



DIY MONTESSORI DANCERS MOBILE

ASSEMBLY GUIDE



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A Guide to Montessori Visual Mobiles

What are visual mobiles?

In the first months of life, babies are still learning how to focus their eyes and follow what they see. Visual mobiles offer a simple point of interest to observe while these early visual skills are developing.

Why use them?

Watching a slowly moving mobile gives your baby an opportunity to practise focusing, tracking movement and coordinating their eyes. There is nothing they need to do with the mobile — the experience is simply about looking, observing and gradually becoming more visually attentive.

If you are concerned about your baby's vision or ability to follow moving objects, speak to your paediatrician.

What makes Montessori visual mobiles different?

The traditional Montessori visual mobile sequence begins with the Munari, followed by the Octahedron, Gobbi and Dancers. Each introduces a different visual experience as your baby's sight develops.

The designs are intentionally simple. Rather than combining sound, lights and movement, they allow the baby to focus on one visual experience at a time. Their uncluttered shapes, carefully chosen colours and gentle movement invite sustained observation without overwhelming the baby's attention.

Tips & Tricks

The Montessori visual mobiles are traditionally presented in a sequence: Munari, Octahedron, Gobbi and Dancers.

The suggested ages are only a guide. Babies develop at different rates, so observation is more useful than following a strict timetable. Watch how your baby responds to the mobile. When it no longer seems to hold the same interest, it may be time to introduce the next one.

The proportions of the mobile are important. They help the elements balance, move and turn freely, so I recommend following the measurements in this guide.

When you first introduce a mobile, you can leave it still and allow your baby time to look at it. Later, a very gentle movement from the surrounding air is enough to bring the elements to life.

How to use the Montessori mobile safely

- Always supervise your baby while the mobile is in use.
- Use it in your baby's awake, calm observation space, rather than as a sleep mobile.
- The mobile is designed to be looked at, not touched.
- Hang it securely above your baby's chest, with the lowest element at least 30 cm above the baby and always out of reach.
- Check the thread, knots, dowels and all other parts carefully before each use.

Once the DIY kit is received, assembly, hanging, placement, ongoing checks and safe use of the finished mobile are the responsibility of the adult assembling and using it.

Before making a mobile, please watch the tutorial video.

The Dancers Mobile

Around 8+ weeks



The Dancers is traditionally the fourth mobile in the Montessori visual mobile sequence. It is made up of four stylised figures, each formed from three separate elements representing the head, upper body and lower body.

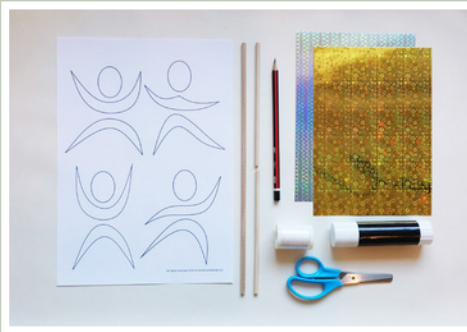
Because the individual pieces are joined loosely, they can move independently as the mobile turns. This gives the figures their characteristic dancing movement and creates a constantly changing shape for the baby to observe.

The reflective paper adds another visual element. As the dancers move, their surfaces catch the surrounding light and change in appearance from different angles.

At this stage, babies are becoming increasingly interested in movement, colour and more complex visual forms. The Dancers offers these in a simple, uncluttered way, while still allowing the baby to observe at their own pace.

The figures can be made in matching colours or with different colours combined across the individual elements. As the mobile rotates, both sides of the dancers become visible, creating subtle changes in colour, reflection and movement.

Included in your kit



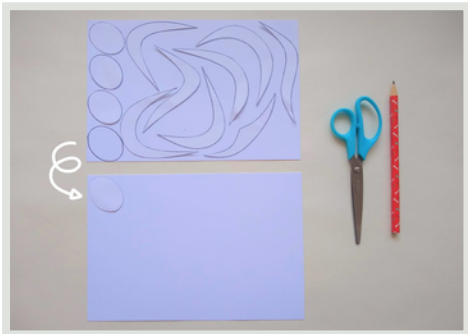
- Dancers template
- 2 iridescent cards
- 3 wooden dowels — 1 × 30 cm and 2 × 15 cm
- thread

You will also need

- scissors
- glue — liquid glue works best



Cut out all the elements from the Dancers template. You do not need to keep the pieces grouped by dancer at this stage.



Trace each template piece onto one of the iridescent cards. Then **turn each template piece over** and trace it again onto the second card. This creates the mirrored pairs needed for the two sides of each dancer.



Match the mirrored pieces into pairs, making sure the two sides line up correctly.



Mix and match the colours as you like to create the four dancers.

Before gluing each pair together, place a length of thread between the two sides. Leave at least 0.5 cm between the three elements so they can move independently.



Press the two sides together carefully, making sure the edges are aligned and the thread is held securely inside.

You can keep the colours consistent on each dancer or combine different colours. As the mobile turns, both sides will become visible.



Assemble all four dancers before beginning to hang the mobile.



Working from the bottom upwards, hang **two dancers from each 15 cm dowel**. Use slightly different thread lengths so the figures hang at different heights and have enough space to move without touching one another.



Once the dancers are attached, find the balance point of each short dowel and tie the suspension thread there. Adjust the position until each dowel hangs level.

Hang the two short dowels from opposite ends of the 30 cm dowel, then adjust their positions until the finished mobile is balanced and the dancers can move freely.

Small movements in the surrounding air are enough to bring the individual pieces into motion.

This product is...

Thoughtfully made



Where practical, the materials in this kit have been chosen with simplicity, durability and natural materials in mind.

Mindful of waste



I try to keep packaging to what is necessary and use recycled, recyclable or biodegradable materials wherever practical.

Made to last



The Munari is designed for a relatively short but important stage of your baby's development. When your baby has moved on from the visual mobile stage, there is no need for the mobile to be discarded.

Store it carefully for a future baby, pass it on to another family, or keep it as part of your child's early years.

Montessori materials are at their best when they are used with purpose, cared for and passed on rather than treated as disposable.