

Cardboard Wearables

Best for Ages

6+

Workspace

Flat indoor surface

Is electricity required?

No

Description

Create something fun to wear with cardboard! Cardboard is a sturdy, creative material that is easy to decorate. Update your wardrobe with a silly cardboard wearable!

Materials

- **Structural Material:** cardboard
- **Shaping Material:** scissors, box cutter
- **Optional Materials:** pencil, paper
- **Adhesive:** glue stick, sticky tack, blue tape, hot glue
- **Decorative Materials:** markers, paint, stickers, buttons, googly eyes, etc.

What to Do

1. Gather up your materials and decide what type of wearable you want to create. Get inspired by looking at examples of [cardboard wearables](#) such as a vest, tie, skirt, bracelet, earrings, hat, or even a beard! Also consider how many items you want to create.
2. Sketch your idea on paper or create a pattern directly onto the cardboard to assist with shaping the cardboard.
3. Cut the cardboard as needed. Adult supervision and assistance is required when using sharp scissors and/or box cutter knives.
4. Folding, bending, and scoring the cardboard will help give your wearable the shape it needs.
5. Once the wearable is assembled, try it on and make modifications as needed.
6. Decorate your wearable to add some flair! If using hot glue, adult supervision and assistance is required. Discuss how to safely use hot glue and point out where the gun is the hottest at the applicator tip.
7. Now it's time for a fashion show!



Concepts Explored

- Design Thinking
- 2D and 3D Shapes

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Troubleshooting Tips

- Cardboard is sturdy, but also hard to bend without scoring the paper layers. Scoring is a process of creasing without cutting through the cardboard.
- Cardboard is flammable. Do not do this activity around open flames or high heat sources.



Can you make a whole outfit out of cardboard?

How can you shape your cardboard so that it can be worn more comfortably?

What adhesives work the best with cardboard?

What is Happening?

- Cardboard Wearables can be either 2D or 3D shapes. **3D shapes** are shapes that have length, height, and width. They project into space as opposed to laying flat upon it like a **2D shape** which only has length and width. Consider the difference between a square (2D shape) and a cube (3D shape).
- **Design thinking** is a series of steps that inventors use to create solutions. They figure out their audience's problems, design solutions to the problem, and then tweak their design based on the feedback they receive. How did you use design thinking when making a cardboard wearable?

Taking it Forward

- **Connecting this activity to the real world:** This activity explores ways of working with cardboard to create fashion, which is the popular style or form of clothing and accessories. What other household materials can you use to create fashion pieces?
- **If you like this activity, you'll also like...**
 - [Plarn](#)
 - [Fused Plastic](#)
 - [Plushie Pillows](#)