Step 1- Design and make your Insect pieces

Look at your insect. Notice the main shapes you have drawn outlines for on your diagram.

Draw out the separate shapes you see on a plain piece of paper. Ideally A4. You should make sure you have shapes for the main body parts such as:

- Head
- Body
- Wings
- Legs
- Antenna

Tip - Spot how I have only drawn one of each leg as I can flip them and use for both sides.



Step 2 - Collect your paper/card

Look at the colours of your insect - what are the main ones that stand out?

Look around for envelopes, old cards (Christmas cards will be perfect for their colour and pattern!), DPD notes, flyers and of course magazines and newspapers.

If you can - try and get some that are card or thicker paper as they will hold their shape better when you get to the folding stage.



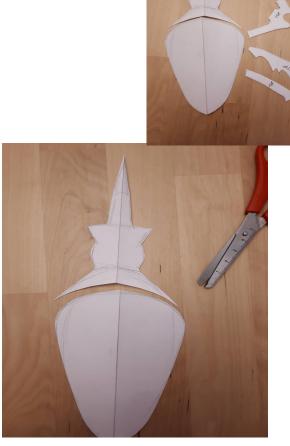
Step 3 - Cut out and adjust your insect pieces

Next cut out your individual insect pieces. These are a little like pattern pieces when people make clothes or other fabric items such as teddy bears etc.

You might notice that some pieces need changing a little. Take your time so you know you are happy with them all.

When cutting - if sections are symmetrical you could fold your pieces before cutting. This will make them more accurate and save time!





Step 3 - Cut out and adjust your insect pieces

Notice how I have changed the body shape - I got this wrong from rushing at the start.

Never be worried about changing something when you spot it is wrong.





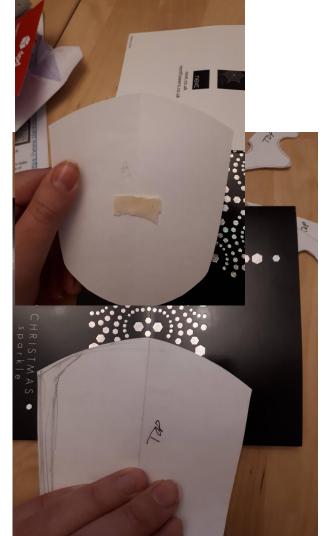
Step 4 - Start to use your pieces and make your real body parts

Now use your paper pieces to draw around and cut out your REAL insect pieces.

You can even use a little bit of tape to tack these in place - this should help them to not move around as much.

I make my tape into a little sausage so all sides are sticky.

Neatly cut out your pieces. Taking your time so that they are as accurate as possible.







Step 4 - Start to use your pieces and make your real body parts

Continue the process with all of your insect pieces.

Take your time to follow your stencil pieces.

TIP - Think about having some excess areas like have left on the head piece here. It means you will have a tab to attach to the next piece.







Step 4 - Start to use your pieces and make your real body parts

Continue the process with all of your insect pieces







Step 5 - Piece it all together so far

This is your opportunity to check that it is all working.

I advise you piece it together with masking tape or sellotape you have de sticked (press it on some fabric before using, so it does not tear your paper when you take it away)

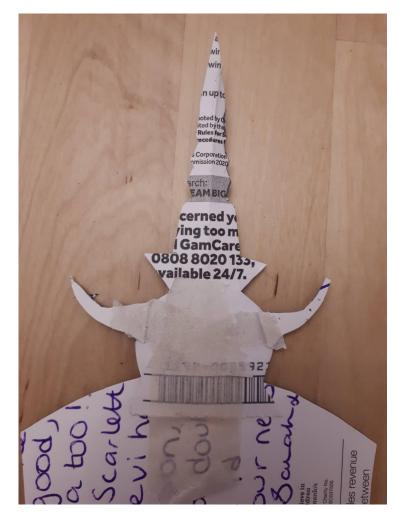
Take a photo as I have done here you you can check it with other people to.



Step 5 - Piece it all together so far

You can see here how I have used masking tape to piece it together temporarily.





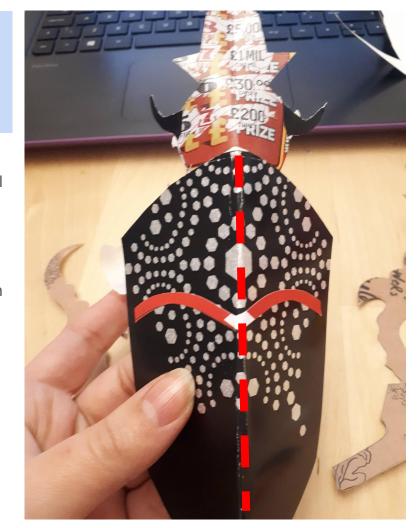
Step 6 - Crease and bend sections to give it FORM

You are now going to add creases/folds to your sections. This will make your paper lift from a surface when placed - changing it from a flat 2D insect to a 3D insect.

You can see here I have creased down the middle of the body and head.

I then added extra creases on the sides. Look at the dotted lines I have added over these images.

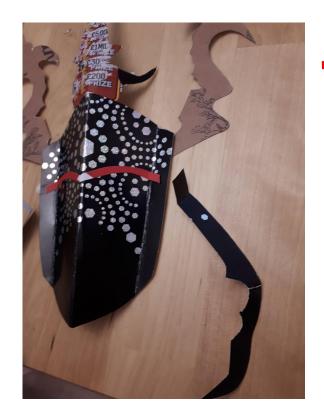
I used a ruler to force the card against for a clean crease.







Step 6 - Crease and bend sections to give it FORM

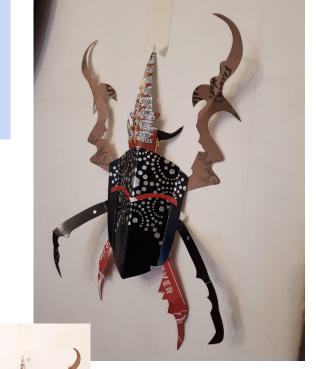


A red dotted line shows where a crease has been made



PAUSE A REVIEW - What could you do to improve it further?





Look and consider details such as facial features, patterns and intricate shapes of legs etc..



Step 7 - Attention to detail

Look again at your insect image. What details could you add?

I have started to work in the bold shapes from the beetles back patterns.

I have used my initial paper template to help measure this.





Step 7 - Attention to detail

I then used the same trick of using my first basic white paper pieces to add in the white patterns on the top part of the beetles body.





Step 8 - Final touches

Finally I used a sharpie to work the small eye marks and the small black nib of the head.

I could have done this with collaged paper too but decided it would be quicker with a sharpie.

Once you have finished, you then need to photograph your insect masterpiece! Do this on a white background (paper, a wall, a table, a pillow case)

Use a lamp to light your insect, so it is shown in all its glory! You could even try casting some dramatic shadows with it. You will be using these to add to your making journal.

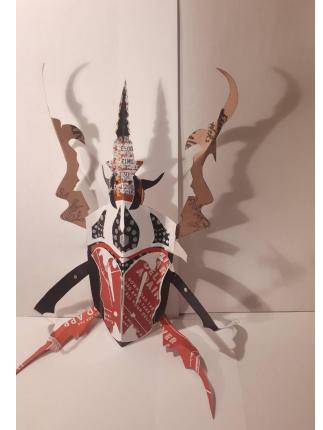






Examples of how to photograph your insect





Examples of how to photograph your insect