



MAKE YOUR OWN MANU TUKUTUKU (KITE)

Manu tukutuku (kites) are used to celebrate Matariki and te mātahi o te tau (the new year).

To make your manu tukutuku, we recommend following the video, and use this sheet as extra guidance. To get ready, you'll need:

What you'll need:

- A full sheet of newspaper
- Two pieces of bamboo or two sticks approx. 6mm round
The length of the two sticks or bamboo should be 60cm and 50cm – you could ask a DIY shop to cut this for you, otherwise get the help of an adult – they will need a small handsaw.
- Scissors
- A pencil
- Lots of string
- Some thick tape
- A ruler
- Wool, ribbon, feathers – light things to decorate the tail.

Step 1: Ask an adult to help you cut the bamboo sticks to the correct lengths - 60cm and 50cm and make notches in both ends.

Step 2: Lay the 60cm stick flat on the ground and measure 15cm from the top. Mark it with a pencil. Centre the smaller stick across this mark to form a 't' shape. Rotate the dowels so the notches are parallel with the floor (this is important for the next step!) Use your string to wrap the sticks together where they meet. Place some tape over the string to secure everything.

Step 3: In this step, you will be creating the shape of the kite. Starting at the top of 't', extend the string to the next notch and continue this process till you're back to where you started. Make sure the string is fitted securely into each notch. Tie the string at the top, keeping it super tight!

Step 4: Now that your frame is done, it's time to add your newspaper. Place a large sheet of newspaper on the floor and your frame on top of it. Cut the kite shape using the frame as a guide and leave a 2.5cm border.

Step 5: Fold this border of the newspaper over the string and tape it down securely.

Step 6: Cut a piece of string 70cm long. Poke a hole into the top and bottom points of the kite. Tie one end of the string into the top hole and one end into the bottom hole - use tape to keep it secure. This is the bridle of your kite. Tie your flying string about 1/3 of the way down the bridle string to fly your kite.

Step 7: Now for the tail of your Manu tukutuki. Cut a piece of string 100cm long (or longer if you want!). Tie some bows with your ribbon or feathers down the length of string, roughly 15cm apart. Attach the tail to your kite by taping it to its end.

Step 8: Now you're ready to go fly your manu tukutuku and welcome Matariki and te mātahi o te tau (the new year)!

