

Wafer Paper Easter Bonnet Tutorial

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Tools: Wafer paper sheets

Scissors

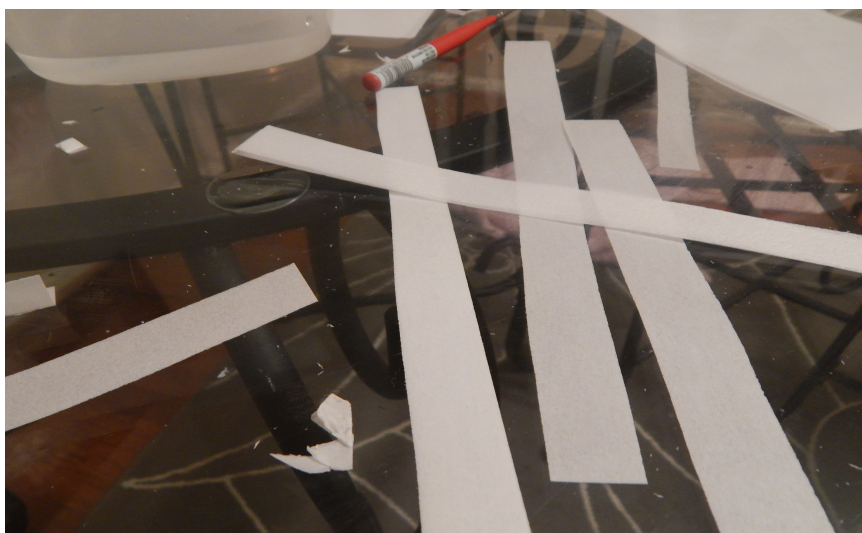
Hand Held Steamer or (bowl of hot steaming water)

Small Paint Brush

Cup of water

Polystyrene ball or egg approx. 5/6 inches in diameter

drinking glass

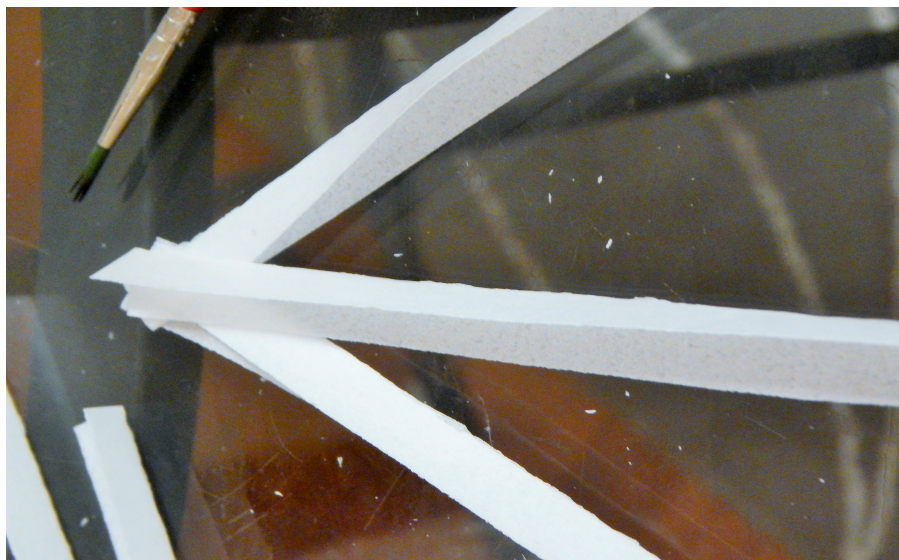


Cut wafer paper into 1 inch strips lengthways along the paper and lay flat.



Fold each strip in half lengthways to create a ½ inch long strip- if the wafer paper tears or cracks, hold it over the steam for a few seconds to condition it.

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Secure three strips of the folded paper together at the top (gluing with a dab of water)



Create a braid by folding each length over and under as shown in the picture- once you reach the end of the wafer paper- secure with a dab of glue. Continuing making braids of wafer paper by following the above instructions until you have several to glue together.

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To make the center of your hat, dab a little glue along one edge of the strip and coil it around into a circle- press the coil flat to secure the coil then slowly keep adding further braids of wafer paper until the center of the hat has been formed. And you have a braided circular disk. If the paper becomes too stiff to work with or too brittle- hold it over the steam for a few seconds and continue to coil.



Place the Styrofoam ball in the cup and lay your wafer paper disk over the top, now start adding further braids following the shape of the Styrofoam and gluing with water.

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Keep adding further braids of the wafer paper until the desired depth for the bowl of your hat has been reached, I created my hat bowl approximately 4 layers deep.



To create the brim of your hat- create a thicker braid and fold it in half, glue this to the last layer of your hat and bed it outwards to change the angle, then begin to add subsequent layers- to easily bend and manipulate the wafer paper, hold it over your steamer and bend the row of braids upwards.

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Depending on how much you manipulate your first brim layer will create a different curve to your hat brim, I created an upward curve on the front of my hat by bending my wafer paper braids upwards and layers from underneath. Finish your hat with a bow and some ribbon or wafer paper flowers.

