

MOTHER'S DAY HANDMADE SEED PAPER CARD!



YOU WILL NEED:

- ♥ Scrap paper
- ♥ A blender
- ♥ Old towels
- ♥ Some card
- ♥ A pen, pencil & eraser
- ♥ Scissors
- ♥ Glue / tape
- ♥ Optional: Seeds (please see sheet for suggested local types!) & eco friendly colouring like nontoxic poster paint or natural ink

1 Gather up a few handfuls of scrap paper. Any will work! Try to recycle things like envelopes – make sure you take off any plastic or staples. It's also good to include some kitchen towel or loo roll here. Rip them up into little pieces and put them in a bowl, just covered with warm water, and leave to soak for at least an hour. You will need to squish it down with your hands to make sure the amount of water is right. This is a good time to add your colouring!



2 After it has all soaked for at least an hour, blend it to within an inch of it's life! AFTER it has blended into a thick, chunky paste, add your seeds. You might also want to add some more colouring. Mix it through with a spoon, and spread it out on a few layered up towels. Make sure the top towel, that is touching the paste, is smooth – the others can be the bumpy bath towel kind. Then fold the towels back over, and press down like crazy!



3 Keep pushing down. You want that paste to be as thin and dry as you can make it. You might need to swap out towels. When it's solid enough to be picked up, carefully lay it (ideally but not essentially) on a baking rack, somewhere warm like an airing cupboard, over your boiler, etc. I'm deeply impatient so I put it in my oven at the lowest setting and it was dried out in half an hour.



4 Time to get your card ready. Fold a piece, use a blank card – or even, repurpose an old card by covering it with blank paper, stuck on with glue. Write a cheerful message on the front – why not try the Welsh for Happy mother's day – "diwrnod mamau hapus!" Write the words very gently in pencil, then go over them with a pen once you're happy. Then rub out the pencil!



5 Once your text is done, you will know how big your heart should be. Make a template by folding a piece of paper, drawing half a heart, and then cutting it out so it's symmetrical. You can trim it down if it comes out too big. Then trace around it on your handmade paper, carefully cut it out (it will be fairly tough) and stick it onto your card! I like to make 3 little rolls of sticky tape to do this, but dots of glue would work.



6 Write instructions inside the card for your mum to take off the heart, place it on top of some soil – either outside or in a pot – and water it, for beautiful flowers in a couple of months! Leftover handmade paper would make a lovely card for someone else. Is there someone with a birthday soon?

