

# HOW TO BUILD A FILE FOLDER ROCKET

## Step 1

Take one side of a file folder and fold it in half on the long side. Cut along the line so you have two rectangles.

## Step 2

Roll one of the rectangles into a tube and tape it. This tube is the body of the rocket and must fit over the end-pipe of the rocket launcher, which is  $\frac{1}{2}$ " in diameter; the inside of the tube shouldn't be larger than  $\frac{1}{2}$ " in diameter.

## Step 3

Take the remaining rectangle and fold it in half along the long edge. Cut along the line to create two rectangles. One is for the nose cone, and one is for the fins.

## Step 4

Take one of the smaller rectangles you just made and draw a circle. You can trace the inside of a roll of tape, or the outside of a jar lid, or anything round. Round-ish is even good. Find the centre of the circle by folding it in half, and then half again a different way. Cut a line to the centre of the circle only – do not cut the circle in half. Roll the circle up into a cone and tape it. Hold the nose tip-down and put hot glue inside the cone. Put enough glue in so that the nose is reinforced when it dries, and some around the edge. Before the glue dries, put the tube you created in Step 2 into the wet glue (careful – it's hot) in the nose cone. Check alignment and hold the nose and body together gently for a few minutes until the glue dries.

## Step 5

Take the remaining rectangle and fold it in half along the long edge. Draw a line diagonally across the folded-over rectangle you have. Carefully cut along the line and you should have three triangles. Cut the big one into half along the crease so you have four triangles. These are the fins. Create tabs for affixing the fin to the body by folding one edge and making two small cuts; this should give you three tabs for each fin.

## Step 6

Affix the fins to the body of the rocket with tape. Line the bottom of the fin up with the bottom of the tube – this will help the rocket stand up and also fly straight.

## Step 7

Check that everything is glued or taped properly. Decorate. Launch. Enjoy.

