

PRINTMAKING

H O M E H A C K S



RELIEF PRINTING

Relief printing, in art printmaking, a process consisting of cutting or etching a printing surface in to leave the image you wish to print. Examples of relief-printing processes include woodcut, lino cut, relief etching and metal cut.

FOR THE PRINT

A5 Cardboard
A4 Acrylic Sheet
A print roller
Block Print ink [Ideally]
OR Acrylic
Paper

FOR THE PRINT PLATE

String
Seeds
Foil
Paper
Leaves

PROCESS

- Using the A5 Cardboard as a 'printing plate' create your artwork using the different materials you have gathered. Attach using PVA / super glue, allowing plenty of time to dry.
- Apply a small amount, we are talking a pea size if that, of ink to your Acrylic sheet [or work top surface alternatively]
- Spread the ink across the sheet using making sure the is an even coverage across the roller.
- Apply the ink onto your 'print plate', remember less is more. Too much ink and it wont pick up all the textures properly, this is definitely a trial and error process.
- With the Print plate facing up, lay your paper over the ink. Apply pressure to the back of the paper using the [clean!] Roller or the heel of your hand, taking care not to move the paper.
- Peel off the paper and admire your relief print!

NOTES

Try using two or three colours, mixing together to create a gradient effect on the plate.

Acrylic Paint dries quickly - bear in mind when using!

Remember! You need to create your artwork as a 'mirror' image - especially if you are using type, otherwise it will print back to front.



MONO PRINTING

Mono printing is a form of printmaking that has lines or images that can only be made once, unlike most printmaking, which allows for multiple originals

FOR THE PRINT

A4 Acrylic Sheet
Uncoated paper
A print roller
Block Print ink [Ideally]
OR Acrylic

FOR MARK MAKING

Biro / Pencil / Pen
Cocktail stick
Comb
Cotton Buds
Anything interesting to create texture

PROCESS

- Using the roller, coat the Acrylic sheet [or work top surface alternatively] with a thin layer of ink, we are talking a pea size at most. Less is more!!
- Lay the paper over the ink.
- Draw your image onto the back of the paper, using a pen is good as you can see what you are drawing! [Remember text will need to be in reverse]
- Peel off the paper and admire your one of a kind Mono Print
- Alternatively Draw / scratch your image into the ink then lay the paper over the ink [try not to spend too much time as the ink will dry out.]
The first process is usually the most successful but have a go at both.

NOTES

Remember, ANY pressure on the paper will allow ink to transfer, including smoothing the paper down.

Try using two or three colours, mixing together to create a gradient effect on the plate.

Acrylic Paint dries quickly - bear in mind when using!

Remember! You need to create your artwork as a 'mirror' image - especially if you are using type, otherwise it will print back to front.



WATERCOLOUR MONO PRINTING

Mono printing is a form of printmaking that has lines or images that can only be made once, unlike most printmaking, which allows for multiple originals.

FOR THE PRINT

A4 Acrylic Sheet

Uncoated watercolour / printing paper

Water bath or water spray [plant one would do!]

Paint brushes

Watercolour paints

Fineline Applicator [optional]

PROCESS

- Paint your image on the the Acrylic sheet. You can use a referce image underneath if needed. Application Methods include:
 1. Using the paint brushes apply onto the Plate
 2. Use the watercolour paint tubes directly onto the plate then brush
 3. Use an fineline applicator [tube with watercolour mixed up with a fine nib]
- Allow the plate to dry completely
- Just before printing, you need to prep the paper. You can do this by soaking in a water bath, removing and then sandwich it between two sheets of blotting paper or paper towel so they absorb the excess water from the paper. Alternatively spray the surface of the paper evenly until the paper is wet, but not so saturated that its surface appears shiny.
- To make your print you then lay your paper on top of the painted Acrylic sheet [plate] and carefully smooth down and flatten.
- Carefully peel off the paper and admire your one of a kind Mono Print!
- Allow to dry somewhere flat.

NOTES

Your image when painted onto the plate will not have perfect edges due to the type of surface your using - things like the fineline applicator can add better detail .

Experiment with different amouts of water as this will effect the outcomes

There is an alternative method where you create your image quite quickly and before the paint dries you then place the [dry] paper over the plate for the print.