Woven Paper Heart for Qixi

MATERIALS

- colored paper or construction paper
- scissors
- pencil and ruler (optional)
- something to decorate with like markers, colored pencils, yarn, glue, etc.

INSTRUCTIONS

For the heart:

1. Print the heart template.
2. Pick a piece of colored paper to be your heart.
3. Fold your template in half so you see half a heart. Fold your colored paper in half the same way. Place the template on top of the colored paper with the seams on the same side.
4. Use scissors to cut along the black outline and cut out your hearts. (You should be cutting through both the template and your colored paper. You’ll end up with two hearts.)
5. Use scissors to cut along the straight black lines in the center of the template. Remember to cut through both the template and your colored paper.
6. Unfold your colored paper. You should have a heart with cut out lines going horizontally across. This will be your base.
For the strips:
1. Print the strips template.
2. Select the colors you want to weave into your heart.
3. Use the template to cut strips in colors that you like.

Note: You can also cut out one inch strips from colored paper without using the template.

To Weave:
1. Find the center of your heart.
2. Select a colored strip of your choice.
3. Thread the strip through the bottom slit from the back of your heart. You should see the strip come up on top of your heart.
4. Then, thread the strip through the next slit so that the strip goes behind the heart again.
5. Repeat until you reach the top of the heart.
6. Repeat with more strips, making sure to alternate colors to create a checkerboard look.
7. Cut away any excess when you get to the top of the heart.
8. If desired, decorate your heart with markers, colored pencils, crayons, etc.
9. You can also write a message on your heart too!