What is Rangoli?

Rangoli is an art form, originating in the Indian subcontinent, in which patterns are created on the floor or the ground using materials such as colored rice, dry flour, colored sand or flower petals. It is usually made during Diwali or Tihar, Onam, Pongal and other Hindu festivals.

“I learned so many things about my culture during my research for the PowerPoint and forgot about how nice it was to work with my hands creating art. I am going to take a picture of my Rangoli and send it to my Mom, she would be so pleased that I am sharing my culture with others.”

-Vikram Seshadri, Global Guide, India
INDIA
the art of rangoli

Materials Needed

- Table Salt
- Food coloring (any color, variation is good for creativity)
- Droppers (optional)
- Ziplock bags
- Elmers Glue
- White cardstock
- Mandela templates (these can be printed or drawn on the cardstock)

DIY Rangoli Sand

- Pour 1/2 cup of salt into ziplock bag
- Use dropper to add 2-3 drops into bag
  - No dropper? Use a spoon to measure a tiny amount of food coloring
- Shake up the bag and massage the dye into the salt
- Feel free to add more dye if you want the color to be darker
- Repeat for other colors
- Note: a little goes a long way, use a small amount of dye to begin (you want the salt to be dry not wet from the dye).
- Limited on food dye? Keep one bag of salt white!

Directions

- Apply a thin layer of glue onto one part of the Rangoli design at a time.
- Then sprinkle (by pinching the salt) on to the glued area.
- Dump excess salt back into ziplock bag
- Apply glue to the other areas once you’ve applied the first color
- Continue until you have filled the design
- Note: it is helpful to use one color at a time

Don’t have the resources to make your own Rangoli Sand? Just use markers to decorate the design OR create your own rangoli designs using chalk on your sidewalk!
Support Local Businesses and Restaurants
Expand your palate & learn about ways to engage with other international organizations.

- **Ambar India Restaurant** | 513-281-7000 | Clifton
- **Amol India Carry Out Restaurant** | 859-261-2317 | Newport
- **Raja India Restaurant** | 513-770-0500 | Mason
- **Bawarchi Indian Cuisine** | 513-466-8212 | Mason
- **Cultural Centre of India** | 513–227–9612 | Loveland, OH
- **Indian American Chamber of Commerce** | Downtown Cincinnati

For even more options visit our [Culture Guides](https://GlobalCincinnati.org).

Educational Resources & Materials
Learn even more about India, explore the world from your home.

- [How to create Rangoli (at home)](#) - World Affairs Council
- [Around the World Family Event ft. Nipendar Tyagi](#) - World Affairs Council
- [Happy Diwali | Diwali Story For Kids](#) - Jalebi Street Fun Stories & Songs for Kids
- [Rangoli for Kids – Art from India](#) - Kirsten Brunner
- [India: Safari | Are We There Yet?](#) - National Geographic Kids
- [India: Taj Mahal | Are We There Yet?](#) - National Geographic Kids
- [Diwali – Festival of Lights](#) - National Geographic

**Having fun?**
Send us pictures of you creating and/or your final art pieces! We would love to feature your work on our social media! Email your pictures to hgerth@cincyworldaffairs.org!
Give us your feedback with this quick survey: [Art Meets World @ Home](#).
Rangoli Template
No printer? Take a sheet of paper to the screen and trace the lines with a pencil.
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