


**Suggestions for decorating LARGE cardboard shipping boxes 12" by 12" by 5"
And MEDIUM cardboard shipping boxes 12" by 10" by 5"**

Decorating shipping boxes is fun to do and brings a smile and a bit of joy to our deployed troops!

<p>When the box is closed as shown, the top and the bottom of the box are left blank for shipping labels.</p> <p>The box should be collapsed and flat when decorating. Decorate only three side panels.</p> <p>The fourth side panel (with the bar code) is left blank for shipping labels.</p> <p>Optional - Three side panels can be painted a solid color before decorating. White flat acrylic house paint works well. Do not paint or decorate the fourth panel with bar code; it will be used for shipping labels.</p>	<p align="center">Decorated Box</p> 
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BEST Materials to Use for Decoration	Unacceptable Materials
<p>Pencils Colored pencils Crayons Permanent markers (Sharpies) Permanent highlighters India ink Acrylic paint markers All acrylic paints (flat finish is best) Flat stickers (seal in place with white glue)</p> <p>Cut-to-size Magazine photos or Calendar pages. Using <i>Elmer's Glue All</i>, glue pages onto the sides.</p>	<p><i>DO NOT USE THESE MATERIALS</i> Watercolor paints Tempera paints Oil paints Oil pastels Chalk pastels Washable markers Water based markers Puff stickers Dimensional stickers Construction paper</p>

Alternate Decorating Process

Use a heavy weight paper 80 # or card stock.

For **LARGE** boxes, cut paper into panels 10" by 5" (or smaller).

For **MEDIUM** boxes, cut paper into panels 8" by 5" (or smaller).

Each paper panel can be decorated using the above "**Best Materials**".

Decorating on paper is a good method for students. The paper is smoother than working on cardboard and the paper is easier to manage than a box.

Once the paper panels are complete, use a wide paint brush to apply Elmer's glue (thin with water) and securely attach three paper panels directly to three sides of a plain packing box. For young students' artwork, gluing may be done by an adult.
Do not cover the bar code on the fourth side of the box.