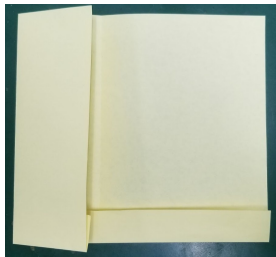


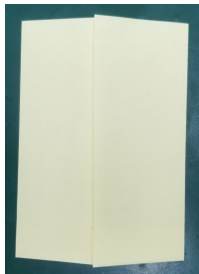
Homemade gift bags



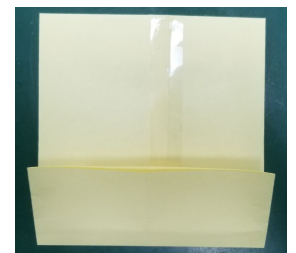
1. Get a piece of paper (Wrapping paper, newspaper, printer paper, etc.)
2. Fold it in half (if you do not mind a crease down the side of the bag.)
 - a. This will help find the center in future steps.
 - b. If you do this, when done open it back up to lay flat.
3. With what will be the inside of the bag face up, fold up about an inch or so on a long side. This will make the top of the bag.
4. Fold the left side of the page toward the center. (It should reach the center.)



5. Fold the right side toward the center overlapping the left side a bit.



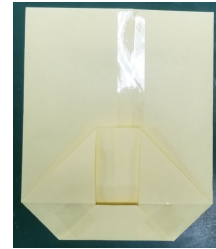
6. Tape or glue the right side onto the left side. (We taped it so you could see where you would need to tape or glue.)
7. Turn paper so the top of the bag is away from you.
8. Fold the bottom up toward the top of the bag (your choice how high, but $\frac{1}{3}$ of the way up works best.)
9. Lift your new flap up.



10. Help open it a bit by putting your fingers down the inside along the folds.



11. Collapse it down making two triangles that meet in the middle and crease it until flat.



12. Fold the bottom up to the middle of the double triangle.

13. Tape or glue it in place.

14. Fold the Top of the double triangle down to meet it.

15. Tape or glue it in place.

16. Fold the left side of the bag toward the center.



17. Fold the Right side of the bag toward the center.

18. Crease sides well.

19. If adding a handle, poke holes evenly through the bag top between the left and right flaps (you can use a pencil or a paper punch.)



20. Unfold the right and left flaps and the bottom opening the bag completely.

21. Crease the bottom and sides making a nice open bag shape.

22. If you want to fold your bag up for filling at a later time" Starting at the top and working your way down, begin to fold the bag flat by pushing in the folds of the left and right sides of the bag and eventually folding the bottom in like a traditional bag when flattened. You will need to coax the pieces a little.

23. If you want to make a sturdier bottom, you can cut out some cardstock or cardboard to the size of the bottom and place it down inside the bag.

