



How to make a fabulous baffle

What is a baffle and why make them?

- A baffle is a piece of cardboard that is painted with prayers and blessings, and then is installed into the eaves of a home to hold insulation in place.
- Because volunteers must be 16 years old to work on the construction site, a baffle project gives younger people a chance to make a difference in their community.
- We need approximately 50 baffles for every house we build.



Location

- Some congregations prefer to do it in their parking lot, where it probably doesn't matter if some paint gets spilled. But then, you might have a weather issue.
- Others have done it in the basement.
- Still others do it in a common space, on tables that are covered with plastic and have drop cloths on the floor.



Invitation

- What groups and ages are you targeting with the baffle project?
- Some congregations will have the adults or teenagers cut out the baffles, and then have the younger children paint the baffles.

Preparation

Acquire cardboard

- Each sheet of cardboard needs to be at least 28" x 40".
- In the good ol' days appliances were delivered to the big box stores in cardboard, and those stores would give it away if someone came and picked it up. Now they are mostly delivered wrapped in plastic. We recommend that you contact Costco, Sam's Club, Home Depot and Lowe's to see if any of their appliances have been delivered in cardboard recently.
- Some buy it from [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com).
- [International Plastics](https://www.internationalplastics.com) also sells it.
- [Uline](https://www.uline.com) is another producer.

Preparation (con't)

Get painting supplies

- You will need paint, containers to put the paint in, brushes, and water bowls to clean brushes.

Pick up a template

- We have plywood templates from which you can trace the shape onto the cardboard.
- Please contact Rebecca Hix (rebecca.hix@habitatwake.org) to pick one up from our administrative office (2420 N. Raleigh Blvd, Raleigh)

OR

- Keith Weatherly (keith.weatherly@habitatwake.org) to pick one up from our construction warehouse (3301 Jones Sausage Rd, Garner)



Cut-out cardboard

- Using the plywood template, trace the shape for baffles with a marker, then have someone cut them out with box cutters.

Painting

Paint pictures and blessings

- You can paint prayers and favorite scripture verses, pictures and other blessings that will be installed in the house.

Bless the baffles

- At many congregations the clergy will bless the baffles. Sometimes it happens during a worship service, other times, it occurs at the end of the project day.

Delivery

Drop off at Construction Warehouse

- Once the completed baffles have dried, and been blessed, They need to be delivered to our Construction Warehouse (3301 Jones Sausage Rd, Garner).
- Please call our Keith Weatherly, our Logistic Manager (843-685-4697) to arrange a time to drop them off.

