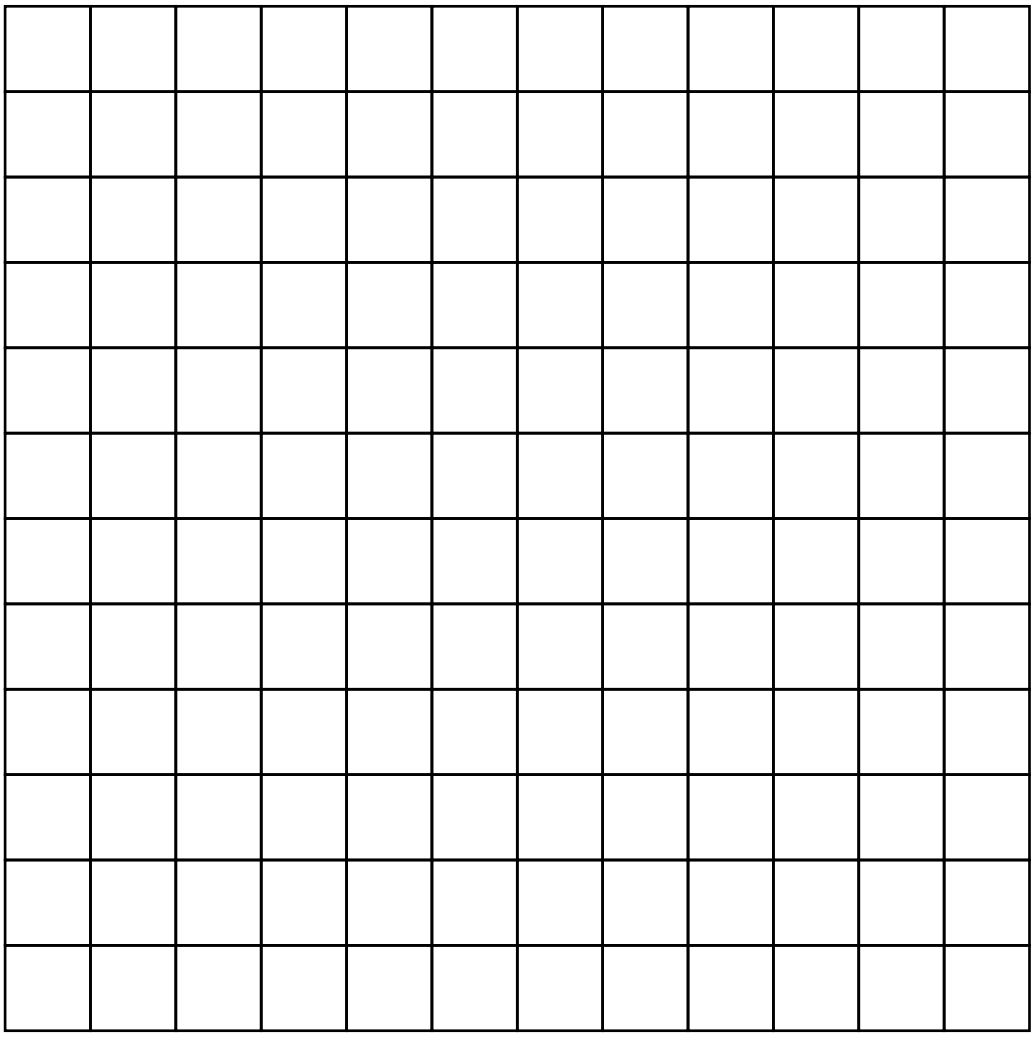
Make a paper mosaic tile

Suggested ages 5+ with adult help | Template and activity sheet

Plan a border. Fill the squares with coloured paper.



My colours: _____

My pattern repeats: _____

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You will need

The template, scrap paper, glue stick, pencils and a piece of recycled card. An adult can cut paper into small squares.

Try it together

1. Colour the grid lightly to plan a border and centre. 2. Tear or cut small paper squares, with adult help. 3. Glue them onto the grid, leaving narrow gaps. Mount the dry picture on card. 4. Describe your repeating pattern and compare paper pieces with mosaic tesserae.

Check, discuss and extend

Begin with two colours for a simple border. For a challenge, make a symmetrical centre. Ask which materials would survive better than paper and why.

History and context

Mosaics were made with small pieces of materials including stone and glass. This collage uses paper, with new patterns of your own.

Explore the evidence

British Museum: a Late Roman mosaic

https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/G_1857-1220-434