

Try this!

## Make an Easter bowl

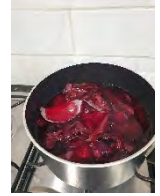
- Cover the outside of the bowl you are using with cling film or Vaseline. Make sure it covers the edge of the bowl as well as the outside.
- Mix PVA glue with three parts water and stir together well. You may want to keep this in a lidded jar.
- Tear newspaper or scrap paper into strips, and dip them into water for about five minutes. Then take them out, and lie them flat to remove excess water. Turn your bowl upside down, and cover with a layer of wet strips of paper. Make sure that they overlap so that the cling film is all covered. Brush the PVA mixture all over them, then cover with another layer of strips. Allow these to dry, and then brush these with PVA mixture and add another layer. Do this repeatedly until you have five or six layers.
- Once it is dry, remove the bowl and the cling-film, and tidy up the edge of your papier mache bowl with a pair of scissors. Use a bit of glue to fasten any loose edges. Paint your bowl all over with white poster paint as an undercoat, and then decorate with paints or Sharpies or however you choose. You may even want to varnish your finished article.
- Fill your bowl with bread or Easter biscuits or hot-cross-buns to share, or you may even want to gift it to someone.



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## Onion skin dyed eggs

What you need:      Four red onion skins (the more onion skin used, the deeper the colour)  
Six eggs  
2 tsp of white vinegar  
Saucepan full of water (big enough to hold six eggs)  
Some leaves, herbs or small flowers  
Pop sox or tights (clean!) One for each egg.



- Put the red onion skins and the white vinegar in the saucepan and fill with water (leaving a 3" or 8cm gap between the water and the rim of the pan).
- Bring the water to the boil (ask for help if you do not usually use the hob) and allow to boil for ten minutes (to release the colour).
- Stick a leaf, herb or flower to your eggs (with water) and carefully put the egg inside the tight or pop sock and tie it closed, tightly.
- Using a spoon, place the eggs in the pan and boil for at least ten minutes. Leave in the water to cool.
- Remove from the water once cool and cut the pop sock/tights off and remove the flower, leaf or herb. You will reveal the lovely patterns left on the eggs. Rub with a little olive or coconut oil to make them shine.
- Put the used onion skins and flowers, leaf or herbs in the compost or food recycling bin (if available).
- The eggs can still be eaten (on the same day as cooked and with no shell ) or used for decoration (remember they may smell after a few days!) Or why not use them for egg rolling races?

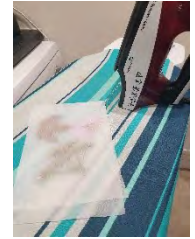
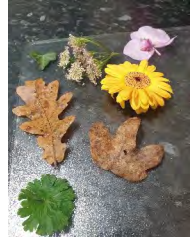


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# Pressing wild flowers and plants

What you need:      Flowers, blossom, leaves  
                              Baking/parchment paper (greaseproof paper)  
                              Iron and ironing board  
                              Book.

- Go for a walk in your garden, local park or countryside and look for flowers, blossom, leaves and interesting plants that might be good to press (be careful what you pick and wash your hands once home and after handling them!)
- Place the plants between two pieces of baking paper. Do only two or three at a time. Place a book on top to flatten them and make them easier to iron.
- Turn the iron on low. Do not use any water or steam features. Ask for help if you do not usually use an iron.
- Once the light goes out on the iron and it is warm enough, remove the book from the parchment paper. Put the paper and plants on the ironing board.
- Press the iron on the paper for about 15 seconds, moving it over the plants. Remove until the paper is cool again (about 15 more seconds). Repeat this process until the flower is dried.
- Once you have dried all the plants you want, why not stick them on a card or piece of paper and create a picture and send it to a friend or neighbour?

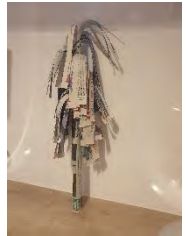


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## 'Growing' tree

Materials: A newspaper or A3 craft paper (at least four sheets)  
Sticky tape  
Scissors.

- Roll up the newspaper or craft paper into a tube with a 1.5" or 4cm diameter at the top.
- Stick the tube together with a strip of tape from the bottom, leaving the top 7" or 18cms unstuck. (Make sure that you only stick the outer sheet of paper with the tape.)
- Using your scissors, (and asking for help if needed) cut from the top of the tube, down 7" or 18cms in strips 1" or 2.5cms wide.
- Hold the inside strip, and gently pull it upwards and watch the tree 'grow'. Stop pulling upwards once the 'branches' begin to fan out.
- To make it stand up (optional), cut around the base of the tube 1" or 2.5cms, turn them outwards and stick to a piece of strong card.
- This is a good craft that makes a tree from a tree!



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## Egg cosy

Ideal for boiled eggs or small chocolate eggs!

You will need:            four ply (two colours)  
   number 12 needles.

What you do:

- Cast on 36 sts.
- Row 1-3 K1, P1.
- Rows 4-9 ST st.
- Row 10-20 change to second colour and work in G st.
- Row 21 change back to first colour and knit, decreasing 4 sts randomly across the row ( 32 sts).
- Row 22 knit.
- Row 23 knit, decreasing 4 sts randomly across the row ( 28sts).
- Row 24 knit.
- Row 25 knit, decreasing 4 sts randomly across the row (24sts).
- Row 26 knit.
- Row 27 knit, decreasing 4 sts randomly across the row (20sts).
- Row 28 knit.
- Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through stitches on needle and draw up tightly.
- Embroider a cross or flowers using either chain stitch to make a cross or lazy daisy stitch to add flowers.
- Pull up the thread holding the stitches at the top, darn the thread end into hold firmly in place and join the sides.



Try this!

# Crochet chick egg cover

You will need:            Yellow wool (DK)  
                                     4 or 4.5mm hook, depending on tension

What you do:

- Round 1: ch 6, join with slip stitch (ss).
- Round 2: 2 dc in each stitch (12 dc) join with ss.
- Round 3: [1 dc in first stitch, 2 dc in next stitch] repeat (18 dc) join with ss.
- Round 4: 1 dc in each stitch (18 dc) ss.
- Round 5: [1 dc in next 5 stitches, 2 dc in next stitch] repeat around (21 dc) ss.
- Round 6: [1 dc in next 6 stitches, 2 dc in next stitch] repeat around (24 dc) ss.
- Round 7-9: 1 dc in each stitch (24 dc) ss.
- Round 10: [1 dc in next 10 stitches, dec across next 2 stitches] repeat (22 dc) ss.
- Round 11: 1 dc in next 4 stitches, dec across next 2 stitches, 1 dc in next 9, dec across next 2 stitches, 1 dc in next 5 (20 dc) ss.
- Round 12: Miss 1 stitch, 1 dc in next 9 stitch miss 1 stitch 9dc (18 dc).
- Slip stitch to the next stitch to join, finish off and weave in ends.

Wings (make two).

- ch 8, dtr in 5th ch from hook, dtr in next ch, tr in next ch, htr in last ch 1, ss to starting ch (same ch that htr is worked in), stitch to each side of chick about halfway down.
- Embroider the face using satin stitch, a triangle for the beak and a few stitches together for the eyes. Leave the bottom open to be able to slide the egg inside.

Abbreviations:

ch – chain

dc – double crochet

ss – slip stitch

dtr – double treble

tr – treble

htr – half treble



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## Knitted hearts

You will need:

Double knitting wool, any shade  
4mm knitting needles  
Stitch marker  
Yarn needle  
Scissors  
Stuffing.

Abbreviations:

K = Knit

P = Purl

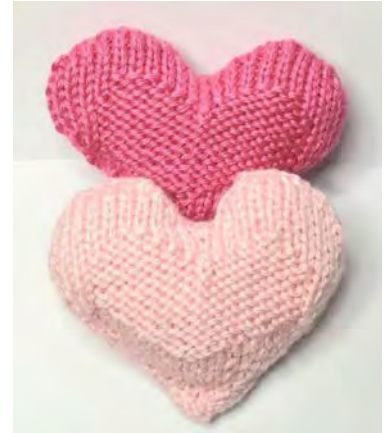
M1 = Make a stitch, using the left-hand needle lift the strand from the front between the two needles and knit into the back of that strand.

K2TOG = Knit the next 2 stitches together

P2TOG = Purl the next 2 stitches together

ST(S) = Stitch(es)

See [www.blog.createandcraft.tv/free-knitted-heart-pattern/](http://www.blog.createandcraft.tv/free-knitted-heart-pattern/) (crochet pattern also available) for illustration of the different steps. This was originally created in response to NHS appeal for gifts to give relatives unable to visit those in hospital.



### What you do:

- Make 2 sides.
- Cast on 3 sts.
- Row 1: Purl.
- Row 2: K1, M1, K1, M1, K1 (5sts).
- Row 3: Purl.
- Row 4: K1, M1, K3, M1, K1 (7sts).
- Row 5: Purl.
- Row 6: K1, M1, K5, M1, K1 (9sts).
- Row 7: Purl.
- Row 8: K1, M1, K7, M1, K1 (11sts).
- Row 9: P5, K1, P5.
- Row 5: Purl.
- Row 6: K1, M1, K5, M1, K1 (9sts).
- Row 7: Purl.
- Row 8: K1, M1, K7, M1, K1 (11sts).
- Row 9: P5, K1, P5.
- Row 10: K1, M1, K3, P3, K3, M1, K1 (13sts).
- Row 11: P4, K5, P4.
- Row 12: K1, M1, K2, P7, K2, M1, K1 (15sts).
- Row 13: P1, M1, P2, K9, P2, M1, P1 (17sts).
- Row 14: K3, P11, K3 (17sts).
- Row 15: P1, M1, P1, K13, P1, M1, P1 (19sts).
- Row 16: K1, M1, K1, P15, K1, M1, K1 (21sts).
- Row 17: P3, K15, P3.
- Row 18: K1, M1, K2, P7, K1, P7, K2, M1, K1 (23sts).
- Row 19: P4, K7, P1, K7, P4.
- Row 20: K4, P6, K3, P6, K4.
- Row 21: P5, K4, P5, K4, P5.
- Row 19: P4, K7, P1, K7, P4.
- Row 20: K4, P6, K3, P6, K4.
- Row 21: P5, K4, P5, K4, P5.
- Row 25: P9, P2tog (10sts).
- Row 26: K2tog, K6, K2tog (8sts).
- Row 27: P6, P2tog (7sts).
- Row 28: K2tog, K3, K2tog (5sts).
- Row 29: P2tog, cast off purl wise.
- With right side facing, re-join yarn top centre back, to complete left mound as follows:
  - Row 24a: K2tog, K10 (11sts).
  - Row 25a: P2tog, P9 (10sts).
  - Row 26a: K2tog, K6, K2tog (8sts).
  - Row 27a: P2tog, P6 (7sts).
  - Row 28a: K2tog, K3, K2tog (5sts).
  - Row 29a: Cast off 2sts, P2tog, cast off.
- Your first knitted heart is now complete! Repeat the whole process to create another heart, and complete the matching pair, which you can then stuff and sew together.



# Try this!

## Footprint bookmark

You will need:

Felt, in two colours

Embroidery thread or fine wool

Cut two rectangles 17 x 5.5 cm of felt for the front and the back.

What you do:

- Cut out the foot template, and cut out each piece from your second colour of felt.
- Stitch the foot to one of the rectangles to form the front.
- If you do not want to stitch, you could use fabric glue as an alternative.
- Place the second rectangle on the back and stitch around the edge. You can use any stitch that you prefer. I used running stitch, but blanket stitch also works well.
- If you do not want to stitch, you can glue the two pieces together.

