



HOW TO MAKE AN AMATE PAPER CUTOUT

This project is based on the AMATE (bark paper) cutouts of the OTOMI people of East Central Mexico.

MATERIALS

- brown kraft paper or paper bags
- scissors and/or exacto knife
- pencil
- paper for mounting
- glue

PROCEDURE:

1. Take a piece of brown kraft paper or part of a paper bag. Cut to size
2. Now, scrunch it up with your hands, try not to tear it. Unfold and scrunch it again and again.



3. Flatten it out on your workspace and smooth it out a bit.



4. Fold the paper in half.



5. Take a pencil (Here I'm using a sharpie so you can see) and draw out one half of your design using the fold line as the middle.



6. Cut out your design. Use your other hand to keep the paper together so it doesn't shift as you are cutting.



You can cut the inside parts out as well. The xacto knife works really well on fine details.

Open up your design.

Find a nice piece of paper to mount your cutting on. **Glue** into place. **Be patient** with those more detailed pieces...you may want to adhere one quarter (or so) section at a time.

Optional, rub the side of black/brown/crayons on your **DRIED** Amate paper cutout if you like this effect. Compare this to the file of student samples provided which do not have this effect.



Procedure modified from: Gail Bartel <http://www.thatartistwoman.org>