

**History Boredom Busters!**  
***Paper Arts***  
***Shaving Cream Marbling & Quilling***

Historical Context

The art of marbling originated in Japan during the 12th century and spread to the Middle East by the 15th century. In the 17th century, European travelers collected examples of marbled papers from the Middle East and brought them back to Europe. By the 19th century, the technique for making marbled paper reached Europe, where it became a popular material not only for book covers and end-papers, but also for lining chests, drawers, and bookshelves.

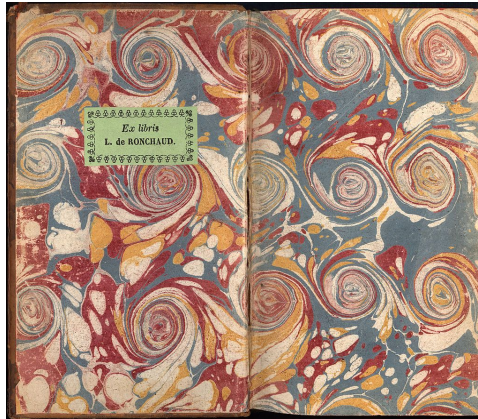


Photo Credit: Wikipedia

Quilling, also known as paper filigree, is an art form that involves rolling and gluing thin strips of paper into various shapes and arranging them to form designs. The art of quilling dates back to the Renaissance when French and Italian **monks** and **nuns** would use **quills** to roll thin strips of paper into ornate designs. They would then use these to decorate book covers and other items, often imitating designs they saw in **ironwork**. Quilling later became popular in America during Colonial times.



Photo Credit: Pinterest

Key Words

*Monks & Nuns* - Monks and nuns live in monasteries and convents, which are religious residences for people who have taken religious vows to live in seclusion.

*Quill* - A large feather from the wing or tail of a bird. They were used as writing utensils.

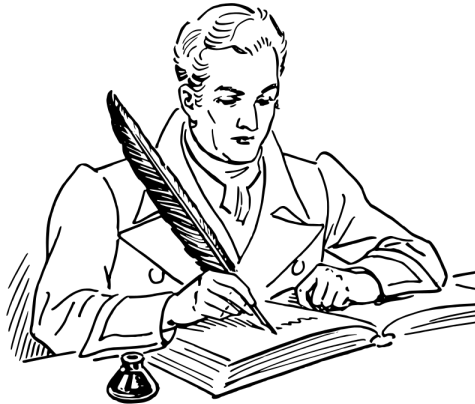


Photo Credit: Wikipedia

*Ironwork* - A decorative feature made of iron used to decorate buildings and gardens. It emerged in the Middle Ages and was popular from the 16th to the 19th century.



Photo Credit: Wikipedia

Activity: Shaving Cream Marbling

Supplies

- White paper (ideally card stock) cut into halves or quarters
- Cardboard cut into a rectangle slightly larger than the paper
- Shaving cream
- Food dye
- Popsicle stick or toothpick
- Shallow pan or disposable plate

NOTE - This is a messy activity with dye! Please set up this activity outside or on a vinyl tablecloth that you can wipe down. Or you can use a trash bag in place of a tablecloth.

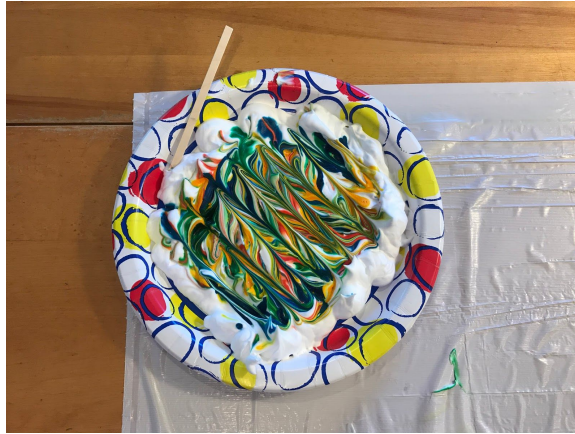


Instructions

1. Apply one layer of shaving cream to the shallow pan or disposable plate.
2. Drop food dye on top of the layer of shaving cream.



- Using the popsicle stick or toothpick, swirl the food dye drops through the shaving cream for a desirable effect. Don't swirl too much or it will not look marbled!



- Gently place a piece of paper on the marbled shaving cream. Gently press on the paper to make sure it is making even contact across the whole piece of paper.



- Lift the paper in an upward motion and place the paper on table (shaving cream side up). Use the cardboard to scrape the excess shaving cream off. Let dry.



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For more fun:

1. If you would like to make more you can keep adding colors to the shaving cream and re-swirl it, and press fresh card stock in it to make another.
2. If you want a fresh start, simply apply a fresh layer of shaving cream on the top of your previous marbled shaving cream. There is no need to dump out the existing shaving cream.

### Activity: Quilling

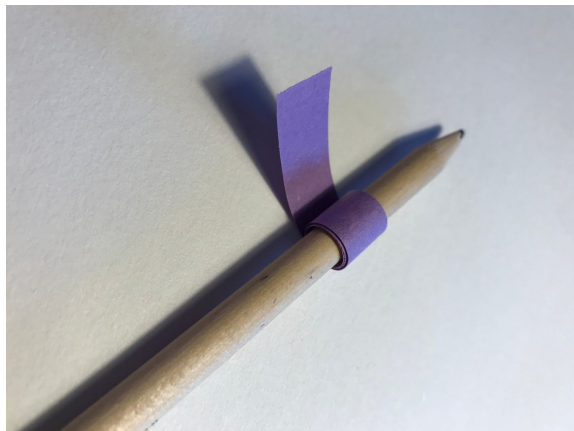
#### Supplies

- Construction paper
- Construction paper cut into thin strips about a half an inch wide
- Pencils
- Glue (liquid not glue sticks)
- Disposable plate
- Popsicle sticks

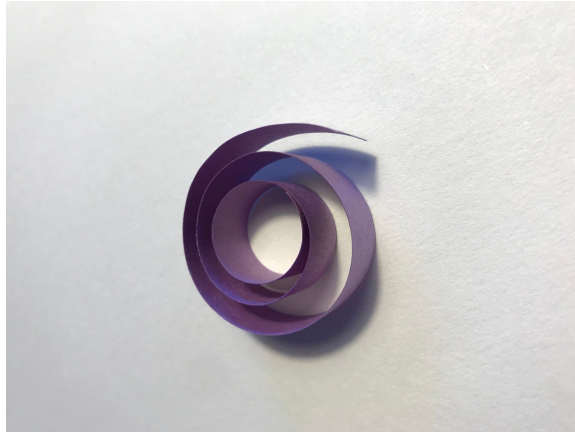


#### Instructions

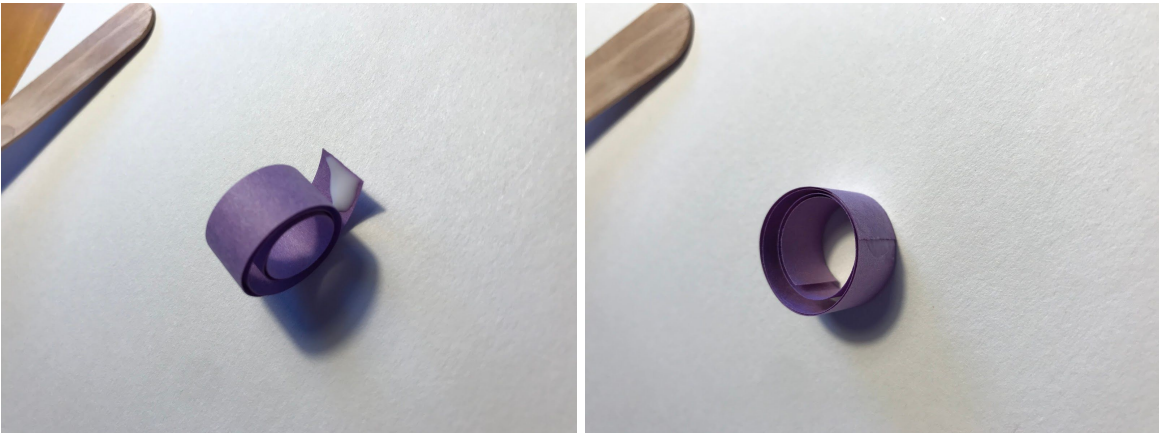
1. To make a basic coil, wrap a strip of construction paper tightly around a pencil and hold it in place for a few seconds.



2. Turn the pencil vertically and let the coil slip off.

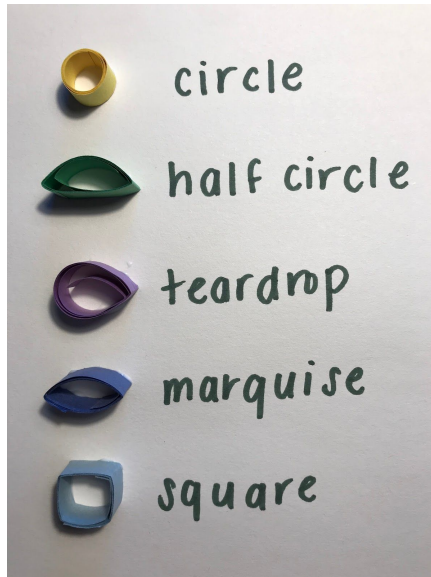


3. Using a popsicle stick, apply a small dot of glue on the end of the strip to glue the coil closed. You will have to hold it closed for about 10 seconds. Then you can let it go and place it somewhere to dry before shaping and applying to your paper in a design.



4. To make fancy shapes, follow the directions below.
5. Use a popsicle stick to glue your coils into patterns such as flowers or butterflies on a piece of construction paper. You can also use crayons or markers to add to the design.

Fun Shapes!



*Half Circle*

To make a half circle, flatten the bottom half of a basic coil.

*Teardrop*

To make a teardrop, start with a basic coil. Pinch the basic coil together to form a point at one end, leaving the other end round.

*Marquise*

To make a marquise, start with a basic coil. Pinch it gently on both ends to form a marquise shape.

*Square*

To make a square, make a marquise coil and then turn it 90 degrees and pinch the other two ends.