

# Craft and Tinker



**M**arjorie Merriweather Post, who once lived at Hillwood, surrounded herself with art she could use in her everyday life including dishes, jewelry, furniture, and more. Explore Hillwood to discover art by makers who used their skill, imagination, tools, and materials to craft functional art. Then take inspiration from the art you see to design and create your own artwork!

## **How to Earn Your *Outdoor Art Maker* Badge:**

- Complete all the “Try This!” activities in this booklet.
- Use a Hillwood map to find locations mentioned.
- Mark the checkbox next to activities you’ve completed.
- Show your troop leader your completed packet. Your troop leader can purchase Craft and Tinker badges from the Girl Scout Council of the Nation’s Capital.

# Step 1 — Learn the basics: Find crafts and inventions around you

## Try This!

Check here when you complete this step.



### IN THE MANSION

Art is all around us. Makers craft beautiful works of art that we can use in our daily lives. Explore Hillwood's mansion to find artwork that can be used for everyday activities like getting dressed, eating a meal, or sitting down to relax.

You'll find all sorts of useful items at Hillwood like the artworks pictured below. What other useful items can you find?



plate to eat from

**Plate from the Rohan Service**  
Sèvres Porcelain Manufactory  
Sèvres, France, 1771  
Porcelain  
*Photographed by Brian Searby*  
(24.66)



chair to sit in

**Armchair**  
Gobelins Tapestry Manufactory  
Louis Tessier (Designer)  
Paris, 1784-86 (tapestry), 1800s (frame)  
Gilt wood, wool, silk  
(31.84)



dress to wear

**Evening Dress**  
Oldric Royce, Inc.  
New York, 1960  
Silk crepe, nylon organza chiffon, sequins  
*Gift of Steven Dye Post*  
(2016.3.1)

## Step 2 — Craft with purpose: Decorate a box to store your treasures

### Try This!

Check here when you complete this step.

Makers create objects to solve problems by making art we can use. A craft is a useful piece of art like a scarf that keeps you warm or a clock that tells time.

Draw a line to match the pictures of Hillwood's art below with its purpose.



**Necklace**  
Harry Winston  
New York, 1961  
Turquoises, diamonds, platinum, gold  
(17.73)

**TO STORE SMALL ITEMS**



**Box**  
Attributed to Francois-Guillaume Tiron  
Paris, 1756-62  
Gold, enamel  
(11.4)

**TO SIT ON**



**Armchair**  
Gobelins Tapestry Manufactory  
Louis Tessier (Designer)  
Paris, 1784-86 (tapestry), 1800s (frame)  
Gilt wood, wool, silk  
(31.84)

**TO WEAR**

### IN THE C.W. POST TENT

Now it is your turn to be the maker! Visit the **ART PROJECT** to decorate a box that you can use to store small items.

As a bonus project, you can make a paper bead bracelet or necklace to wear. You can store your handmade jewelry in the box you decorated!

## Step 3 — Tinker with your craft: Change it up

### Try This!

Check here when you complete this step.



Two Russian princes gave this box as an anniversary gift to their parents over 100 years ago. Diamond letters (XXV) on the clasp stand for the number 25, the anniversary being celebrated. The initials of the princes and their parents are painted on the box's corners and the sides of the box are decorated with pictures of the family's palaces.



**Music Box**, Firm of Fabergé, Henrik Wigström (workmaster), St. Petersburg, 1907, gold, enamel, diamonds, rubies (11.80)

Each of these details make this a special, personalized gift, featuring things that are meaningful to the family.

As a maker, you can **tinker** with your craft to make changes. You might make small adjustments to make an item more useful or to make it unique or special for a particular person.

Tinker with the picture of the box below to add your own design. If you were making this box as a gift for a friend or family member what would you include?



## Bonus step! — Meet a maker who upcycles

### Try This!

Check here when you complete this step.



Visit the **C.W. POST TENT** to meet Zsameria Rayford, founder of SwapDC and an expert on creative reuse.

Try these activities with Zsameria:

- Feel fabric swatches to find out about different textiles and their impacts on our water and planet
- Ask about why and how SwapDC was founded and the positive impact it has on the local community
- Learn about the positive impact creative reuse can have on our environment

SwapDC was founded by Zsameria Rayford. It is the only creative recycling event in Washington, DC that fosters a fun and diverse community around swapping for residents who want to reduce, reuse, and live a sustainable lifestyle.

SwapDC aims to bring awareness to the consequences of consumerism on our environment and our culture.

Since its debut in 2015, SwapDC has successfully recycled over 8 tons and donated over 12,000 lbs. to local shelters and those in need to help close the textile loop.

