

How to Make Monoprint with Graftix Monoprint Plates

Designed by: Tami Sanders

Learn how to create monoprints using Graftix Monoprint Plates, Colorbox Spritzers and acrylic paint. We'll also use Stencil Film from Graftix to make a stencil to utilize in the process too.

Supplies:

Graftix Monoprint Plates
Graftix Stencil Film
Clearsnap ColorBox Spritzer Pinkolicious
Clearsnap ColorBox Spritzer Mermaid
Clearsnap ColorBox Spritzer Lemon Drop
Clearsnap ColorBox Art Wheel
Die of Choice
Diecut Machine
Dictionary or Book Pages
White Acrylic Paint
Foam Brush
Scissors
Craft mat or Waxed Paper
Masking or Blue Painter's Tape
Black Permanent Pen
Plain White Paper



Directions:

1. Create a stencil to utilize in your monoprint using Stencil Film from Graftix. The film is durable, but thin enough to be easily cut with a Kraft knife or scissors. Create your own design or use a die.
2. I decided to make my stencil using a die. So I started by cutting the stencil film just slightly larger than the die.
3. Then run the film and the die through the die cut machine.
4. For the diecut stencil film, you'll want to save both the inner and outer portions of the diecut film as you can use both for positive and negative stenciled images.
5. In order to easily replace inner diecut pieces, I placed registration marks using a permanent pen.
6. To keep loose diecut pieces in place, tack with a piece of masking or blue painter's tape.
7. Monoprint Plates are available in 2 sizes and come 3 to a package. Plates are washable and reusable and can be used for a variety of monoprinting techniques.
8. Remove the blue protective film from both sides of the plate. Prep your work surface by using a craft mat, waxed paper or other covering. Using something non-absorbent will allow excess ink to be used.



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9. Next, I pulled out one of the flower diecuts from my stencil sheet. I left the other 3 designs in place. It's a little hard to see - clear on clear, but place the stencil on the monoprint plate. The print will be mirror image of what is on plate, so remember that when placing your stencil.
10. Use a brush to apply white paint to stencil using a dabbing motion. Make sure you apply enough paint so that design will transfer, but using too much will cause a very blurry image. Experiment!
11. Remove the stencil to expose the painted design on plate.
12. Begin adding color to plates with ColorBox Spritzers. Spritz different colors in different areas of the plate, overlapping them in places. Inked plate after third color, pink, has been added.
13. Carefully cover the plate with your dictionary page. Then place cover sheet over page and plate. This helps protect the brayer from getting "inky" in next step.
14. Begin transferring design from plate to page by rolling over the plate with the brayer. Be sure you roll over the entire surface. Paints and inks will "smoosh" slightly in direction you roll.
15. Carefully remove cover sheet, then gently remove monoprint. Start at a corner and lift slowly to remove print from plate, exposing the finished monoprint. Notice how the paint from the stenciled design flows up - creating a light effect. The paint was spread up slightly because that is the direction I rolled to transfer the design.
16. For this second print, I decided to add more flowers. So stencil 3 flowers, one at a time with white paint.
17. Next, add sprays as before. This time I slightly crumpled the dictionary page before placing it on the plate. This will create lines and creases in the design.
18. For the third print, I removed 3 of the diecut flowers from the stencil and arranged them on the plate.
19. I added streaks of white paint around and in between the flowers. After I spritzed the plate with inks, I carefully removed the flowers. Set them aside carefully, as we'll use them in another print.
20. Follow the same steps as before: covering the plate with dictionary page, then cover sheet, and then use the roll.
21. For the final print, I added the diecut flowers back to the uncleaned plate - there was still some ink and paint remaining on it, and the flowers had inks on them from previous print as well. Now you have four unique monoprints!



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