

*A How-To by*

**THUSS + FARRELL**  
**PAPER<sub>TO</sub>PETAL**

FEATURED BY OH JOY!

**PAPER**  
**LANTERN**  
**MOBILE /**

[thussfarrell.com](http://thussfarrell.com)

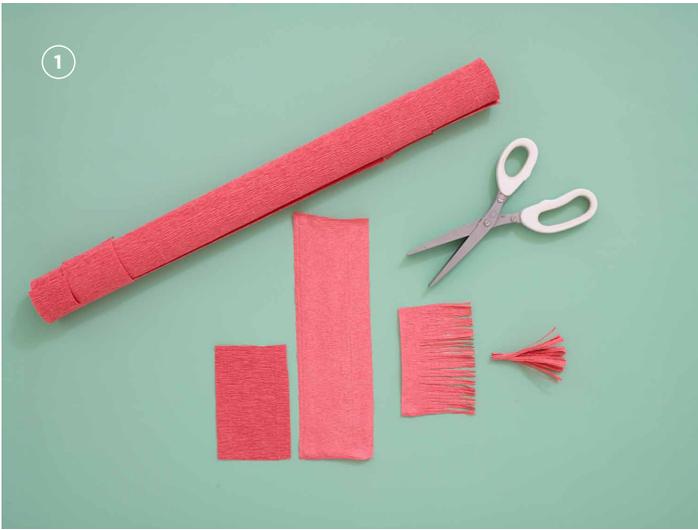
[papertopetal.com](http://papertopetal.com)

[marriedtocraft.com](http://marriedtocraft.com)

INSTAGRAM: [thussfarrell](https://www.instagram.com/thussfarrell)



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## MATERIALS

- 7 OH JOY for Target herringbone paper lanterns
- 1 package OH JOY for Target plastic straws
- Green and white thick bakery twine, Similar twine from:  
[https://www.etsy.com/listing/193757666/full-spool-everlasto-twine-100-yards?ref=shop\\_home\\_active\\_13&ga\\_search\\_query=everlasto](https://www.etsy.com/listing/193757666/full-spool-everlasto-twine-100-yards?ref=shop_home_active_13&ga_search_query=everlasto)
- Scissors
- Fringe scissors by Martha Stewart Crafts from:  
[http://www.amazon.com/Martha-Stewart-Crafts-Fringe-Scissors/dp/B002Y6HFJW/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1410454429&sr=8-1&keywords=martha+stewart+fringe](http://www.amazon.com/Martha-Stewart-Crafts-Fringe-Scissors/dp/B002Y6HFJW/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1410454429&sr=8-1&keywords=martha+stewart+fringe)
- Double-stick tape
- Dusty rose florist crepe paper from Castle in the Air, Berkeley.  
<https://www.castleintheair.biz/shoppe/?b=10&d=157&k=10&c=140>

## BUILD

- 1.** Cut a 4.5" long x 3" tall strip of crepe paper. The grain (the vertical ridges in the paper) should be running up and down on the short side. Fully stretch the paper by holding the edges and pulling evenly and gently. Cut this stretched piece in half and using fringing scissors fringe 3/4 of the way down the strip as shown (or fringe by hand). Gather the un-fringed edge together tightly and evenly, and give the end a little tight twist to keep it together. Make 6 and set aside.
- 2.** Assemble 7 paper lanterns. Cut 4 lengths of twine 40" long, and 3 lengths 16" long. Tie a double knot at one end of a 40" piece to the center top of a wire lantern armature (not the open c-shape metal piece, see note). With a 16" piece of twine thread it through the base wire of the lantern, find the halfway point, and tie a double knot. Thread a 40" piece of twine through a plastic straw. Tie the ends of the twine coming from the base of the first lantern around the center of the straw and make a double knot. We tied ours with about 4-5" of space between the lantern and the straw.
- 3.** Using the Twine that is threaded through the straw, tie double knots to 2 lanterns at the top of each wire armature, again tying to the wire, not the c-shape. You can choose the length of space between straw and lantern as desired. Repeat the process to attach 2 more sets of straws and double lanterns. Cut 3, 5/8" tall x 1" wide strips of crepe paper and fully stretch them. Apply a piece of double stick tape to each and set aside. Hang the mobile and begin delicately adjusting the weight balance beginning with the first set of lanterns.

Adjust the pair of lanterns hanging from the straw to the desired length. Then slowly slide the twine tied to the straw from the lantern above until you find the balance and the straw is straight. Trim the excess twine, and carefully cover the twine and tails with the crepe strip as shown. Trim off the excess paper. Carefully push the fringe crepe pieces into the sides of the straws and adjust if needed.

- 4.** Repeat the process of adjusting for balance, covering the twine with crepe strips and adding the fringe pieces with the other pairs of lanterns. Continue to adjust until the mobile hangs as desired. Trim any excess twine that may be hanging down from inside the lanterns.

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## NOTE

Be sure to only tie the twine to the center of the cross wire of the armature that keeps the lantern rigid. If you tie the twine to the open c-shape piece that is attached at the top of the wire, your mobile will not hang evenly. Also to note, the OH JOY for target plastic straws are extra sturdy and thick. The weight of the lanterns will most likely bend a standard plastic straw.

## STYLE NOTE

You can continue to add more layers to make your mobile longer, or experiment with different lengths of twine to create different shapes. You can omit the crepe fringe, use mixed straw colors and even try a thicker ribbon or gold twine. Have fun!