

Paste Paper

3 Favorite Paste Recipes

Jin Shofu Wheat Paste from Talas

<https://www.talasonline.com/Zen-Shofu-Japanese-Wheat-Paste>

Water to flour ratio of 4:1

Cooked in a double boiler

Pre-cooked Wheat Paste 301 from Talas

<https://www.talasonline.com/Wheat-Paste-No-301>

Water to flour ratio of 4:1

Strained

Cake Flour in a water to flour ratio of 6:1 cooked in a double boiler.

- Other options include methyl cellulose, corn starch, all purpose flour and rice flour.
- Sharon Estemont and her calligraphy guild use Elmer's Paper Mache Art Paste powder.
- Some people add glycerin to their recipe to give a subtle sheen to the paper.
- Pastes keep in the fridge for several days.

Paint choices

- Choose paint you have on hand including heavy body and fluid acrylics, and watercolor paints.
- The more highly pigmented the paint, the less you need.
- Use acrylic inks for a transparent effect.
- My favorites are Golden heavy body acrylics.

Paper Choices

Your choice of paper will depend on the final use. For example a calligrapher will use a different paper to someone who intends to use it as a soft book cover.

Choose a robust paper - delicate papers are hard to work with.

Remember grain direction if you plan to use the papers in bookmaking.

My favorites are:

Canson XL Mixed Media Pads

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/canson-xl-mix-media-pads/>

BFK Rives printmaking paper 250gsm

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/bfk-rives-printmaking-papers/>

Tools

- Non-stick surface, such as plexiglass, mylar, plastic table cloth
- Spray bottle to wet papers or tub to pre-soak papers
- Wet rag to clean hands
- Clean sponge
- Tub of water
- Brushes to apply paste
- Newsprint or waste paper to dry papers flat on the floor
- Empty plastic pots to mix paint and paste
- Texture tools