

Every creative hits a wall—whether you're overwhelmed by too many materials, stuck in a rut, unsure where to begin or just stressed by clutter. The impulse might be to shop or scroll for something new, but the real solution often lies in revisiting what you already own and love. This simple exercise helps you reduce clutter, regain focus, and spark inspiration using your existing stash. In just one session, you might uncover new directions, fresh ideas, and even lighten your creative load.

For this recycle box project I'll be making boho bags using book pages and brown packaging material.

Here's a step-by-step guide to get started:

1. Start with your junk box.

Use scraps, unfinished projects, or items you didn't love—no pressure, no stress.

2. Choose 2 base material categories.

Limit your scope—e.g., book pages.

3. Select 2–4 simple tools.

Keep it manageable (e.g., watercolors, white gel pen, scissors).

4. Make as many simple pieces as you can.

Don't embellish or finish—just create freely within the limits you've set.

5. Add a third category of material.

Use the same tools but introduce a new scrap source from your stash (brown paper packaging material).

6. Relax and reflect.

Let your mind wander; you might discover a new style or project idea. Take notes if inspiration strikes.

7. Sort through your creations.

Toss anything you don't like. Commit at least one piece to a specific use or spot.

8. Store and revisit.

Keep finished pieces in a designated space. Regularly declutter and refresh your supplies.

9. Keep an allotted space for each category of materials, tools or finished creations and stick to it.

Limit space per category—materials, tools, and finished work—to stay organized and inspired.

10. End with a clean, clear space.

Leave your area tidy and your mind refreshed, with fresh ideas to build on next time.

Enjoy this easy process and happy paper crafting!