THE STRIVING

MUSLIM ACADEMY

Islamic and Academic Education

ISLAMIC PROJECTS FOR CHILDREN AND PARENTS

Salah Makers

Make the things that help you pray, and learn why

WHAT IS INSIDE

- Qibla finder
- Shadow stick
- The five prayers across one day
- Rak'ah cards
- Wudu wheel
- Model masjid
- Design a prayer mat
- My salah tracker

The Striving Muslim Academy

Ages 6 to 12, done together with a grown-up

Written for a parent teaching at home. No training assumed, and nothing else to buy.

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SALAH MAKERS

For the grown-up

In this book your child makes eight things that help with salah: a qibla finder, a shadow stick, a strip of the five prayers across the day, rak'ah cards, a wudu wheel, a model masjid, a prayer mat design and a salah tracker. Most projects take under an hour. The shadow stick needs a sunny day at home.

Your part is to read each project with your child, do the jobs marked for the grown-up (printing, cutting with a craft knife, pushing split pins through), and talk about what you make. Ask: what did the Prophet (peace be upon him) do? When will you use this?

Two things always come from you, never from this book. The qibla direction for your home comes from your masjid or from a qibla tool you trust, and your child should never guess it. The prayer times come from your masjid's timetable: copy them onto the times strip together, because they change through the year and from place to place.

There are no people in this book. The steps of wudu and the positions of the prayer are written in words, never drawn. Let your child pray beside you, so they can see how it is done.

Where the schools of fiqh differ on a detail, this book describes what the Prophet (peace be upon him) did, from the hadith, and says: "Ask your teacher about the details." Please take those questions to a teacher you trust.

The mihrab, minbar, dome and minaret in the model masjid are parts to look for when you visit a masjid together. The model is not a copy of any real masjid.

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Lab rules for every project

- Wash your hands before and after each project.
- The grown-up uses the craft knife and pushes the split pins through.
- Use round-ended children's scissors.
- Keep split pins and modelling clay out of reach of babies and toddlers.
- Never look straight at the Sun.
- The qibla direction comes from your grown-up, and the prayer times from your masjid's timetable. Never guess them.

The projects

1. Qibla finder
2. Shadow stick
3. The five prayers across one day
4. Rak'ah cards
5. Wudu wheel
6. Model masjid
7. Design a prayer mat
8. My salah tracker

Share your builds

Send us a photo of each finished build, showing the build only and no faces: by email to strivingmuslimacademy@gmail.com, through our website at strivingmuslimacademy.com/share.html, or with the WhatsApp code on the last page. We add them to our Achievement Wall, and your child can choose any one material from our shop at 50% off.

What is salah?

Islam is built on five things, and offering the prayers is one of them.

The Prophet (peace be upon him) said that a Muslim must pray five times in a day and night.

Allah tells us that prayer has been made a duty for the believers at set times.

The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: "Pray as you have seen me praying."

Getting ready to pray

He taught a man: when you stand for prayer, make wudu properly, then face the qiblah and say the takbir, Allahu akbar. Ask your teacher about the details.

The five prayers

- Fajr: when the dawn has appeared, and as long as the sun has not risen.
- Zuhr: when the sun has passed the meridian, its highest point. The meridian is the line across the sky that passes straight over your head (see Words to know in Project 2).
- 'Asr: in the afternoon. On one day the Prophet (peace be upon him) prayed it when the sun was high, white and clear, and on the next day later, while the sun was still high. Ask your teacher when 'Asr starts.
- Maghrib: when the sun has set, and as long as the twilight has not ended. Ask your teacher which twilight is meant.
- 'Isha: when the twilight has gone, up to the middle of the night. Ask your teacher when 'Isha ends.
- Copy today's times from your masjid's timetable. They change through the year and from place to place.

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Shopping list

Everything in this book, by where to find it. Most families already have the things listed under At home. The project each thing is for is in brackets.

At home

- A clean, empty jar (My salah tracker)

Stationery shop

- A compass, or a compass app on a grown-up's phone (Qibla finder)
- A new pencil, for the stick (Shadow stick)
- Felt-tip pens (Design a prayer mat, My salah tracker, Rak'ah cards)
- Glue stick or PVA glue (Design a prayer mat, Model masjid, My salah tracker, The five prayers across one day)
- Masking tape (Shadow stick)
- Modelling clay (Qibla finder, Shadow stick, Wudu wheel)
- Round-ended scissors (Design a prayer mat, Model masjid, My salah tracker, Qibla finder, Rak'ah cards, The five prayers across one day, Wudu wheel)
- Ruler (Design a prayer mat, Model masjid, Qibla finder, Rak'ah cards, Shadow stick, The five prayers across one day)
- Split pin (paper fastener) (Qibla finder, Wudu wheel)
- Sticky tape (Model masjid, Qibla finder)

Other shops

- A second pencil, for marking (Shadow stick)
- A shoebox with a lid (Model masjid)
- A watch, clock or phone, to read the time (Shadow stick)
- Bottom wheel (wudu-wheel-base template), printed on thin card (Wudu wheel)
- Compass rose and pointer (compass-rose template), printed on thin card (Qibla finder)
- Dome (dome template), printed on thin card (Model masjid)
- Five rak'ah cards (rakah-cards template), printed on thin card (Rak'ah cards)
- Floor with rows (masjid-floor template), printed on thin card (Model masjid)
- Mihrab niche (mihrab template), printed on thin card (Model masjid)
- Minaret (minaret template), printed on thin card (Model masjid)
- Minbar (minbar template), printed on thin card (Model masjid)
- Pencil (Design a prayer mat, The five prayers across one day)
- Prayer mat (prayer-mat template), printed on paper (Design a prayer mat)
- Qibla card (qibla-card template), printed on thin card (Qibla finder)
- Shadow board (shadow-board template), printed on thin card (Shadow stick)
- Sharp pencil (Wudu wheel)
- Thin card or a clean cereal box (Design a prayer mat)
- Tick slips and jar label (tick-slips template), printed on paper (My salah tracker)
- Times strip (times-strip template), printed on paper or thin card (The five prayers across one day)
- Top wheel (wudu-wheel-top template), printed on thin card (Wudu wheel)
- Week board (tracker-board template), printed on thin card (My salah tracker)
- Your masjid's prayer timetable (The five prayers across one day)

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PROJECT 1 · SALAH MAKERS

Qibla finder

Which way do you face when you pray at home?

Ages 6 to 12 · **Time** 45 minutes · **Mess** Low: card and tape

The grown-up's jobs

- Print the compass-rose and qibla-card templates on thin card.
- Make a small hole in the centre of the rose and in the pointer with a sharp pencil, with a lump of modelling clay behind the card.
- Find the qibla direction for your home: ask at your masjid, or use a qibla tool you trust. Never guess it.
- Find north with a compass, or with the compass on your phone. A compass is only a guide: the qibla line from your masjid, or from a qibla tool you trust, decides.

Stay safe

- Split pins have sharp ends. The grown-up pushes them through the card.
- Keep split pins away from babies and toddlers.
- Use round-ended children's scissors.

Cut-outs for this project: Compass rose and pointer, Qibla cards. They are at the back of the book: print those pages, or copy them onto thin card.

You will need



Compass rose and pointer (compass-rose template), printed on thin card
1 sheet
printer at home or a print shop
Photo: MichaelMaggs, derivative work by Alvesgaspar, CC BY-SA 3.0, Wikimedia Commons

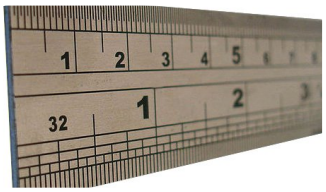


Qibla card (qibla-card template), printed on thin card
1 sheet
printer at home or a print shop
Photo: MichaelMaggs, derivative work by Alvesgaspar, CC BY-SA 3.0, Wikimedia Commons



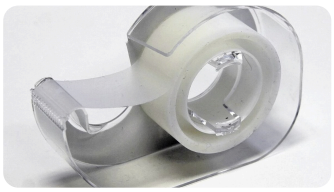
Split pin (paper fastener)
1
stationery shop
Photo: Mws.richter, Public domain, Wikimedia Commons

A compass, or a compass app on a grown-up's phone
1
home or stationery shop



Ruler
1
home or stationery shop
Photo: Gowolves109, Public domain, Wikimedia Commons

Modelling clay
1 lump, about the size of a walnut
home or stationery shop



Sticky tape
a few small pieces
home or stationery shop
Photo: BarberJP, Public domain, Wikimedia Commons



Round-ended scissors
1 pair
home or stationery shop
Photo: Help e choose, CC BY-SA 4.0, Wikimedia Commons

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