

# How to Distress Paper



A fantasy DIY  
for the Extra-But-Broke  
Game Masters, Cosplayers,  
and LARPer

by @pom.machine

## You Will Need:

- Paper of any variety
- Pens, markers, or a printer
- A cup of tea or coffee
- An urge to impress people with fun little details



## Step 1: Put some junk on paper.

You can do it by hand or print out what you want.

**Be aware of your medium!**

Ink may bleed, and pencil or light colors may be faint / illegible.

## Ideas:

- Maps
- Scrolls
- Session notes
- Love letters
- Black Spots
- Grocery lists
- In-game memes

Have fun with it! The world's your fantasy oyster. (As opposed to normal oysters)

## Step 2: Make yourself a cup of tea or coffee.

Don't put sugars or milks in just yet!  
We want to keep the natural color of the drink. (Also, ew. Milk paper.)



You can use different kinds of tea for different colors! But for the classic look, black teas and coffees are best.

## Step 3: Blot the paper with your beverage.

**Make sure your ink is dry!**

I recommend doing this on a baking sheet so you can move your pages safely while they dry.



With tea, you can straight up just use the bag! Otherwise, you can use a cloth, paper towel, or even just your hands. Play around with application methods! **More liquid = More saturation of color**

## Step 4: Enjoy your drink and let it dry.

Drying times may vary. Mine tend to take roughly 30 minutes to fully dry.

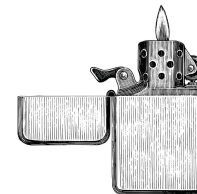


You can also start distressing the paper at this step by tearing lightly at the wet edges, just **be careful!** Your paper has low constitution right now.

## Step 5: Distress the page.

**Crumple it up! Rip the edges!**  
**Stab it with a pointy thingy!**  
**Dabble in arson and singe the edges with a lighter!**

(Don't do arson be careful with fire please-)



You can fine tune your weathering with more tea/coffee or paint.

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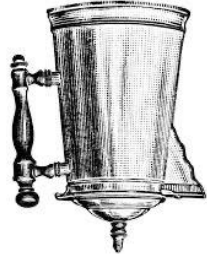
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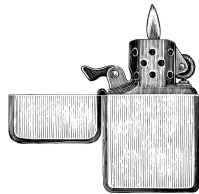


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Have fun and get crafty, adventurers!



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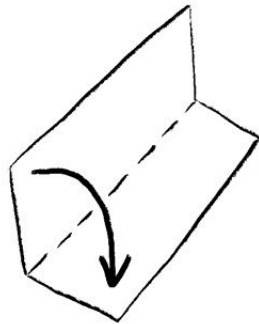
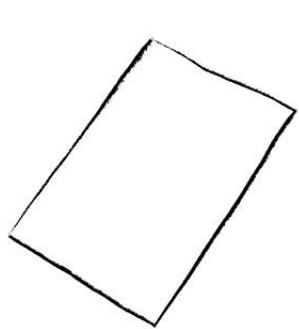


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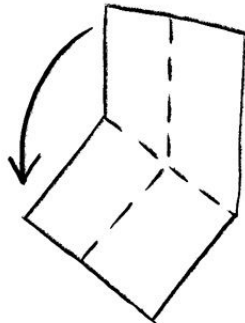
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# How to fold a mini-zine

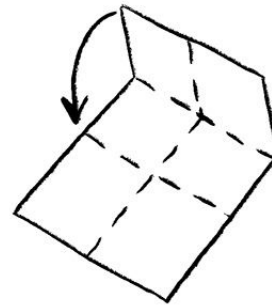
A video for assistance: <https://youtube.com/sMdus-INqFg>



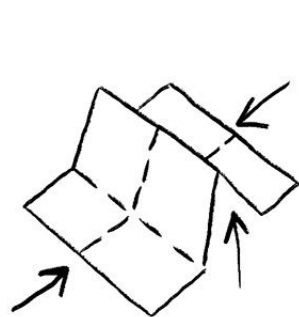
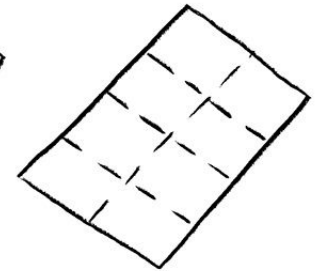
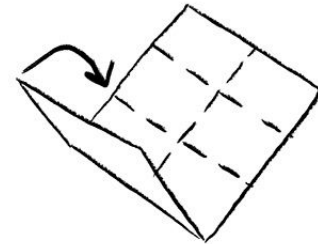
Fold it Hot dog style/long ways



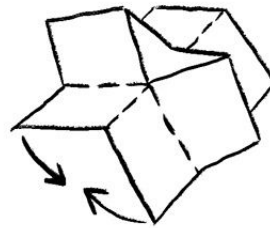
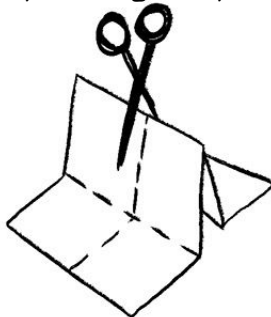
Fold it Hamburger style/short ways



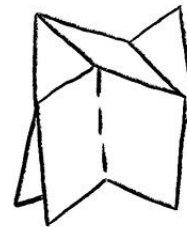
Fold hamburgers on either side of the short centerfold, dividing the paper into 8 parts



Fold it so you can cut a slit in the center the length the two middle sections



Squish it inwards to push the papers together, then fold it to one side aaaand...



Ta-da!  
A folded mini-zine!