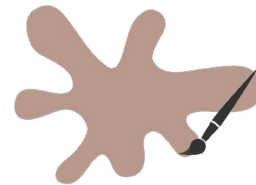




## CROME OFF THE WALL: HOW WRITE YOUR OWN GEORGIAN LETTER!



John Crome is famous for being a 19th century landscape artist – and he knew how to use a pen as well as a paintbrush! Crome used many different tools when creating his artworks, like colourful pigments for paintings and metal plates to create etchings. He would also use ink for art, and for writing letters. Some of his letters have survived over two hundred years. Crome learned to write in copperplate, a looped but neat style of lettering that people in Georgian England might learn how to read and write. One of Crome's letters is so beautifully written that it looks like artwork – even though it's about sparrow poo on paintings!



Let's say you would like to write a letter in 1820 at the time of John Crome and King George IV. Paper was very expensive – so any letter had to also be its own envelope! People would also usually seal their letters with wax, so that whatever they had written inside stayed private, and would only be read after the letter was delivered (a bit like the way crisp packets are sealed, so you know no one else has tried to eat them before you!). Machine-made envelopes were only used in England years after John Crome died, when Queen Victoria was ruling over the country.

### YOU WILL NEED

A4 paper

A pencil or pen

*Optional: a ruler, tape or stickers,  
and your best copperplate handwriting*

**Here's how to write a letter like  
a Georgian – although you won't  
send it by the Penny Post  
like John Crome might have!**

# WRITE AND FOLD YOUR LETTER!

**Step 1** | Write your letter on one side of your A4 paper; you could include drawings, a fancy signature, or even secrets written in code, but make sure any ink pens don't soak through the paper!

**Step 2** | Put your paper down so that the writing is facing up. The longest edges should be at the top and bottom; this is called 'landscape' orientation!

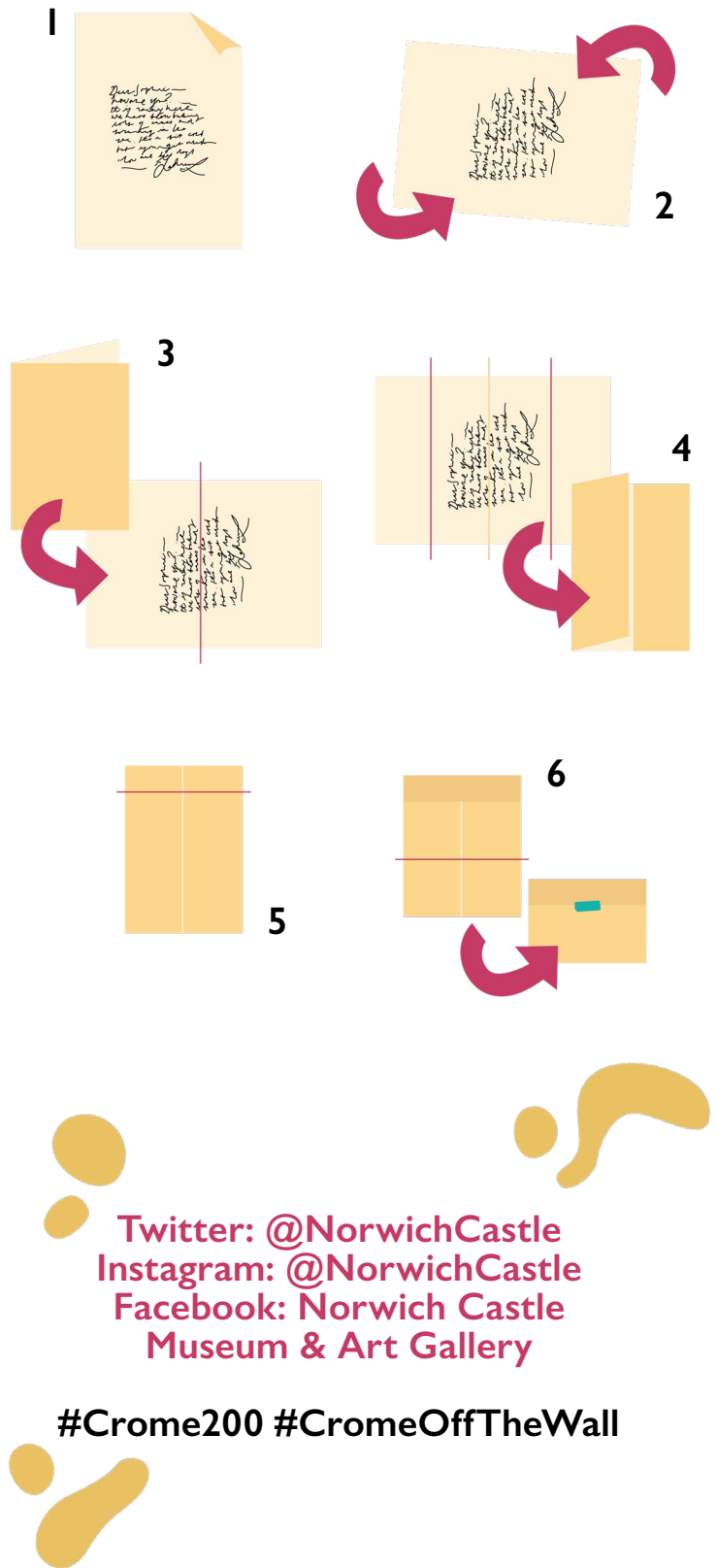
**Step 3** | Fold the paper in half so that the two shortest edges meet, then open it out again.

**Step 4** | Fold one of the shortest edges to the middle fold, and then do the same with the other shortest edge.

**Step 5** | Fold around 3-4 cm down from the top of the letter (use a ruler if you like).

**Step 6** | Fold the bottom of the letter up, and tuck it into the fold at the top. You can seal it with Sellotape or a sticker if you don't have any sealing wax.

Write the name and address that the letter should be delivered to on the other side. Stick a stamp on it, and send!



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