

How to Make A Kite

1. Gather all required materials. It is best to place all of the required materials on your desk, table, or wherever you plan to work. Here is what you will need to make and fly your kite: an 8.5" by 11" sheet of paper, a thin wooden stick or bamboo skewer, tape, lightweight string, pencil, colored markers or crayons, scissors, hole punch (optional), lightweight ribbon (optional)

2. Color your monarch butterfly kite.

3. Begin the construction process. Place your paper in front of you in a horizontal position with the long sides at the top and bottom. Fold your paper in half along the dotted line in the middle. Fold the paper so the butterfly picture is on the outside.

4. Establish the wings. Turn your paper so the folded crease of the paper is towards you. Fold the top edge of the paper diagonally down along the visible dotted line. You are folding one of the butterfly wings. Flip the paper over and fold the other side of the paper along the other visible dotted line, you are folding the other wing.

5. Secure the wings. Use your tape to secure the folded sides along the middle seam. You should already see your kite taking shape.

6. Reinforce the structure. Place your thin wooden stick or bamboo skewer across the upper back, or top of the kite. This will hold the wings open against the wind. Use tape to secure the stick into place. Be sure that your stick is not longer than the width of the kite. If it is, carefully use your scissors to shorten the stick.

7. Create the attachment point. Find the circle near the center crease of the paper, this marks where you will punch a hole to attach string. Use tape to reinforce the hole before you use the hole punch. If you do not have a hole punch, you can carefully use scissors to create the hole.

8. Attach the string. Insert your kite string through the hole that you created and tie the string with a gentle, but tightly secured knot. You can create a handle for your string with a wide stick or any tube shaped item. A handle makes it easy for you to reel in or extend your kite, and also prevents your kite from flying away.

9. Create a tail. Tape lightweight ribbon at the very bottom of your kite on the same side as the stick. Your tail can be as long as you desire. You can start out with a long tail and cut it shorter if your kite is unable to fly. The tail is important because it balances your kite while in flight and prevents it from flipping and nose-diving to the ground.

