



# Wayang-Kulit Activity





# Wayang-Kulit

- In Indonesia, primarily Java and Bali, shadow puppet plays are known as **Wayang-Kulit**.
  - Wayang is the Indonesian word for "theater" and Kulit means "skin," referring to the buffalo leather used to make traditional puppets.
- Puppetry has existed in Indonesia since the 1<sup>st</sup> century A.D. when Hinduism was introduced. Since then it became a very important aspects of Indonesian culture. Thought the years, the tradition has evolved, especially with the introduction of Islam. Shadow puppetry emerged as a result, in which stories are told using the projection of a puppet's shadow onto a screen.
- Even though they are not displayed in the performances, the puppets are highly decorated, often with brightly colored paints and shiny accents. Most tales rely on Indonesian myths and are centered on themes of mystery, morality, and symbolism.



<http://amazingmyindonesia.blogspot.com/2014/08/wayang-kulit-central-java.html>

# Materials

- Cardstock or cardboard from a cereal box
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Paper fasteners (brads) – or string
- Tape
- Hole punch
- Dowels, chopsticks, popsicle sticks, or plastic straws
- Decorative elements, such as crayons, markers, fabric, sequins, yarn, paint, glitter, tissue paper, etc.
- Light-colored sheet and a flashlight or a bright lamp (for performance)



<https://www.objectlessons.org/ceremony-and-celebration-puppets-and-masks/wayang-golek-rod-puppets-java-indonesia/s81/a345/>

# Instructions

- Draw a character on a piece of cardstock, and then cut it out. If you want the arms and legs to move, cut them separately from the puppet's body.
- Draw your own design on the puppet's body for detail, and color the puppet as you wish.
- Punch holes in the areas where you want to attach the puppet's arms and legs.
- Attach the body parts together using the paper fasteners.
- Add decoration to your puppet by attaching feathers, yarn, fabric, sequins, glitter, etc. with glue and tape and then let it dry.
- If you want, you can punch small holes in your puppet for light to shine through.
- Attach your popsicle sticks to the puppet by taping the sticks to the moving body parts. Place another popsicle stick to the body of the puppet for support.
- Done!
- Source: <http://www.annarbor.com/entertainment/parenting/make-your-own-wayang-kulit-indonesian-shadow-puppets/>



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