

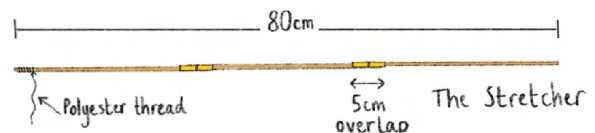
Kite Making Top Tips!




These tips accompany our [kite-making instructions](#) and [Sanjar's YouTube kite-making tutorial](#) - to help you make a kite that will soar through the skies!

While you're making your kite - things to look out for

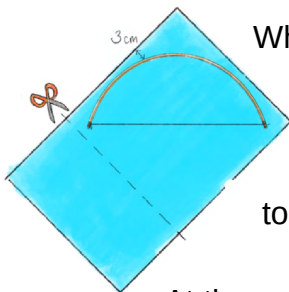
1. Making the frame



When you **tape together your Stretcher** in step a), use plenty of tape (wrap it round the bamboo multiple times!) to fasten the sticks to each other. You will be bending the Stretcher, so there needs to be enough tape to hold it in this form. 

When you **tie the thread to each end of your Stretcher** in step c), make sure you bend it so that it becomes a completely symmetrical half circle (not a wonky half circle!). This will help with your kite's balance.

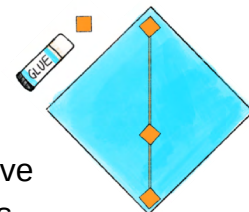
2. Making the sail



When you **cut your tissue paper** in step a), make sure the square is 55cm from corner to corner from the head (top) of the kite to the bottom. (This is the same length as the Spine, so will make sure the Spine can fit perfectly from top to bottom in step b)).

At the end of step a), you will already have cut along the dotted line in the picture above. In addition to this, **trim off any further excess tissue paper** at the bottom of the kite by folding a line from the bottom of the Spine to the edge of the Stretcher, on both sides of the sail. This will mean you don't have any tissue paper flapping around!

When you **stick down your Spine** in step b), make sure it is exactly in the centre of your sail. If it's aligned slightly to the left or right, this will make your kite imbalanced. You can achieve this by folding your square in half when you trim it down, so it is completely even on both sides. You can then draw a line down the fold with a



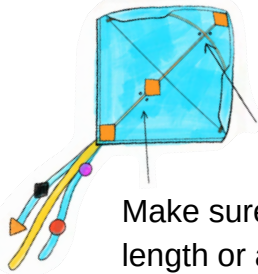
 pencil, which will show you where to stick the Spine on.

The Spine





3. Bridling the kite



The **holes you make in your sail** in step a) should be in the positions shown in this image - the second set of holes should be about two-thirds of the way down the Spine.

Make sure the **piece of string you cut for your bridle** in step b) is the same length or a little longer than your kite's wingspan.



When you've tied the loop in the string on the front of your kite, **hold the kite by the loop, with the head of the kite pointing towards you, and swing it up into the air.** If it glides up easily the kite is ready to fly! If it flattens and drags or is hard to swing, then you need to unknot your bridle loop and re-tie it a bit higher along the bridle (towards the head of the kite).



After having a go at flying - troubleshooting

The two main challenges you might encounter when trying to fly your kite are that it is **lopsided and flies only to the left or right** or that it **spins in circles.** Here are some tips on how tweaking the kite design might help:

- Add some **decoration** (tissue paper / tape) to the opposite side of the kite to the side that it's leaning towards, to make it a bit heavier on that side and therefore balance it out.
- The **loop** that is attaching your long ball of string to the bridle string may be **too high up or too low down.** Unloop it and re-tie it - for best balance, the loop should be just above the middle of the bridle string, slightly towards the head of the kite.
- There may be a hole in your kite! If there is - find it and **patch the hole** up with tissue paper.

Good luck!

**Take a picture of your kite and share it with us #FlyWithMe
@goodchance theatre on Instagram and Facebook
@goodchancecal on Twitter**

