

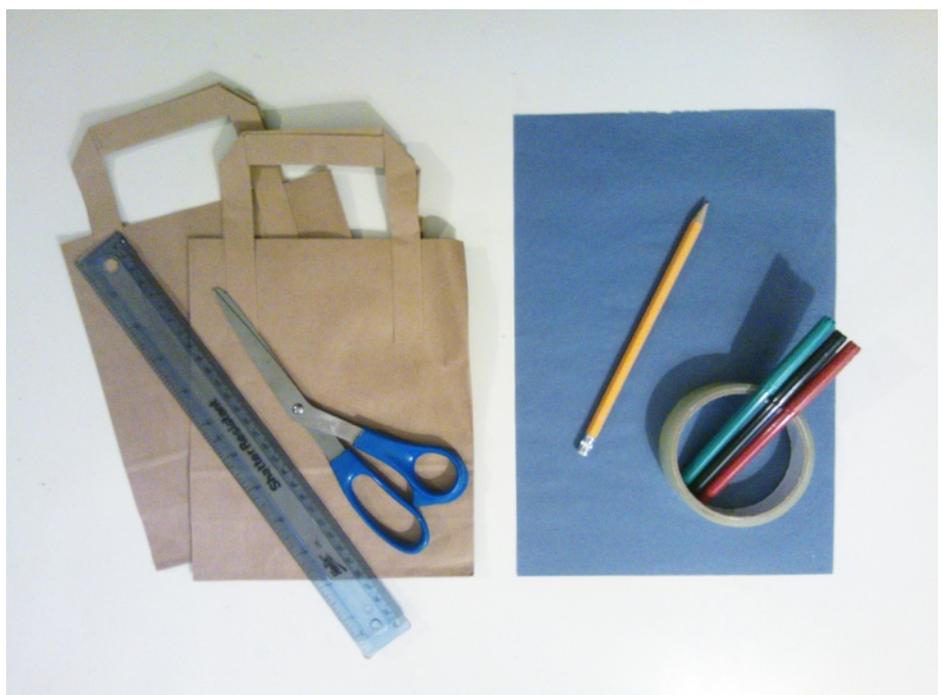
Paper Bag Advent Calendar



Christmas is here again so what better than to make your very own recycled re-usable advent calendar!

Tools and Materials:

- 2 paper bags (ours are 18 x 23cm)
- Ruler
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Sellotape
- Felt tips to decorate your bag
- Coloured paper to add on to your bag if it is the same size as ours



Take one of your bags to make the base of the advent calendar, cut the side panels out of both sides like so



So once you have cut both sides your bag should end up looking like this, keep the side bits for later (you will need these to create your advent calendar pockets)



Take the second bag which is for your pockets, peel the handles off slowly and carefully so you don't rip the bag



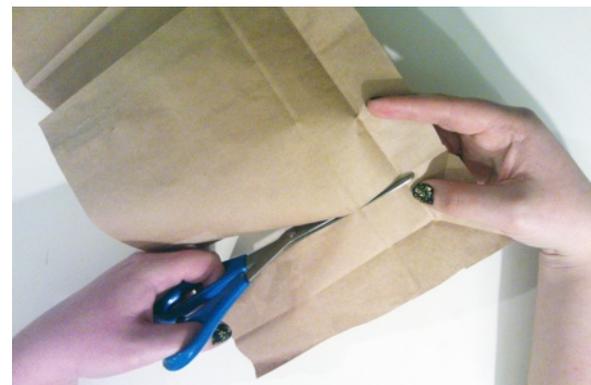
Cutting this bag is different from the first one as you want to cut the bottom of the bag off, cut down one side of the bag then cut around the 4 sides of the bottom



You should end up with a rectangle like this



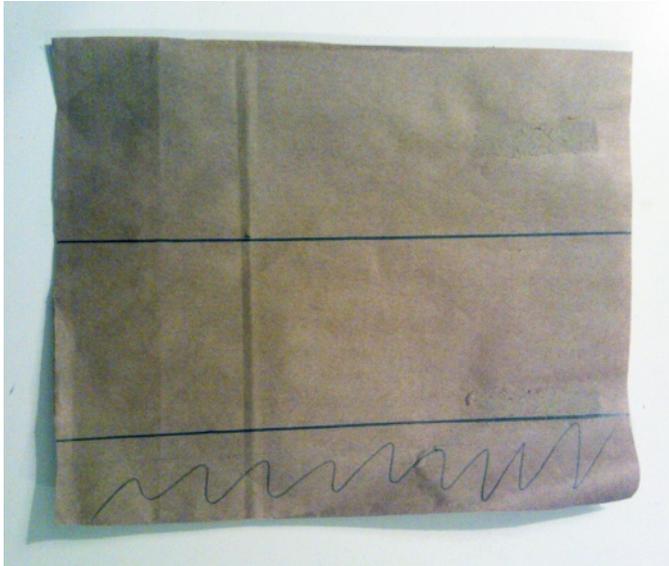
As we mentioned before our bag is 18x23cm you need to have enough bag to create 24 pockets at 7x7cm, we were lucky in the fact the side panels are near enough exactly the right size, measure your side panels to get 7x7cm squares like so, then cut out the rest of the side panels



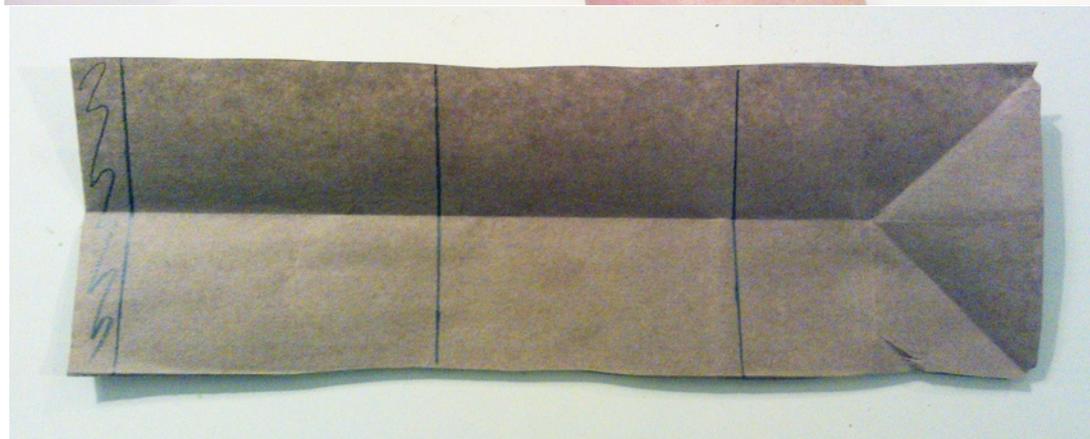
Measure 7x7cm squares onto your larger panels of the bag, we managed to get two rows of 3 squares out of each panel



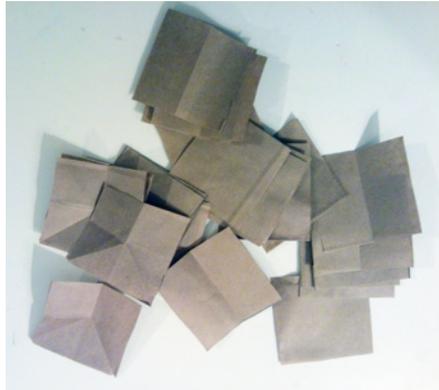
Once you have finished measuring you can cut the strips out, which should be 4 to add to the 4 side panels from both bags



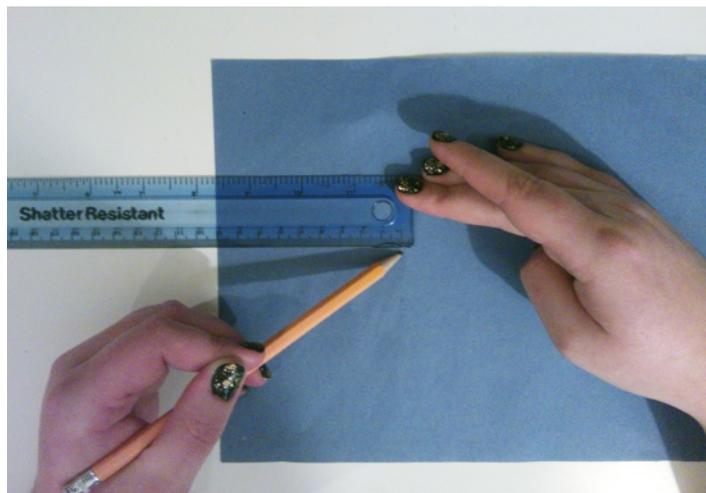
Take one of your strips and measure out 7cm gaps to make your squares



Cut out all your squares when you have drawn them out, you should have 24!



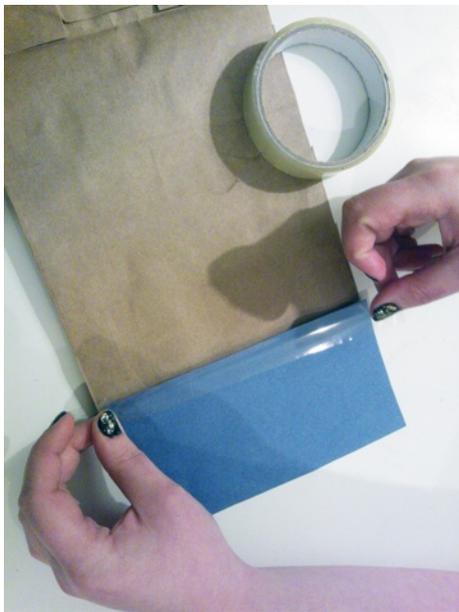
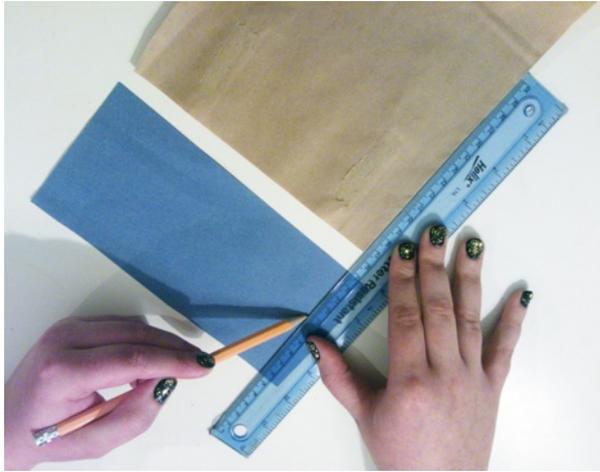
Going back to bag one we need to use the coloured paper to make sure it is big enough, we find a third of the paper should be big enough, cut it out to get your rectangle



Peel one of your handles off to stick the paper that end. Not both otherwise you won't be able to hang it up!!



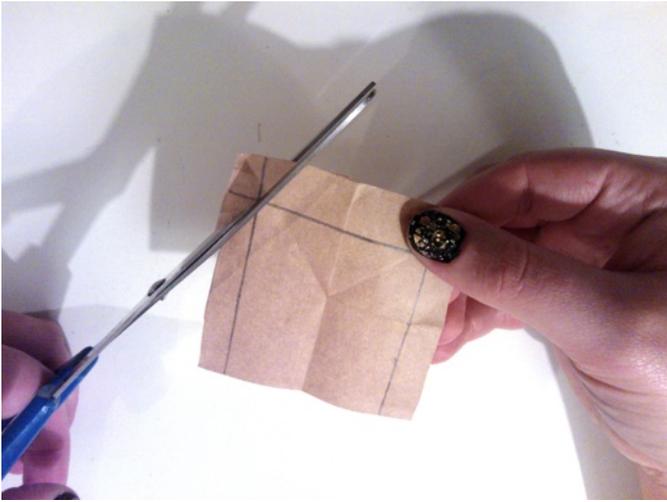
Measure the paper to make sure is the same width too then stick it on using sellotape on both sides to make it secure



Now we need to measure out the flaps for the pockets, the bottom flap should be around 1.5cm and the side flaps 1cm



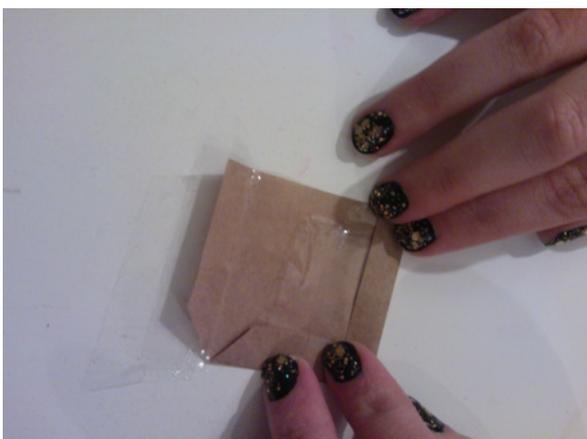
Cut the corners off like so then fold all the sides in



Put sellotape on all three sides making sure the sellotape faces downwards but doesn't stick the the table!



Push the middle flap up and the side flaps in to stick all the tape together to form a sticky sided pocket



Start sticking your pockets onto the calendar, 3 in each row and 8 rows in total



Now you are ready to start putting your numbers on it is best if you mix them up so you have to look for the number each morning just to make it a little bit more exciting!! 1-24 as Christmas on the 25th is even better than having a sweet



Then you can add some Christmassy elements, we chose baubles, stars, Christmas trees and holly but you can put on whatever you would like!



All that is left to do is to put your sweets in! If you don't like sweets you could always make different pictures of Christmas items to discover every day. Enjoy!



We hope you all have an awesome Christmas full of cheer!