Lightning McQueen Air Freshener

Here's a craft “Cars” fans will get plenty of mileage out of — a homemade air freshener that resembles the famous race car that put Radiator Springs back on the map. Younger kids may need a little help cutting out the smaller pieces, but they'll have fun gluing the shapes together and drawing on the finishing details.

YOU'LL NEED:

- Lightning McQueen Car Air Freshener template
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Cardstock or heavy weight craft paper (red, black, yellow, light and dark shades of gray, and white)
- Glue stick
- Black marker
- String or thin ribbon (to hang the car freshener)
- Glue dot
- Essential oil (sold at craft stores)
- Small plastic bag

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Print the template. Cut out the pieces and trace them onto cardstock as specified on the template. Cut out the tracings.
2. Assemble the tires by gluing the sidewall pieces to the respective tread pieces, as shown. Then glue the hubs to the centers of the sidewalls.
3. Glue the assembled tires to the red car body. Use a black marker to color in the right front tire shape.
4. Stick the lightning bolt decal in place between the left tires.
5. Glue on the windshield and side windows, and then the headlights and smile.

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6. Now your child can use the pencil to draw small circular eyes on the windshield, and curved lines to define the hood, the top of the windshield, the roof, and the corners of the mouth. He can also add details to the hubs. Once he has everything the way he likes, have him fill in the eyes and darken the pencil lines with black marker.

7. To create a hanger for the air freshener, fold a length of string or ribbon in half and use a glue dot to stick the ends to the top of the gray car body, as shown.

8. Glue the red card body atop the gray one, matching up all the edges.

9. Scent the back of the air freshener with drops of essential oil. For the best results, put the finished air freshener in a plastic bag overnight to let the paper fully infuse the fragrance. Over time, add more essential oil to the air freshener as needed.

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ABOUT THE MOVIE

Star racecar Lightning McQueen (voice of Owen Wilson) and the incomparable tow truck Mater (voice of Larry the Cable Guy) take their friendship to exciting new places in "Cars 2" when they head overseas to compete in the first-ever World Grand Prix to determine the world's fastest car. But the road to the championship is filled with plenty of potholes, detours and hilarious surprises when Mater gets caught up in an intriguing adventure of his own: international espionage. Mater finds himself torn between assisting Lightning McQueen in the high-profile race and towing the line in a top-secret mission orchestrated by master British super spy Finn McMissile (voice of Michael Caine) and the stunning rookie field spy Holley Shiftwell (voice of Emily Mortimer). Mater's action-packed journey leads him on an explosive chase through the streets of Japan and Europe, trailed by his friends and watched by the whole world. The fast-paced fun includes a colorful new all-car cast, complete with menacing villains and international racing competitors.

John Lasseter returns to the driver's seat to direct this follow-up to his 2006 Golden Globe®-winning "Cars." "Cars 2" is co-directed by Brad Lewis, producer of the Oscar®-winning film "Ratatouille," and produced by visual effects industry veteran Denise Ream (associate producer, "Up"; visual effects executive producer, "Star Wars: Episode III – Revenge of the Sith"). The film hits the track on June 24, 2011, and will be presented in Disney Digital 3D™ and IMAX® 3D in select theaters.

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Template for Lightning McQueen Car Air Freshener

lightning bolt
cut from yellow paper

windows
cut from light gray paper

windshield, headlights, and smile
cut from white paper

back
hub

cut from
red paper

back
sidewall

cut from
dark gray paper

cut from
black paper

front
hub

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