



**WRITE FOR
RIGHTS**

DECEMBER 3RD - 11TH
[amnestyusa.org / writeathon](http://amnestyusa.org/writeathon)

How to make:

“SHINE A LIGHT” Lanterns



WHAT IS “SHINE A LIGHT”?



Around the world, many Amnesty International activists will be including a visual element in their Write for Rights events this December to symbolize how AI has been shining a light on human rights for 50 years.

Most of the “Shine a Light” initiatives will aim to take place on December 9-10 to highlight International Human Rights Day, but you can hold yours on another day if needed.

For action information about the featured cases and for more tips on how to participate in Write-for-rights, see the Write for Rights Guide to the 2011 Global Write-a-thon at:

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/writeathon/resources>

CREATING SHINE A LIGHT LANTERNS

In this toolkit, you'll find easy to use instructions on how to create simple but powerful paper lanterns bearing the images of the Individuals at Risk cases featured in this year's Write for Rights action.

You can use these tips to shine a light on one (or more) of the 15 individuals, families and communities who are the focus of the Write for Rights Global Write-a-thon 2011 and inspire others to action.

If you are planning an event for the 2011 Write-a-thon, you can integrate the theme of "shining a light" into your event. You might use the lanterns to illuminate your event space, or organize a candlelit procession with your participants. As Amnesty International supporters around the world take part in this symbolic action, it will quite literally illuminate the breadth of our collective action and power.



You will need to download the lantern template for each case here:

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/writeathon/resources>

You can also invent your own way of making lanterns, using the materials and format that work best for you!

What you will need:



Letter-size paper
Color printer (to print out the templates provided as .pdf files)
Scissors
Glue
Pencil
Thick cardboard
Long candles (or tea lights, small glass jars and sticking tape)

Hand-held lantern:



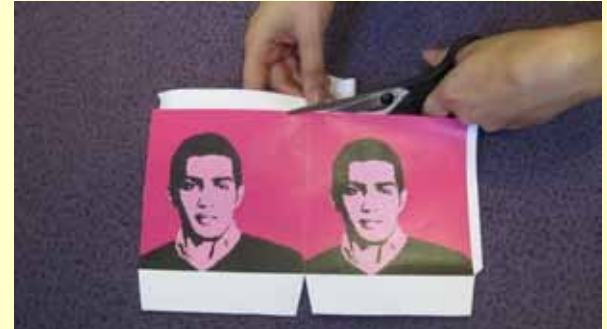
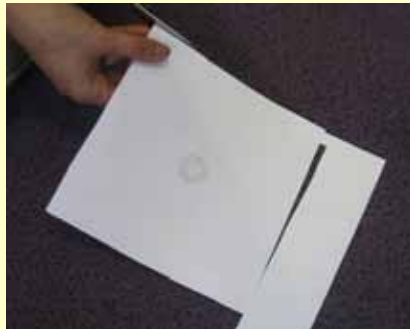
Step 1:

Print out the **lantern template** for the case of your choice and one **lantern base template**.

To make a lantern for one Individuals at Risk case: print out 2 copies of the relevant page from the **Lantern template for one case PDF**.

Step 2:

Cut out the templates.



Step 3:

If you are making a lantern for just one Individuals at Risk case, fold along the dotted line between the two images.



Step 4:

Fold back the white tabs.



Step 5:

Glue the side tabs (labelled 1 on the template) and stick the four images together into a cube. Don't glue the tabs labelled 2 at the bottom of the image at this stage.



Step 6:

Place the base template on the cardboard and draw round it. Cut the square out of the cardboard.



Step 7:

With the cardboard underneath, stick a pencil through the center of the base template to make a mark in the middle of your cardboard.



Step 8:

Remove the base template, and place the candle on top of the mark in the centre of the cardboard. Draw a line round the base of the candle.



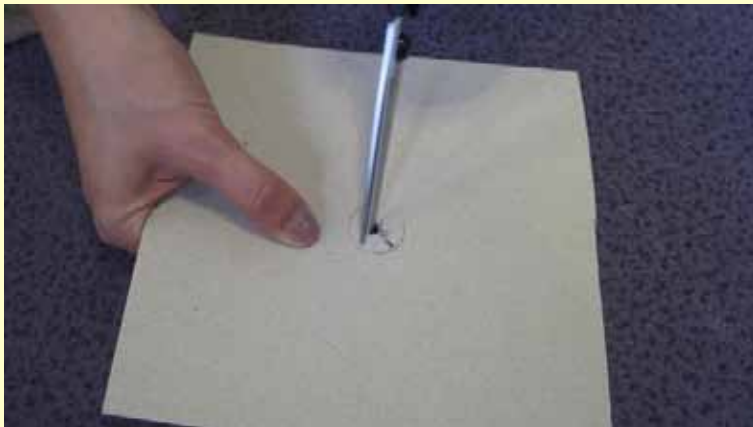
Step 9:

Draw a cross in the circle.



Step 10:

Cut along the two lines of the cross (just cut along the two lines, **don't** cut out the circle). Test that the opening this creates is the right size by putting the candle through it. The candle should fit very tightly. Remove the candle.



Step 11:

Glue the base tabs (labeled 2 on the template) of the paper lantern to stick the cube onto the cardboard base. The cross you've cut should be positioned right in the center.



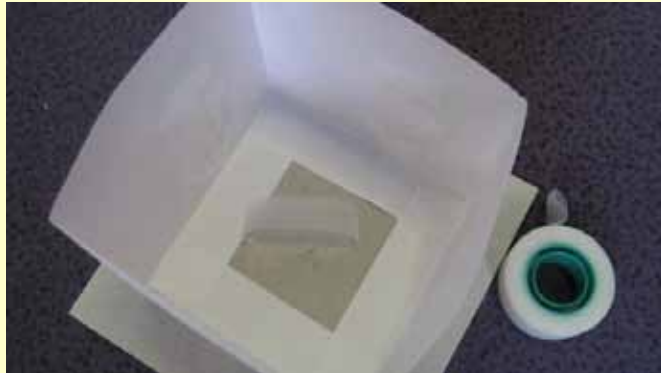
Step 12:

Put the candle back through the hole in the base created by the cut cross – your lantern is ready!



Table-top lantern:

Follow **Steps 1 to 6** and **Step 11** above. Then tape the glass jar in the middle of the cardboard. At your event, light a tea light and drop it into the glass jar.



Remember:
**Never leave a lit candle
unattended**

Paper lanterns are flammable
and should be used in a
responsible manner

NOTES ON USING CANDLES



Tall candles produce a much brighter effect than tea lights. Electric lanterns are also bright, but cooler in color.

There are other alternatives you can also try, such as flashlights or electric lights. Whatever you decide to use, we recommend you test it out before your event to ensure you get the effect you want.

HEALTH AND SAFETY AT EVENTS

Every event is different, so it is important to do your own risk assessment and take steps to avoid preventable accidents. Some tips:

- For any event involving candles, ensure that you take adequate precautions. For example, depending on the location of your event and the number of candles you are using, you may want to have a fire extinguisher on hand.
- If you are indoors, make sure there are clearly labeled emergency exits.
- Make adequate arrangements to extinguish candles at the end of the event. Also, consider providing a place for people to dispose of extinguished candles.



SHARING YOUR SHINE A LIGHT ACTION

Did you have a great event? Share your photos!

We want to hear from you! Send photographs of your shine a light lanterns to writeathon@aiusa.org.

Check out our Facebook page, where you will be able to upload your images, and be inspired by the creativity of other activists from around the world at <http://www.facebook.com/amnestyusa>

Questions?

Don't hesitate to get in touch! Email us at writeathon@aiusa.org with your questions and concerns – we're happy to help!



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