You don’t need a studio or fancy supplies to create art at home. With just a few common household items, you can make your very own relief prints to use for letter writing, note taking, or other art projects.

Get started by checking out the work of Colombian-American artist Lina Puerta, who uses a process similar to the one in the tutorial below.
Materials:

- Assortment of household items:
  Keys, kitchen utensils, toys, screws, nails, bubble wrap, matchsticks, pompoms, rolls of tape, CDs, pot lids, buttons, beads, string/ribbon, steel wool, doilies, shells, beans, pasta, spools, toilet paper rolls, bottle caps, wine corks, pencils, shoe bottoms, pebbles, etc.

- Smocks
- Acrylic paint
- Palette
- Paintbrushes/sponges
- Heavy-weight paper
- Scrap paper
- Cardboard
- Scissors
- Glue
- Hairdryer (optional)

Steps:

➢ Gather supplies from around the house and cover the surface you'll be working on with newspaper.

➢ Play around with stamping single items onto scrap paper. Use a sponge or brush to coat the surface of your object with an even layer of paint and then firmly press it down onto your paper.

  ➢ Try repeating shapes, rolling objects on the paper, or seeing how many different shapes you can create with one object.

➢ Cut out cardboard squares to use as your printing plate base.

➢ Decide which objects you want to glue together onto your pieces of cardboard.

  ➢ You might find that objects with an unusual shape work better as single stamps. The cardboard printing plates work best when the object surface is relatively even.
➢ Glue your objects onto the plate in a design that you like.

➢ Glue just one material, or make a collage that combines different materials. Do you want your design to be sporadic or patterned?

➢ If you glue your materials right up to the edge of the cardboard, making an image with a repeated pattern will be easier.

➢ Once the glue has dried, coat the surface of your cardboard printing plate in an even layer of paint. Place paper on top of the painted plate and rub, or burnish, the top of the paper. Carefully pull up from one end.

➢ Experiment with different cardboard plates, colors, and layers.

➢ Plan out and execute your final print.

➢ Wipe objects or plates down with a damp cloth to reuse them.

➢ Hang up your completed print, turn it into a card, or cut it apart and glue it back together in a new way.