

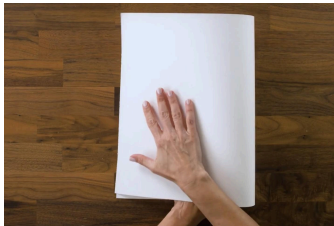
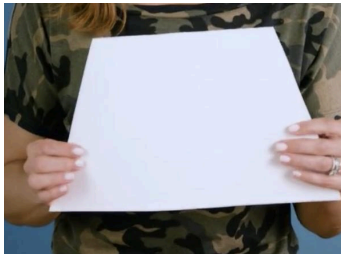


West Point Army Hat

Supplies:





- Foldable poster board or paper (12 x 18 inches)
- A green marker
- Star stickers
- Pencil
- White tape
- A stapler
- Scissors



Steps:

	Step 1: Fold the 12x18-inch poster paper in half.
	Step 2: Rotate the folder paper so that the fold is at the top. Cut it into a trapezoid shape as shown by the dotted lines.
	Step 3: To close the hat, staple both sides together.
	Step 4: Use the white tape to cover the staples on both sides of the hat. Trim off any extra tape around the edges.



	<p>Step 5: To give the poster board the shape of an Army hat, gently pull the sides apart and press the top of the hat down. Try the hat on for size. The bottom will probably need to be trimmed down with scissors. Cut off as much as needed at the bottom if the hat is too tall. Keep going until you get just the right size.</p>
	<p>Step 6: Fold the hat to make it flat again. Then, with a green marker, write West Point's motto on the hat: "Duty, Honor, Country"</p>
	<p>Step 7: Stick the gold stars however you like on both sides of the hat. Avoid decorating the top of the hat, as it will be pressed flat.</p>
	<p>Step 8: Reshape the hat and try it out!</p>

What is West Point? West Point is a location above the Hudson River in Orange County, New York, about 50 miles north of New York City. It's the place where George Washington ordered a fort to be built during the American Revolution so that patriots could fight the British strategically by blocking them from sailing up the Hudson River. Many consider West Point and the United States Military Academy that resides there to be one of America's national treasures.

Fun Facts:

- West Point is the oldest continuously operated Army post in the United States and covers about 16,000 acres of land!
- To become a West Point cadet, a candidate must work hard in school and apply to the Academy with a nomination from a member of Congress.
- About 1,000 new officers graduate from the United States Military Academy every year. Famous graduates include Ulysses S. Grant (Civil War General and 18th President of

the United States), Dwight Eisenhower (World War Two general and 34th President of the United States), and Edwin 'Buzz' Aldrin (astronaut and second man to walk on the moon).

- At West Point, each class of cadets has a unique name: first-year cadets are "Plebes," second-year cadets are "Yearlings," third-year cadets are "Cows," and fourth-year cadets are "Firsties."

Extension Activity

West Point cadets are challenged with difficult activities like figuring out how to design and build a concrete canoe that floats. Challenge children to build a small floating canoe using only aluminum foil, plastic drinking straws, and craft sticks. Test the canoe in water and determine how many pennies it can hold before it sinks. Make adjustments as needed and discuss concepts like balance, weight distribution, and buoyancy.