

Family Art from Home

3D Family Portrait

by Ophelia Cornet

With the pandemic upon us, our families are always on our minds, whether it is because we are missing them or we are spending much more time with them. This three dimensional family portrait showcases four family members that can be drawn or painted and later assembled together to form a standing paper sculpture.

Supplies needed

- Thick paper like poster board, cardstock, tag board, or thin cardboard
- Pencils
- Hot glue gun and glue sticks
- Scissors
- Watercolors or other coloring materials like crayons or colored pencils
- Waterproof India ink or a black sharpie
- Brushes for watercolors or ink

How to Do It

1. Using your memory, a photo, or your family member in person as a model, draw a large portrait from the neck up on the thick paper. Do not worry too much about making it realistic. Have fun by focusing on a flowing quality of line and including characteristics that remind you of them. A light pencil can be used first as a guide.
2. If you drew using a pencil first, now go over it with bold black lines with your ink or sharpie (See Image). After it dries, cut it out. On the back of this portrait, draw a second family member.
3. Now start your third portrait on a second sheet of thick paper. Try to draw this portrait about the same size as the first two. When it is done, cut it out and then draw your fourth and final portrait on the back. (See image)
4. Color in areas of your portraits as desired with your watercolors or materials that you have on hand.
5. You may decide that you would like to add another drawing or two (See bird in finished example). Draw any additional elements and cut them out.
6. Cut one of the portraits starting from the top center, cutting downwards and stopping half way down. Cut the other portrait starting from the bottom center, cutting upwards and stopping halfway. (See image).
7. Intersect both pieces until they are locked in. Secure the center on all sides by using hot glue. Add any other parts by again cutting a slit halfway up from the bottom center and sliding it onto one of the portrait panels. Add a bit of hot glue to hold it in place.

Enjoy how new faces are formed, depending on if the faces line up or not. Either way there is an element of surprise and whimsy. The family is close!



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