



Chinese Red Envelopes

Chinese red envelopes—*hong bao*—are handy-sized paper envelopes that are presented on the Chinese New Year. The red color of the envelope symbolizes good luck. *Hong bao* are traditionally filled with money and are an act of well-wishing and blessing in the New Year.

To make your own *hong bao* you will need:

- A sheet of red paper with the *hong bao* outline printed on it
- Scissors
- Glue or tape

1. Print the outline onto a sheet of red paper. If you don't have any red paper, print it onto white paper and color it in red.
2. Cut out the packet. Fold it along the dotted lines, folding toward the non-printed side of the paper.
3. Straighten the packet out again, and turn it over so you are looking at the side without the characters.
4. Fold over flap A.
5. Fold over flap B and apply a little glue or tape along its long edge. Press it firmly onto the glued edge of folded flap A.
6. Apply a little glue to flap D and press it firmly onto flap B (the bottom of the *hong bao*).

You now have your Chinese gift packet! Flap C is the flap of the envelope and a little glue can be applied to seal it—but don't forget to put your gift money inside first before you give it away!