

Preservation Month House Building Craft

May 2020



CELEBRATE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH

May is Preservation Month in the City of Columbia! National Historic Preservation Month was started in the 1970s by the National Trust for Historic Preservation to promote historic places and has been going strong ever since! Each year, throughout the month of May, events and activities are scheduled across the country to celebrate the history and architecture of communities big and small.

While things may look a little different this year, we are very excited that you have decided to celebrate with us virtually!

This “Build Your House Craft” is similar to one we did last year at the Columbia Art Center, but this time we’re using things that you’re likely to have at home! We used card-board, washi tape, paint, packing peanuts, and hot glue to make this creation. The next couple of pages show you step by step how we did it. Show us what you can do with what you have around your house!

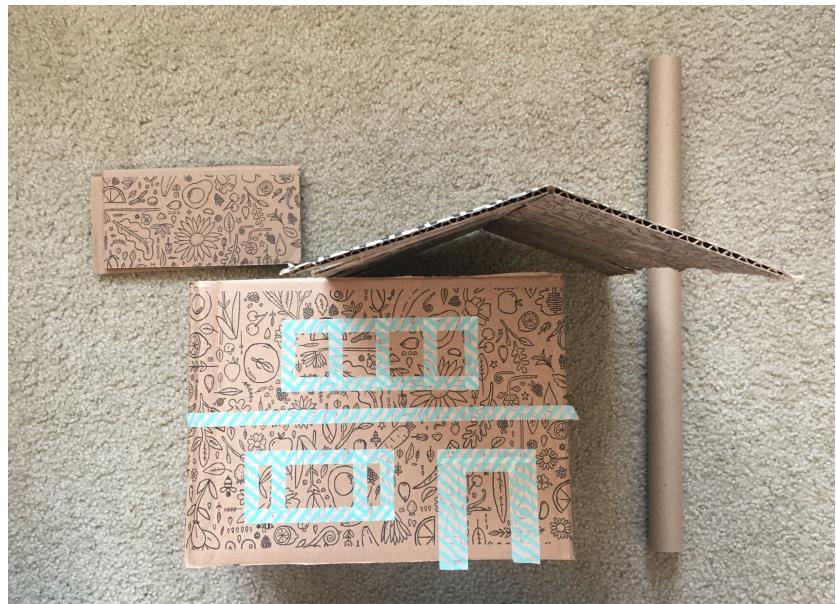
Be sure to share a photo your creations with us by commenting or replying to @ColaCompass on Facebook or Twitter. You can also submit photos via email at Preservation@ColumbiaSC.gov



We took inspiration from some of Columbia's historic homes. What buildings in Columbia inspire you?



We started with a broken down cardboard box which we taped together to form the walls of the house. Then we outlined our windows using washi tape, which will come off the cardboard without ripping off the top layer of paper on the cardboard. We cut smaller pieces of cardboard to make the main roof (gable) and porch roof (shed).



Tip: Carefully score the centerline or bend point on the underside of your roof structure to make it easier for the cardboard to keep its shape! This is how we did it for the shed roofed porch!

Next, we cut out the windows using our washi tape as a guide. We cut the cardboard to leave the mullions intact, but you may opt to add them at a later stage. While we used cardboard, you could use other materials like popsicle sticks, toothpicks, or small pieces of paper towel rolls.

What kinds of materials will you give a new purpose with this craft?

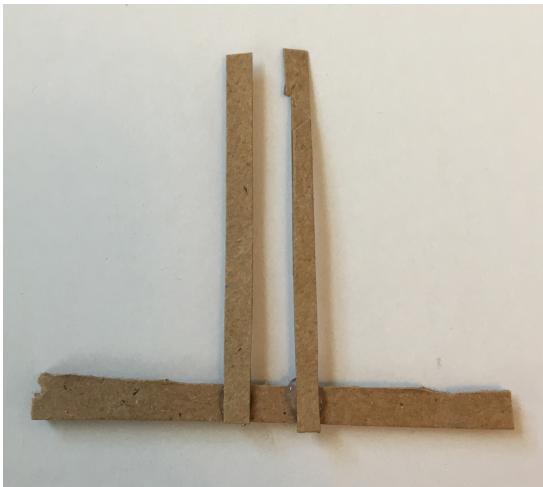




Next, we hot glued some strips of cardboard to the inside of the box to attach the roof structure. We bent the top pieces and used hot glued to attach them to the roof structure. This gave the roof a better way to attach to the rest of the house, similar to the internal framing for roofs inside many houses!

Can you see the roof structure in your attic?

After we got the roof attached, we started to think about some of the details like window trim, muntins, and doors. Below is an example of how we created the muntins using a small piece of cardboard to create a meeting rail and strips of a paper towel roll to create the vertical muntin bars. We used the same idea for the doors, sidelights, and transoms. We also add a small strip of cardboard to create three dimensional window sills!



What kinds of details will you add to your house?



DON'T FORGET TO SHARE YOUR CREATIONS WITH US!

We then tackled the roof by cutting compostable packing peanuts into small, round discs to look like roof tiles! Using a hot glue, we attached them to the roof structure in an alternating pattern similar to slate or shingle roofs. We decided to use a different material for the porch roofs, which you can see below!

Next we painted and outlined the trim around the windows and doors. Using washi tape, we outlined the corner boards, foundation, and cornice. We also used washi tape on the porch roofs and used glue to attach plain white paper to the underside of the roof to create porch ceilings.

We then painted some of the details on the walls to accentuate the fun pattern on the cardboard. Then we attached the doors and porch roofs using hot glue. Lastly, we attached mini hot glue sticks, cut down to size, to the porches for columns.



What will you use to create your house?

Here are some ideas:

- Cereal Boxes
- Pipe Cleaners
- Patterned Paper
- Newspaper
- Bottle Caps
- Cotton Balls
- Candy Wrappers
- Yarn
- Leaves
- Bark
- Sticks