

Marble Paper

What You Need:

- Cardstock or thick paper
- Large pan or cookie sheets
- Toothpick or craft sticks
- Shaving cream (not gel)
- Spatula
- Food Colouring



What You Do;

1. Spread a thin layer of shaving cream in the bottom of your pan, evening it out with the spatula.
2. Add drops of food colouring on top of the shaving cream. Try to space them evenly and leave some white space in between—to much white space, and your paper will have no design, but too much food colouring, and you colours may smear.
3. Drag your toothpick or craft stick in loops and swirls through the shaving cream to make patterns. Be careful not to over-blend or your colours could get murky.
4. Take a piece of cardstock or paper and press in into the shaving cream lightly so that the entire surface is covered. Make sure to not press to hard, or the paper will take a big blob of shaving cream with it.
5. Remove you shaving cream covered paper and lay it on a flat surface, such as a craft table or cookie sheet. Using the spatula, scrape off the layer of shaving cream. Scraping away the shaving cream will leave a beautiful marbled design on your paper.
6. Allow your paper to dry flat. Once dry, your marbled paper can be used as stationery or cut into paper ornaments.

So how does it work? Shaving cream contains soap, which is both hydrophilic and hydrophobic—it attracts and repels water. And food colouring is water, plus a little dye. That means that the dye will remain mostly suspended in the shaving cream. Adding paper is when the real action happens. Paper contains cellulose, a material that is hydrophilic (attracts water), so the dye will transfer from the shaving cream to the paper easily.