

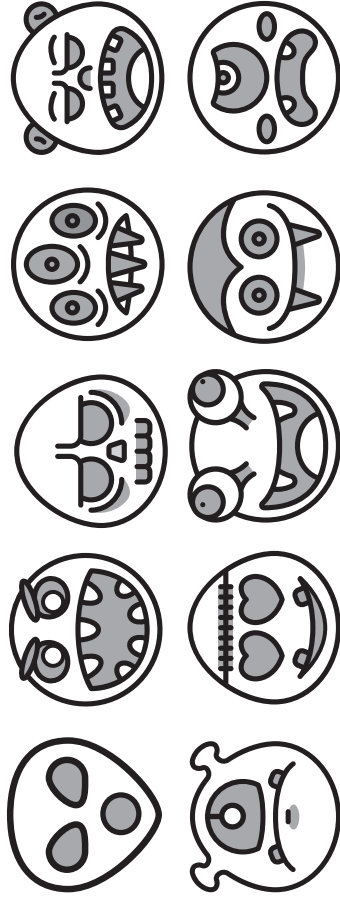
Papel picado

Perforated paper is a traditional folk art decoration used for celebratory occasions in Mexico and Central and South America. Celebrate today by making your own banner!

SUPPLIES

- **Light weight paper:** cut paper to 5-1/2"x8"; tissue, crepe, and oragami-like paper work well, but you can also use thin paper from magazines. Feel free to modify the template size to make it your own!
- **Scissors** and a hole puncher is also good for making circles
- **Craft glue**
- **String or chord:** for a 5 panel banner, a 56" long string allows 1" between panels and 12" at each end for tying

PICK AN EXPRESSION TO MATCH YOUR MOOD!



STEPS

- 1 Using our template as a starting point, draw on it to make your own expression. Mirror the facial expression so it's symmetrical.* Simplify the design to shapes that can be cut out. Trim the template by cutting along the dashed lines.
- 2 Fold your 5-1/2"x8" paper in half to 2-3/4"x8."
- 3 Place the template over the folded paper. Be sure to match the fold with the center line edge of the template.
- 4 Keeping all the layers (2 layers of light weight paper and the template) aligned, carefully cut through all three layers with your scissors.
- 5 Reuse the template for multiple panels. Try changing the expressions!
- 6 To create a banner, lay the panel flat on a surface and set the string in the 1/2" crease. Apply glue to the top 1/2", smooth is across the surface and fold over the string. Add your next panel to the string, leaving a minimum of 1" between the panels.

* Important: like snowflakes, no two papel picados are the same. There are lots of different ways to fold and cut - have fun experimenting! If you prefer to have a non-symmetrical expression, use the template in its entirety.

