

Basics; - Paper Jewellery

Paper jewellery is fun, and easy to make with minimal tools, so great to do at home.

Paper beads are relatively straight forward to make, and if made with care, can be just as exciting and professional as any other bead, when turned into jewellery, but there are also many other ways to use paper in jewellery making - either as the only material, or combined with other materials...



Earrings by Christina Rozina

Paper is a great material to create colour, texture and form in jewellery - it can be plain or coloured in any option imaginable, it can come in many different thicknesses and surface textures from unique handmade sheets, to mass produced tissue or newsprint.

Paper is truly versatile - it can be cut, torn, layered, shaped, curved, folded, pleated, quilled,, burnt, shredded, mashed, corrugated, interleaved in millions of different ways.

Some paper working techniques include; -
Quilling - Pleating - Origami - Papier Mache - Embossing



Brooch by Clara Breen

Connecting Paper

Paper can be folded in ways so that pieces will grip each other.

Paper can also be glued, pinned, stapled, stitched, clipped, riveted, clamped.

It can be laminated, it can be trapped between other items, it can be set into, or behind resin (or in some instances, glass)...

Paper can be used as a base to add further decoration on top on, or as a focus in itself.

Paper can be painted, embroidered, stacked and carved





Sealing and Protecting Papers

If needed, paper can be sealed with clear, or coloured varnishes, or dyes / surface colours can be fixed using something like hair spray or artists fixative.

Spray versions will retain the most of the paper's surface texture, or painting on varnish will give a heavier application, disguising some of the paper surface.

As paper is particularly accessible to work with at home, there are many resources for paper crafts online, as well as tools and gadgets available...

- Origami paper
- Specially cut strips of paper to use for quilling
- Bead winding gadgets
- Folding / corrugating gadgets
- Templates and instructions for making beads, or folding different shapes
- Paper mache kits



Pendant by Liz Hamman



Necklaces by Ana Hagopian

