

DIY Photo Frames from Cardboard

Turn old cardboard into beautiful, one-of-a-kind photo frames! This is a fun and budget-friendly project that lets you get creative while repurposing materials. Ready to make something special? Let's dive in!



Materials:

- Cardboard (from boxes, cereal boxes, or any scrap cardboard)
- Scissors or a craft knife (with adult supervision)
- Ruler and pencil
- Glue (craft glue, hot glue, or even tape will do!)
- Decorations: markers, stickers, buttons, fabric scraps, colored paper, or magazine clippings
- Optional: Glitter, ribbon, paint, or beads for extra flair!
- A favorite photo or printed picture

Instructions:

1. Cut Your Frame Shape (Let's Get Crafty!)

First, find some sturdy cardboard—maybe from an old shipping box or cereal box. Use your ruler to measure and trace out the shape of your frame. It can be a traditional rectangle, but why stop there? Make it heart-shaped, star-shaped, or even cloud-shaped for extra fun!

Pro Tip: Cut a rectangle or any shape in the center to make space for your photo. The center cutout should be a bit smaller than your photo so it doesn't fall through!

2. Create a Back for the Frame (The Secret Support!)

Cut a second piece of cardboard that matches the outer shape of your frame. This will be the backing. Leave this solid for now, as it will hold your photo in place later.

3. Time to Decorate (The Fun Begins!)

Now comes the best part—decorating! Use anything you have around the house:

- **Markers and Paint:** Draw patterns, doodles, or paint your frame in bright, bold colors.
- **Buttons and Beads:** Glue buttons around the edges for a funky, textured look.
- **Stickers and Magazine Clippings:** Cut out your favorite images or words from magazines and collage them onto the frame.
- **Fabric Scraps or Ribbons:** Wrap or glue fabric scraps or ribbon around the edges for a soft, classy feel.
- **Glitter and Pom-poms:** Sprinkle a little glitter magic or add fluffy pom-poms for that extra sparkle and whimsy.

Let your creativity run wild—there's no wrong way to do this!

4. Assemble the Frame (Putting It All Together!)

Once your decorations have dried, it's time to assemble:

- Lay your decorated frame face down.
- Place your favorite photo behind the center cutout.
- Glue or tape the backing piece onto the frame, securing the photo in place. Be sure to leave one side open if you want to swap out the picture later!

5. Add a Stand or Hanger (Display It Proudly!)

If you want your frame to stand up:

- Cut a small triangle from your cardboard and glue it to the back as a stand, angled like a picture frame leg.
Or, if you'd prefer to hang it on the wall:
- Punch a hole at the top of the frame and loop a piece of ribbon or string through to create a hanger.

6. Ta-Da! Admire Your Masterpiece!

You did it! Now all that's left is to proudly display your frame with your favorite picture, or wrap it up as a special homemade gift for someone you love.