

MAKE A FRIENDSHIP MOSAIC



The ancient city of Antioch was founded about 2300 years ago. It was located near the Mediterranean Sea in the country known today as Turkey. Antioch was a port city. Sailors and workers traveled to Antioch to trade goods. Antioch's vibrant culture attracted people of different races and religions. The city was also home to the artists and craftsmen who constructed the famous Antioch Mosaics. These massive works of art were designed as flooring for homes and public buildings. The mosaics were made of stone and concrete, which were able to stay cool in hot weather.

Large pieces of stone were carefully cut into thousands of small squares and arranged by color to create patterns and images, including animals, people, religious figures, and flowers. The final mosaic design was then permanently set in place with concrete.

The *Lion and Humped Ox* mosaic was designed to symbolize friendship among the different types of people in the city. Follow the steps below to create your own friendship mosaic.

Above: *Lion and Humped Ox*. Syria (present-day Turkey). 5th century. Stone and lime mortar. 89 x 100 in. (226.1 x 254.1 cm).
The Baltimore Museum of Art: Antioch Subscription Fund, BMA 1937.119

MATERIALS

Paper, pencil, old magazines, glue or glue stick, and scissors

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Think of a symbol or shape that represents friendship to you. The shape can be simple or complex.
- 2 Trace or draw the outline of your symbol onto paper using a pencil.
- 3 Decide which colors you want to use and write them on the sections of your symbol where they will go.
- 4 Cut out the magazine pages that have the colors you chose. Arrange the pages by color in piles on the side.
- 5 Cut the pages from your piles into small squares. Keep like colors together.
- 6 Use your finger or a small brush to spread glue over a section of your symbol. (Apply the glue to one section at a time.)
- 7 Fill in the section with the small squares according to the colors you wrote down.
- 8 Repeat steps 6–7 until each section is filled with the small squares.



We'd love to see your work! Snap a picture of your final creation and share with us on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter using the hashtag #ArtBMAFromHome for a chance to be featured.

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