



# MEXICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY 2024

HOLA! THIS IS MY MINI GUIDE ON MEXICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY! I'M EXCITED TO SHARE A BIT ABOUT MY ROOTS WITH YOU AND YOUR KIDS! I HOPE I INSPIRE YOU TO LEARN A LITTLE ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF SEPTEMBER 16TH! YOU LEARN A LITTLE HANDWORK!  
ENJOY!



Thank you so much for your support!

## DIGITAL DOWNLOAD

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# MEXICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

## *facts and info*

The Mexican War of Independence (1810–1821) was a war between the people of Mexico and the Spanish Colonial government. (That's a long war!)

- It started on September 16, 1810
- For 300 years, Mexico was known as New Spain. It was controlled by the Spanish Monarch. The Spanish treated the indigenous people of Mexico very harsh.
- Mexican Independence Day commemorates Father Hidalgo's 1810 El Grito de Dolores address, which began the fight for Mexican independence. Till this day no one knows exactly what the speech was. But what we do know Father Hidalgo was standing in front of the Dolores parish church. With a banner of the Virgin of Guadalupe behind him, he spoke to a large gathering of Mexicans, Mestizos, and Indians.
- Father Hidalgo gathered thousands for an army and won some key battles in Guanajuato and Monte de Las Cruces. Unfortunately he was captured and killed by the Spanish in 1811. But despite this, Father Hidalgo is remembered as the Master Builder of Mexican independence and is well known as "Father of the Nation."
- For over a decade, Mexican nationalists fought Spanish royalists in the Mexican War of Independence. 11 years to be exact! And finally, in September 1821 after El Grito de Dolores, Mexico WON!!!!
- Every year on September 16th, Mexicans in Mexico and around the world celebrate the birth of modern-day Mexico with fireworks, decorations, dancing, food, and traditional songs.



# BOLILLOS

*mexican dinner rolls*



## WHAT ARE BOLILLOS?

**BOLILLOS ARE A VARIATION OF THE BAGUETTE THAT WERE BROUGHT TO MEXICO CITY IN THE 1860S. THEY ARE A STAPLE IN MEXICAN CUISINE!**

## INGREDIENTS:

200g unbleached all-purpose white flour  
300g bread flour  
5.5g active active yeast  
8g Salt  
8g sugar  
1 1/4 cup 110°F hot water  
KitchenAid Stand Mixer.  
Kitchen Scale (a must for baking)

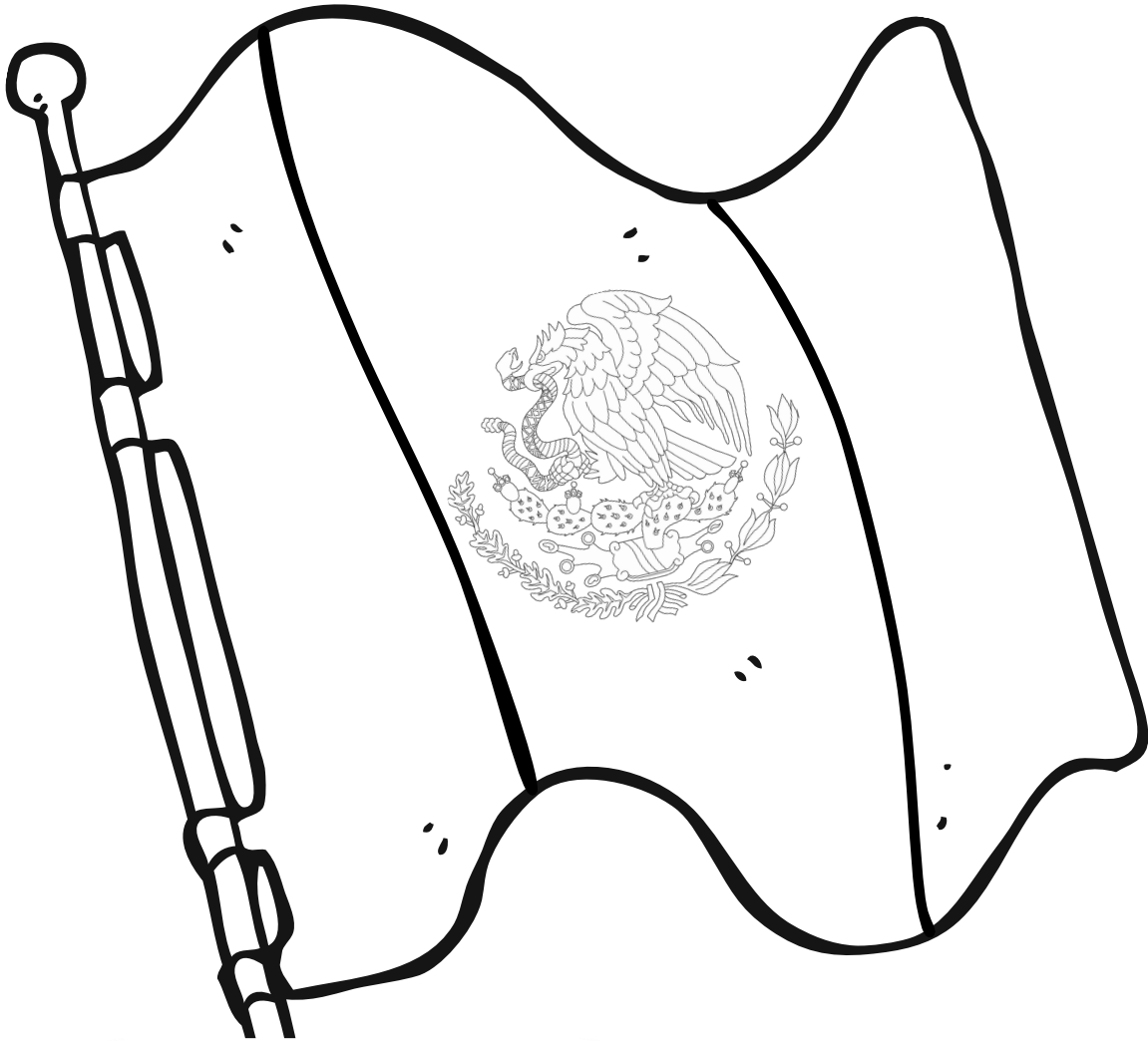


## DIRECTIONS:

- Add dry ingredients to the bowl of your stand mixer and whisk on low until well combined.
- Add 110°F hot water. The temperature is IMPORTANT! Too colder water and your dough won't rise, Too hotter water and well you will kill the yeast. Use a thermometer!
- Use the dough hook to the stand mixer. This Helps with kneading till the dough is like elastic.
- Cover the bowl with a clean damp kitchen towel/or plastic wrap for humidity and warmth and let the dough rise to double its size. With a Plastic covering it can rise in 25 minutes. With a towel up to 50 min.
- Once the dough doubled in size, remove it from the bowl and place on a clean floured working surface, sprinkle flour on top.
- This next part is important to get the elastic feel of your dough. We first fold from the bottom up and over and from the top up and over, then let rest for 10 minutes.
- Fold again, and let rest another 10 minutes, until the dough becomes smooth and elastic.
- (If you made sourdough its that same process)
- As we wait for it to rest line a baking sheet with parchment paper. We are almost ready to start shaping! Weigh your dough and cut the dough into 8 equal pieces.
- Roll into "bolillo form", Roll and apply apply pressure to the sides. And use your fingers to form the side pieces. Then place on the lined baking sheet.
- Once all bolillos are formed and spaced equally. You may need another pan. I usually bake 4 at a time bc they puff up. , You will then make about a 1/2" deep incision in the middle with a sharp knife/razor blade and brush all bolillos with water.
- Preheat your oven to 450 F and place a pan in the middle rack with water to create steam and allow for the crust of the loaf will stay moist and the loaf will be able to expand.
- Then cover the bolillos with a damp clean kitchen towel and let the dough rise a second time until doubled in size. This is when you will see all the fruits of your labor come to be and you are the most excited.
- Remove the kitchen towel, brush the bolillos again with water, add another 1 cup of water to your baking sheet already in the oven.
- Place the bolillos on the rack on top in the oven for about 15 minutes. until you get a golden brown crust.
- Let cool for at least 10 minutes and enjoy warm.

# MEXICO FLAG

*let's color*

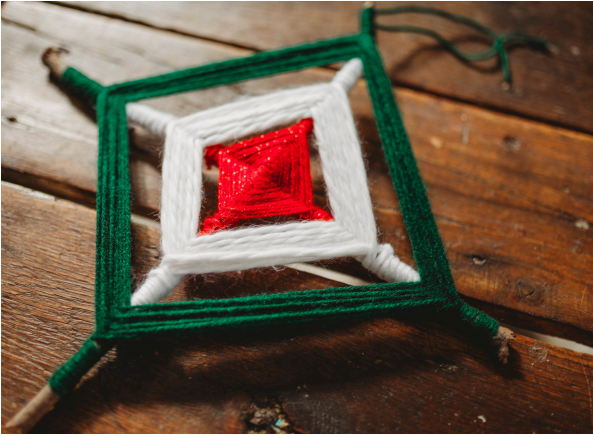


- The first Mexican flag was created in 1821. The current flag was adopted on September 16, 1968.
- The Mexico flag has three colors:
  - Green: Represents hope and victory, and the Mexican Independence Movement
  - White: Represents unity and the Roman Catholic religion
  - Red: Represents friendship between Europeans and Mexicans, and the blood of national heroes
- The Mexico Flag Coat of Arms:
  - The central emblem on the flag depicts an eagle with a snake in its beak, standing on a cactus:
  - Eagle: Represents the warrior attitude, courage, and strength of the Mexican people. It also embodies the strength of the sun.
  - Snake: Represents Mexico's enemies, and the fact that the people will always be victorious over them.
  - Cactus: Symbolizes the challenges that the people have faced.
  - Ribbon: Located between the oak and laurel branches, it represents the union of Mexicans for their homeland. The ribbon's colors are the same as the flag's.
  - Aztec glyph: Symbolizes the islet on the water, the lakes of Tenochtitlán and Texcoco, and the mestizo of the indigenous population.



# OJO DE DIOS

handwork



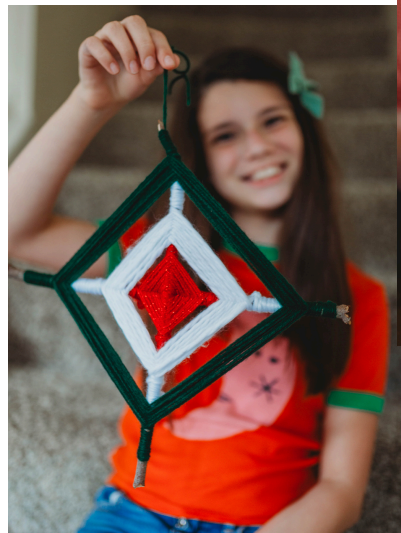
**GOD'S EYES OR OJO DE DIOS (OH-HO-DAY-DEE-OHS) ORIGINALLY COME FROM THE HUICHOLO PEOPLE OF CENTRAL NORTHWEST MEXICO, THESE WERE CREATED AS PROTECTIVE AND SPIRITUAL SYMBOLS THAT HELPED THEM CONNECT MORE DEEPLY TO THE NATURAL WORLD.**

## WHAT YOU NEED:

- 2 Sticks about the same size
- Wool Yarn: Red, White and Green.
- Scissors

## DIRECTIONS:

1. Select two sticks about the same size and gather your 3 yarn colors.
2. Using yarn, tie a noose knot and tighten it around the X of the sticks. Wind the yarn in a figure eight around the center, first from right to left diagonally, then from left to right. This will secure our sticks. And looks fabulous at the end!
3. Be sure to hold the sticks in place so we can begin weaving. We will work counter-clockwise, moving the yarn over and around one stick, then over and around the next stick, and continue to complete one round. Pull the yarn tightly each time and push the yarn down snugly toward the center. (I mark the top of the back so I know where I started)
4. You can sing this into a song to find your rhythm and it helps out so much! When you do enough of your first color you can change the color. In order to change color you will knot the new color into the old one and continue with the rhythm.
5. When you get to the end or when you want to stop tie a knot at the beginning stick. And this is optional but take a wide eye needle and feed it through to secure.



# MINI PAPEL PICADO

*handcraft*



THE ART OF MAKING PAPEL PICADO ORIGINATED IN THE TOWN OF SAN SALVADOR HUIXCOLOTLA IN THE MEXICAN STATE OF PUEBLA. PAPEL PICADO, OR TRADITIONAL PAPER BANNERS, REPRESENT THE WIND.

## WHAT YOU NEED:

- 3-6 Various Sheets of Tissue Paper (we used Waldorf Kite Sheets 6.5in)
- Glue (my favorite Ukkie dries fast and is clear)
- Bakers Twine (or any other cotton/jute string will work)
- Scissors

## DIRECTIONS:

1. Take one Sheet of paper and fold in half (river/horizontal), then crease.
2. Take one side and make it into a square and crease.
3. Take edges with all loose ends and fold it up into a triangle. & crease.
4. Take the point where the two small sides meet and fold to make a small triangle.
5. Here is where it gets tricky. Make a design with a pencil if you need to but do not cut on the fold but where the triangle meets and edges are open.
6. Cut a few designs and slowly open. You will have a square with repeated patterns.
7. Take a side you want to fold and make the top of the banner. Fold  $\frac{1}{4}$  in or a tad more.
8. Place the string and dab glue where needed and it's ready to hang!





# SIMPLE MARIGOLD PAPER FLOWERS

## handcraft



ACCORDING TO LEGEND, CEMPASÚCHIL, WHICH COMES FROM THE NAHUATL WORDS CEMPOSALLI, MEANING "TWENTY," AND XOCHITL, OR "FLOWER," MAKING MARIGOLDS THE "FLOWER OF TWENTY PETALS," WERE MIRACULOUSLY GIFTED TO THE NAHUA BY TONATIUH, THEIR SUN GOD, SO THAT THEY MIGHT HONOR THEIR DEAD.

**MARIGOLDS ARE ALWAYS USED IN MEXICAN CULTURE!**



### WHAT YOU NEED:

To make One Flower:

- 5 Tissue Paper Squares (used Waldorf Kite Size 6,5 in)
- 1 Pipe Cleaner
- Ruler (to flatten paper)
- Scissors (to cut edges)

## DIRECTIONS:

1. Start by making sure all 5 sheets are aligned.
2. Fold accordion style till you get to the end, use flat end of ruler or something else flat to flatten the paper. Careful tissue/waldorf kite paper is very soft and can tear. (and if it does it's okay) Then fold in half to create a middle point, and open.
3. Cut the edges either half moon or triangle, this is for a flower edge. Be creative. You can cut the edges anyway you like!
4. Use a pipe cleaner to tie and twist in the middle point. This will give a good hold to attach.
5. Lightly fold out one fan opposite from the pipe cleaner. Lightly separate from stack and lift up. Once one side is completed, repeat on the other side.
6. Now repeat to make more than one!

