



MAKE A MOBILE BY TINE HAYES

WATCH THE INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEO AT WWW.GALLUPARTS.ORG/FAMILYARTKITS
AND ON GALLUPARTS' YOUTUBE CHANNEL.

WHAT IS MOBILE ART?

Mobile art is a type of sculpture that is formed of delicate components which are suspended in the air and move in response to air. Many well-known artists have created mobiles, with one of the most famous being Alexander Calder (an example of his work shown to the right).



MATERIALS (INCLUDED):

- 2.5 feet of 16 or 18 gauge wire
- 12 feet of fishing line
- 10 sheets of multi-media paper
- School glue
- Colored pencils

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Today, you will be creating a mobile sculpture of your own design using wire and fishing line to suspend paper shapes. Your design can be simple or complex. You can create basic geometric shapes or intricate designs or even images. You can hang all of your pieces from a single wire or two crossed wires, or you can create multiple layers by suspending one piece of wire from another.

MATERIALS (NOT INCLUDED):

- Pencil
- Scissors
- Tape
- Pinched nose pliers (optional)

PROJECT INSPIRATION

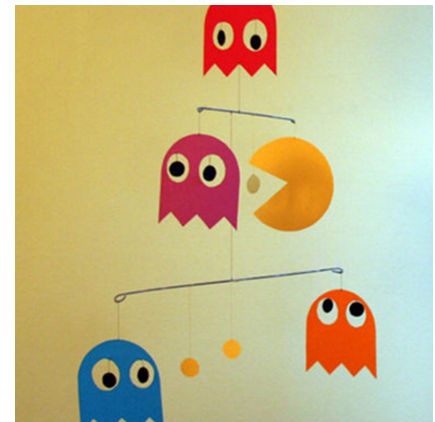
Here are some mobile art examples to jog your imagination:



Single wire example.



Crossed wire example.



Multi-layered wire example.

PROJECT DIRECTIONS:

PLAN YOUR MOBILE

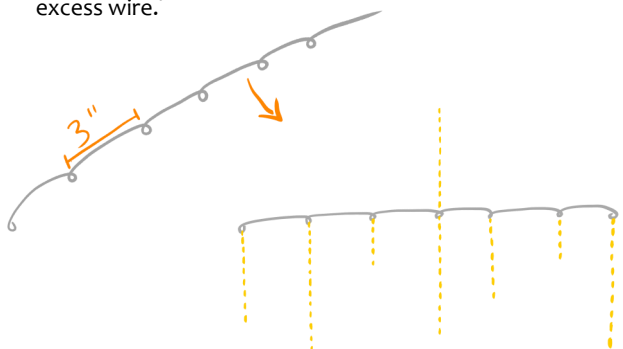
1. Come up with your design. What do you want your finished product to look like? Think through how you would like to structure your mobile and place your shapes. Sketch your design on a piece of scrap paper. Some questions to guide your design process:
 - Do you want your mobile to have a theme?
 - How many shapes do you want to include (the kit includes enough materials for 10 large shapes or more smaller shapes)?
 - What shapes do you want to create?
 - Will you be creating a single-wire mobile or a layered mobile?
 - Do you want to hang multiple shapes from the same line or only hang one shape per line? Or a combination of both?

MAKE SHAPES TO HANG

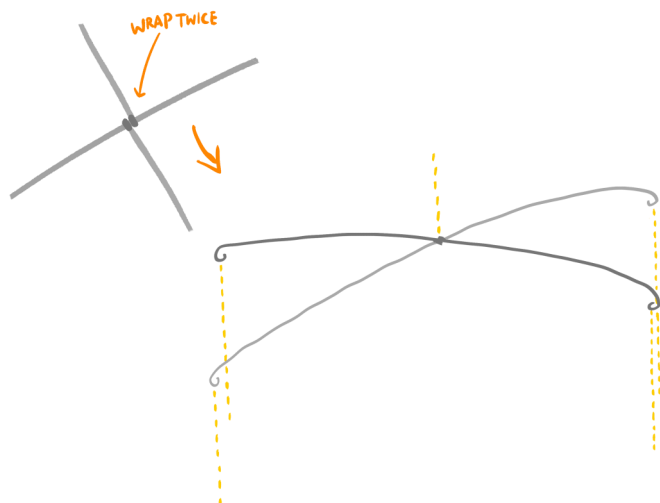
2. Your kit includes 10 pieces of paper. This means you can create at least 10 shapes to hang. You can create more shapes to hang by dividing your paper into smaller pieces or drawing multiple smaller shapes on each piece of paper (more about the drawing part in step #3).
3. You need to create double-sided shapes for hanging. That means creating two identical versions of every shape you want to suspend from your mobile. (The two shapes will be glued together, back to back, with the fishing line in the middle.) To create two of a shape:
 - a. Take a 9" x 12" piece of paper and fold it in half (either long-ways or short-ways).
 - b. Draw a shape on one side of the folded paper.
 - c. Using scissors, cut the shape out (with the paper folded).
4. Repeat step #3 for all of the shapes you want to hang.
Pro-tip: Keep your shapes organized in pairs.
5. Color your shapes with the colored pencils provided and/or any other colors you have at home (crayons, markers, paint, etc.). You can color both sides of a shape identically, or not—it's up to you!

PREPARE WIRE(S) FOR HANGING

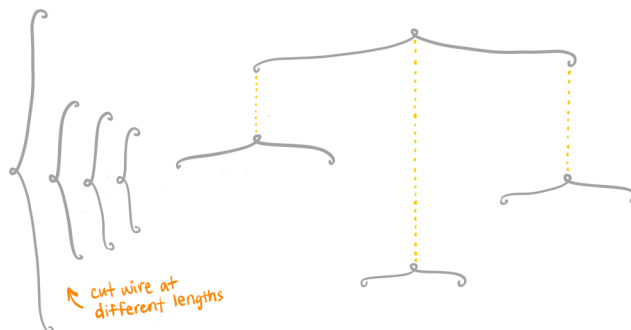
6. Follow the instructions for the type of mobile you are creating:
 - If creating a single-wire mobile: using your pliers or your hands bend the 16 or 18 gauge wire provided so that it makes a tight loop at each point you are going to hang a shape from (for example: make 10 loops at intervals of 3 inches across the wire). Cut any excess wire.



- If creating a crossed-wire mobile: cut the length of 16 or 18 gauge wire provided in half. Cross the two wires at their midpoints and then bend one completely around the other to secure and to create a + form. Then, working through all four segments of wire, one at a time, bend the wire with pliers or your hands to make a tight loop at each interval you would like to hang a shape.



- If creating a multi-layered mobile: cut the length of 16 or 18 gauge wire provided into however many pieces you need to create the number of layers you desire. Wires can be equal in length or be different lengths, depending on your design. For each wire length: bend the wire with pliers or your hands to make a tight loop at each point you would like to hang a shape.



ATTACH THE SHAPES

7. Cut a length of 2 feet from your fishing line and set aside for later. You can use this line to hang your mobile from your ceiling when it is finished.
8. Cut the remaining 10 feet of fishing line into as many lengths as you need to hang your shapes in your desired arrangement. You can cut them to equal lengths or some longer and some shorter, depending on how you designed your mobile.
Pro-tip: You need some extra line for tying, so don't cut your lines exactly to length, cut them an inch or two longer than you need. (For example: if you created 10 shapes to hang at alternating heights on a single-wire mobile, you would cut 10 lengths of line, five a little over 12" in length and five a little over 6" in length. If you created 9 shapes and want to hang three per line from a single-wire mobile, you would cut only three lines each a little longer than 24". If you created four shapes and want to hang one each at equal lengths from a crossed-wire mobile, you would cut four 10"+ lines. And so on.)
9. To attach the shapes to the fishing line:

- Stretch the fishing line across a table or flat surface.
(Pro-tip: cover your table with newspaper or scrap paper to help keep the glue off your furniture; school glue will clean up with water.) Tape the line at either end to keep it straight. Make sure you leave some extra line on one end so that you have enough to tie it to your wire. Extra line can be trimmed later.
- For each shape: slide one side under the line. Make sure the colored side is down and the line is running through the center of the shape. Cover the backside of the shape with a consistent layer of glue (not too much, but enough to ensure a good, tight seal). Take the other side of your shape and place it directly on top, with colored side up and lining up the edges. Press down to attach firmly. (The shapes need to be attached to each other and to the line).
- Clean it up any glue that might have leaked out so that your paper doesn't stick to the table.
- Repeat steps (b) and (c) above for any additional shapes you would like to hang on the same line.

10. Repeat step #9 for all of the lines you are going to hang.

COMPLETE YOUR MOBILE

11. Tie your lines to the loops you made in your wire(s).
12. Tie the 2 feet of fishing line you previously set aside to either the middle of your single wire, the intersection of your crossed wire, or the top wire in your multi-layer mobile.
13. Hang and enjoy.