

Embossed Tin Frames

Explore the Mexican craft of Hojalata to create stunning photo frames out of takeaway trays.



You will need:



- Some old takeaway trays
- Scissors
- Paper
- A spoon
- A pencil
- Coloured permanent markers

How to Make an Embossed Tin Frame



Begin by cutting off the creased part of your tin tray.



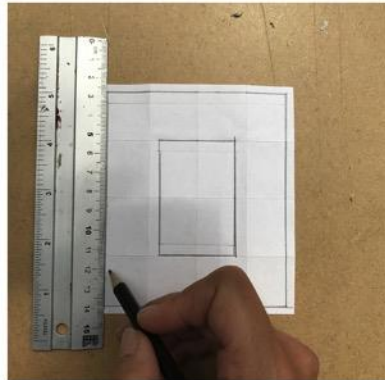
Wrap your spoon in some spare cloth and smooth away any indentations.



Cut away any rough edges or tears in the tin.



Cut a piece of paper to the same size as your tin.



Draw the frame outlines onto the paper.



Draw your design. Tape your paper to the tin to hold in place.



Place something soft, like a tea towel, under your work. Retrace your drawing. You should see the indentation on the reverse.



Remove the paper. Draw an outline just next to your indentation. This should form a little ridge in the tin.



Cut around your frame.



To cut the centre of your frame, place some blu tack on the reverse. Firmly push a pencil through front to back, making a hole.



Use the hole to cut the central window of your frame.



You can leave your frame silver, or use coloured permanent markers to colour.

Design ideas

Feel free to design something completely unique. If you get stuck for ideas here are some recurring motifs found on traditional Mexican tiles. You can use them to decorate your frame.

