

How to...



WARNING!

Ask an adult's permission before working with hot glue.

WOW!

One standard pencil can draw a line that's 35 miles long.

Craft a colorful supply organizer

Materials

- Ruler
- Cardboard
- Scissors
- 3 to 5 paper rolls, such as from toilet paper or paper towels
- Paint
- Paintbrush
- Painting tape (optional)
- Hot glue gun and hot-melt glue sticks

Instructions

1. For the base of the organizer, decide how many pencil holders you want. Measure with the ruler and then cut out a cardboard rectangle that will be big enough for your holders.
2. Paint the paper rolls and the cardboard base. To paint stripes or diagonals, first paint the paper roll with one lighter color, like orange or light blue. Allow this paint to dry. Then add painting tape to create your design. Paint the second color on top. Once the rolls are dry, carefully peel off the painting tape.
3. Have an adult help you hot-glue the paper rolls to the cardboard base. Add school supplies to the holders. They're great for storing pencils and markers.

Helpful tips

- Include as many paper rolls as you'd like, depending on how many pencils and markers you have to store.
- While you're collecting paper rolls to make your organizer (or future craft projects), keep them in a box so they don't get bent or flattened.
- Acrylic paint is a good choice for crafts (like this one) that you want to keep. The paint goes on better (so fewer coats are needed), and it's also more durable. Keep in mind, though, that acrylic paint can stain surfaces and clothes. When you're painting with it, wear a smock or old T-shirt and protect your surfaces. Another choice is to use washable paint.

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ECO TIP OF THE WEEK

WALK OR RIDE A BIKE TO SCHOOL

If you live close enough to your school, it's a great idea to walk or ride your bike to class whenever you can. This is not only good exercise and a fun activity, but it also helps cut down on pollution from cars in your neighborhood. You can even talk to your parents about starting what's called a "walking bus." This is when one grown-up and a group of kids meet up near their houses to walk or bike to school together. Just be sure to always be safe while walking or biking. Stay on the sidewalk, cross at designated spots with crossing guards, and wear a helmet whenever you ride your bike.

Remember to wear a helmet.

