

# 3-D PAPER STRUCTURES

Featured in the October 2021  
*Better Homes & Gardens*® magazine.

## PROJECT TIME

- About 45 minutes per structure

## WHAT YOU NEED

- Templates
- Colored cardstock
- Acrylic paint
- Paintbrushes
- Bone folder
- Glue stick
- Twigs
- Hand pruners
- Hot-glue gun

## INSTRUCTIONS

**1** Using templates printed at desired size, cut out 8 identical shapes from one color of cardstock for each structure.

**2** Paint accents on paper cutouts using acrylic paint diluted with water for a soft watercolor effect. To blend colors, wet the paper first. For striations on honeynut squash, dip tip of dry flat brush into diluted paint and stroke one side of the paper.

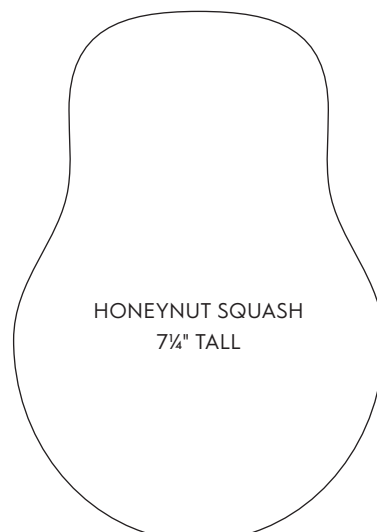
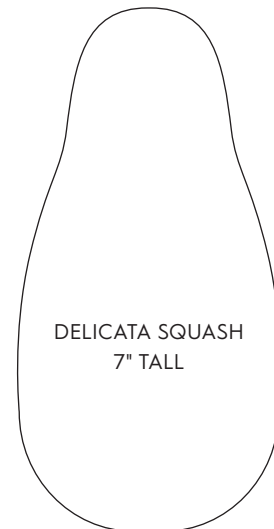
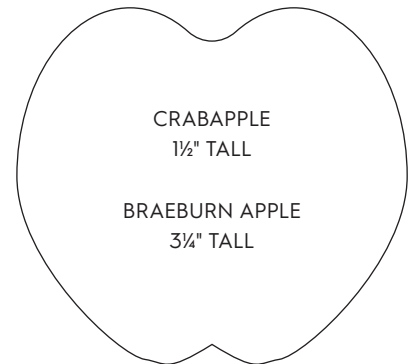
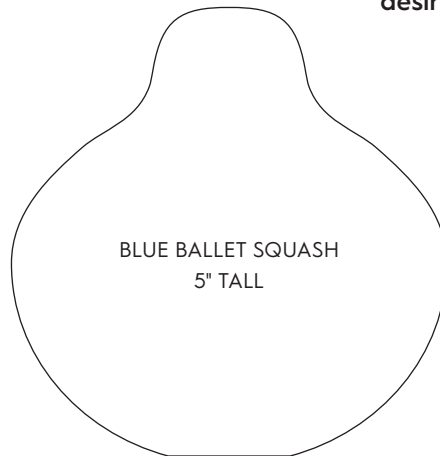
**Note:** For random or all-over effects, reverse Steps 1 and 2: Paint sheets of cardstock, then cut out shapes.

**3** When dry, fold each cutout in half, painted side in, and press fold with bone folder. Apply glue stick to half the back of one cutout; align with back of another cutout, then press together. Repeat gluing and pressing cutouts to complete 3-D shape.

**4** Use hand pruners to cut twigs for stems; hot-glue stems to top of structures. Follow the instructions for making and affixing leaves on last page.

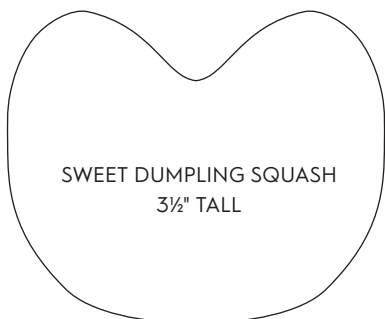
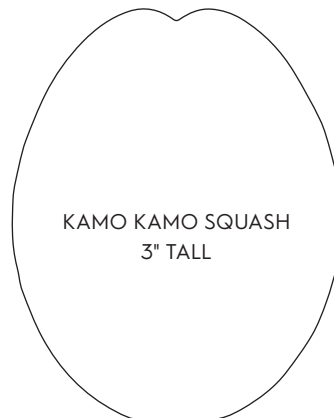
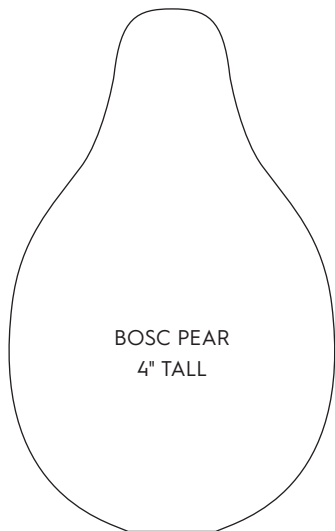
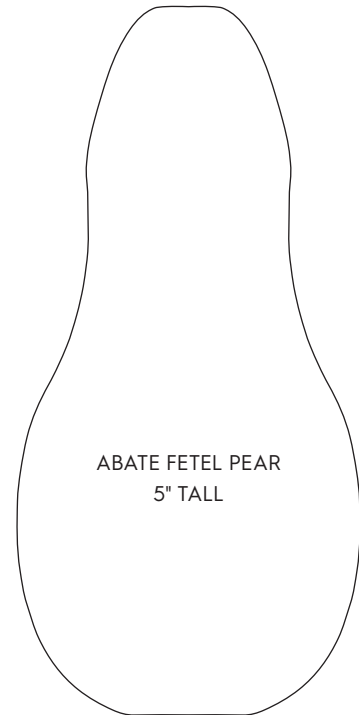
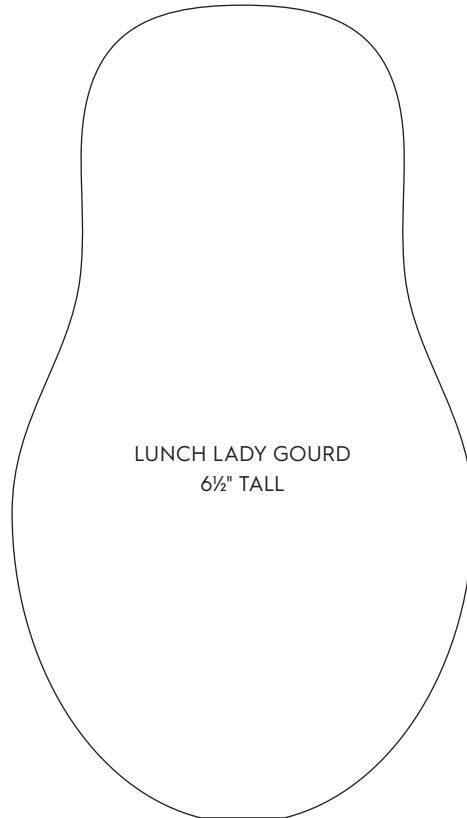
**Acorns:** No painting needed. Cut 8 cap and base shapes from different-color cardstock. Fold each cutout in half and press fold with bone folder. Tape backs of each cap and base cutout together with transparent tape. Glue, align, and press together as in Step 3.

Enlarge  
templates to  
suggested  
sizes or your  
desired sizes.



# 3-D PAPER STRUCTURES

Enlarge  
templates to  
suggested  
sizes or your  
desired sizes.



# MUSHROOMS

## PROJECT TIME

- About an hour per mushroom

## WHAT YOU NEED

- Templates
- Light-color cardstock
- Bone folder
- Binder clip
- White glue
- Kraft paper
- Paper punches (two sizes)
- 18-gauge wire
- Newspaper
- Hot-glue gun

## INSTRUCTIONS

### Large mushroom:

**1** Using Large Mushroom Gill template printed at desired size, cut out 24 shapes from light-color cardstock for each mushroom cap.

**2** Fold each gill cutout in half and press fold with bone folder. Stack folded pieces and clamp them using a binder clip. Apply white glue along folded edges. Let dry, then remove the clip.

**3** Open folded stack and glue first cutout to last to turn the gills into 3-D mushroom cap shape. Tear kraft paper into triangles; using white glue, cover top of mushroom gills with triangles. Punch cardstock into two sizes of dots; glue dots to cap.

**4** Cut a 6-inch length of wire. Crumple and twist kraft paper or newspaper around wire to form stem. Using hot glue, affix torn strips of kraft paper around stem. Form curve in stem before glue dries. Hot-glue stem to cap.

**Small mushroom:** Follow Steps 1-4, using Small Mushroom Gill template and omitting kraft paper triangles and cardstock dots on top. Twist only a few strips of kraft paper or newspaper around wire to create a slender stem.

Enlarge templates to suggested sizes or your desired sizes.



# LEAVES

## PROJECT TIME

- About 45 minutes to several hours, depending on quantity

## WHAT YOU NEED

- Acrylic paint
- Paintbrushes
- Golden yellow or green cardstock
- Templates
- Hot-glue gun
- Branches, vines, or twigs for stems
- Florists wire

## INSTRUCTIONS

**1** Paint accents on sheets of cardstock using acrylic paint diluted with water for a soft watercolor or spatter effect; let dry.

**2** Using templates printed at desired size, cut leaf shapes from painted cardstock. Fold slightly to mimic veins.

**3** Hot-glue leaves to branches or bare vines, or hot-glue to florists wire, then glue wire to twigs.

Enlarge templates to suggested sizes or your desired sizes.

