

MINI MARDI GRAS FLOAT



Mardi Gras means "Fat Tuesday" in French. It's an old holiday celebrated with parades, music and a lot of food. During the Mardi Gras parade in New Orleans, giant platforms called "floats" roll down the streets. People on the platforms toss candy and beaded necklaces into the crowds. Celebrate the Mardi Gras spirit by making a mini parade float!

Build a Float

Materials

- Shoebox with unattached lid
- Paint or colored paper (green, purple or gold)
- Scissors
- Glue

Decorations

- Pipe cleaners
- Sequins
- Construction paper
- Feathers
- Beads
- Confetti

Instructions

1. Flip the shoebox upside down so its bottom creates the float stage. Use the lid as a backdrop by standing it up vertically and attaching it to the end of the shoebox base.
2. Color your shoebox green, purple or gold by painting it or covering it with paper. These are the colors of Mardi Gras!
3. Decorate! There are no rules. Use the example as inspiration and create a Mardi Gras float that fits your personality.



Try These Decorations

Pipe Cleaner People

Make a loop for a head in the middle of the pipe cleaner. Twist the two ends down to form legs. Cut a second pipe cleaner in half. Twist one of the halves around the middle of the body to make arms.



Mardi Gras Crowns

Cut a piece of construction paper into a strip. Cut triangular pieces out of the top of the strip, creating points. Wrap the strip into a cylinder and glue the ends together to create your crown. Make crowns of all sizes to decorate your float!

