

Home Portraits

The Challenge

Make a 3D drawing of part of your home. Use our printable template to create a miniature version of a room or area that has been important to you, or changed during 2020.

The Inspiration

Artists have used their homes as a subject for their art for centuries. The spaces we live in, and objects we have in our homes say a lot about us. They hold stories and memories, and some objects will be treasured as we get older and passed down to future generations.

Our current exhibition, *Paloma Varga Weisz: Bumped Body*, includes several pieces inspired by the artist's family and her childhood home.

Step 1: Watch the *Art Encounters: Home Portraits* video to explore Varga Weisz's work.



Example of a Home Portrait



Paloma Varga Weisz: *Haus*, 2012

Step 2: Cut and fold your Home Portraits base

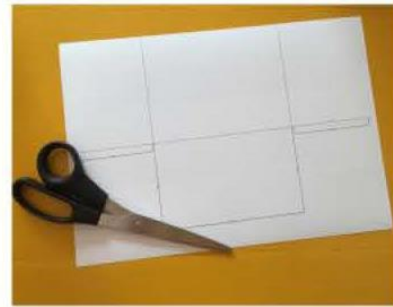
A Home Portrait is a 3D drawing, so you need to make a **net** on white card before you start drawing. You'll fold and stick together once you've finished your drawing.

What you need:

- Sheet of A4 white card
- Scissors
- Printer, OR a ruler and pencil
- Drawing materials (pens, pencils, crayons, whatever you have and like using)
- Sellotape, masking tape or a gluestick

If you don't have a printer, click [HERE](#) to watch our video tutorial to measure and draw your own base.

Follow these steps to make your base



Download the template from our website and print it on white card. Select 'fill entire paper' in your print settings. No printer? Follow our video tutorial to draw out your own.



Cut neatly along the lines to cut off the shaded area of the template. You should be left with a T shape.



Carefully cut the corners off the tabs. Cut a straight line across from the corner of the tab to the edge of the card.



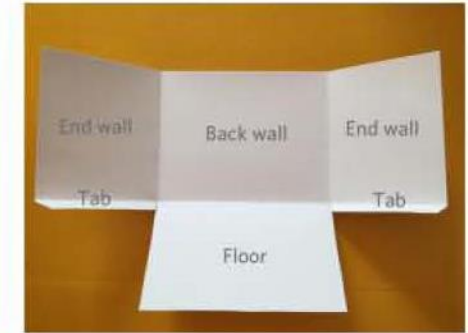
Starting with the printed lines facing down, fold the bottom section up and make a neat crease along the dotted line.



Fold up the tabs on the dotted line. Make your crease as straight as possible and push it down to make a neat fold.



Now fold in the side panels using the dotted line as a guide. Line up the edges to help make your folds square.



Your card is now ready to start drawing. You'll stick it together once your drawing is finished.

Step 3: Plan your drawing

Go for a walk around your house and think about the room, area or objects you want to capture in your portrait.

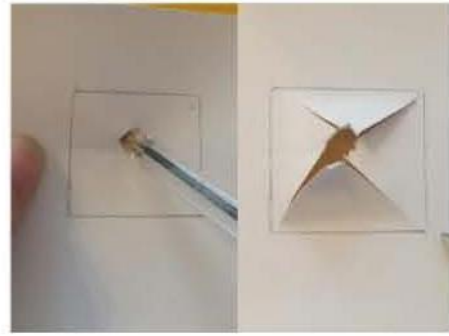
- Choose a space that's been important, or changed in the past year. You could draw a room, area or just a favourite corner or shelf. **If you could choose one object to represent you and your experience of lockdown, what would it be?** You could use this as a focal point of your drawing.
- Decide on the viewpoint (or 'perspective') for your drawing. You may want to draw the objects as though you're looking at them flat against the wall (like the room is in a dolls house and you're peering inside it.)
- Your drawing doesn't have to look exactly like the real thing, but keep all the things that make it personal. Include the mess, and all the details that capture life in your home in the past year. **Think of it as a visual diary entry!**
- Will you include people in your drawing? Could you draw a certain situation, or time of day or night?
- Sit in the room you're drawing and **keep looking** at it as you draw it. Don't guess what it looks like - keep checking!
- If you prefer, you could create an **abstract portrait** of your home - can you draw the sounds, feelings or experiences of your home in the last year?



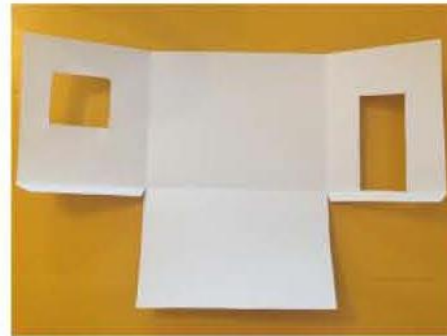
Step 4: Cut windows and doors, then draw your Home Portrait



If you like, you can cut windows and doors out before you start drawing. Draw them first using a ruler to make them square.



To cut them out, use a biro to carefully punch a hole, then put your scissors through it and cut out the shape. Ask an adult to help if you're unsure!



Now, draw your Home Portrait, using the tips and ideas above.



Once your drawing is complete, stick the tabs underneath the 'floor' section using tape or glue stick.

Step 5: Take photos of your work

Take photos of your Home Portrait so your teacher can send them to us.

We'll be featuring Home Portraits made by people all over the UK on our website and our digital gallery in the Henry Moore Institute. You can also share your work with us on Instagram using @henrymooreinstitute.



Take photos of your Home Portrait to send to us. Find a nice bright area by a window and a plain background.



If you have one, a big sheet of paper taped or propped up like this makes an ideal backdrop.