

KOESTLER ARTS + ART AID

Hello from Koestler Arts!

Koestler Arts + Art Aid sheets suggest creative tasks that can be done in-cell. For most all you need is paper and a pencil - though if you have further materials please use them.

We are now accepting entries to the 2023 Koestler Awards!

Please complete a Koestler entry form for every entry and see our guidance notes for full terms and conditions. Entry forms should be attached to this sheet. If not, or if you need more, please ask education, the library, or contact us at FREEPOST KOESTLER ARTS (no stamp or address needed). The deadline for submissions is Thursday 6 April 2023.

For each Art Aid sheet Koestler Arts are commissioning an artist/writer who has directly engaged with Koestler to set a creative task. New Art Aid sheets will be available from the first Monday of every month.

February 2023

This task was set by Koestler Award winner, exhibited artist and mentee, Ben.

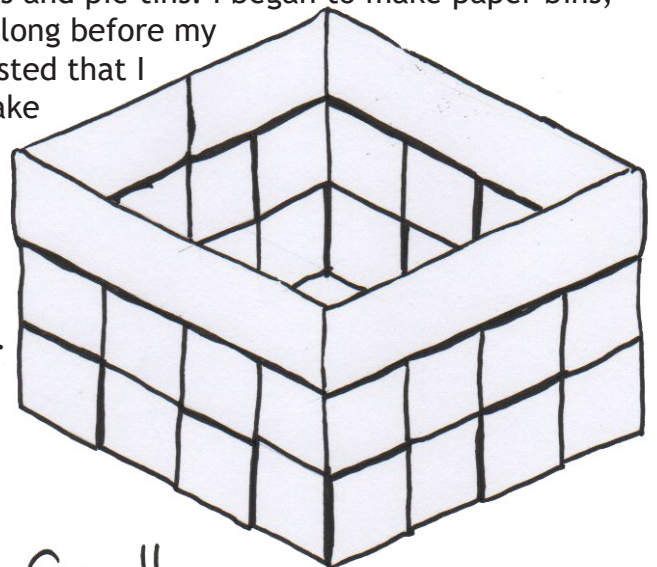
Introduction

I am now out of prison and on my journey to become a working artist. This has only been possible with the incredible support of Koestler Arts. Their encouragement began inside jail, with Awards and inspiration, and continued on my release. They provided me with a mentor, a scholarship and sense of belonging via their newsletters and emails. But looking back I see my whole new life stemmed from a paper bag that, with some fiddling, became a little pot.

When I was in jail I felt like I had lost myself. I felt I could no longer describe myself in terms of my job or even as a husband or father. On top of this, COVID lockdown was in full swing so I was confined for over 23hrs a day making it party time for anxiety attacks. It was while watching yet another Sweeney rerun that I began to play around with paper bags from our lunches. I began to weave patterns with strips of folded paper. By the end of the day I had two things, a useful woven paper pot and a way of burning through hours in my cell.

The design was easy to improve with dabs of glue, lids and pie tins. I began to make paper bins, letter holders and pots for coffee and tea. It was not long before my little cottage industry got noticed. The officers suggested that I start the art course while fellow inmates began to make orders for pots! As my art developed through education, I gained confidence in what I created and found my anxiety levels evaporate as I worked.

Eventually the tutors introduced me to the Koestler Awards and since then I have truly never looked back.



Small

Woven Box. February Issue Page 1

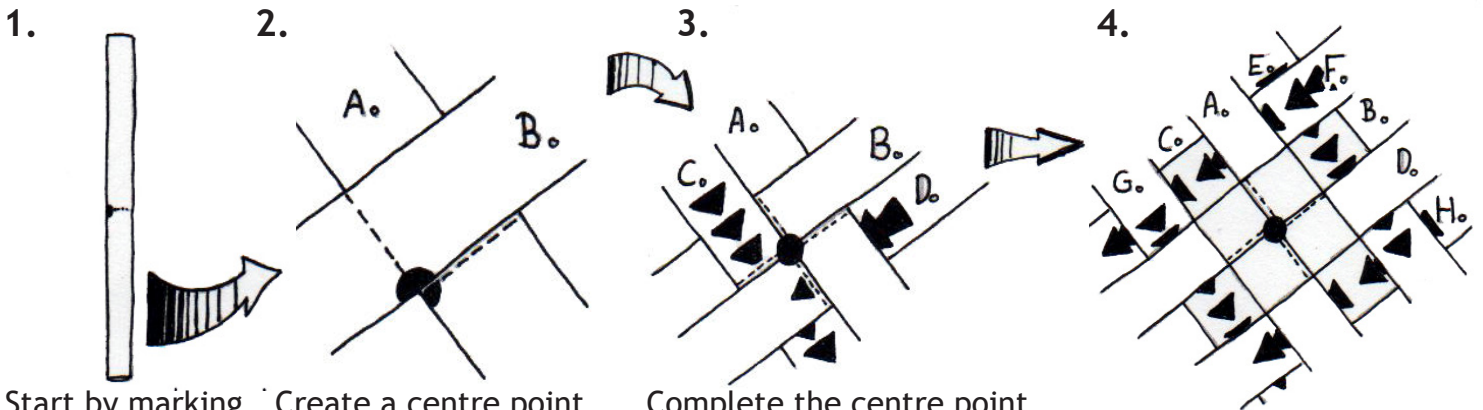
Follow my step-by-step guide below to make your own paper pot.

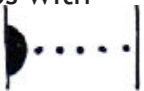
You will need:

- 10-11 paper bag handles or strips of paper (tear scrap A4 paper into 3 strips lengthways then fold each one in half lengthways to make long thin strips)

Optional:

- Glue (for strengthening)
- 2 extra strips for a tidy rim
- A pie tin (this can be used to line the pot to store coffee or sugar.)

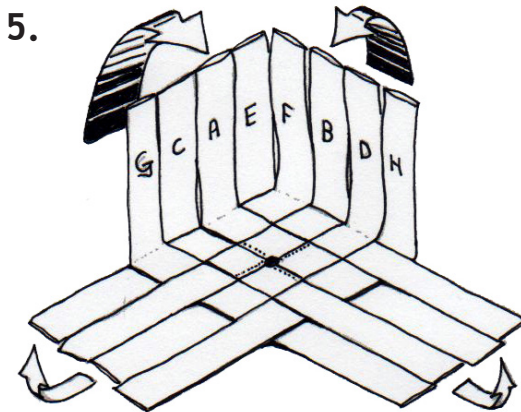


Start by marking the middle of 4 strips with

 (as above).

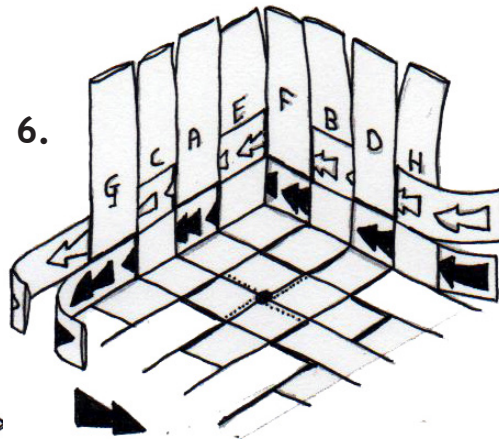
Create a centre point by making 2 strips cross. These will be strips A and B.

Complete the centre point by weaving in an additional 2 strips (strips C and D).

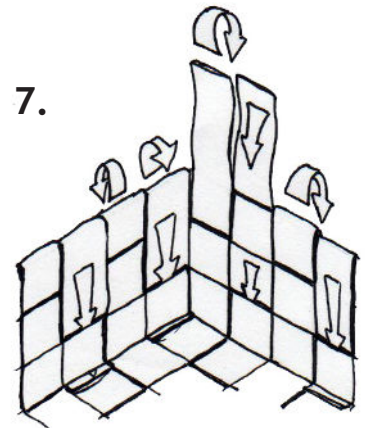
Weave in 4 more strips (E-H), working out from the centre.



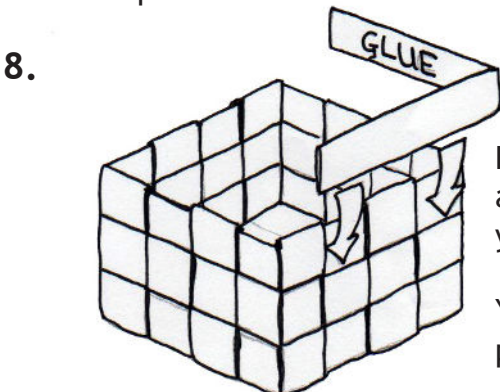
Fold up the box sides.



Weave in your final 2 or 3 strips to build up the sides of the box but stop before you reach the top.



Fold over the top of the loose strips and tuck them in. You could use glue here to strengthen your design.



Finally, you can add a neat rim by adding a folded strip over the top of your top row of weaving.

You can also use a pie tin to line the pot so it can hold sugar or coffee.

KOESTLER AWARDS ENTRY FORM



Send a completed form with each entry.
Maximum 5 entries per entrant.
2023 closing date: Thursday 6 April.

For Koestler Arts staff			
K. No.	Artform	Supp. docs	No. of items

ENTRANT (For groups – see the next page)

First name of entrant:

Last name of entrant:

Date of birth:

ENTRY

Establishment: (Name of prison, hospital or probation service)

Title of entry:

Artform: (Choose one artform from the guidance booklet)

Visual description of entry:

AUTHORISED MEMBER OF STAFF

Full name:

Job title:

Department:

Telephone number:

Email:

Office postcode: (Probation only)

Prison or hospital number:

Signature of entrant:

Is this the first year you have entered the Awards?

Yes No

Using your name: (Authorised staff must agree)

If my entry is exhibited or published, I give permission for my first name to appear alongside it. Yes No

Sales of visual artwork: (Tick one)

- My entry is for sale. The lowest amount I'd be willing to receive is £ (maximum £250)
- My entry is not for sale.
- I donate my entry to Koestler Arts.

Can the entrant's first name be made public?

Yes No

Can the entry be sold? (Visual arts only)

Yes No

Who should any cheques be payable to?

I confirm that this entry is the entrant's own original work, and approve it for entry into the Koestler Awards.

Signature of staff: (Entries can't be accepted without staff sign-off)

Date:

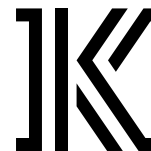
Unlock the talent inside

Turn for page 2 →

GROUP ENTRIES ONLY

Name of group:

Number of people excl. staff:



First name: Last name: Date of birth: Prison or hospital number: Release date if in 2023, and home address:

Continue on a separate sheet if needed. If there are over 4 people in the group cheques will not be split.

ENTRANTS WHO ARE IN THE COMMUNITY OR DUE FOR RELEASE IN 2023

Please contact us if these details change

Date of release:

Home address:

Postcode:

Telephone number:

Email:

ASSOCIATES PROGRAMME

Associates benefit from more contact with us, through the Koestler Associates newsletter.

I would like to be part of the Associates Programme.

REMINDERS

Entrants agree to the terms and conditions in the Awards Guidance. These are available on our website, from your establishment, or you can write to us to request a copy.

✓ Information submitted on this form will be held on the Koestler Arts secure and confidential database.

✓ All work is handled with care, but Koestler Arts and its agents accept no liability for loss or damage to entries.

✓ Pack your work carefully. It must be under 15kg.

✓ Koestler Arts and its agents can exhibit, publish, and reproduce artworks in reasonable ways in print, online, film, audio etc to promote the charity's work. Artists retain copyright of their work.

✓ Koestler Arts can try to sell visual entries, if we have both your permission and that of the 'authorised member of staff.' Most work sells for under £100.

✓ We do not return written entries or work on CDs/ DVDs. These include writing, performance, audio, film and animation entries – so please make copies.

MONITORING FOR DIVERSITY OPTIONAL

This anonymised data will not be used to judge your work. It is for research and monitoring purposes only.

Ethnic group

- Arab
- Asian/Asian British:
 Bangladeshi
- Asian/Asian British: Indian
- Asian/Asian British: Pakistani
- Any other Asian background
- Black/Black British: African
- Black/Black British: Caribbean
- Any other Black background
- Chinese

- Gypsy/Roma/Traveller
- Mixed White & Asian
- Mixed White & Black African
- Mixed White & Black Caribbean
- Any other Mixed background
- White British
- Any other White background
- Any other group:

Formal education completed

- No formal qualifications
- Basic skills level 1
- Basic skills level 2
- GCSEs or A Levels
- Vocational training
- Degree or post-graduate
- I am:**
- Ex-armed forces personnel
- A care leaver
- Registered disabled

Gender

- Man
- Woman
- Other

Age

- Under 16
- 16-17
- 18
- 19-24
- 25-29
- 30-59
- 60 and over

Religion

- Atheist
- Buddhist
- Christian
- Hindu
- Jewish
- Muslim
- Sikh
- Other