

Upcycling - a small gift box or jewel box

Here you learn how to make a pretty gift box (or jewel box) using gift paper that is too small to re-wrap other gifts but too good to go into the recycling paper bin.

Nice for rainy afternoons with your friends or kids, grandchildren etc.

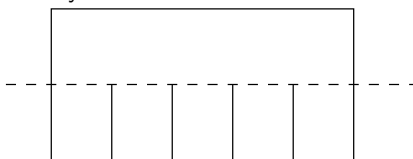
All you need is

- an empty toilet paper roll
- scrap paper (for linking, can be used/printed);
- two pieces of cardboard (e.g. back side of food packages)
- two pieces of gift paper ca. 15 x 6 cm
- two pieces of gift paper ca. 4 x 4 cm
- white or coloured paper (e.g. from one-sided printed flyers) for the inside feeding
- scissors, glue and ruler / set square
- for folding and glueing, pegs, small skewers etc can be quite helpful

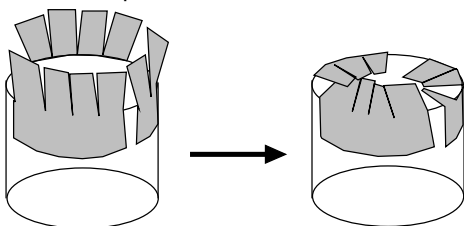
(1) Cut the toilet paper roll into three equally high ring-shapes pieces (using sharp scissors, e.g. nail scissors - attention, avoid cutting yourself...). One roll gives up to three gift boxes.

(2) Place a ring on one of the small cardboard pieces. Using a pencil, draw the outline of the ring onto the cardboard and cut out the round piece. This is the bottom.

(3) Cut out 3 pieces of paper having ca. 4 x 2 cm size. Fold them along the dashed line and cut them in laterally ca. 3-4 times:

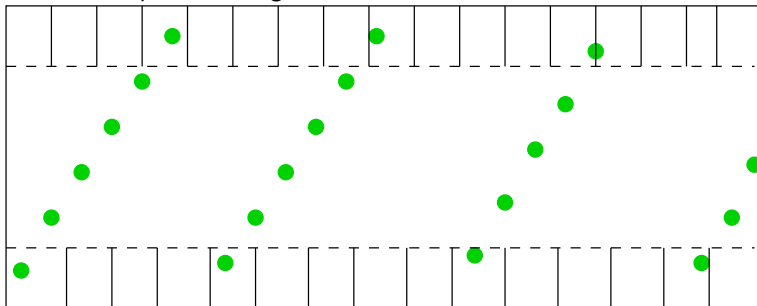


(4) Use these pieces to fix the bottom to the ring:

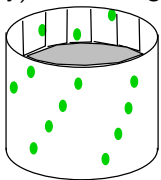


For better stability, you may want to create more pieces according to step (3) and glue them to the inside of the box.

(5) Now you cut glue tabs into the long edge of one of the large (15 x 6 cm) gift paper stripes, such that the centre part is as high as the box:



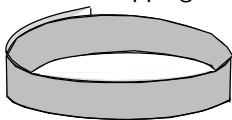
(6) This stripe is now glued around the box (avoid using too much glue, which would make the paper wavy), then the glue tabs are folded around and glued to the inside:



The base of your gift box is now almost ready!

(7) Now to the cover:

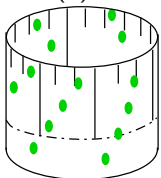
Cut a cardboard stripe, width ca. 1.5 cm, length around 20 cm. Wrap this stripe around your box such that it gently fits but does not sit too tight (when wrapped, the cover should still fit onto the box). Glue the overlapping ends onto each other to obtain a ring.



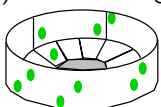
(8) Place the ring on the other small cardboard piece. Draw the outline and cut out the circular cover piece.

(9) Connect the ring and the cover piece as in step (4).

(10) Cut glue tabs into the second large gift paper stripe and fix it around the ring as shown in steps (5) and (6). The cut some of the glue tabs deeper down to the cardboard ring:



(11) Fold the long tabs inside and fix them to the cover from within:



(12) Now cut out and fix the coloured feeding paper inside the cover (only a round piece needed) and box (wall and bottom).

Thats it - your gift box is ready for use!