

# Paper Bag Mushrooms

by Alissa Alfonso

Alissa Alfonso is a South Florida-based artist known for her nature-inspired work in soft sculpture, fused plastic clouds and stuffed textile collages. Her work reveals her passion to preserve natural environments and to reconnect her community with their surrounding nature. Follow along with the steps in this packet or in Alissa's demonstration video to make your own mushrooms to place in your surrounding environment out of recycled paper bags! Make as many as you'd like and put them in your yard, in potted plants or wherever you want, then show us where they've popped up by sending us a picture!



Email photos of your completed projects to be highlighted on social media to [yaamuseum@gmail.com](mailto:yaamuseum@gmail.com) and share your paper bag mushrooms with Alissa by tagging her [@alissaalfonso](https://www.instagram.com/alissaalfonso)



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## Materials You'll Need:

- Brown paper bags, any size (used are the best)  
The larger the bag the larger the mushroom!
- Bamboo skewers/shish kabob skewers
- Hot glue gun
- Glue sticks

## How To Make Your Own Paper Bag Mushrooms

1. Open the brown paper bag, slide your hand inside and open it all the way, with your other hand grab the neck of the bag, slide your hand out and begin to squeeze the neck of the bag to form the mushroom stem.
2. Once the stem is formed hold the stem close to the top of mushroom. With your other hand push the top part of the bag down over your fist to smash the top of the bag to form the round top of the mushroom cap.
3. Shape the mushroom cap by folding over any corners.
4. Open the bottom of the bag/stem and add a good amount of hot glue, place the skewer point side out inside the stem (pointed side out), push it all the way up till it reaches the mushroom cap. Squeeze the paper bag around the skewer, the hot glue will dry very fast.
5. Have fun displaying your mushroom outdoors or in an indoor potted plant.

**FOLLOW THIS LINK TO SEE ALISSA'S DEMONSTRATION VIDEO:** <https://youtu.be/kB86J5GrmSw>