



A National Campaign for Craft

Craft Club FAQs

1. How can I start a Craft Club?

As long as you are enthusiastic and organised, starting a Craft Club can be simple. You'll need to find a venue and a few willing volunteers. Think about how often you would like to meet and what time would suit most people. Start spreading the word about your club and sign up new members.

Step 1: Sign up – simply [signup to receive our newsletter](#) and register your Craft Club now.

Step 2: Find other Craft events and volunteer groups in your area. Use the Craft Map to see if other Craft Clubs are meeting near you. We will direct volunteers to the map to find a venue or join a club, so it's important that you add your school/venue.

Step 3: Make use of our Craft Club resources for some activity ideas. Download our starter pack that helps you introduce knitting over six Craft Club sessions. This will help you plan and prepare for your craft sessions. We'll be sharing ideas through the newsletter and have a host of ideas to help you on [Pinterest](#) and [YouTube](#).

Step 4: Recruit a group of volunteers by reaching out through your networks. You might wish to contact parent groups, local craft venues, your local WI federation, or any other local craft networks.

Step 5: If your craft club works with children in a school or cultural venue, refer to your own procedures regarding CRB checks and safeguarding. Do remember, a responsible member of staff should be present during sessions.

Step 6: Liaise with your volunteers about dates, times of clubs, materials budget, promotion etc.

Step 7: Launch your first Craft Club! Reflect and make note of your club's progress; keep in close contact with your volunteers and share your work with us.

Step 8: Don't forget that Craft Club is a national campaign, so get involved on the website to connect to other craft club members! You can download and share resources, engage with Craft Club on [twitter](#) and [facebook](#), enter our regular competitions, and practice in your spare time.

2. What benefits can Craft Club bring?

Craft Club can bring lots of benefits. As well as giving you the opportunity to spend time with friends or family, joining a Craft Club lets you to meet new people and build a real sense of community through making together. Craft can be good for relaxation and some studies have shown that crafting can improve your well-being. Many children and adults have found that being creative has helped to improve their confidence through exploring different skills and materials and being able to express themselves in different ways.

3. What can we do in our Craft Club?

There are a whole range of activities that Craft Clubs can do. Ask your members if they have any crafts they would like to learn or skills that they could share. Your group may want to focus on just one Craft discipline or explore lots of different ones. You might even decide to each bring your own individual projects and enjoy working on them with company!

4. Where can we hold a Craft Club?

There are lots of places where you can have your Craft Club. You might want to ask local museums or libraries if they are able to host your group. Sometimes coffee shops and cafés are also happy to be venues, but your club might have to agree to buy food or drinks. Often schools will host their own Craft Clubs for children and young people.

5. My club only does one craft (eg. knitting) can we still be involved?

Yes! Groups that do one craft are just as welcome as groups that try out lots of different disciplines. Have a look at the resources page where you might be inspired to try a new discipline, or find some ideas to build on your current crafting skill.

6. How can we get materials and equipment?

Contact local craft suppliers to see if they have any left-over stock they might be willing to donate or perhaps they could offer a discount for your members. Encourage your group to bring their spare or unused materials to swap and combine what you already have. If your Craft Club is based in a school or library you may want to ask if they can contribute.

7. Can we/ should we charge people to take part?

You can ask members to make contributions to cover the cost of materials but Craft Clubs should never be run for a profit.

8. How can we encourage people to join or volunteer with our Craft Club?

There are a number of ways you can let people know about your Craft Club:

- Use social media – you might be surprised at how many of your friends and family are just as crafty as you are, spread the word about your club on sites such as twitter or facebook and don't be afraid to ask your friends to do the same! (if you're on social media don't forget to stay in touch with us on [twitter](#) and [facebook](#)).
- Use your local knowledge – approach local craft suppliers, such as wool or stationary shops, and ask if you can put a sign in the window or just leave your details and ask them to mention your club to their regular customers.
- Ask you venue to promote your activities through their website, social media or even by placing flyers near entrances or exits. It doesn't hurt to ask and a successful Craft Club can attract more people to their venue.

9. What are the benefits of signing up to Craft Club?

By signing up you'll receive the Craft Club newsletter containing news and resources. Plus we'll be able to let you know about our Crafty events, offers and competitions. [Sign up here.](#)

10. How can I join/find a Craft Club?

Craft Clubs gather in schools, libraries, galleries, community centres and other venues across the UK. Many clubs can be found on our Craft Map and which we are always adding to! If you are having trouble finding a Craft Club please get in touch with us to see if we can help, or consider starting your own! You can always email us at participation@craftscouncil.org.uk