

PUNCHED TIN LANTERNS

Punched tin lanterns are both functional and beautiful. Create a your own version using aluminium foil.

New England tanners bought tinplate from importers in Boston and other ports to make into plates, cups, candle holders, lanterns, coffee pots, pails, whistles, bowls, canteens, chandeliers, and even tin “speaking trumpets,” a colonial style of megaphone. A tinsmith needed shears and snips for cutting sheets of tinplate, nippers, a light curved anvil, soldering iron, some punches, and a few hammers. A Punched Tin Lantern was used as candle carrier. When walking outside, the candle would be protected from the wind and you would arrive safely at your destination with the burning candle.

Supplies Needed:

- ☐ Design template
- ☐ Aluminum Foil folded, 4x9.25
- ☐ Tape
- ☐ Cardboard
- ☐ Pen
- ☐ Mason Jar band
- ☐ Hot Glue Gun
- ☐ Scissors

Share your work with us!

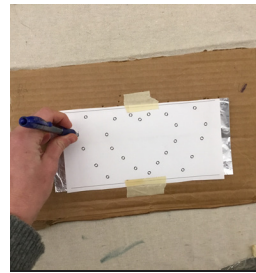
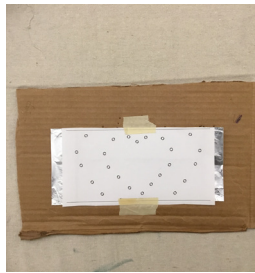
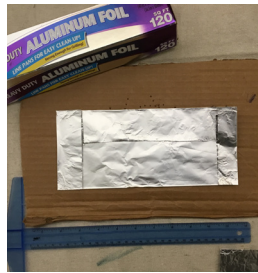
We want to see your Punched Tin Lanterns! Share your creations with us by tagging us on social media with [#litchfieldhistory](https://twitter.com/litchfieldhistory)



Punched Tin Lantern Instructions

To Make the Base:

1. Print the design template or create your own design. If creating your own design, mark punch holes approximately 1/4cm apart.
2. Cut and fold a piece of aluminum foil into a rectangle 4x9.5 inches
3. Place down a piece of cardboard. Put your aluminium foil back sign up on the cardboard and design template on top of that. Tape down to secure
4. Use the pen to punch holes through the foil, following the design.



5. Using the hot glue gun, glue the foil around the base of a mason jar band with the punched side out. Hot glue the seam. Hot Glue guns can cause burns, this step is best done by an adult.

To Make the Cap:

1. Fold a piece of aluminium foil and cut out half circle template.
2. Fold over edges 1/4 of an inch.
3. Following the directions above, tape cap and design template onto cardboard and punch out holes
4. Bend the cap into a cone and hot glue seam.
5. Make the handle by folding a piece of aluminum foil into a .5"x3" rectangle. Wrap into circle and secure end with hot glue gun. Glue to top of cone.
6. Place the lantern over a tea candle or electric tea candle

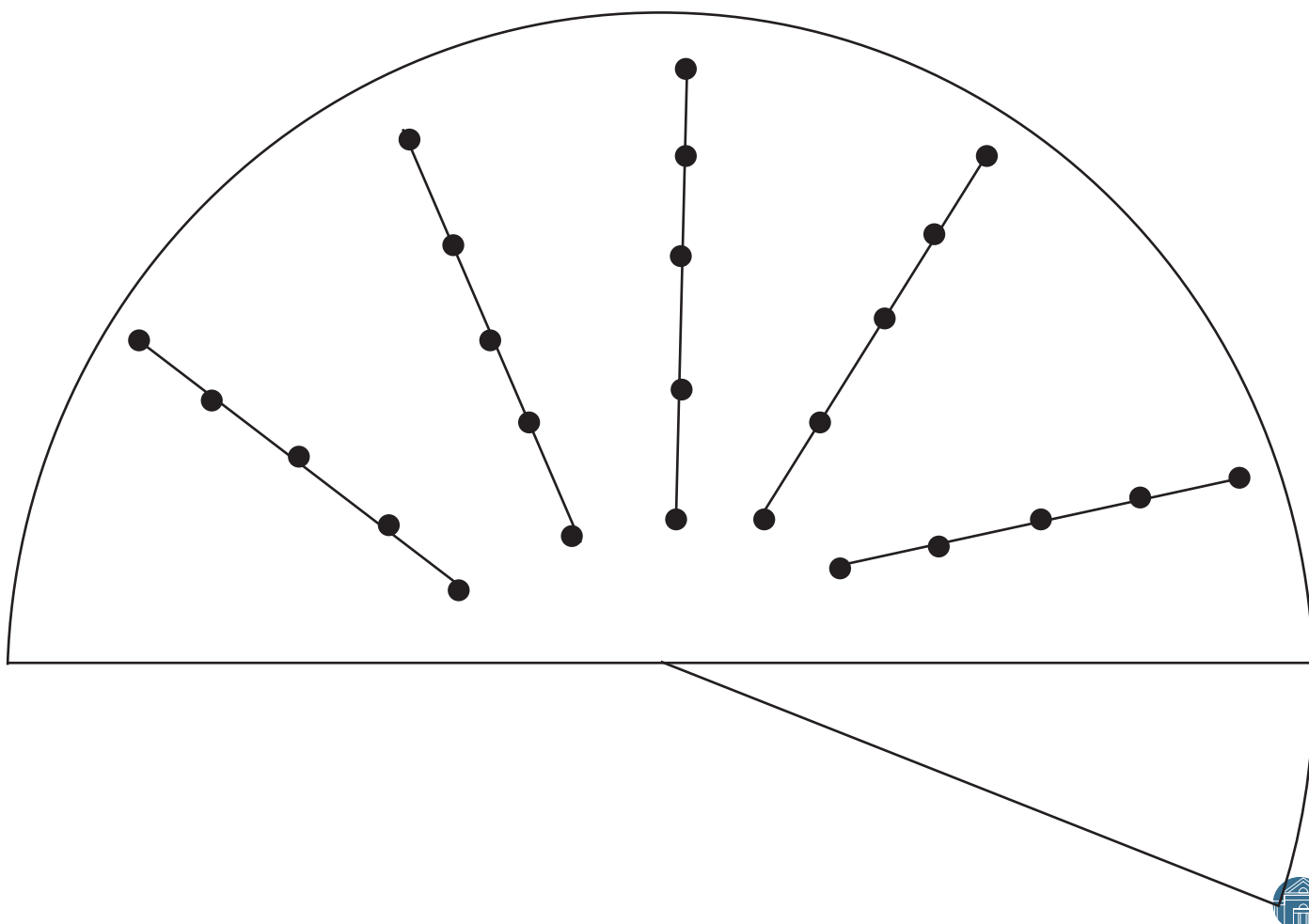
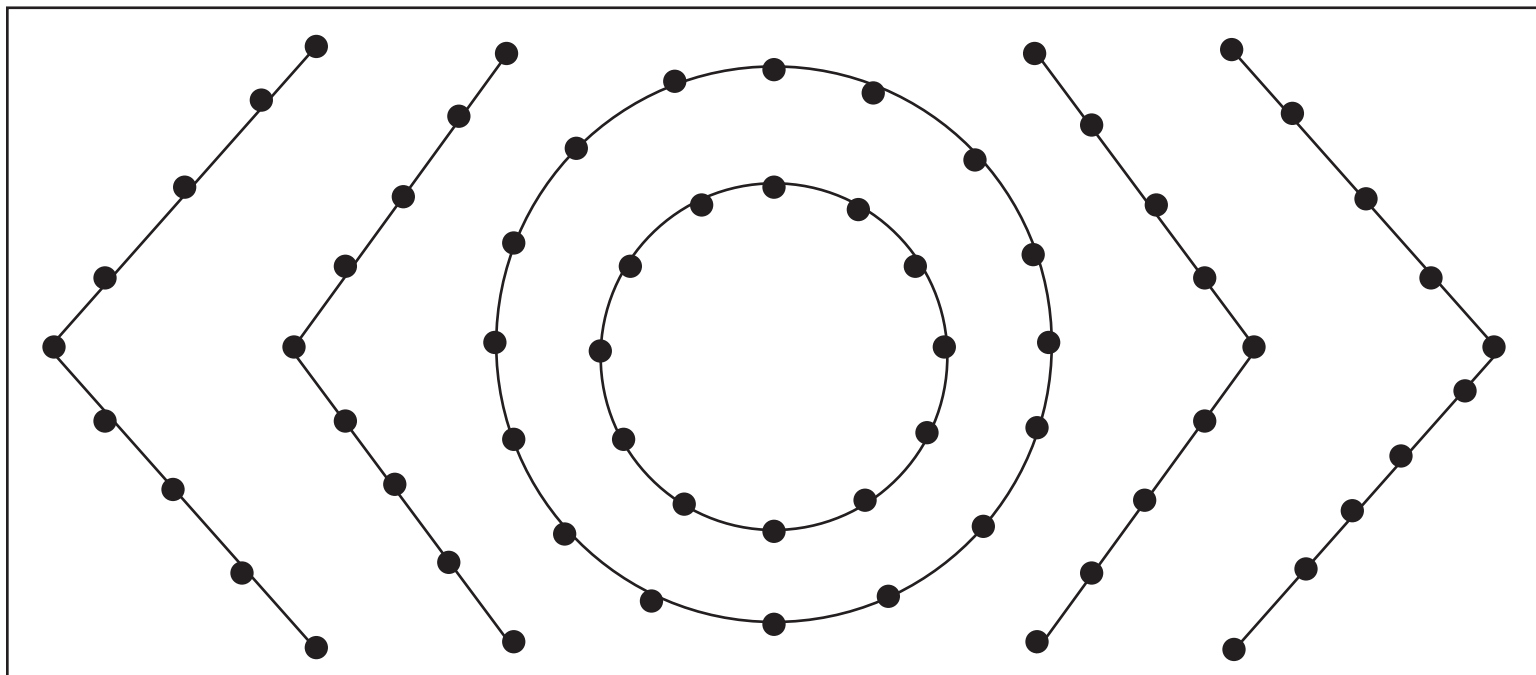
For video instructions, visit our website.

www.litchfieldhistoricalsociety.org

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Punched Tin Lantern Template



Punched Tin Lantern Template

