



MAKER KIT

SCREEN PRINTING



PROJECT CREATED BY
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SKILL LEVEL
ADVANCED

*This project will require the use of **sharp tools**.
This is a great project for adults and kids to work on together.*

MATERIALS

- Canvas Tote
- [Screen Printing Frame](#)
10 x 12 x 0.75 inches
- [Speedball Fabric Screen Printing Ink](#)
- [Red Baron Squeegee Dual Edged](#)
9-inch
- Masking Tape
- X-Acto Knife
- Cardstock
- Pen
- Cutting Mat or Piece of Cardboard
- Paper Towels
- Wooden Stick, Spoon or Old Spatula
- Hair Dryer (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Draw the outline of your design on a piece of construction paper with a marker. The area inside of your design is the area that will be painted on your final product.

(The smaller and more detailed the design, the more difficult it will be to cut out as a stencil. We recommend sticking with simple shapes, numbers or letters during your first attempts. If you have a difficult time drawing freehand, try tracing a design that you like from a book, picture, or magazine.)

2. Place your construction paper on the cutting mat or piece of cardboard. Using the X-Acto knife, cut along the outline of your design on the paper. Use your free hand to keep the paper in place on the mat or cutting board, but keep your fingers away from where you're cutting. After cutting along the lines of your design, you should have cut out "holes" in the stencil where your design is.
3. Your screen printing frame is a wooden frame with a screen attached to the bottom of the frame. Using your masking tape, tape the paper (with the "holes" where you cut out your design) to the bottom of the screen. When you lay the screen on a flat surface, the stencil should be directly touching that flat surface. Cover any area outside of the stencil with tape so that ink doesn't leak onto your tote.
4. Lay your tote on a flat surface. Place the screen printing frame on top of your tote, centering your design where you would like it to be printed onto the tote. The inside of the screen printing frame should be facing up.
5. Using your wooden stick/spoon/spatula, scoop the printing ink onto the screen inside of the screen printing frame, along the length of the screen above your design. There should be just enough ink on the screen to cover the design.

(It is better to use less ink at first than too much, as too much ink can cause leakage along the borders of your design. You can always add more ink as needed.)

6. Using the flat edge of your squeegee, start at the top of the screen in the screen printing frame and pull the ink downward, across the design. Repeat this motion until the ink is smoothly spread across the design, and there is no extra ink that has been left in the "holes" of the stencil.
7. While holding the tote in place, gently lift the screen printing frame away from the tote. Set your tote aside to dry. If you have a hair dryer, you can use the hair dryer to dry the ink more quickly. Hold the hair dryer 12 inches from the object while drying. Otherwise, let the ink air dry on a flat surface.
8. When you have finished printing with the design used in previous steps, remove the tape and paper from the screen printing frame. Dispose of the tape and paper in the garbage. Rinse the ink from the screen printing frame with water and let dry. The screen printing frame can be reused.

Additional Screen Printing Activities

Feel free to repeat this process using the same screen printing frame and a stencil by placing it on another household item (such as a t-shirt, sweatshirt, towel, poster, paper, or any piece of canvas or fabric) and repeating the process. You can continue to use the same stencil and frame as long as the ink doesn't dry on the screen.