

# Crafty tips for Militant Moms

---

## *Sign material suggestions*

- **Foam board** (approx \$5 to \$6/ per 20" x 30" piece), sturdy, won't bend, therefore easy to read
- **Plastic corrugated board** (used to have at Revy) – **waterproof** and light!!
- **Bristol board or poster board** (\$1 at Staples or dollar store):
  - Staple Bristol board to thicker cardboard from boxes to give adequate firmness
  - Use Bristol board as a body sign (hole punch corners, attach string to wear around neck, or make a sandwich board sign with a front and back.
  - Use bright and varied colours

## *Lettering*

- **Stencils or templates:** good for spray painting or coloring in with permanent markers. Purchase at craft/ stationary stores, or make by hand from old file folders, cereal boxes or poster board.
- **Sticky plastic letters:** from craft and stationary stores; Staples has 3" black letters (2 to 4 copies of each letter) for \$6.95 –not cheap if you're making lots of signs, but you can use them as a template on poster board to make your own stencils.
- **Free hand:** with spray paint or markers.
- **Markers:** Buy the big fat ones or you'll be there all day
  - **Thick large letters and brief messages** for easy reading by passing motorists!!

## *Sign handles*

- **Paint stir sticks:** From any paint or hardware store or try a local lumber store for scraps or doweling
- **String or twine** for signs to be worn on front, or for hanging banners.
- **Wooden dowels** for supporting large banners
- Firm materials (e.g. plastic corrugated board) can be held up without handles – probably best choice for roadside visibility

## *Banners*

- **Canvas:** Strong but expensive at \$8 / yard. Cheaper thinner canvas-like material is available for \$3 - \$4/yard. **Cotton:** Best for paint (nylon/synthetics not as easy to paint on).
- **Grommets:** Insert in fabric at corners to attach twine/rope for hanging or for attaching to wooden dowels (also available at fabric stores, pkg of 12 for \$2);
  - Very easy to spray paint the fabric (way cheaper than fabric paint)
  - Write message on banner free-hand or use stencils, etc.
  - Size of banner depends on location
  - Cut vent holes in large banners & signs for manageability in windy locations!!

## *Where to buy materials*

- **Foam core boards:** Michael's Craft Store & Staples. \$4 - \$5.00.
- **Paint Stir Sticks:** *Free* from Home Depot (possibly other paint stores) to use as handles.
- **Duct Tape:** White duct tape at Michael's to attach handles to boards (also white). Fast and worked great.
- **Stencils:** Michaels has ABC post-it-note type lettering stencils for \$8.50 with 5 copies of each letter. Great for spacing out message and tracing big block lettering.