

HOW TO MAKE A HEXAGONAL GIFT BAG

You will need the gift bag template, narrow ribbon, scissors, glue and maybe a lighter.

1. If you are using the paper design supplied you will need to print this out first before you do the next step. Print out two copies of the template pieces for the sides on smooth card or sturdy paper. You can either print these onto your own coloured paper or card or onto the back of the paper supplied in the kit.
2. Cut around the edges of each template. Carefully punch or cut out the small round holes at the top of the bag. These need to be accurate so that they will line up with the holes on the decorative mats.
3. Fold and score along all of the diagonal, vertical and horizontal lines. The vertical lines are folded with mountain folds and the diagonal lines are folded with valley folds. (See the photos).
4. Print out the box mats - these are the patterned triangular pieces. You will need three sets of the six pieces. So you will end up with 18 triangular pieces altogether. Carefully punch or cut out the small round holes at the top of the triangles as shown.
5. Print out 2 of the box bottom. Cut around the outside edges.
6. Take your 2 side pieces and lay them on your table side by side. Glue one side tab and stick the two pieces together with the glued tab on the wrong side. When the glue has dried, fold in half, down the long edge of the glued strip so that one piece is lying on top of the other. Glue the other glue tab and tuck it inside so that it sticks to the inside of the opposite end of the whole template - you are making a joined together "loop" of card. (See photos where it will make more sense!) **MAKE SURE ALL OF YOUR HOLES ARE AT THE TOP.**
7. Let the glue dry and then give the vertical lines a quick fold to reinforce the crease.

8. Glue the decorative triangular mats onto the main “loop” making sure to line up the holes. The decorative half triangles reinforce the holes. Continue until all of the triangular mats are glued to the side piece.
9. Once the glue has dried, it’s time to glue the bottom glue tabs. You will be gluing the piece of the tab which will be INSIDE THE BAG once they are all glued, carefully fold each tab inwards, inside the bag before carefully standing the bag on the table with the tabs at the bottom and the holes at the top.
10. Carefully push one of your hexagons down inside your bag so that it gets glued into place on the tabs. Press on the seams to make sure it sticks. Let it dry then flip over your bag and stick the other hexagon on the bottom to strengthen it and to hide your tabs. Be careful to line up the corners and edges to make your bag neat. Flip it over and push down on the inside edges to make sure it’s flattened. Wait for the glue to dry.
11. Stand the bag upright on the table and take your ribbon - measure around the box plus about 6 inches on each end and cut the ends diagonally. Repeat this step. If your ribbon might fray then take your lighter and lightly singe the ends to seal them.
12. Start threading one ribbon through any hole. It is easier if you pinch the triangles together to double up on the holes. Try not to let the ribbon twist. Once you have worked your way all round the top of the bag, pull the ribbon until the bag is closed and tie a bow to keep it closed whilst you thread the second ribbon. Start the second ribbon threading on the opposite side from where you started the first.
13. Once the second ribbon threaded then tie a knot to join both ends together. Cut the ends diagonally to neaten it. Untie the bow in the first ribbon and repeat the finishing off as you did on the second ribbon.
14. To close the bag, pull both ribbons by holding the knotted ends and pulling gently to close the bag top. Tie in a bow and you are finished!



Here are photos of 2 finished bags to show you what shape you are aiming for once your bag is completed.