Pearl at Home

Art projects designed for suggested ages of 5 and up, designed to be completed at home with easily-accessible art materials.

MONDRIAN COLLAGE

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MATERIALS

- Color construction paper, cardstock, or origami paper
  Scraps from other projects are great! See our inspiration examples at the end for alternative material ideas.
- Scissors
- Glue or glue stick
- Thin electrical tape (colors or black)
  Alternative to tape: Color pencils or markers – a color that will show on your paper
- Pencil
- Ruler

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Artist Piet Mondrian had an enormous influence on 20th century art, influencing not only the course of abstract painting and numerous major styles and art movements (such as Color Field painting, Abstract Expressionism, and Minimalism), but also fields outside the domain of painting – including design, architecture, and fashion.

Piet Mondrian was born in 1872 in the Netherlands. Mondrian’s early work was representational and heavily influenced by impressionist painters like Vincent van Gogh. In 1909-1910 he experimented with Pointillism and by 1911 had begun to work in a Cubist mode. After seeing original Cubist works by Georges Braque and Pablo Picasso, Mondrian decided to move to Paris. There he began to develop an independent abstract style.

While in Holland during World War I, he further reduced his colors and geometric shapes to formulate the style he is known for - Neoplasticism. See examples of his artwork on the following page.

The project that follows is a paper interpretation of Mondrian’s style, but please be creative in which materials you use to create your Mondrian-inspired collage! View some examples of unique ideas at the end of this packet.

- https://www.guggenheim.org/artwork/artist/piet-mondrian
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piet_Mondrian
DIRECTIONS

1. Cut several sizes of rectangles and squares from a variety of papers. Keep the scraps.

2. Stack squares & rectangles of alternating warm and cool colors and glue them together. Make several stacks!

   How many different color combinations can you make? How many sizes of square & rectangles can you make?

3. WITHOUT GLUE, arrange your stacks on a bigger background paper. Arrange them to where there are imaginary lines in a grid connecting them. See the example to the right.

   Once you like the arrangement, glue the stacks down on your background paper.

Works by Piet Mondrian
Left: Victory Boogie Woogie, 1942-44, oil and paper on canvas
Center: Trafalgar Square, 1939-43, oil on canvas
Right: Broadway Boogie Woogie, 1944, oil on canvas
4. Use the thin tape to create straight lines between SOME, but NOT ALL, of the squares and rectangles.

If you don’t have tape, draw lines with a color pencil or marker and ruler.

5. Decide if you need more stacked papers or tiny squares/rectangles of single colors on your paper.

Glue those down to finish your masterpiece!

OTHER MATERIALS

Use a map as a grid

Legos

Paper squares on a cube