James Ensor loved to paint people wearing masks. His parents owned a shop that sold all kinds of unusual masks. Ensor kept some of them in his art studio for inspiration in his artwork. You can see one example of these masks in his painting called *Christ's Entry into Brussels in 1889*. Click here to see an image of the painting on the Getty’s Web site. Or go to [http://www.getty.edu/art/gettyguide/artObjectDetails?artobj=932](http://www.getty.edu/art/gettyguide/artObjectDetails?artobj=932).

Look closely at the painting and see how many different masks you can find. Then try making your own mask inspired by Ensor’s painting.

**WHAT YOU’LL NEED:**

- Scissors, a hole punch, kitchen twine or medium-weight string,
- clear tape, and something to color with (like crayons or markers)

**WHAT TO DO:**

- **Step 1** Print out your mask. Your mask will be stronger if you print it on heavy paper or cardstock.
- **Step 2** Color in your mask. Take a look at Ensor’s painting at the link above to get ideas from the masks that he painted.
- **Step 3** Cut out the mask on the outside black line. Then cut out the holes for the eyes and mouth.
Make a Mask

Step 4 Cover the circles on each side of the mask with clear tape. Put tape on both the front and the back of the paper.

Step 5 Using a hole punch, punch out the circles to make holes on each side where you will attach your string.

Step 6 Cut two 18-inch pieces of string. Tie the end of each piece of string through a hole on the side of the mask. Make sure your knot will not come out.

Step 7 Now, try on your mask!

WANT TO DO MORE?

Get together with your friends of family members and make a bunch of masks. Then take a portrait of the whole group wearing their masks.