

Yupo Art Deco Lantern

Light up everyday life with 1920s opulence!

art + history

The Roaring '20s were a time of extravagant parties, decadent living, and opulence. Great economic prosperity led to an explosion of social, artistic, and cultural exuberance. It was during this period that Art Deco was born, offering a visual design aesthetic as rich and layered as jazz music.

Art Deco is a style of architecture and design that first gained popular public attention during the 1925 International Exhibition of Modern Decorative and Industrial Arts, making it easy to see why the movement needed a much shorter name.

Art Deco style was applied everywhere — to nearly everything at the time — influencing high fashion and architecture as well as everyday objects and household furnishings. Not even something as utilitarian as a vacuum cleaner was safe from this design craze! Art Deco makes use of bright colors and precious metals such as gold, silver, and ivory combined with complex repeating patterns.

In this lesson students will make their very own Art Deco-influenced lantern using Chroma Molten Metals acrylic paints to “gild” their Art Deco pattern onto translucent Yupo paper. Yupo is a plastic paper that will give the lantern a strong support structure. When complete, hang an LED balloon light to really make it shine!

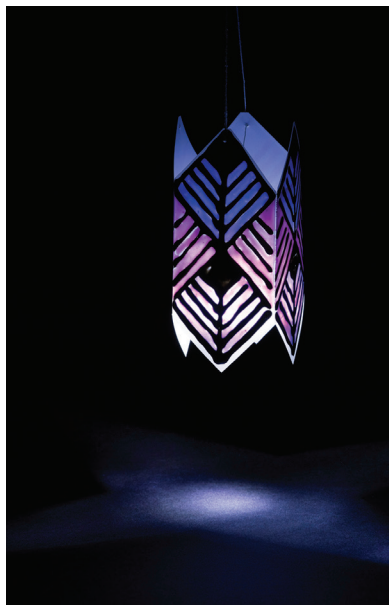
GRADES 3-12 Note: Instructions and materials are based upon a class size of 24 students. Adjust as needed.

Preparation

1. Cut Yupo paper into 24, 12-1/2" x 9-1/2" sheets.
2. Show examples of Art Deco design and patterns. Discuss historical causes and influence in design and architecture.

Process

1. Fold Yupo to create a desired lantern shape, leaving a 1/2" folded margin at the end. To make a square lantern, simply make four equal sections. For a star, fold like a paper fan ten times. For a circular lantern, only fold the margin. Yupo is very strong and thick, so go over the folds with a bone folder or any hard flat tool to make a firm crease. This helps to show where to line up the pattern, and makes the final assembly go smoothly.
2. Flatten Yupo on top of the design, securing both papers with tape at the corners. Students can make their own pattern, or use one found on the internet.



Materials (required)

- Yupo Translucent Paper, 25" x 38" (10084-1008); share three sheets across class
 - Chroma Molten Metals Acrylics, 8 oz, assorted colors (00688-); share three bottles across class
 - Blick Liquid Watercolors, 8 oz, assorted colors (00390-); share at least three across class
 - Liquitex Pouring Medium, 32 oz (02001-1009); share bottle across class
 - Detailer Writers, package of 6 (32929-1009); four packages, one bottle per student
 - Fiskars Student Scissors, 7" (57016-1065); one per student
 - 3M Scotch Double Sided Tape, Permanent Double Sided Tape, 1/2 x 250 (24115-1001); Share one across class
 - Moore Push Pins, package of 100 (57307-1009); share box across class
 - Books By Hand Linen Bookbinding Thread, 50 yd (12841-1050) share one across class
 - Bendable Blunt Plastic Needle, package of 12 (65103-1009): two packages, one needle per student
 - LED balloon light with loop to hang
- ### Optional Materials
- Blick Copper Wire, (33415-)
 - Plastic 10-Well Paint Tray, (03041-1010)
 - Uni-Posca Paint Markers, (19994-)
 - Assorted Metallized Beads, (60776-1008)

Process, continued

3. Use the Detail Writer filled with Chroma Molten Acrylic to trace the pattern. Allow to dry.
4. Add a few drops of Blick Liquid Watercolor to Liquitex Pouring Medium. Fill in negative spaces.
5. When dry, re-fold, using double-sided tape on the margin to secure.
6. Hang the lantern by poking evenly centered holes with a push pin and threading the balloon light with string or wire. Alternately, because Yupo paper is so strong it can also simply sit on a table over an LED tea light.

Options

- Use metallic paint markers instead of Chroma Molten Metals Acrylic paint.
- Use copper or brass wire to hang.
- Cut the top or bottom, making scalloped or zig-zag edges.
- Add beads and other decorations.

National Core Arts Standards - Visual Arts

Creating

Anchor Standard 1: Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.

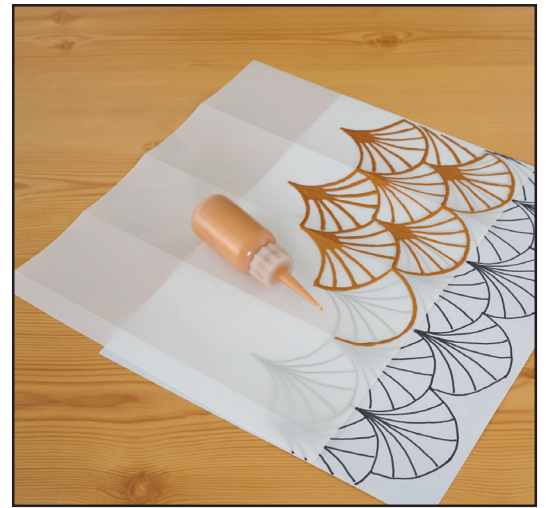
Anchor Standard 2: Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.

Responding

Anchor Standard 8: Perceive and analyze artistic work.

Connecting

Anchor Standard 10: Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.



Step 1: Trace design onto Yupo with a Detail Writer.



Step 2: Refold and tape.



Step 3: Tie on balloon light and use extra string to hang lantern.

