



Info Sheet: Cardmaking Guidelines and Tips

At DOROT, we work to alleviate the social isolation felt among older adults by creating opportunities for meaningful connections across generations. One way we do that is by sending personalized, homemade cards to older adults for their birthdays, holidays, or “just because” throughout the year. We send out hundreds of cards a month, you will be supporting this program by creating unique cards that will be sent to our older adults.

This volunteer project can be conducted independently with you (*or a non-corporate group such as a school, synagogue, community center etc*). You will need to purchase materials, create the cards, and mail completed cards to DOROT. Below you will find all you need for a successful event. If you would like to have your volunteer hours acknowledged, please indicate so on the form (*we allot 15 minutes per card*).

Volunteer Requirements: N/A

Date and Time: This project is needed year-round and can be done at any time.

Budget: Varies on supplies and number of cards made, please see “[Cardmaking Guidelines and Tips](#)” below for suggested materials

Important resources for a successful project:

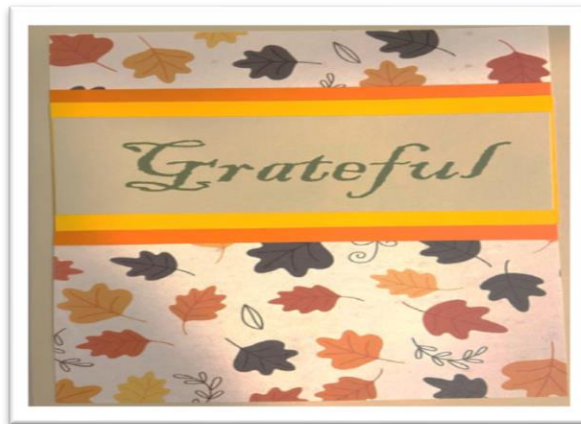
- **Cardmaking Guidelines and Tips** - It gives detailed instructions on how to best complete this project.
- **DOROT Informational Video** - This video (linked [here](#)) describes the work of DOROT and the impact of volunteers in our community. Please feel free to share with your friends, family, neighbors, and community groups. We always appreciate new volunteers that believe in our mission and values.
- **Cardmaking Examples** - This document can be found on our website and is linked [here](#). It shows great examples of cards DOROT has received in the past and loved.
- **Cardmaking Project Form** - Anyone mailing/delivering cards will need to complete this form and send along with completed cards. Please make sure to mark your group’s name somewhere on the form.
- **Please mail completed cards and paper form to:**
DOROT Cardmaking Project
171 W 85th Street
New York, NY 10024

For additional information, contact Laura Roman, Program Assistant for Volunteer Services, and Intergenerational Program Engagement, lroman@dorotusa.org or at 917-441-5052.

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Below are additional examples of cards that volunteers have made us in the past and our community has loved!





Tips for a Successful Cardmaking Project

We appreciate your interest in making cards for **DOROT**. Here are some tips to make the best cards possible!

Materials:

- **Quality cardstock** for your card base. You can purchase this at any craft store.
- **White paper** should be used for the inside of the card to make any writing easy to read. Beyond that, please make your cards as colorful and decorative as you'd like!
- **Stickers, watercolors, puff paint, and colored markers** are other suggested materials.

Please refrain from using the following materials as they can easily fall off and possibly make a mess: glitter, sequins, feathers, ribbons, buttons, tissue paper.

What to include in your card:

Include a note or greeting inside the card while also leaving space for **DOROT** to write a message of our own.

- You can write a short message, simple poem, or share some information about yourself (e.g., favorite hobbies, pets, school, etc.). This makes the handmade card a very personal and thoughtful gift.
- **"Sign"** the back of the card with your first name **AND**, if applicable, the name of the group. If children are involved, please write their ages.
- Write in large, clear block (print) letters. Many have a hard time reading small print.

DOROT sends cards for the following occasions: Birthdays, Thanksgiving, Rosh Hashanah, Passover, seasonal cards for Summer/Winter with warm wishes for the recipients.

NOTE: We do not send Happy Holidays, Season's Greetings, or cards to celebrate any religious holidays aside from those mentioned above. If you would like to create cards for the winter holidays, we suggest: Warm Winter Greetings.¹

What to do with completed cards:

Complete the Cardmaking Project Information Form attached to this sheet. It can also be found at **dorotusa.org/cardmaking**.

Send cards and completed Cardmaking Project Information Form to the below address:

DOROT Cardmaking Project
171 West 85th Street, New York, NY 10024

¹ If DOROT cannot accept the cards that you provide because they do not meet our messaging guidelines, we will send them to partner agencies that are able to use them.