

## Happy Creative Easter

Creative cousins Marie & Jitka offer you a taste of Czech traditional Easter crafts - decorating eggs with a variety of techniques, such as natural dyeing, wool wrapping and wax on acrylics. We have also included some inspired paper crafts as a bonus. Accompanied by a traditional folk Slovakian music, come and join our Easter creative workshop.

Instructions:

### Naturally dyed eggs

You can dye eggs in natural ingredients such as onion skins, turmeric and spices (see more dyeing ideas below\*\*).

1. Wash the egg and place small leaves / flowers on top.
  2. Wrap it tight in a cut up stocking, secure with a string and place in the dye.
  3. For better results, boil onion skins first for an hour.
  4. Boil the egg in a saucepan with the dye for 10 mins. Leave it to cool off for another hour. (The longer you leave it, the better results you get.)
  5. Unwrap the egg, enjoy the results.
6. Polish the egg with cooking oil / butter.

Note: These eggs are perfectly edible.

### Dye experiments:

#### Blown & decorated eggs

For the two following decorating techniques we used blown eggs.

1. Make a hole at each end with a pin and slightly enlarge it.
2. Mushing the content with a thin wire /knitting needle etc.
3. Blow the contents out of the egg shell and use later for cooking.

#### Wool wrapped eggs

You can use wool or embroidery threads to decorate the blown egg.

1. Apply a small layer of acrylic glue and start wrapping the wool round in a spiral from the top to the bottom. Keep adding glue and wrapping.
2. You can create a more intricate design by adding a wave shape for example.

#### Wax on Acrylics

Use blown eggs, as acrylics are not edible.

1. Paint a base layer with acrylics (food dye or other paints). You may need to put 2-3 coats on in order to make the colour even.
2. Once thoroughly dried, light a candle. With a pin attached to the end of a pencil (as shown in pictures), dip the pin into the hot wax (safety first) and make drop-shaped strokes on the egg.
3. As the wax cools down, it will turn white.
4. You can dust the wax with golden powder (or sparkly make up powder).
5. With a clean cotton wool, just take the excess dust off and polish.

#### Czech chic origami

Please see attached the origami plan.

We very much hope you will enjoy the workshop.  
Any questions, let us know (we may reply in Czech.. haha).

What are your traditional Easter crafts? What are your memories of Easter.  
Let us know. We look forward to seeing your own creations.  
Have a happy creative Easter!

Marie & Jitka x

\*\* Other egg dyeing recipes to experiment with:

**Red onion skin**- boil, let soak overnight. Remove the skins from dye solution and boil eggs in the dye. Then let sit for as long as your patience allows. Creates beautiful deep red colour.

**Yellow onion skin** – follow same preparation as red onion skins. Creates orange/ brown colour

**Blueberries** – Let sit in water until the colour gets released. Strain blueberries before adding hard-boiled eggs and leave in the solution overnight. Creates light blueish/ grey colour.

**Red cabbage** - Cut up and boil in water for 15 mins. Ad 1 tbs of white vinegar and let cool. Add hard boiled eggs and leave overnight. Creates blue colour.

**Coffee** – boil a cup of strong coffee. Add hard boiled eggs and leave in overnight. Creates brown colour.

**Avocado pit** – let soak in water with hard boiled eggs overnight. Creates light peach colour.

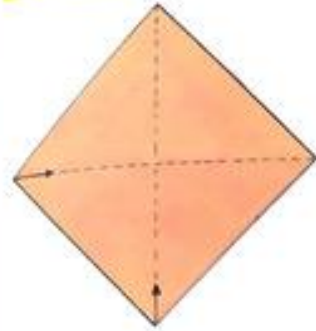
**Turmeric** – Boil eggs in water with turmeric and leave in the solution overnight. Creates yellow colour.

**Red cabbage and turmeric** – By transferring your cabbage dyed egg to turmeric dye you can create teal coloured eggs.

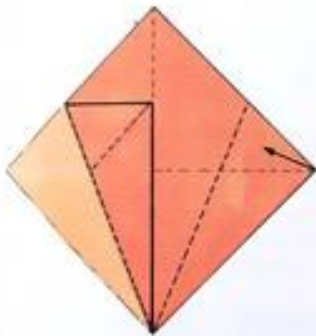
**Add vinegar** – by adding vinegar to your dyes you can slightly change their colour.

Happy experimenting.





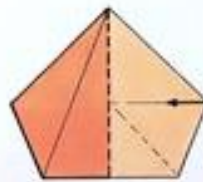
1. Fold the square diagonally in both directions.



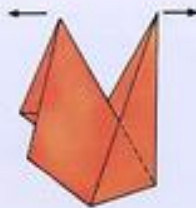
2. Make a kite shape by folding the right and left corner to the central line.



3. Turn the kite over. Fold the kite in half, so the bottom corner aligns with the top corner.



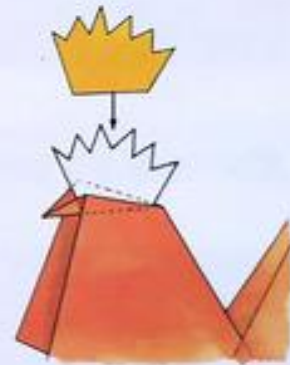
4. Turn the shape over and you get a shape that looks like a boat. Now fold the right side of the boat on top of the left one.



5. Separate each corner by pulling one left and one right. A new shape appears - the right triangle is a tail, the left one is a body. Press the paper down to flatten the body.



5. Fold the corner inwards to create a head with a beak.



6. Add a cut out crown and secure it with glue.