

CREATING YOUR GRATITUDE PLATE

Plate Materials

1. Choose your plates from your favorite store:
 - Heavy-duty paper plates
 - Clear glass or plastic plates
 - Plain white melamine plates
2. Glue gun or multipurpose craft glue
3. Mod Podge and a brush to apply
4. Assorted colored tissue paper, magazine images, photos, feathers, beads, glitter, pipe cleaners and other interesting objects (consider seasonal leaves, pine cones, and nuts)
5. Assorted markers (permanent markers work best on all)

What You Do

Heavy Duty Paper Plates (easiest to work with)

Be creative! Try feathers, beads, glitter, pipe cleaners, and other interesting objects, magazine cutouts, leaves, and nuts for your design. Layer your objects. Have fun expressing your gratitude!

Glass and Plastic Plates

Use Mod Podge with brush to apply tissue paper to back side of plate. Add more decorations to front to create layered effect. Tissue paper will give a stained glass look when lit from behind.

Melamine Plates

Use permanent markers on these plates and seal with Mod Podge. Sketch your plan on paper before drawing with pens. Apply other materials to your plate with a glue gun. (*See additional suggestions above for the paper plate*).

Visit our [Facebook](#) page and keepsake webpage for plate examples.

Resources

Learn more about the history of Thanksgiving with the following resources:

1. Scholastic.com, [The Native American Perspective](#)
2. [Freedom Feast's A Simple Thanksgiving History](#)
3. Thanksgiving Booklist
 - [Giving Thanks—The 1621 Harvest Feast](#) by Kate Waters, 2001
 - [1621: A New Look at Thanksgiving](#) by Catherine O'Neill Grace, 2004
 - [Giving Thanks: A Native American Good Morning Message](#), by Jake Swamp, 2003

Consider visiting a local glazing studio to create plates before Thanksgiving. We know of several families who have created Thanksgiving plate collections over the years this way.



USING MOD PODGE

Mod Podge is a water based sealer, glue and finish for all surfaces.

- Use a brush to apply Mod Podge to your plate as you add tissue, photos or other images. Let dry.
- It can also be used at the end to give a finish coat to your plate.



TaDAH! You're done! Don't forget to take a picture of yourself with your creation.

Write a sentence about your Gratitude plate...



...share it with us on [Facebook](#)!

We are grateful for plate designs by artists David Stein (1), Philomena Malano (2), and Paulette Bogan (3) from the CMOM - Freedom's Feast Thanksgiving Dinner Plate Collection 2009 copyrighted