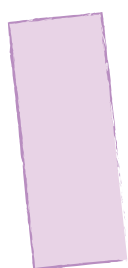
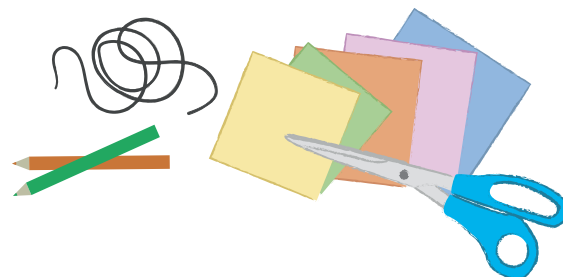


How to Make a Tanzaku

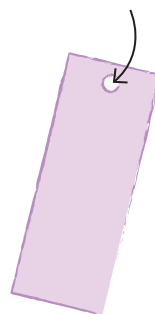
Tanzaku have been used in Japan for hundreds of years as cards for writing poems on. It is a long, thin strip of paper which, nowadays, people normally use to write wishes on and hang up for display. This is most common during the Star Festival in summer.

You will need:

- Coloured paper/Card
- Pen
- Hole punch
- Scissors
- String around 30cm long

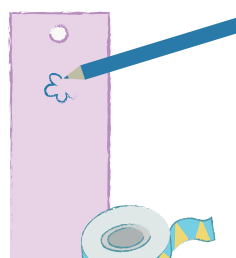
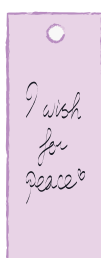


1. Cut out a rectangle of coloured paper or card. Roughly 7cm x 15 cm is a good size. Bigger cards are easier to write on.

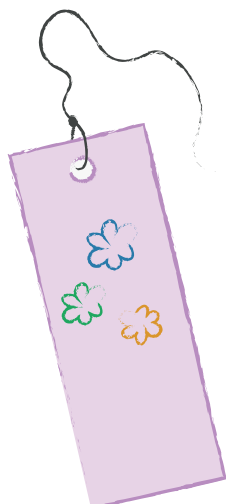
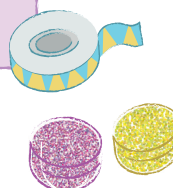


2. Using a hole punch, make a hole in the top of the rectangle, about 1cm away from the edge.

3. Write a wish or poem for peace and your name with a pen.



4. Turn the paper over and decorate it using any materials you like. Try to link the design with the wish or poem.



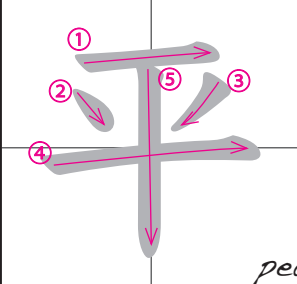
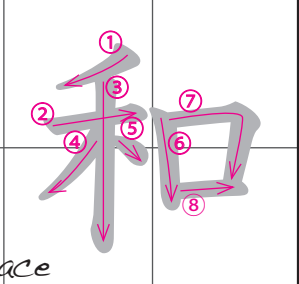

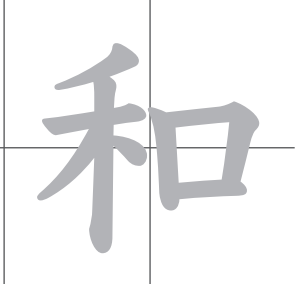
5. Thread string (roughly 30cm) through the hole and tie a knot. Keep the finished *tanzaku* so it can be attached to the *furin* wind chime.

Decorate your Tanzaku with Kanji Characters

One side of the *tanzaku* will show your wish or poem. You can make your *tanzaku* unique by decorating the other side. You might like to write something in Japanese on it.

The symbols below are called kanji characters. **Can you write 'Peace' in Japanese?**

Follow the stroke order to trace the characters below, then try on your own.

Well done! Now practice writing the characters 友, for 'friend' and 夢, for 'dream'.

