

## How to make an 'In Memoriam' Coat Hanger Flag

From the **8<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021**, BrumYODO and Birmingham Hippodrome will be presenting **In Memoriam** – an open-air art installation by internationally renowned artist Luke Jerram – in **Aston Park** as part of Dying Matters Awareness Week.

Inspired by Luke Jerram's artwork? We're asking people to join together to make an 'In Memoriam' flag to remember, reflect and thank someone who has died. It could be to share how you are feeling or to thank those who have done so much during the pandemic.

Flags can be made out of paper, card or fabric using e.g. an old sheet, T shirt or Tote bag.

Think about where you want to display your flag – indoors or outdoors. If outside, it is best to use fabric as it will be more robust.

**Once you've made it**, be sure to take a photo and upload it onto our website so that we can display it in our gallery: <https://brumyodo.org.uk/share-your-flags>

### What you need for a coat hanger flag

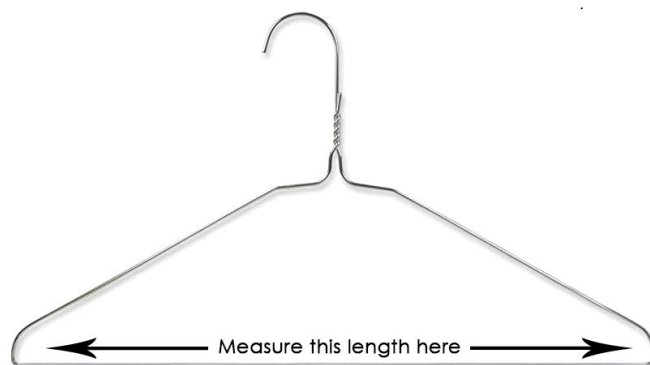
Fabric – e.g. old pillowcase, T shirt, sheet or Tote bag	An old coat hanger that has three sides to it like a triangle; it could be made of wire, wood or plastic
Needle & thread or glue	Pen or pencil
Scissors	Ruler
<p>To decorate:</p> <p>Wax crayons, colouring pencils, felt tips, Paints (acrylic for an outdoor flag) Scraps of fabric, buttons, ribbons, lace, pom poms, bows Photos or magazine cut outs</p>	



## Step 1 - Create your flag shape

Measure the width of the base of your hanger as per the image to the right.

Add 60mm to the number that you have measured: so if the width is 300mm then the width of material you will need is 360mm



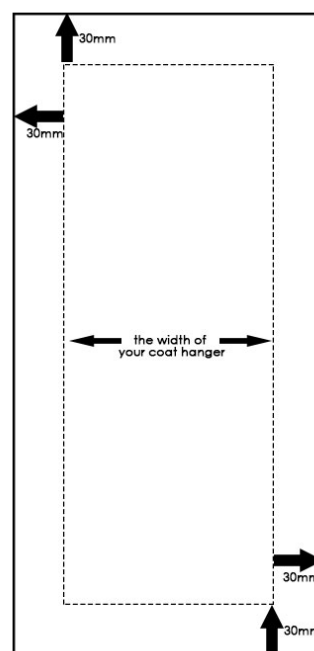
Cut out your material to match the width with your 60mm added on.

The length of the material can be any length you wish – depending on how long you would like it to be.

Once you have cut out your material, fold the bottom up along the dotted lines (ie 30mm in) and either glue or sew.

Then fold the 2 long sides 30mm in on each side, and sew or glue.

Make sure you fold the same way each time so that you only see the folds on one side of the material. The side where you can see the folds is the BACK.

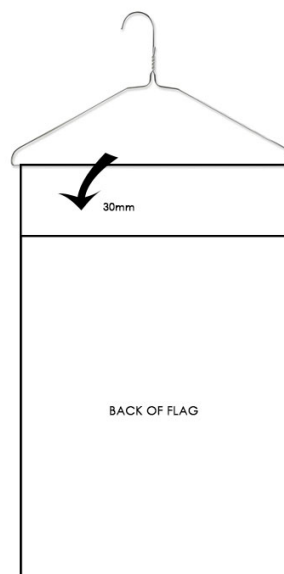


## Step 2 – Add your coat hanger

Lie the material down so that the BACK of the material is facing you.

Insert the coat hanger at the top edge which has not yet been folded.

Fold 300mm of material over bringing it through the coat hanger towards you, then sew or glue the flap closed onto the BACK of the material.



## Step 5 - Decorate

Now it's time to decorate! Turn your fabric over so you can decorate the front of your flag. Have a think about what you might want to say – do you want to use colours, shapes, patterns, words or pictures? Are you dedicating your flag to someone and want to include a message?



If you also want to have a go at making another type of flag, then please go to our website [www.brumyodo.org](http://www.brumyodo.org) for more details!



## Step 6 – Take a photo of your finished flag

When you have finished your flag, find a place to display it and then take a photo to share with us. You can upload photos to our In Memoriam Birmingham photo gallery on our website – <https://brumyodo.org.uk/share-your-flags>

If you are planning to share your flags on social media, then you can also use the hashtags **#LifeDeathBrum** and **#InMemoriamBrum** and tag @BrumYODO and @brumhippodrome

We can't wait to see your flags! Please join us and be inspired by Luke Jerram's 'In Memoriam' to Thank, Reflect and Remember.



*In Memoriam* in Birmingham is presented 'A Matter of Life & Death Festival' managed by BrumYODO and Birmingham Hippodrome. The project is supported by Birmingham City Council and funded by Arts Council England and Without Walls  
Sponsored by A Natural Undertaking.