

Make a Paper Crown of Thorns!

(Adapted from <http://www.catholicinspired.com/2012/03/make-paper-crown-of-thorns.html>)

Here's a simple Crown of Thorns.

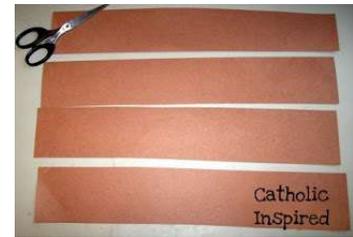
It's made from brown construction paper and can be sized to whatever size you like.

This technique is often used to make a crown of thorns with palm branches (see below).



You will need:

- Brown paper (I used a 12 x 18 inch sheet to make mine) or a brown paper grocery bag will work!
- Scissors
- Stapler



I cut 12 x 18 inch paper into 4 long parts

Cut one of the sections into three parts but leave them together on one end.



Now braid it!

Have you ever braided hair?

If so this will be easy!

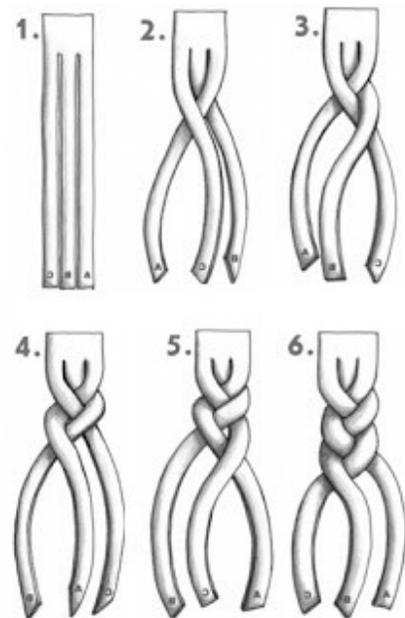
If you are new to braiding you might want to try it with string or hair first.

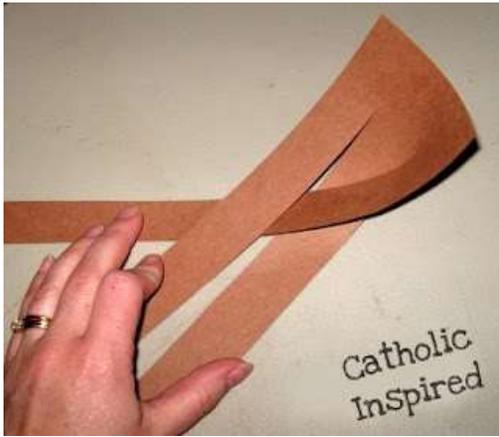
Paper braiding can be a bit tricky.

I'll see if I can explain braiding....

You always use one of the side strips to cross over the middle one and the middle strip always changes. Always switch the strip that you use to cross the center one. First the right strip crosses the center one, then left strip crosses the NEW center one, which is actually the strip that was on the right.

Now the right strip, which was the center strip in the first step, crosses the center and so on....



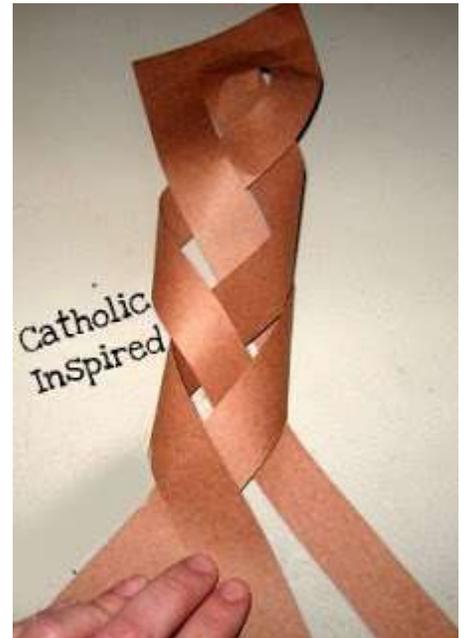
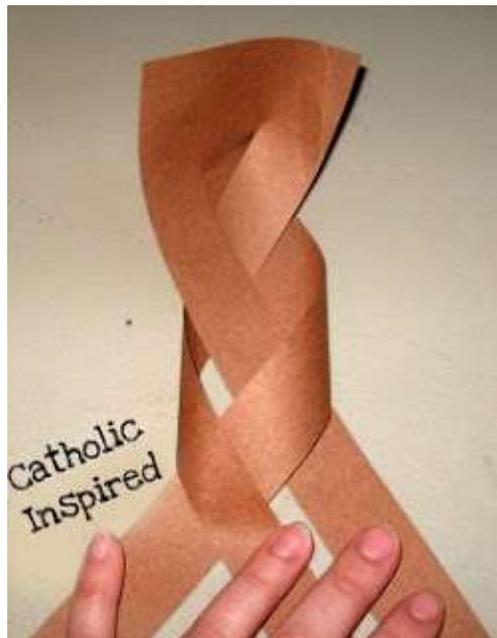
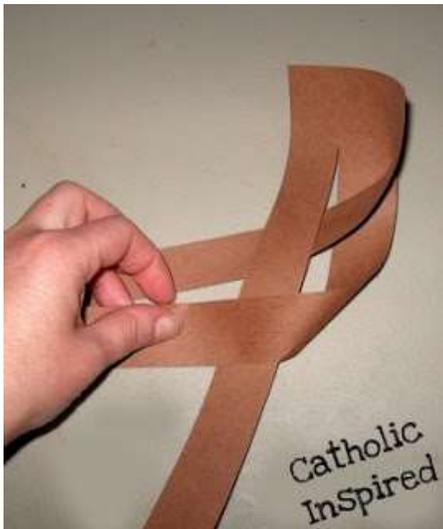


When braiding paper:

Flip the strips of paper as it crosses the center strip. (The top of the strip is now the bottom)

-As shown in the pictures below. (Don't flip the first two times you cross the center strip - because it doesn't work!) If you don't flip the third strip and those after it, the paper will just curl up as you braid and that will be difficult to manage.

Also, make sure that you don't try to make the braid tight or the paper will rip.



Staple the ends.

Make as many as you need to get the size crown that you want.



Now staple the end of one to the end of another.



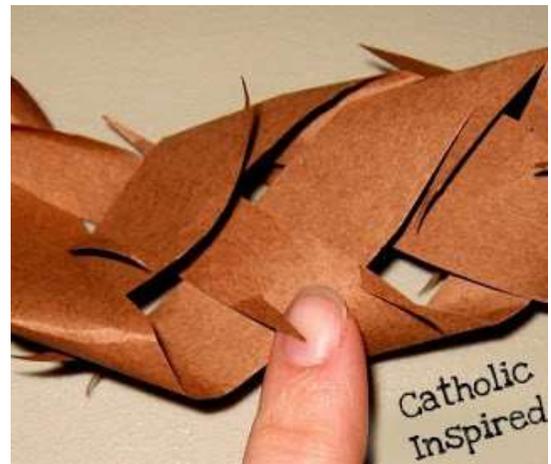
Staple them together to make a circle



Snip small "thorns" in the edge of the braided strips.

Cover the entire braided wreath with these points.

You may need to curl the thorns out so you can better see them.



The braiding may take a little bit to figure out, but once you can braid paper this project is easy!!