**Window Wanderland Top Tips**

1. **Register your windows** <https://www.windowwanderland.com/event/shepton-mallet-2023/>

(it’s free and takes two minutes)

1. **Get some ideas** – have a browse on the Window Wanderland Website – there are loads of great ideas here or on the Make the Sunshine website [www.makethesunshine.co.uk](http://www.makethesunshine.co.uk)
2. **Have a think about your design** – it could be something funny or something poignant, something Shepton or otherworldly, something about you or a message for your community, you could be inspired by a book, a film, an album, some vegetables – as long as it’s family friendly anything goes!
3. **Measure your window** – before you start it’s a good idea to measure out your window. If you are doing a whole window design it can be quite a good idea to mark or draw out your window shape on a piece of paper or surface, or use a tracing paper backing or black paper backing so you know your design shape. If you are just attaching smaller images to the windows you don’t need to worry about this!
4. **Choose your design style**.

**TISSUE PAPER AND BLACK PAPER:** There are lots of design options for this – see below

**HANGING or INSTALLING:** You could hang things like fairy lights or objects, or shirts.

**PROJECTION:** Create a layer on your windows using fabric or tissue paper and project on to these to create a moving image

**PAINT:** You could create window clings and paint on windows using PVA and poster paint or water-based acrylics. Or you can paint acrylics or emulsion straight onto windows and then get them off with a blade.

***The main thing is to have fun creating something new!***

**If you want to create a paper design, read below!.....**

1. **Paper-based Designs** – for these decide if you want have your whole window covered with a design or just have shapes on the window.

If you don’t want people to see inside a whole design is best. There are several options below for which material to use as a backing material.

a): **No Backing Material**: Cut small images from paper or card or tracing paper and stick to window and simply turn lights on!

b): **Tissue Paper backing:** this will give you a stained-glass effect. You can cover the window in tissue paper and put black shapes on it to create silhouettes.

c): **Black Paper or Card** is great for contrast but it doesn’t have to be black – it could be any colour: at night it will still look black when lit up. You can cover your window in black paper nd cut your design / text and images out of the middle. Using black paper as the backing for your design means light is blocked except the cut-out bits which are illuminated. You can then cover the spaces and gaps with tissue paper or cellophane to light them up!

d): **Tracing paper** means people can’t see in but it still lets light through and lights up. You can draw designs on tracing paper with felt tip pens that will then look illuminated or you can stick black paper or card and tissue paper on here to give you a stained glass effect. Tracing paper is very versatile.

1. **Cutting**: scissors are great. You could also use a craft knife and mat or board if you want to do something more intricate or technical. You can get these from most homeware stores or DIY shops for about £2-5
2. **Attaching to the windows:** Pritt stick and Sellotape are best (not PVA as this can make tissue buckle etc)
3. **Light up your window from 30th November – 3rd December** – just leaving the light on is enough, or you can use fairy lights if you want or aim a lamp.
4. **Have fun, connect with your neighbours, go out and visit some of the magical windows in our community! If you want to get really adventurous why not plan a design with your neighbours!**

**We would love to see your process! Please do tag us in your making and creations online @sheptonwindowwanderland @makethesunshinecic @sheptonmallettc**

**Community Workshop Sunday 19th November 1:30 – 3:30pm at Paul Street Community Centre, Shepton Mallet**