

Fabric Star

Materials

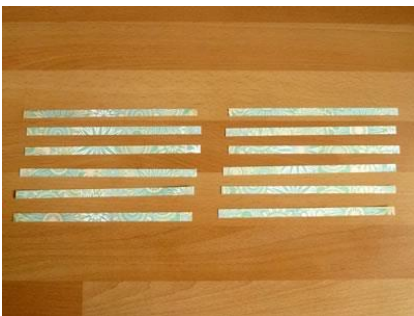
For this project you will need:

- Fabric cutting tools (rotary cutter, mat, ruler) to cut the fabric squares.
- Two 6-1/2" squares of fabric, contrasting colors. You want one light and one dark fabric so there is a good contrast. Sparkly fabrics work great in this project.
- Two 6-1/4 squares of Heat & Bond, Wonder Under, or other two-sided fusible stabilizer.
- Iron for fusing stabilizer onto the fabric
- Scissors (sharp!)
- Glue that bonds quickly on fabric (a glue gun works well)
- Ribbon to hang your star

Step 1 (This step is best done at home, before our meeting.)

Prepare your fabric strips:

- Fuse the Heat & Bond to the back of each of the two fabric squares.
- Remove the paper from each and then fuse the two squares together, wrong sides together. The result is fairly stiff.
- Trim the square to 6"
- Cut the 6" square into twelve 1/2" strips.



Step 2

Take two of the strips and fold them in half. This is so that you'll be able to see where the center of each strip is for the next step.



Step 3

Take one of the two strips you folded and place it vertically on the table, then put a dot of glue at the center of the strip. For the sake of consistency, let's put the dark side up.

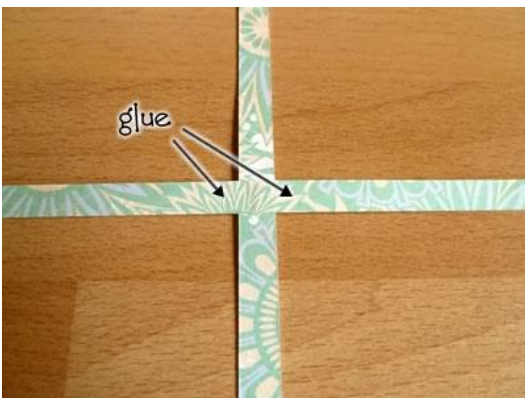


Lay another strip across the first strip at right angles, centering both, so that the two get glued together.

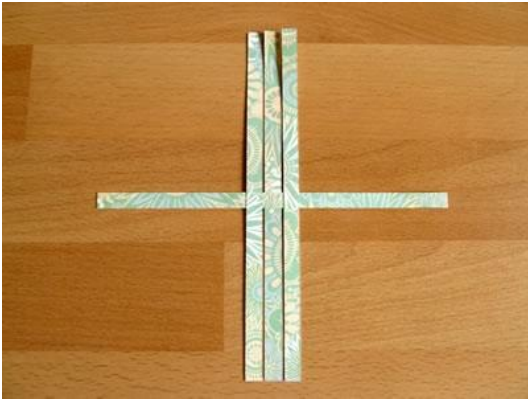


Step 4

Put two drops of glue on the horizontal strip, as indicated here:



Place two more strips vertically next on either side of the first strip onto the drops of glue.



Step 5

Put four drops of glue in the positions indicated here:



Place two more strips horizontally, so that they weave over and under the strips that are already there. They will attach using the drops of glue you just applied.

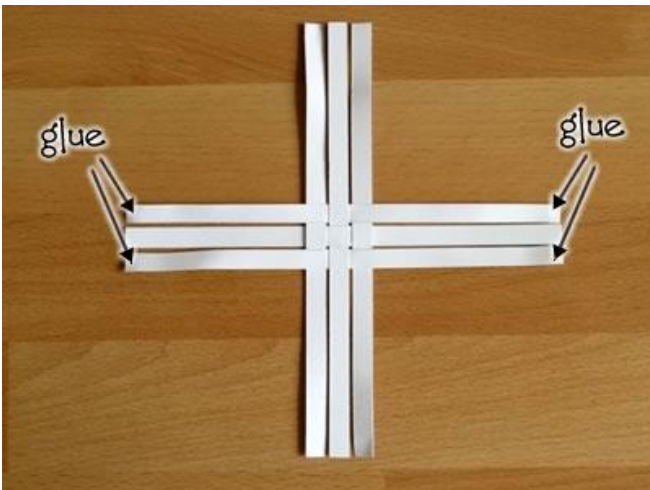


Here's a close-up showing how the strips are woven:

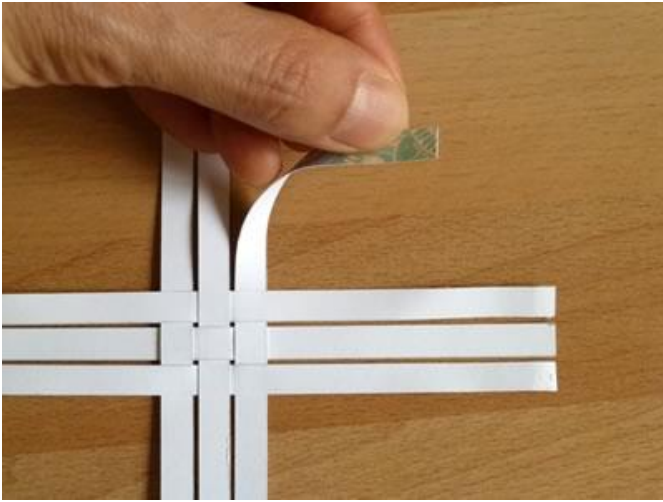


Step 6

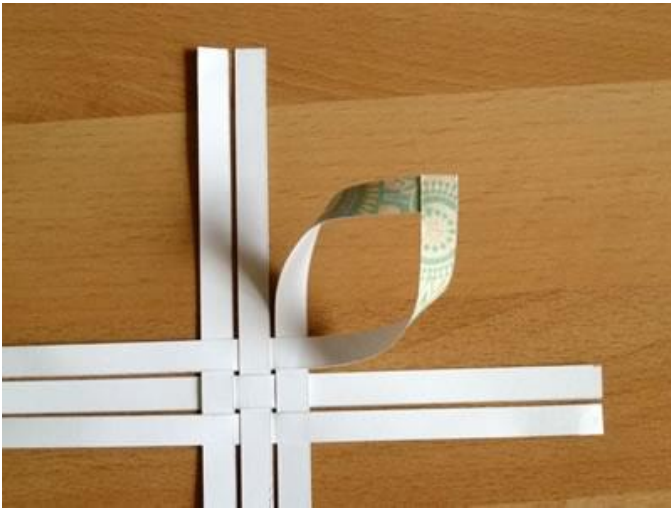
Turn over the mat you've woven, so that the light side faces up. Then put four drops of glue on the tips of the strips, as shown in the picture below:



Take hold of the top-right strip, and bend it over like this:



Then take of the strip next to it, bend it over, and glue it to the first strip to make a “petal” like this:

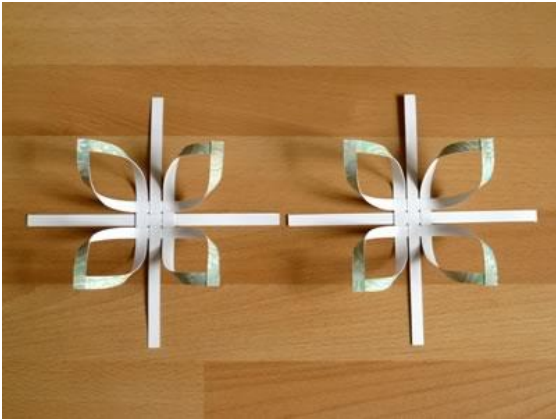


Repeat for the other four corners. Your half-finished star should now look like this: Look carefully to see that the points look like this (you might have to unglue and move one or more). This was the only tricky part of the process.



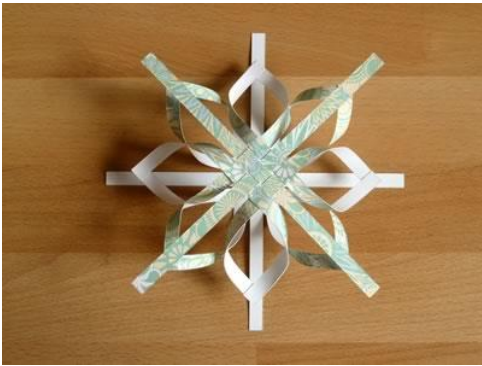
Step 7

Repeat steps 2 to 6, so that you have two half-stars like this:



Step 8

Place one half star on top of the other, offset by 45° so that the “petals” of one half line up with the strips of the other half. Also, the petals of the two halves should face inward so that the two halves “hug” each other.

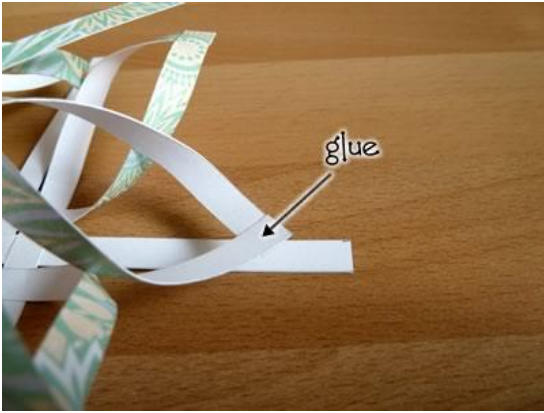


Here's a side view showing how the petals face inward:



Step 9

Put glue on the tip of one petal, as indicated here:



Feed the strip through the loop of the petal, and glue it to the petal, as shown below. The strip should extend roughly $\frac{1}{4}$ " (between 0.5 and 1 cm) beyond the petal, depending on how long your strips are. Basically when you put the halves together you'll see that the strips naturally extend a bit beyond the petals, and you just want to glue them in the position they are naturally in.



Do the same thing for all the other pairs of petals and strips. Your star should now look like this:



Here's a side view of the star once all the strips and petals are glued together. As you can see it has a nice kind of 3D look.



Step 10

Optionally, you can trim the arms of the star so that they end in points like this:



Here's an angled photo of the finished star with trimmed points:



Finished!