

Stratford *Lantern Parade* October 14, 2017

How to make a PYRAMID LANTERN:

SUPPLIES:

- reeds (or straight, narrow sticks)
- scissors or utility knife
- masking tape
- water resistant tissue paper
- wood glue (carpenter's glue)
- water
- bowl
- sponge brushes
- LED light source (battery tea light)
- wire (hanging loop)
- bamboo pole
- hook

METHOD:

Cut reeds to desired length using scissors or utility knife:
4 of length *A*, 4 of length *B*, 2 of length *C*

Use masking tape to secure the reeds together and form the frame shape of the lantern.

Note: If using LED light strings (as opposed to a tea light) use masking tape to secure the lights to the completed frame. Secure the battery pack (with on/off switch) at the very top of the lantern where you can reach it easily.

Turn the lantern upside down and place in a jar or other support. Add 1-2 layers of tissue paper to the lantern, starting with the bottom of the frame.

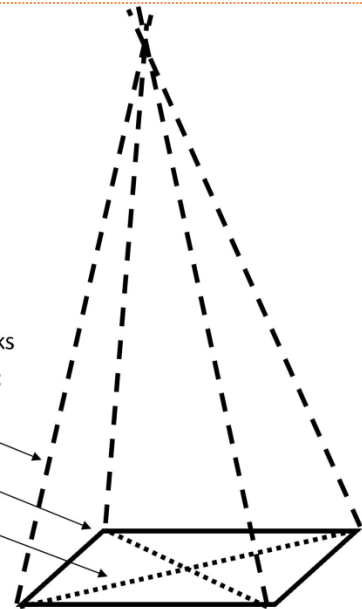
- Place tissue paper onto a protected (plastic-covered) surface.
- Pour glue into a bowl and dilute with water (about 50/50). Mix thoroughly.
- Use a sponge brush to cover one side of the waxed tissue paper with dilute glue.
- Carefully lift the tissue sheet and turn it over. Try not to let the tissue stick to itself!
- Brush dilute glue onto the other side of the paper.
- Carefully lift the glued sheet off the table surface and lay it onto the lantern frame.
- Excess tissue can be (carefully) torn or cut away. Press the tissue against the frame to make sure you get good contact all along the frame.

Cut reeds or sticks to make a frame:

4 x length *A*

4 x length *B*

2 x length *C*



After the bottom of the frame has been covered the frame can be removed from the support cup and placed on its side. Turn the frame and add tissue until all sides are covered.

Note: Leave space between the top of the lantern frame and the top of the tissue paper for accessing the battery pack (for LED string lights) or for inserting and removing the candle (for batter LED tealights)

Place the covered frame upside down (back in the jar or cup) or hang it to dry.

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TO FINISH THE LANTERN:

DECORATE:

When the lantern has dried completely it can be decorated with a wide variety of materials – or left plain! Remember that decorations that are more opaque will be seen as silhouettes; light will shine through decorations that are more transparent.

ADD A LIGHT:

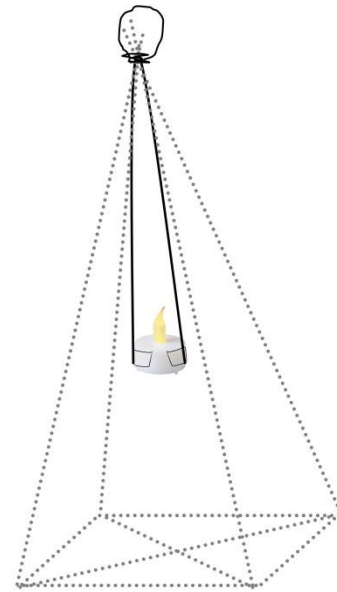
A length of string, with one end taped to each side of the battery tealight, will make a loop for hanging your candle inside the lantern. The loop can be hung from the reeds at the top of the lantern. Adjust the length of the string to get the candle hanging where you want it.

ADD A HANGING LOOP:

Add a loop of wire to the top of the lantern to hang it from your carry pole.

MAKE A CARRY POLE:

Add wood glue to the threads of a “cup hook” and gently screw it into the end of a bamboo garden stake. You may need to wind tissue paper around the threads to get a tight fit. Let it dry completely before hanging your lantern!



**AND NOW YOU'RE ALL READY
TO JOIN THE LANTERN PARADE!**

**THIS LANTERN TAKES APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR TO CONSTRUCT AND 4-5 HOURS TO DRY,
DEPENDING ON HUMIDITY. DECORATING CAN TAKE AS LITTLE – OR AS MUCH – TIME AS YOU LIKE!**