



Artwork: Islamic metal saucer by an unknown artist on display at Cartwright Hall.
Image: ©Bradford Museums and Galleries

You inspire me to ... *create a special object.*

This beautiful Islamic saucer was created using special metal hammering techniques.

The patterns are inspired by calligraphy writing and also include natural and geometric shapes. If you look closely you can see a Mosque in the centre.

You can create a shiny special object that looks like metal by 'embossing' with foil. Embossing is creating a raised image that you can feel when you run your fingers over it.

What do I need?

- Silver or other coloured kitchen foil
- A really blunt pencil
- A piece of scrap card to lean on.



What am I doing?

- Look round your house for any objects with patterns to inspire you—maybe picture frames or other metal objects.
- Tear off a piece of foil from the roll -the size that you would like your object to be.
- Put your piece of foil on to your scrap piece of card with the shiny side facing down. Use your blunt pencil to 'draw' the shape of your object .Draw some patterns on it.
- You need to press down as you draw to make your patterns and shapes stand out.
- When you have finished turn the foil over to see your 'embossing' on the shiny side.
- If you have scissors (ask an adult to help) you can cut out the shape of your object.

Hints and Tips

- You might need to use a piece of foil to practice on. If you press too lightly the drawing won't show through, but too hard and the foil will rip. It is tricky to get right.
- If you find the foil is too thin and rips use 2 sheets together: one under the other.
- You can create quite large pieces of embossed foil and then sculpt it into 3D shapes or wrap it round the outside of an object like a bowl and then careful remove it so you are left with the shape of the object.

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