

How-To Create a Paper Backdrop and Background on a Budget

by Merrisa Sutton

HOW-TO: CREATE A PAPER BACKGROUND & BACKDROP ON A BUDGET!

INTRODUCTION

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Hello! Please use this written guide alongside my video to help you better understand how to create a paper background and affordable backdrop. In this guide I will give you further details regarding the supplies needed, measurements, and a couple of helpful tips!

SUPPLIES

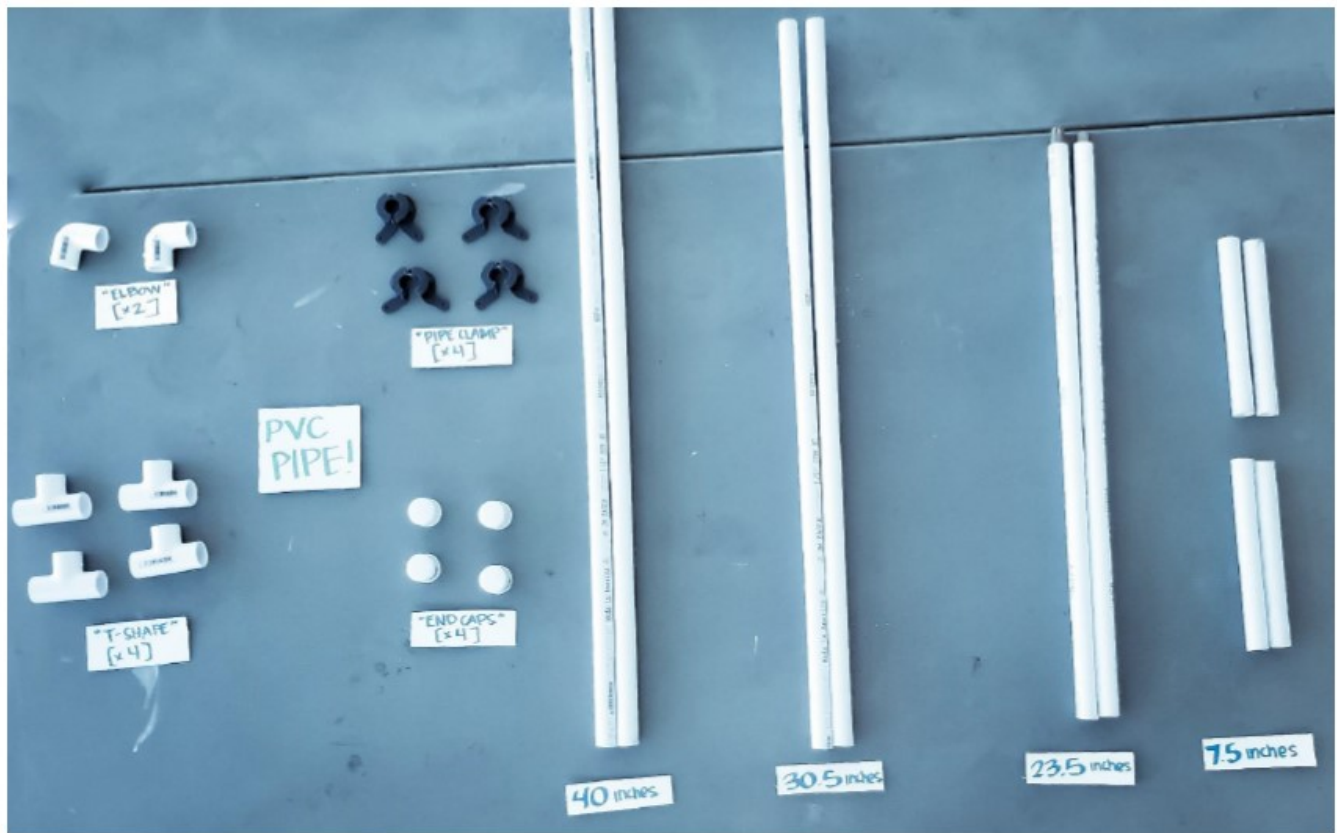
In my video, I explained that this project is divided into two major parts: (a) the paper background and (b) the PVC backdrop. Please see a closer view of my images provided in my video below, as well as the full list and use of supplies.

(a) PAPER BACKGROUND



- Scissors
- Markers (sharpie, various sizes)
- Pens, Pencil, and eraser
- Ruler
- Adhesives (school glue, removeable tape, packing tape, Velcro)

(b) PVC BACKDROP



PVC PIPE MEASUREMENTS

Height: - 40 inches (x2) - 30.5 inches (x2) - 23.5 inches (x2) - 7.5 inches (x4) = **10 total**

Width: ½ inch

OTHER PVC PIECES

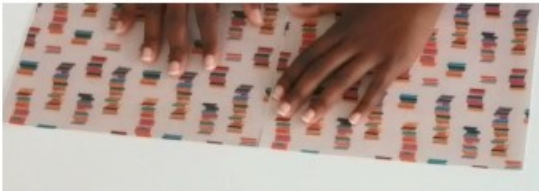
-T-shapes ½ inch (x4) - Elbows ½ inch (x2) - End Caps ½ inch (x4) - PVC Clamps ½ inch (x4)

= **14 total**

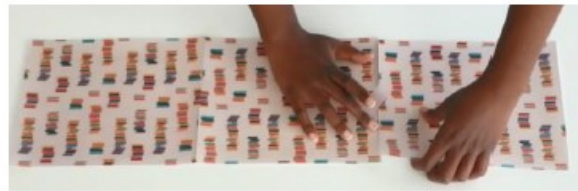
PAPER BACKGROUND

For your paper background, you want to ensure that you have multiple copies of the repeatable image that you are using already cut into squares. You will need to tape the squares together to create the overall background to go onto the backdrop. Please view my images below for further details:

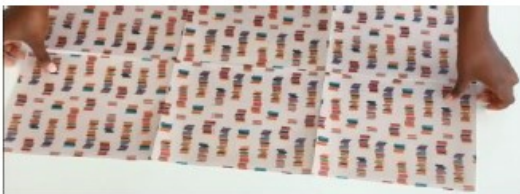
1. Figure out the placement of your squares



2. Begin taping the squares together



3. Repeat this step, until your background is the size that you like



4. Double-check and fix your paper background (if needed)



5. Once your background is to your liking, assess it for loose ends



6. Begin taping those loose ends



7. Double-check and **DONE!**



BACKDROP

For your backdrop just remember to take your time; you want to make sure that you have all the pieces needed and that the sizing is correct. Once you have all of the pieces that you'll need, you will put together your backdrop like this (please view my images below for further details):

1. Begin with the feet of the backdrop. Put the end caps on the four smallest PVC pieces



2. Connect two of the 7.5" PVC pieces together using one T-shape piece. Repeat this step for the other foot.



3. Connect your two 30.5" PVC pieces to each of the feet. Then connect a T-piece to each one



4. Connect one of your 40" PVC pieces to both of the T-pieces.



5. Connect your two 23.5" PVC pieces (one each) to each T-piece



6. Connect both elbows on the top of each 23.5" PVC piece. Finally, connect your last 40" PVC piece to the top and **DONE!**



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ASSEMBLY

When you are ready to attach your paper background to your backdrop, you will need to have your four PVC clamps on hand. I only recommend this as you can also just tape your background to your backdrop however, I personally think that having the clamps makes for a faster and easier setup (especially if you utilize multiple paper backgrounds like I do). Please see the images below for more details regarding assembling your paper background and backdrop together:

1. Hold up paper background and curl it around your backdrop



2. Use a clamp to hold the paper background in place



3. Repeat this step for the other side and **DONE!**



As an option, you can also snap the sides of the paper background to the backdrop

