

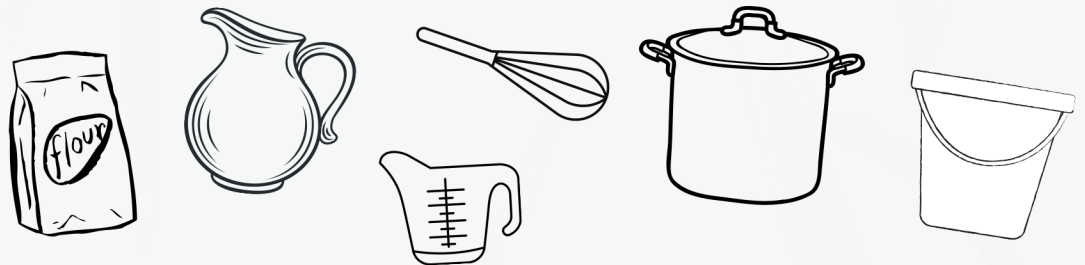
What is Wheatpasting?

Wheatpasting is an inexpensive, easy, and accessible way to put up posters that can stay up for a long time, often seen in cities on electrical boxes, construction sites, and lampposts. It's used as a form of street art, propaganda, and for promoting events. Wheatpaste can be made at home with two simple ingredients: water and all-purpose flour (see recipe and directions below), or you can purchase wheatpaste at your local hardware store, or use wallpaper paste.

How do I make it? It's easy.

WHAT DO I NEED?

- Flour
- Water
- Measuring Cup
- Whisk
- Stove
- Large Pot
- Container(s) to hold paste (something not breakable with a well-fitting lid is ideal. Takeout soup containers, old Tupperware, or even a water or soda bottle out of your recycling bin can be a good vessel. Note: some people prefer a wider-mouthed container they can dip a sponge or brush into, others like a bottle to be able to pour or squeeze the paste.



RECIPE

4 parts water to 1 part flour

1 pound of flour will make approximately 1 gallon of wheatpaste

STEPS

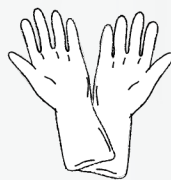
- Mix flour with 2 parts water in a large pot and whisk until smooth
- Put the pot over medium heat and bring to a boil while stirring
- Add the rest of the water as it starts to thicken, you want it to be smooth and pourable and roughly the consistency of Elmer's glue. Remember that the mixture will thicken as it cools, and you want it to be spreadable.

When the paste reaches the desired consistency, transfer it to easily portable containers to cool.

This is street art, not baking, so no need for precision. You'll see a lot of variations on this recipe but most people use a 1:4 or 1:5 ratio of flour to water. A little trial and error will get you to your preferred methods, be creative!

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Okay, I have my paste, now what?



GATHER YOUR SUPPLIES

- Download your poster from [womensmarch.com/posters](https://www.womensmarch.com/posters) Print on paper: newsprint is best, or use the thinnest printer/copier paper you can find.
- Container of Paste
- Large paint brushes, sponge brushes, or a regular kitchen sponge
- Latex gloves (wheatpasting is messy, and your hands will get sticky!)
- A plastic bag to keep your brushes or sponges in between locations
- A towel or rag for basic clean up in case of spills

GATHER YOUR TEAM

You can do this alone, but it's always better to have a buddy or organize a big group and cover more ground with your posters.

MAP YOUR LOCATIONS

After consulting your local laws and regulations, pick out target areas of your city or hometown — downtown areas, City Halls or State Capitols, any neighborhoods with a lot of foot traffic, or where politicians live are all good ideas. Get creative and think about maximizing your impact.

GO FORTH AND POSTER!

It's best to apply wheatpaste to the surface first, then place your poster and paint over the front of the poster too. You want the paper completely saturated with paste (past the edges), which will help it stay in place longer. Smooth, flat surfaces work best for wheatpasting. [Check out this video](#) to see the process in action.

TAKE PHOTOS!

Make sure to take photos and submit them to actions@womensmarch.com and/or tag [@womensmarch](https://www.instagram.com/womensmarch) on socials.

IS IT LEGAL?

That depends on where you are. Many cities and municipalities have regulations around posting flyers/posters that allow them to be affixed to electrical boxes, lampposts, or other public spaces. Make sure to refer to your local laws and regulations. Your [local National Lawyers Guild chapter](#) is always a great resource if you need help finding local advice.

DO I HAVE TO USE WHEATPASTE?

No. Wheatpaste is a cheap, easy, and very accessible method for putting up posters that lasts for a long time, but if you have places you can staple, tape, or otherwise affix posters, go for it! You can also buy wheatpaste or wallpaper paste at your local hardware store.

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