



READY TO MAKE YOUR PIZZA BOX BUNNY??

Hi there! I'm so happy you have joined me, Messy Jessy, to work on this collaborative project. For now, we work at home, because it's important to keep our bodies separate, but really, we are ALWAYS TOGETHER in spirit.

This project uses one of my favorite processes: papier mâché!

Papier mâché is like a magic trick. Under a layer of newspaper we hide what's called the "armature", the cardboard skeleton of our bunny. By giving her a newspaper skin, we make whole her separate parts.

You will make your bunny in a few steps, so plan for several stages: 1. prep: template and parts-cutting (little hands will need adults to do this) 2. bunny armature: assembling the parts 3. papier mâché - the messy bit! 4. drying 5. Bunny painting 6. drying (again) 7. Finishing touches! eye, ear or fur details with paint, pencils or sharpies.

If possible, set up to work somewhere that you can leave ready to go for the next stage.

Once finished, be sure to share with everyone on Facebook or Instagram, tagging @artroomatelier and hashtagging **#pizzaboxbunnies**

GATHER the following:

- 2 sheets of printed pizza box bunny templates
- scissors
- pencil or fine pointed marker
- large scissors or cardboard cutters. (link to Amazon)
- school glue, tacky glue, or low temp hot glue
- papier mache paste (flour and water mixed approx 1:1)
- torn newspaper strips, approx 1/2" by 3" long (thinner strips are easier for wrapping curves)

1. STEP 1 preparation:

Find a small area to work (on a low table or the floor) and cover it with a few sheets of newspaper or small waterproof table cloth - so you can get messy!

- Cut out pieces from the template pages.
- Trace each piece onto of a flattened pizza box or other thin cardboard*
- Cut from the cardboard using a large scissor or cardboard cutters.

2. STEP 2 assembly:

**Any kind of cardboard will do, but I have found pizza boxes easiest to cut, since they are simple to flatten and tend to be thinner.*

- GLUE Bunny together - she fits together like a puzzle!
- Put dots of glue on the **body** pieces and STACK them, so that the two notched pieces are on the inside.
- glue matching **head** pieces together
- glue matching **tail** pieces together
- INSERT the head and tail pieces into the body, remembering to squeeze some glue in the notches
- glue together the two left and then the two right **legs**, then attaching them to either side of the body
- glue the **ears** to either side of the head
- **Check that she can stand**, TAP the pieces on the table to make the bottom even
- Set Bunny aside to dry

3. STEP 3 Papier mâché

- In a small bowl WHISK 1/3 c white flour and 1/3 c water until smooth. Dip your fingers in. It will feel like a runny cream - adjust by adding more flour or water.
- TEAR strips of newspaper 3" x 1/2" (any paper will do, but newspaper is traditional)
- DIP strips in the paste, pinch off the excess paste, and start to cover your bunny
- Always OVERLAP the paper strips, hiding ALL the cardboard under this paper skin. Remember magicians never give away their secrets...

4. **DRY OVERNIGHT** Set in a warm place, being sure she is not left on a surface that she will stick to.

5. **PAINT** If the newspaper is the skin, then the paint is the fur, right?

- If you have a kit, you will mix a the powdered tempera pigment with water in a dish. Add water VERY GRADUALLY, like a 1/2 teaspoon at a time, mixing with a brush as you go.
- You may choose to make her fur all one color, or lots of colors, just remember that the fur covers the whole body! If you can wait, plan to paint details on top, once the "fur coat" dries.

6. **DRY** 15 - 20 min

7. **DETAILS!** These are your "finishing touches" Layers and details are fun to play with, and will make your bunny come to life.

- Using a sharpie, pencil or more paint, you may add eyes (are they closed or open?), ear details, patterns on the body for the fur, or paint the tail white...
- TIP: if you want to use a permanent marker, try lightly SKETCHING it on the bunny in pencil first, then trace over with a marker, erasing the pencil underneath
- If you paint something you don't like, just wait for it to dry and rub with a clean wet brush, dabbing with a paper towel. OR PAINT OVER IT with the "fur coat" color.

8. **POST A PIC** to Instagram or Facebook, tagging @artroomatelier and #pizzaboxbunnies