American Indian Shield, ca. 1850, Nelson-Atkins Museum

Shields

Shield- A broad piece of armor worn on the arm to protect against weapons.

Though shields are primarily designed for physical protection, many are decorated with emblems or symbols for spiritual protection or to represent one's self or family.



Replica of Medieval Shield, www.gracecollection.com

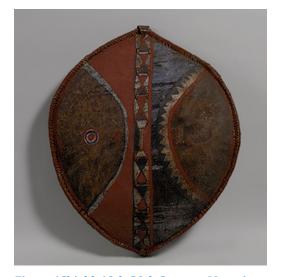


Figure 1Shield, 19th-20th Century, Maasai People, Met Museum

How to Make a Papier Mâché Shield

- Bend a wire hanger into a circle or other shield shape.
- Wrap the hanger with a few layers of newspaper.
- Use masking tape to secure the edges of the newspaper on the back side.
- Cover shield with a layer of Mod Podge.
- Think about your design and what kind of symbol or emblem you want on your shield. Protection? Representation?
- Paint your background color or colors. Add your symbol or emblem with paint or create it on another piece of paper, cut, and glue.



Shield, 19th century, Solomon Islands, Met Museum