



MATERIALS

Supplies: construction paper black, watercolor paper, glue stick, watercolor paint, brushes, scissors, tape, cup for water, and plastic wrap (optional). Visit TheUmbrellaArts.org/Summer-at-home for helpful links to supplies.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Create a Background!

Cut watercolor paper into a square (12 x 12 inches, preferred). Paint the entire paper using two or three water colors that are next to each other on the color wheel (these colors are called *analogous* colors like blue & purple).

Optional: Place plastic wrap on top of your watercolor painting. When dries, pull the wrap & observe the pattern.

2. Design a Notan

Begin designing your Notan! **Notan** is a Japanese term which means "light dark harmony." You will need a piece of black paper, cut into a square (4 x 4" preferred) + pencil with eraser.
Tip: I strongly recommend creating a "practice" notan with simple shapes to get the hang of the process!

3. Watch these videos included in this lesson for a demonstration.

- ["Notan Collages" Video 1](#)
- ["Notan Collages" Video 2](#)

4. Cut & Collage!

Using your watercolor painting (wait until it dries) as your background paper, begin assembling your Notan Collage. Only cut and glue ONE piece of your Notan at a time. Work slowly and double check your work as you go!
Tip: Only add glue to the black paper (not your watercolor paper) to avoid paint smudges!

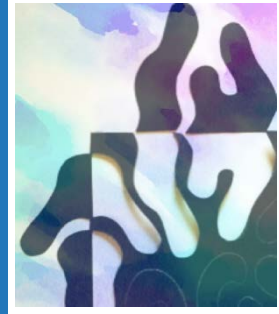


5. Add More!

When you have completed your Notan collage, you may decide you want to add even more detail to your final work of art! Put pen design into the non-black parts of the Notan.

6. Make More Notans!

Create another using different patterns! You will be surprised at how different 2 Notans can look from one another!



ARTIST TIPS AND TRICKS

Is your child having a difficult time cutting out the shapes?

Kids tend to want their artwork to look amazing (of course they do!) and sometimes they think the best way to achieve this is to include TONS of tiny details. If they become frustrated or you notice them having a difficult time cutting out the shapes of their collage, suggest keeping their designs and shapes simple. Notans always look very complex when they are done even if the shapes and the making process itself are simple! You can also suggest creating a "practice" Notan first (on a piece of computer paper) to see if the shapes are too intricate for the project.

Adaptations for Younger Children: Cut 1 shape from each side of the black construction square. Provide children with additional guidance as needed.

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK!

