

Ernie's Kernel Popcorn Cups Printie

Popcorn

Popcorn is made from low quality pelleted packaging foam that has a "soft" feel and breaks easily. Chip away individual pellets for popped corn kernels; when you have the quantity you want, put a few drops of slightly diluted off-white craft paint in a disposable cup and add the pellets. Stir with a bamboo skewer until all kernels are coated. On a protected work surface, pour out onto paper towel and spread the kernels apart to dry. Stir occasionally. The paint adds color but also a bit of weight, so the particles don't fly away as readily and are less receptive to static electricity.

Popcorn Cups

Before cutting, use a ruler and fine ball stylus (or completely dried-out ballpoint pen) to score the fold lines on the printout. Cut with a knife and cutting mat (preferred) or small sharp scissors. Use white/tacky glue with a toothpick applicator to glue the long tab that connects the sides. When that join is secure, fold the bottom flaps in this order: largest, squarish flap, both side/angular flaps, then tabbed flap, which tucks into the slot formed by the other flaps. Straighten the cup, and add a bit of glue on the bottom to seal the flaps.

Fill the cups completely with popcorn, dribbling in a "layer" of glue just beneath the top kernels. Or, for more stable cups, fill the bottom with a blob of hot glue, which adds weight. When that cools, fill the remainder of the cup as above.

