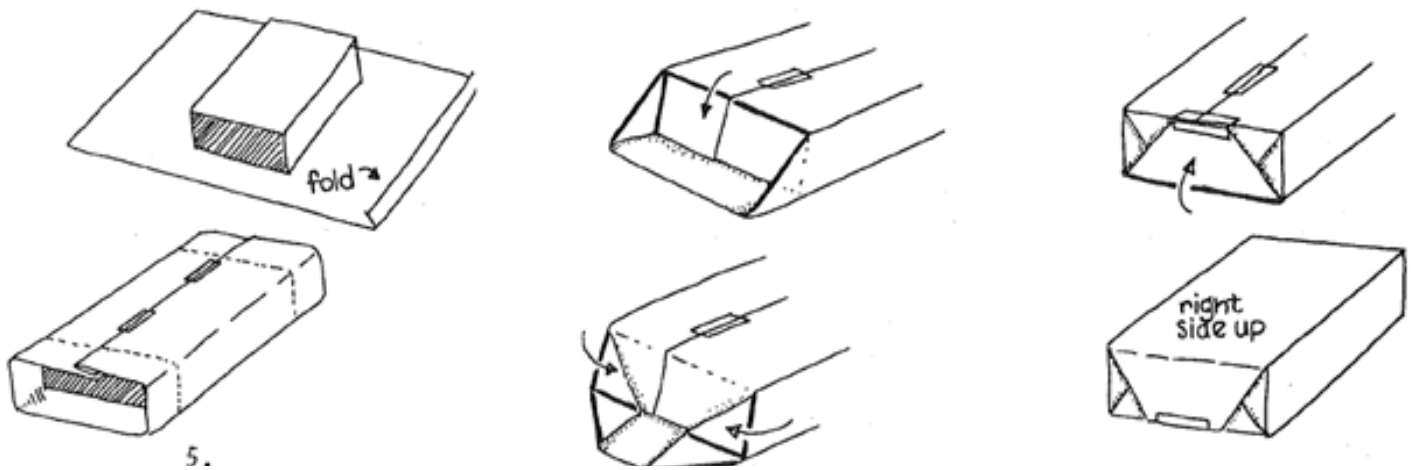
WRAPPING YOUR GIFT

1. Estimate the amount of paper required to go completely around the box. Allow an overlap so that the paper can reach a little over half of the width of the open ends.
2. Place the gift upside down on the open sheet of gift wrap.
3. Tape the paper in place on top (will be bottom of gift when finished).
4. Beginning on one end:
 - a. The top flap is folded down toward the center
 - b. Both side flaps are then folded toward the center
 - c. The bottom flap is brought up and taped in place

OR

 - a. Both side flaps are folded toward the center
 - b. The bottom flap is brought up
 - c. The top flap is folded down toward the center and taped in place

5. The procedure is repeated on the other side. Always be sure that the paper is kept tight.
6. Turn the package over so that the smooth side is on top.



CREATING A BOW

Materials: One self-sticking ribbon
 One regular roll or ribbon
 One roll of thin-ribbed ribbon
 Scissors
 Stapler
 Thread the color of ribbon
 Thin strip of paper or cardboard

Now that the gift has the wrapping paper on it, one thinks of the types of bows which he may use to decorate the package. You want each package to have a personality of its own, so variation should be used when wrapping more than one gift. The ribbon selected should compliment the wrapping paper that you used. Color can either contrast or match. One thing which must be remembered is that often simplicity is the most attractive. Too much design or trim can be distracting. Some new ribbons can be moistened and will adhere together.

There are many different ways of making bows. The following are suggestions. Use your imagination and create different types.

KNOTLESS BOW (self-sticking ribbon)

Cut a strip of ribbon and stick together on ends. Double over. Repeat again and place in opposite position. Length of strips can be varied so that they get shorter when bow is ended.

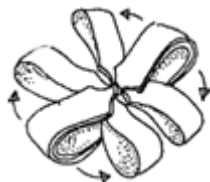


POM POM BOW

Begin with a large circle ribbon which you continue going around for at least ten times. Flatten the circle and cut wedges into each side in the middle. Tie securely with thread at the wedges.



To open, slip the individual loops and twist down and forward. Repeat until all loops are free.



BEGINNER'S BOW

Take very thin-ribbed ribbon and begin by making a figure eight with ribbon between the thumb and small finger. Continue until the thickness is that which is desired. Tie bow securely where ribbon meets. Puff up ribbon and curl by rubbing ribbon on one side of the scissors. The ribbon can be cut and split to make even fuller bows.



CIRCLE BOW (Self-sticking Ribbon)

Moisten end of ribbon and form a small circle. Continue going around enlarging circles and attaching at beginning point until you reach the desired size. Circle bows can be combined to make such things as butterflies. Use your imagination!

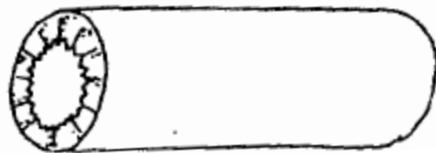


WRAPPING A CYLINDER

Smooth ends...

1. Trace the ends of the cylinder and cut out two circles of the wrapping paper.
2. Wrap the cylinder with wrapping paper allowing an overlap on both ends. Tape securely.
3. Fold the overlap at the ends (cutting sometimes is necessary) and paste down (be careful not to get paste on gift).

4. Paste circles over folds.



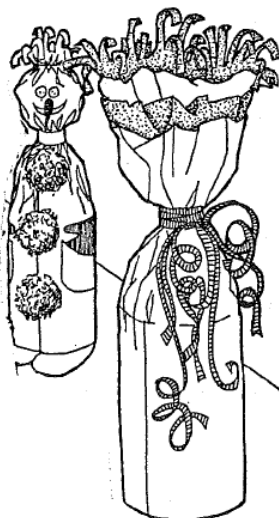
Fringed ends...

1. Wrap the gift in wrapping paper allowing enough for ends to be gathered and tied. Tape securely in middle of paper.
2. Gather paper at ends and tie securely.
3. Cut ends in strips to make fringe.

Sometimes a combination of the smooth ends and fringed ends are used to make a base for some objects such as a truck, fire engine, clown, drum or many other things.

EXAMPLE OF ADVANCED DIVISION

Turn a cylinder into a clown by using a Styrofoam ball for the head and making arms and feet from construction paper. Make a collar from ribbon and add a hat to complete.



MAKING YOUR OWN GIFT WRAPPING PAPER

Give that gift a special wrap with gift paper you create. With only a small expenditure of time, energy and money, you can print reams of your own unique gift wrap paper. Using shelf paper and paper toweling, in both white and pastel colors, print your own designs using one of several methods—roller painting, string-pulling, vegetable, fruit and utensil printing, and dip dyeing, or any other idea you can come up with!

Roller Printing

Use different widths of rollers to decorate rolls of shelf paper. To achieve startling effects, follow these directions. Allow yourself an adequate work area of a 3 to 6 foot table (painter's sawhorses with boards are ideal). Pour a variety of water based paints into bowls or saucers, and lay out newspapers to protect the floor. Then unroll the shelf paper into 3 to 6 foot lengths, cut with scissors, and begin painting the design.

One roller is all you need to create bold stripes. Alternate the widths of the stripes by using the roller's edge to make a very narrow stripe, or create a checkered board motif by rolling a roller for a few inches and then lifting it from the paper. The fact that the color blocks are uneven is far from a drawback—it contributes to the primitive look.

Use two rollers of different widths simultaneously to cover the entire area of the paper with contrasting colors. Try using two rollers of the same width, running them crisscross, vertically or horizontally along the shelf paper. Just experiment with the rollers and see what you can come up with.

After you've finished the roller prints, lay the lengths of paper on the floor for a few minutes to let the colors set. While they are still damp, pick up each piece separately and hang it over a basement laundry line. Leave the piece overnight for drying. When dry, roll them together for future package wrappings.

String Pulling

String pulling is a very ancient method of decorating paper. Again, use shelf paper or ordinary brown wrapping paper. Cut off one or two yards of paper (here shorter lengths of paper are harder to work with). Assemble ordinary postal string or heavier twine if you wish to make thicker outlines. Cut the string not longer than an arm's length (you will be coiling some of the string on the paper with the rest hanging over). Dip the string in poster paint, squeeze out the excess and lay it in swirls and loop on the paper.

Fold a square of newspaper over the coiled string, exerting a gentle pressure with the left hand. Quickly pull the string, which extends from between the newspaper and the shelf paper, toward you with one continuous motion. Remove the newspaper and let the design dry thoroughly. Don't use more than two colors.