

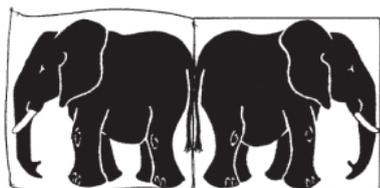
Growing Orchard Communities

COMMUNITY ORCHARD TOOLKIT



Create and decorate your own bunting with simple stamps

A workshop led by Fiona from



DOUBLE ELEPHANT PRINT WORKSHOP

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This method of making the bunting saves having to sew and string the pennants together. You can turn over the top edge and finish it by gluing or stapling it. If you want longer lasting hemmed bunting, simply stitch two pieces together and turn it through.



You will need:

Fabric An old bed sheet or a length of sheeting or similar smooth fabric.

Card Template (see photos) To make the template draw two (or more) joined triangles and add a heading strip 2.5-3cm wide at the top. A reasonable pennant size is 18cm wide by 20cm deep. Cut out the card template. If you want to be accurate, cut the template to suit the width of your fabric so there is no waste.

Make sure your fabric is reasonably crease free and fold it in half to save work when drawing out and cutting. Straighten the top edge of the fabric if you are not using a hemmed sheet. Use the template to draw the bunting onto your fabric. Start with the top straight edge of the template against a hemmed edge of the sheet. Also start from the folded edge and work outwards so that you do not end up with an odd shape in the middle.

When you have drawn your first row, you will see the second row is nearly done for you. Just flip the template over and add the top edge. I did this using a long ruler for the second row. Flip the template over and start again until you have enough bunting.

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Decorating Your Bunting

Stamps

- Create your own stamps to quickly decorate your bunting.
- Try carving into soft erasers. Use every face of a rectangular eraser to make different patterns. Potatoes are easy to cut without special tools. Try cutting leaf shapes or fruit shapes.
- Wrap string around a small block of wood or a match box.
- Cut shapes from craft or dense thin foam and stick them to a card base.
- Make a simple roller using a strong card tube and sticking pieces of craft foam onto it. Poundland sell double-sided sticky tape if you do not have sticky backed foam. Great patterns can be made with random shapes. The inside of a parcel tape makes a good roller.

Paint or Printing Ink

If you want the bunting to be waterproof, use an oil-based ink like Caligo Safewash relief ink or Acrylic paint with a print medium added (50:50 to stop the paint drying up too quickly). Water-based block printing inks are readily available from hobby and art suppliers. You could try using up left over emulsion. Just experiment but think about cleaning up!

For the best results, use a roller to apply ink to the stamps. This stops the details on the stamps getting clogged with ink/paint. Roll a small amount of ink onto a flat smooth surface (an old baking sheet or perspex sheet) to spread the ink evenly on the roller. If using acrylic paint or emulsion, a foam roller will do the trick.

Print

...onto the fabric by pressing firmly all across the stamp with the heel of your hand.

For rollers, walk your hands round inside the tube to apply pressure and keep your hands clean

