

## How to make an 'In Memoriam' Fabric 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 fabric flag

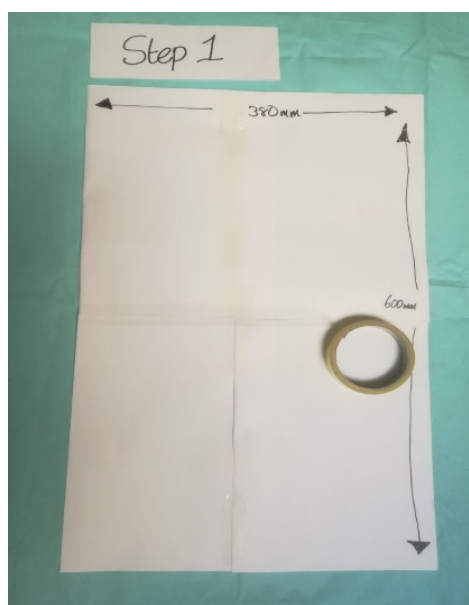
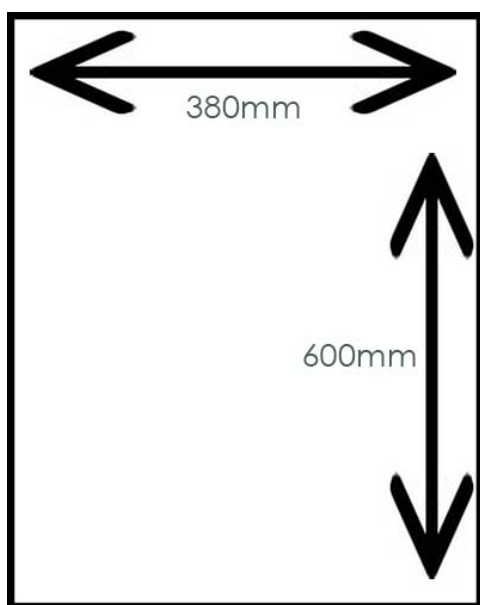
Fabric – e.g. old pillowcase, T shirt, sheet or Tote bag	1 newspaper or 4 sheets of A4 paper
Needle & thread	Pen or pencil
Scissors	Ruler
Stick e.g. garden cane	To decorate: Wax crayons, colouring pencils, felt tips, Paints (acrylic for an outdoor flag) Scraps of fabric, buttons, ribbons, lace, pom poms, bows Photos or magazine cut outs



## Step 1 - Create your flag template

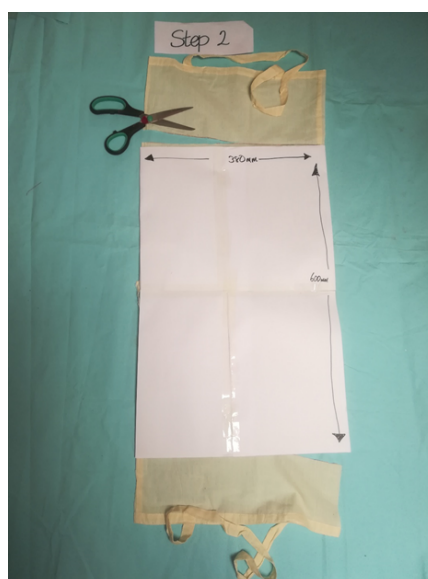
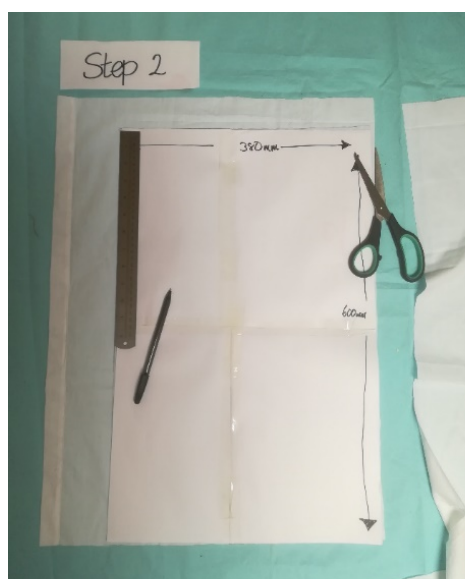
Create a template which is 380mm x 600mm.

You could make the template from a piece of newspaper or by taping 4 x A4 sheets of paper/card together.



## Step 2 - Cut out your fabric

Place the template on your fabric, draw around it and cut it out. If you are using an old pillowcase or tote bag, cut along the 2 long sides and open up making a long rectangle.



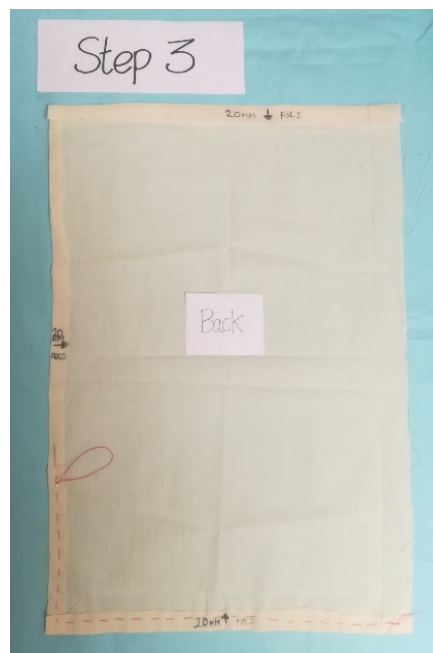
### Step 3 – Hem the edges

Turn your fabric over, and on the back fold in the edges around the 2 shorter sides (20mm) and 1 of the long sides.

Thread your needle and sew a simple hem to seal the folded edges.

A simple in and out stitch is fine for this. This will stop the fabric from fraying and make a neat edge.

You could also use a bit of clear nail polish to seal the fold.



### Step 4 - Make a pocket for the flagpole

On one of the long sides of the fabric, fold over the edge (30mm) and then sew 25mm in from the edge to make a long narrow pocket.

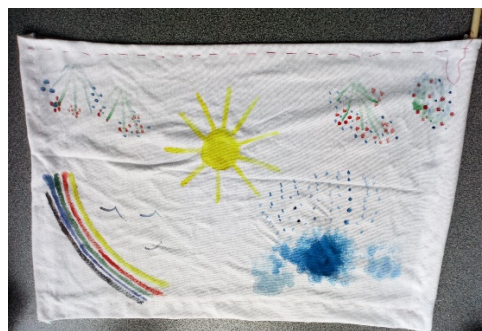
Remember to sew across the top as well so your flag pole sits in the pocket and doesn't fall through.



## 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?

Insert the flagpole into the pocket





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.