

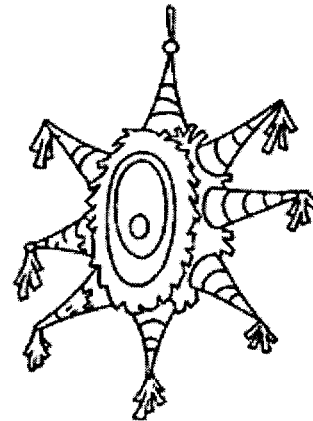
## PAPER BAG PIÑATA

Piñatas have been used for hundreds of years in Latin America to celebrate special occasions such as birthdays and Christmas. Though Italy, Spain, Portugal and Greece all claim to have created the first piñata, the exact origin is still disputed.

To create a piñata for your own celebration, follow these simple steps:

### What you need:

- paper lunch bag
- newspaper
- tissue paper in assorted colors
- scissors
- glue
- hole punch
- stapler
- yarn
- small wrapped candies and treats and/or toys and trinkets
- medium-sized stick or thin plastic waffle bat for whacking the piñata



### What to do:

1. Place the treats, toys and trinkets into the paper bag. Only fill the bag a quarter of the way.
2. Next, ball up pages of newspaper and place them in the bag loosely on top of the treats. Do this until the bag is almost full (about one inch from the top of the bag).
3. Fold the top of the bag over to close it. With your stapler, staple the bag shut (four staples should do the trick).
4. With your hole punch, punch a hole in the center of the fold. Thread a length of yarn through the hole, and tie the ends together to form a loop. This is how you will suspend your piñata from the ceiling, so make sure your length of yarn is long enough.
5. Now, to decorate your piñata, select your favorite colors of tissue paper, and tear them into strips of various sizes. Glue them to the paper bag in any pattern that you like.
6. Have fun with your design! Be creative! Multiple colors can be an abstract design, or, for example, choose specific colors like yellow and orange to make your piñata look like a sun.
7. Cut long strips of tissue paper to make streamers for the bottom and sides of your piñata if you like. Glue them on.
8. Once you have finished your piñata design, let the glue dry for at least an hour.
9. Hang your piñata from a secure spot, and you're ready to whack away!