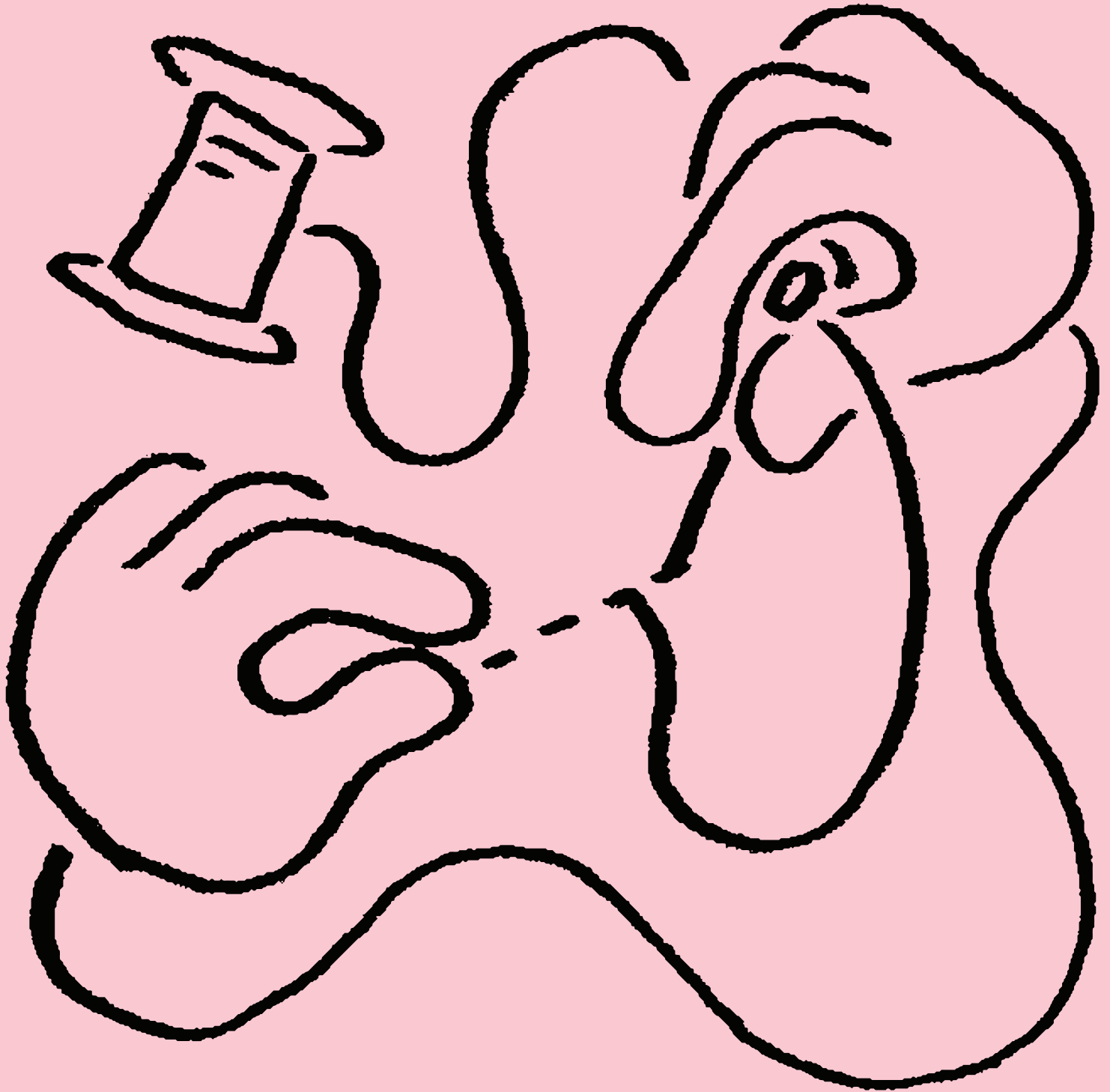


# DareToDream

## Resource Pack



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## Foreword

Ever since I began working with communities, I've been inspired by the extraordinary power of collective imagination. This fascination sparked the idea for Dare to Dream, a mass participation art project inviting everyone in Derbyshire to imagine, create, and shape an inclusive vision for our future.

Deeply influenced by Derbyshire-born fashion icon Vivienne Westwood, I believe art bridges past, present, and future. Westwood passionately encouraged thoughtful creativity, sustainability, and social justice - values that lie at the heart of Dare to Dream.

I warmly invite everyone to join us in dreaming, creating, and shaping the Derbyshire we aspire to live in.

**Claire Tymon**  
Creative Director, Derbyshire Makes

Derbyshire Makes Creative Director Claire Tymon is working with Lead artist Sue Reddish, Ambassador Alex Murphy, recent contest on BBC's The Great British Sewing Bee, Public Art Curator Cathy Newbery and these six selected artists from across Derbyshire to deliver Dare to Dream:

Abigail Wastie  
Christine Thomas  
Karen Logan  
Lois Blackburn  
Bernie Rutter  
Rosie Sykes



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

Delivery Partner



# INTRODUCTION

## What is Derbyshire Makes?

**Creatives, crafters, artists, anyone up for having a go - coming together for Derbyshire's new celebration of making.**

Derbyshire is a place that makes. Home of the world's first water powered mills and

the birthplace of fashion designer Vivienne Westwood, this is a county that's great at innovation. However, with progress came challenges; including environmental and social consequences.

Derbyshire Makes is a new programme of cultural events across the county - including projects produced by local communities and commissions from Derbyshire artists. See [derbyshiremakes.co.uk](http://derbyshiremakes.co.uk) for full details.

## What is Dare to Dream?

**A mass participation project inviting everyone to dream through textile-based work, using waste materials, hidden stories and imagination!**

A county-wide celebration of Derbyshire's textile heritage and future innovation. We invite you to create unique flags,

garments, and banners that symbolise hope, aspiration, and change.

Be inspired by [Dare to Dream's Ambassador, Alex Murphy](#)

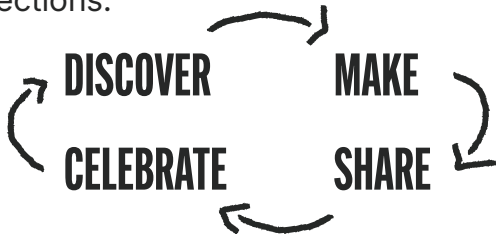


## What's in this resource pack?

**You can contribute to a collaborative artwork that unites our voices and visions across the county, online and in a series of exhibitions over the next three years.**

This resource pack has been created to help you take part in Dare to Dream - either as an individual, a group or a school.

The Resource Pack has been designed in 4 sections:



Each section includes a brief introduction, a series of questions to help you prepare, followed by a series of activities. At each step, we will provide you with suggestions and prompts; but you can also bring your own ideas and skills to add to the mix too.

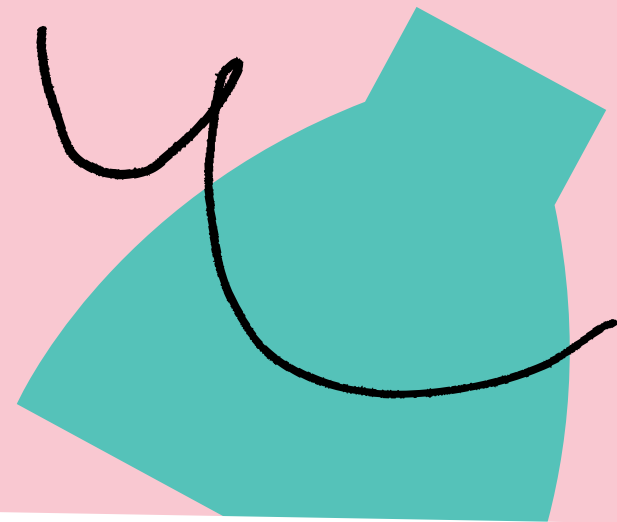
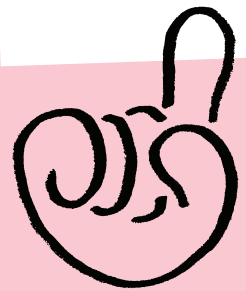
# Dare To Dream

Welcome dream-weavers, radical thinkers, and textile explorers. Together, let's weave our visions into reality, thread by vibrant thread. Here's how we'll make something monumental.

## MAKEFESTO

### Dream Boldy

Let your ideas soar and stitch your boldest hopes into fabric.

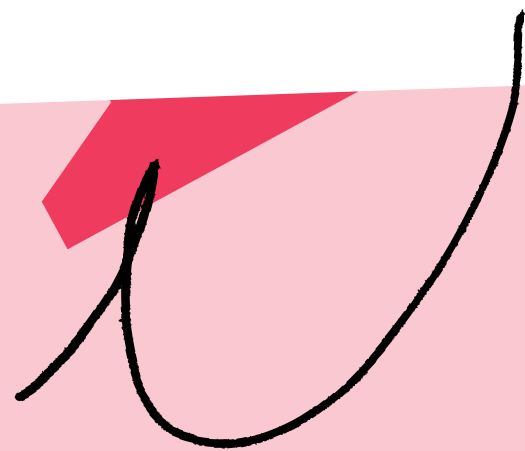


### Weave in Wonder

Weave the stories of the past into dreams for our future.

### Loom Large

Collaborate, share, and dream big.



### Thread Lightly

Embrace reclaimed and recycled materials.

### Mend and Make Do

Embrace reclaimed and recycled materials.



### Spin New Stories

Explore how our world could change for the better.



### Sew Seeds of Change

Make a powerful statement about sustainability and innovation.



### Embrace Community Threads

Everyone's welcome - connect, support, and inspire each other.

Let's get making, dreaming, and daring together.

# DISCOVER

Discover Derbyshire, your cultural heritage, or your local area. Let's go on a journey of discovery to imagine and dream of our future. We want you to:

## Discover what's on your doorstep

Local heritage, landmarks, and hidden gems.

## Discover your making skills

Tap into your creativity, learn new crafts, or develop existing talents.

## Discover local making and manufacturing industries

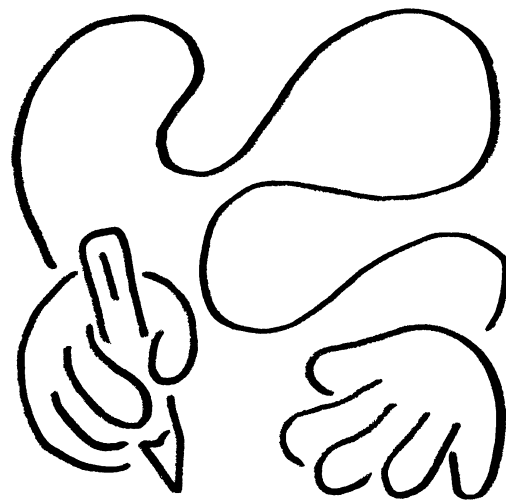
Learn from the innovation and creativity embedded in Derbyshire's history and present-day industries.

## What stories will inspire your creation?

- What inspires you in your local community or cultural heritage?
- Which places, experiences, or stories help you imagine the future?
- How might your local area or heritage shape your creative ideas?

## Let's start discovering

- Talk to friends and family about your shared history and aspirations.
- Visit local museums, galleries, and heritage sites.
- Take part in local activities - walks, talks, workshops, and heritage days.
- Attend activities at the Derbyshire Makes Festival in one of the six Hub locations.
- Get involved in our countywide programme of art-led walks, talks, and workshops.



Discover more about your local area here

- <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/derbyshire-record-office>
- <https://picturethepast.org.uk/>
- <https://visitpeakdistrict.com/>
- <https://derbymuseums.org/museum-of-making/collections-galleries/>
- <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/peak-district-derbyshire>

# MAKE

This is your chance to transform your ideas and inspirations into creative reality. Use fabrics, repurposed materials, or anything available to you to create a flag or artwork that represents your dreams for the future.

## Everyone is a maker

Whether you realise it or not, everyone has the ability to create something meaningful. Remember, everyone can make - it's about exploring, experimenting, and expressing yourself.

## What would you like to make?

- What materials are available around you that could inspire your creation?
- Do you already have creative skills to share, or would you like to learn new ones?
- How can your artwork visually represent your dreams and aspirations?

## How to get involved

- Visit [derbyshiremakes.co.uk](https://derbyshiremakes.co.uk), sign up to our newsletter and find out about workshops near you.
- Or start your own group session.
- Use our activity worksheets to create your work.

## Online resources

- Tips and tutorials on repurposing materials: [BBC The Great British Sewing Bee Transformation Challenge](#).
- Creative ideas and guidance on making flags from recycled materials (YouTube tutorials, Pinterest)

## Remember

- All sizes welcome
- All art is acceptable
- Dream big



**'This is a really exciting, ambitious project....we want people to fly the flag for Derbyshire'.**



Sue Reddish  
Dare to Dream Lead Artist







# NATURE'S BANNER

## Activity 1

### Artist

Sue Reddish

### Inspiration

The banner or flag you make doesn't have to be permanent. Here's an exercise to encourage you to really look around you and see what resources you have at your fingertips. But don't forget to take a photograph of your work

### Materials

Perhaps a piece of paper, a collection of natural items in different colours that you might find on a walk

### Tools

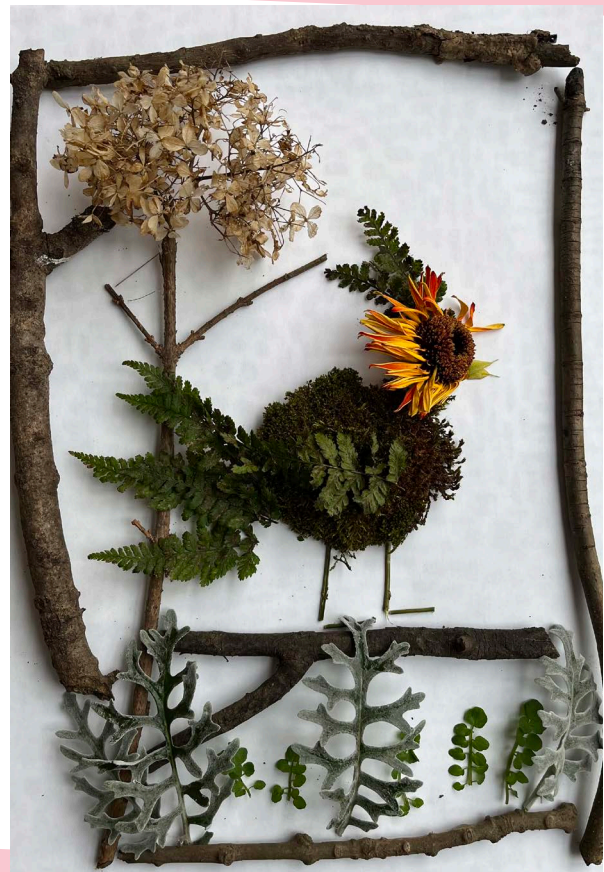
Possibly scissors

### Age

All ages

This activity aims to get you looking at the details of your environment and celebrate the colours and shapes that surround you every day. It can be a stand-alone exercise, where you produce a temporary banner which you photograph, or you could use it as a starting point to research your environment whilst working towards a more permanent banner.

The artist Andy Goldsworthy uses natural items he finds in the landscape and assembles them, knowing they will have a temporary life span but always photographs his work so there is a lasting record of it.



### Step 1

Go outside, take a walk around your environment.



### Step 2

As you look around, start to collect natural items of different colours and shapes. Avoid removing any living branches or flowers, instead collect dead material or ones that have already fallen to the ground. Maybe some discarded bairer twine caught on a fence, sycamore seeds or litter that has been dropped.



### Step 3

Once you've collected your resources - your colour palette - find a quiet space outdoors if it's not too windy or take them home and really look at what you've collected. If these things were the only clues you had, what would it tell you about your environment?

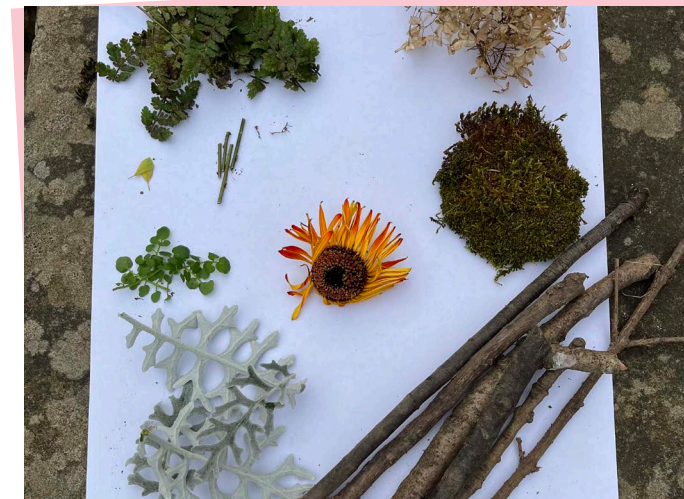
### Step 4

Try and put these items into a design, perhaps lay them on some grass or a piece of paper. Make a statement. Create a banner made with some of the very things that make your environment.



### Step 5

Then be like artist Andy Goldsworthy and take a photograph of your work, the natural items will decay, the rubbish you picked up can go in the bin but your artwork will live on in the photograph. Don't forget to send it in to [derbyshiremakes.co.uk/digitalloom](https://derbyshiremakes.co.uk/digitalloom)



Be inspired by the Derbyshire tradition of Well Dressing, works of art created by hand using natural materials like petals and leaves. Well Dressing is unique to the Peak District and Derbyshire area, and more than 80 towns and villages proudly display their floral masterpieces next to wells and water features throughout the spring and summer. Find out more at <https://visitpeakdistrict.com/events/category/well-dressings>



# EASY SEW BANNER

## Activity 2

### Artist

Sue Reddish

### Materials

Thick cotton fabric or calico, cotton and a stick or dowel pole

### Inspiration

Create a basic banner 'Blank' that you can sew or paint onto

### Tools

Ruler, scissors, pencil, iron and sewing machine

### Age

10+ with some guidance



### Step 1

Iron your fabric.

### Step 2

Measure the length of the stick you want to hang your banner from, around 30cms is a good size to start with.



### Step 4

You can leave your banner straight at the bottom edge, or fold the banner lengthways and cut the bottom edge from the fold to create a v shape.



### Step 5

Use a different piece of fabric to cut a 5cm strip.

### Step 3

Mark your fabric and cut it to the width of the stick and the length you want it to be.

### Step 6

Place your banner fabric right side down on the ironing board, then fold in and press each edge, fold each edge in again so no raw edges are visible.



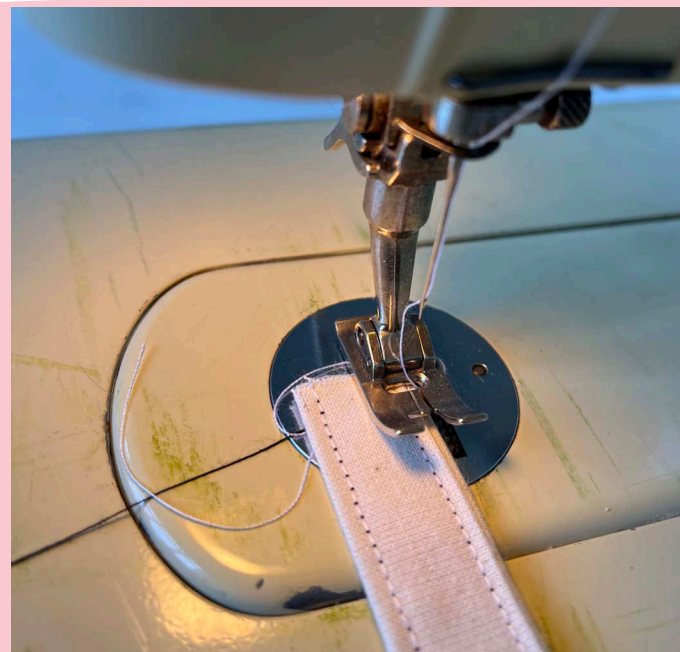
### Step 7

Fold the strip of fabric in the same way so no raw edges are visible.



### Step 8

Sew the folds in place on both the banner and the strip.

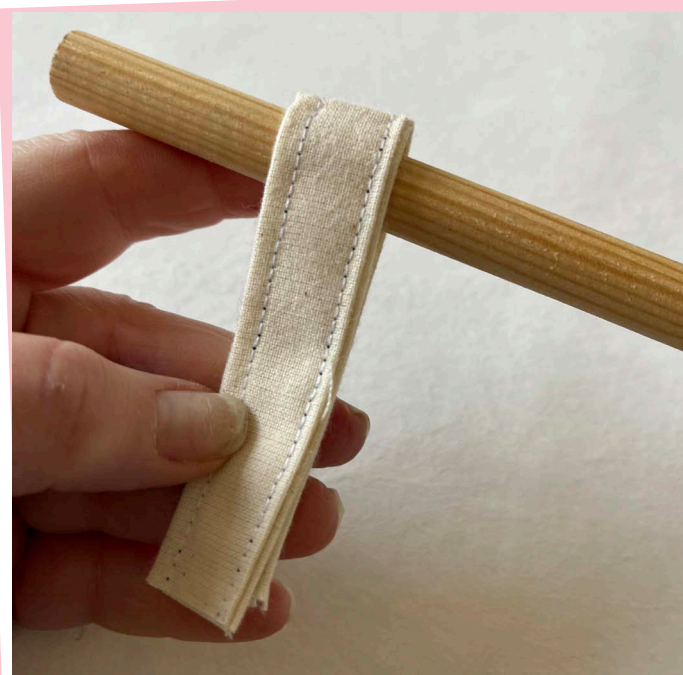


### Step 9

Loop the fabric strip around the stick to calculate how long you need your loops. Make sure you can easily slide the stick through the loops. Cut the loop to size leaving an extra 4cms at each end.

### Step 10

Sew the loops at the top of the banner at either edge.



Now you have your banner blank, ready to paint, sew or print onto.









# INTRODUCTION TO ENGLISH PAPER PIECING

## Activity 3

### Artist

Sue Reddish

### Inspiration

A hand stitch method to construct your own geometric patterned fabric

### Tools

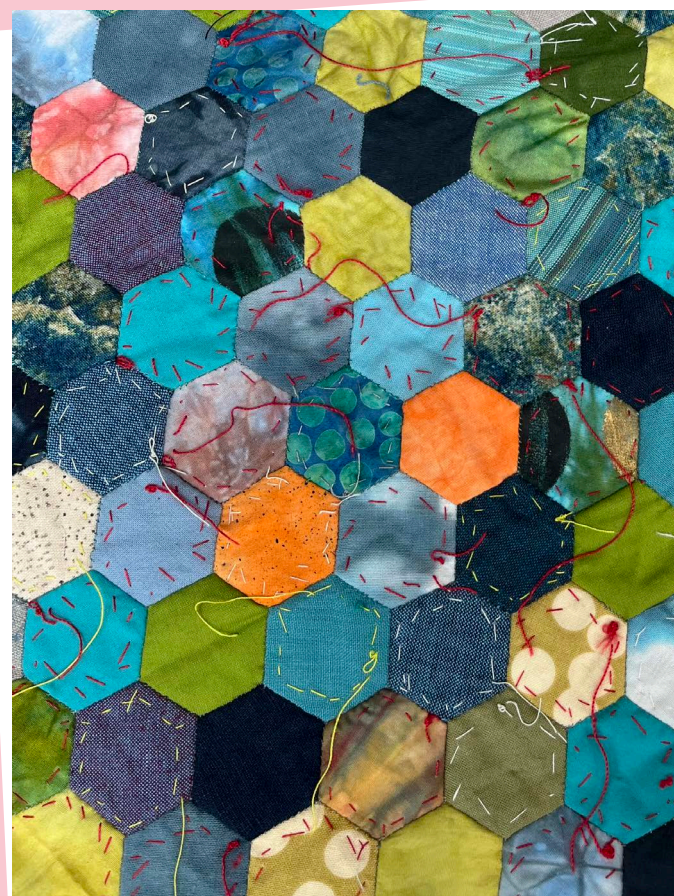
Scissors, needle

### Materials

Paper, old envelopes/cards etc, printout of template, small scraps of fabric slightly bigger than your template, colour tacking thread in a contrasting colour and darker colour thread for the finished piece

### Age

Not for small children, but it's the first patchwork Sue made when she was 11

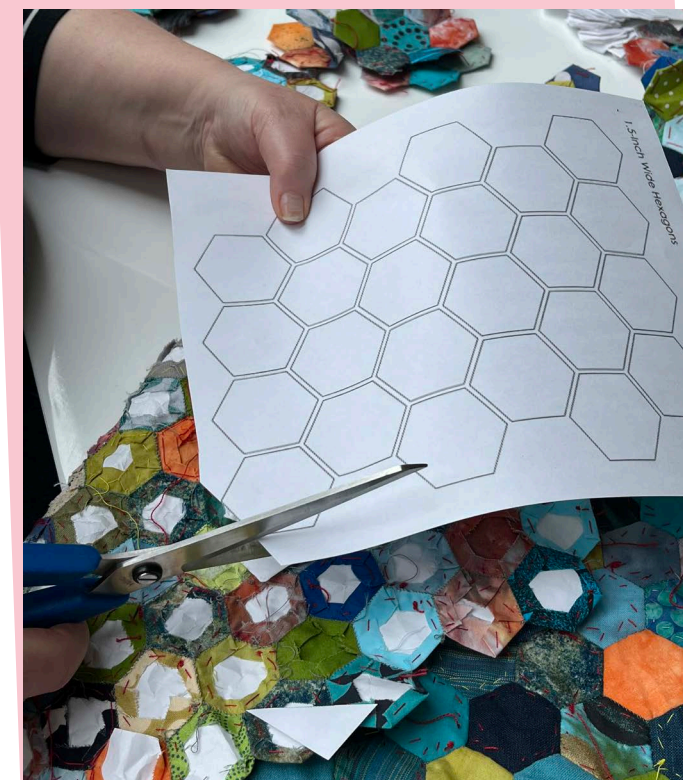


This is Sue's favourite patchwork method and great for those geometric designs that look quite complicated and that you need a lot of accuracy for but, honestly, though there are lots of little stages, they are all quite simple. It's a great way to use up scraps and offcuts of fabric as well.

## Step 1

Templates: you are going to need a template. You need to decide on what design or pattern you want to create, what shapes you will need and what size those shapes are going to be. In this example Sue has used small hexagons. You can buy these templates or you can make your own. You can download isometric graph paper from the internet and print it out the size you need and make your own templates. You can download a free template here <https://alicecaroline.com/product/free-hexagons-1-3-4-inch-templates-for-english-paper-piecing-download/>.

Glue the paper onto heavy card and cut it out, just be as precise as you can be. Create 2 templates.



## Step 2

Make the papers that give English paper piecing its name. Inside each fabric shape is a paper template and it is the paper that gives the accuracy to your patchwork. Draw around your template onto scrap paper, used envelopes, thin cardboard packaging etc., use a sharp pencil and try to be as precise as possible as you cut these out. You will need as many paper pieces as you require fabric shapes.



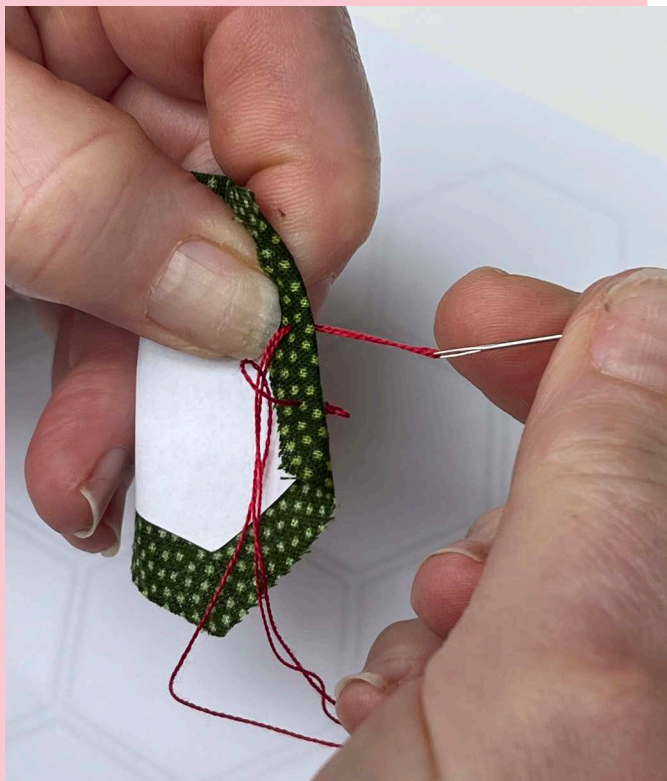
## Step 3

Now cut your fabric. This works best with cotton, nothing stretchy or too bulky if you are making a small-scale piece. Cotton fabric like old shirts, dressmaking offcuts etc., are ideal. Use your second template, the larger one, to cut your fabric, this includes your seam allowance. Now you've got all your elements, let's get started....



## Step 4

Tack your fabric to your paper templates. Place the paper onto the wrong side of the fabric and, using a contrasting colour thread, turn over the seam allowance along one edge and tack through the fabric and paper, turn the shape around and fold the next side's seam allowance over. Make sure you are tacking it so that it is snug to the paper shape as the paper template is the thing that will define the accuracy of the finished patchwork. When you get round to where you started, use your thumb to tuck in that last edge of seam allowance so it's all neat, and complete the tacking. The tacking stitches at this stage can look a bit ugly, but don't worry, they all get taken out and then your patchwork can really shine.



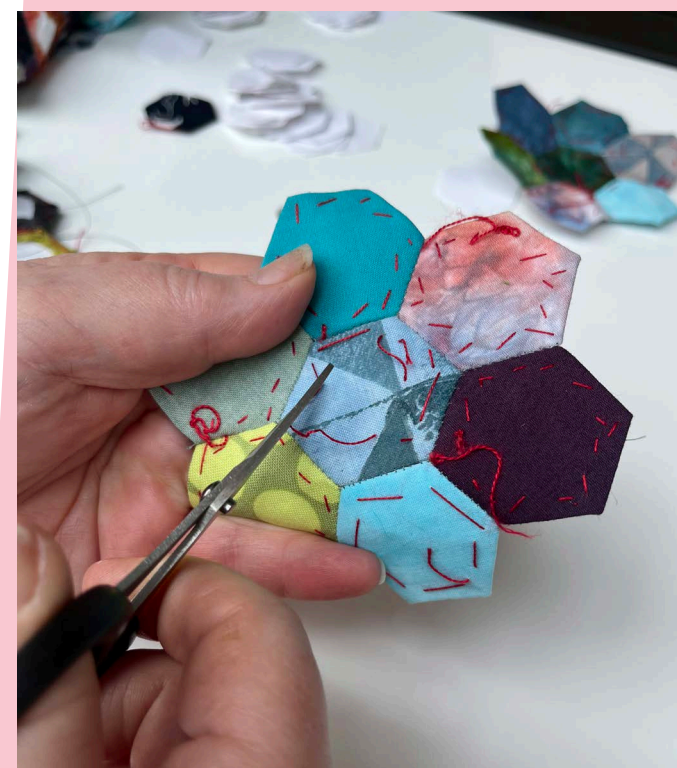
## Step 5

Now begin to stitch your pieces together. Your design will dictate how many pieces you need to create your shape. Start with placing 2 pieces right sides together and line up the edges and the corners. Choose a thread that matches your fabric colour because, unlike the tacking stitch, we want these stitches to disappear within the final piece. Send the needle through both fabrics but NOT the paper, the stitch should just catch the fold of the fabric and stitch with small stitches along one edge. And that's your very first seam sewn! Choose a third fabric shape and add on. Always try to have your needle at right angles to the seam, this makes for the most invisible stitches.



## Step 6

Once a shape is sewn in and surrounded by other shapes you can now remove the tacking from that piece. To do that give the piece a gentle press and, from the front, snip out your tacking stitches and pop your papers out. Then you can reuse your papers to make more shapes but be careful, English paper piecing is quite addictive.



## Step 7

You can construct a formal repetitive pattern or use complementary colours to create a more 'mosaic' effect for your patchwork. You could use this finished patchwork as your banner to which you could, if you wanted, add text or design on top.

**We hope you give this technique a try.**

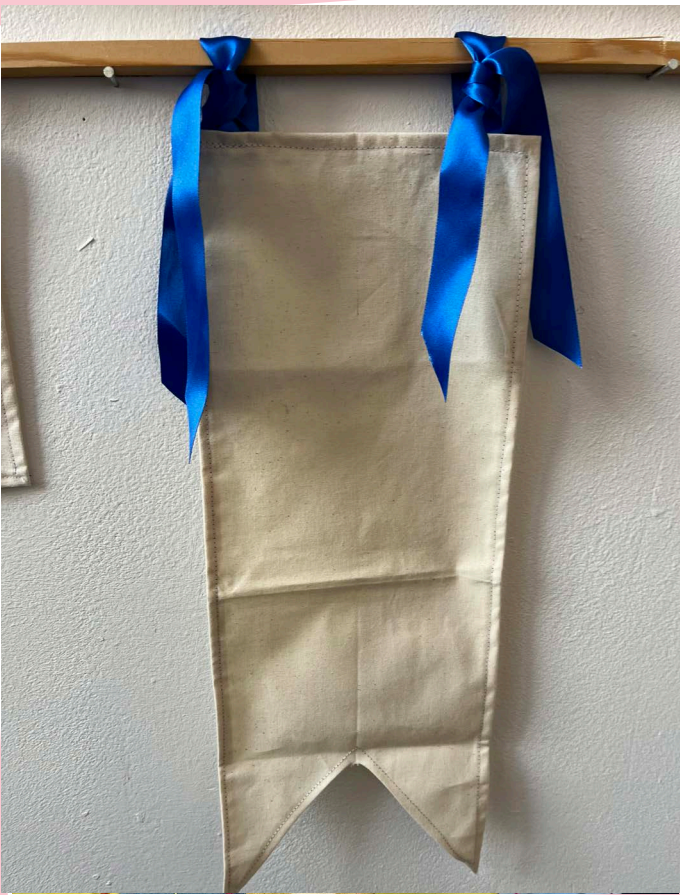




# HANGING YOUR BANNER OR FLAG

## Activity 4

<b>Artist</b>	<b>Materials</b>
Sue Reddish	Ribbon, fabric scraps, dowelling or small branch
<b>Inspiration</b>	<b>Tools</b>
Once you have designed and made your banner, you will want to display it. Here are some ways	Needle and strong thread, sewing machine, gimlet and hole punch
	<b>Age</b>
	Various



The way you decide to hang your banner is dependent on the size and what you have made your piece from. Large banners made of cloth will require a banner sleeve and pole to hang securely but smaller pieces with little weight to them could be hung with easy to attach ties made of ribbon. Here are a few options.

### For small banners or flags:

#### Step 1

On small pieces of work, 2 or 3 ribbon ties could be added to the top edge. You could use ribbon or reuse the fabric handles from old gift bags. Cut 3 lots of equal length and fold in half. Decide if you want your tabs to show on the front of your banner or not. Place one folded tab at each end about 5cms in from the edge of your banner and place the third in the middle of these two. Make sure that there is enough gap in the loop you have created to fit the pole through. Secure with hand or machine stitch. You could stitch the folded part of the ribbon or tape onto the banner and add tied ribbon. For extra decoration, use a different coloured ribbon for each tab or fill the whole length of your banner with tabs to make a feature of them.



### For small, medium, larger banners:

#### Step 1

You can create fabric tabs to the size that works for your finished piece in matching or contrasting fabric. An odd number of tabs works well, because you can put one at each end, one in the middle and (depending on size of banner) an additional 2, 4, or 6 around these first 3 tabs. If you are making 5 tabs, ensure that each is cut to the same size so that your banner hangs straight.

#### Step 2

Cut 5 oblongs of fabric (here Sue has measured 15cm x 30cm, but it will depend on the size of your banner)



#### Step 3

Fold each oblong individually, right sides together and sew along the long edge.



## Step 4

Turn the fabric through, so you can no longer see the seam allowance.

## Step 5

Iron flat with the sewn seam at the centre.

## Step 6

Fold in half and iron flat.

## Step 7

Check how much of a gap you need in each loop to ensure your pole fits through the tabs.

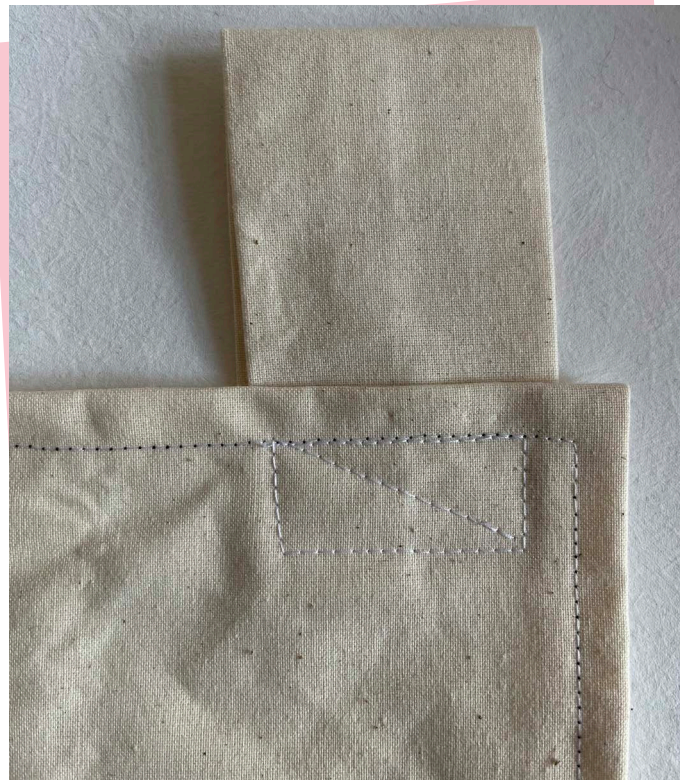


## Step 8

Space out your tabs along the banner equal distance apart, placing them behind the banner and pin in place.

## Step 6

Secure each tab with machine stitch.



## For large banners:

A 10cm (or 4inch) hanging sleeve is a standard that quilters use to hang their quilts in shows or at home. It works well for large banners too, but you will have needed to back your banner with another fabric as a backing fabric as this method works best with 2 or more layers of fabric. Backing your banner is also a neat way to cover the back of your work!

## Step 1

Cut a piece of fabric that is the width of your banner by 22cms.



## Step 2

Turn in and sew the raw edges on the two short sides.



## Step 3

Take your fabric and fold right sides together and sew along the long edge to create a tube.





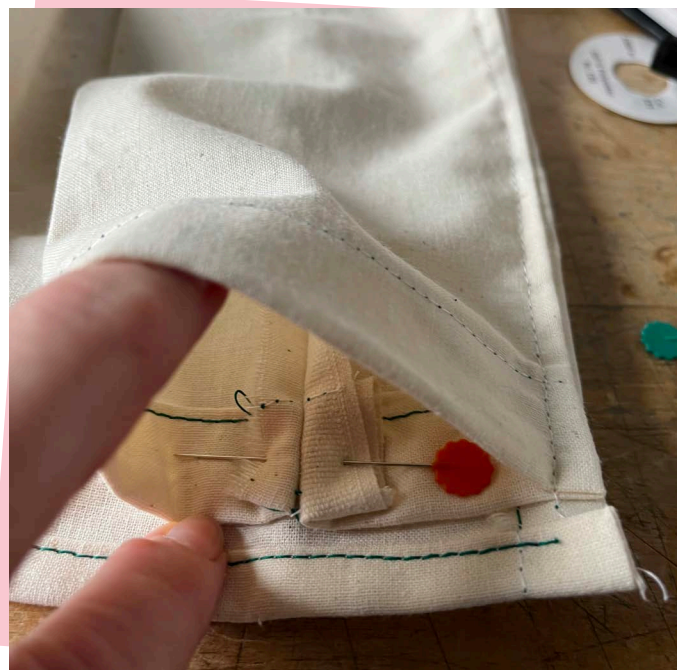
## Step 4

Press the seam allowance flat and turn the right side out and iron flat with the seam in the middle.



## Step 5

Place the tube seam side to the back of your banner about 1 or 2 cms from the top edge of your banner and hand stitch the top long edge of the tube in place.



## Step 6

On the two short edges secure the fabric of the tube that is touching your banner, this will ensure that your pole goes into the tube and not onto the back of your banner. Make sure you do not stitch the top edge as we need this open to hold the pole.



## Step 7

To ensure your banner hangs flat, and that you can't see the roll of the pole on the front, you have to make a 'D shape' pocket at the back. To do this hold your bottom edge of your tube and move the crease line 2 or 3 cms up and then secure that bottom edge. Make sure when you stitch by hand you only go through the backing layer of fabric, otherwise your stitches will show on the front of your banner.



## Poles:

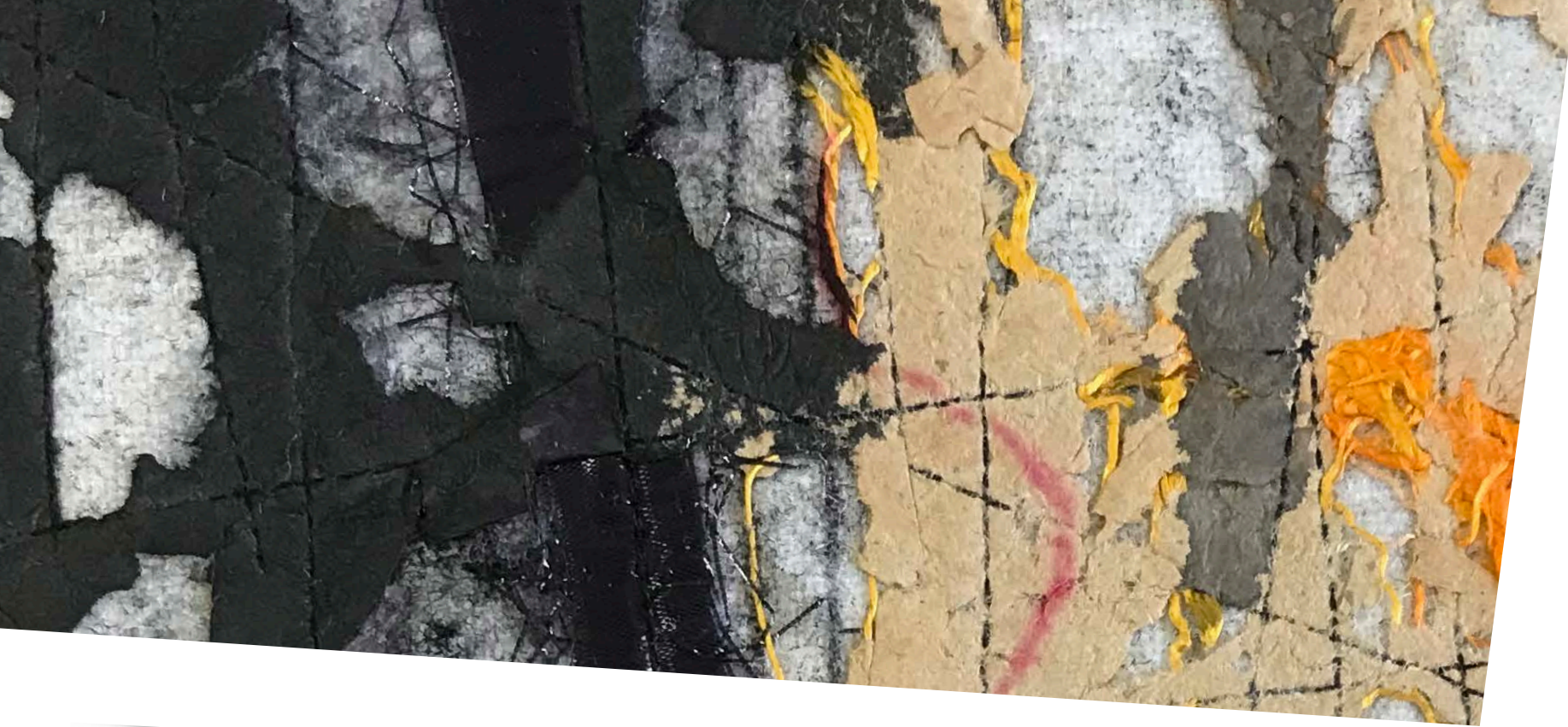
Once you have fitted your tabs or pocket, there are creative choices to be made around what type of pole you use. Think about what works with your piece. If you have made a banner about a rural landscape or a woodland that is special to you, perhaps consider using a stick you've found on your walk. If your piece is more urban and you happen to have some offcuts of pipe, you could use that. Dowelling works well and broom handles are a good weight for larger banners. Small banners can be hung from coat hangers.

**Have fun choosing.**

**Remember to think about whether you can enhance the meaning or message of your banner by how it is displayed.**









# SHARE

Sharing your creations connects your ideas and aspirations with everyone else.



## Everyone is a maker

- What's the story behind your creation?
- How does your artwork reflect your vision for Derbyshire?

## Look what I've made!

- Upload a photograph of your work to our online patchwork - the Digital Loom.
- Make sure you have good lighting and a flat, plain background, before you take a photograph of your creation.
- Make sure your photograph is no bigger than 1MB. This helps us to reduce the website's carbon footprint.
- Go to [derbyshiremakes.co.uk/digitalloom](https://derbyshiremakes.co.uk/digitalloom) and follow the easy to use instructions
- See your creation on the Digital Loom.

## Ways to share

- Post your creation online using hashtags: #DareToDream #DerbyshireMakes
- Join local workshops and community events to share your artwork and experiences
- Upload to the Dare to Dream Digital Loom [derbyshiremakes.co.uk/digitalloom](https://derbyshiremakes.co.uk/digitalloom)
- Share with your neighbours! Hang your work in your window or ask your local library to exhibit it.

# CELEBRATE

Let's celebrate the creativity, diversity, and collective dreams of Derbyshire.

## Celebrate now

Remember, everyone can make - it's about exploring, experimenting, and expressing yourself.

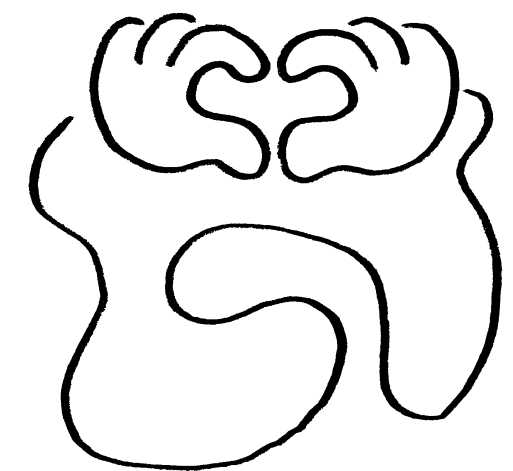
## Future plans are in development

We're currently working on ways in which your contributions will become part of larger exhibitions and installations across the county.

We will showcase the final artwork across Derbyshire and celebrate the creative spirit of the county.

## Watch this space

Visit our website and follow us on social media to find out about other ways you can get involved with Derbyshire Makes. You can also sign up to our newsletter to receive the latest updates and news.



**'I can't wait to see what the people of Derbyshire create through these hands-on activities'.**

Alex Murphy  
Dare to Dream Ambassador



# DerbyshireMakes



Sign up to our newsletter and follow us on socials

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[@DerbyshireMakes](https://www.instagram.com/DerbyshireMakes)

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