

Art HOME

Printmaking at Home

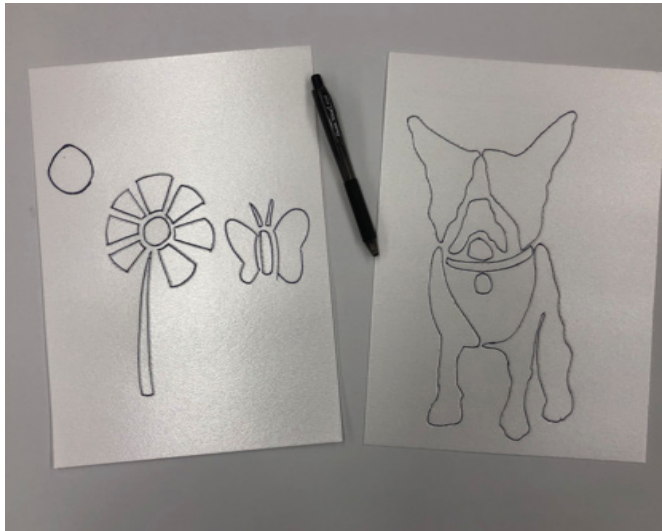


Supplies needed:

- **7.5" x10" cardboard sheet**
Any cardboard will work: cereal boxes, old amazon boxes, discarded packaging, etc.
- **Sheet of styrofoam**
Examples: crafting foam, styrofoam plates, cups, take-out boxes, etc.
- **Pencil**
- **Ball-point pen**
- **Scissors**
Optional: X-Acto knife/box cutter (adults only!)
- **Elmer's Glue, Tacky Glue**
Optional: hot glue gun (adults only!)
- **Paintbrush**

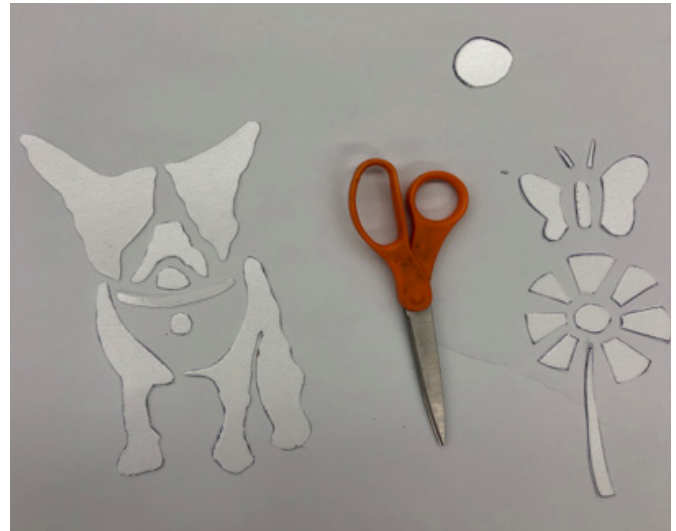


Step 1



- Use the ballpoint pen to draw a design on the sheet of Styrofoam. The design should only be an outline with no internal details (We will add details later, see Step 4).
- Make the design as simple or complex as you like, your creativity has no limit!
- Optional: The ballpoint pen dents the foam as you draw, once a line is drawn you cannot erase it. Unsure of your design? Draw with pencil on a separate piece of paper then tape it on top of the Styrofoam.
- Draw over the lines once more to transfer your design.

Step 2



- Use the scissors to cut out the design from the foam.
- Tip: Tracing over the lines a handful of times with a ballpoint pen makes it easier to cut out the design.
- *Optional: An ADULT can use an "X-Acto Knife" or box cutter to cut out more complex designs.*

Step 3



- Use glue to attach the foam to the 7.5"x10" sheet of cardboard, allow time to dry.
- Tip: Tacky Glue will dry faster than Elmer's glue.
- *Optional: An ADULT can use a hot glue gun for instant results.*

Step 4



- Use the Ball Point pen to add detail to your design.
- Tip: We are creating a stamp. Any indents with the pen will be left the color of the page when you imprint. You are working inversely (see image on Step 7).
- Tip: The final print will be a mirror image of your design. Any text or writing should be written backwards so it prints forwards (see image on Step 7).

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Step 5



- Use acrylic paint and a brush to paint your Styrofoam. Avoid getting too much paint on the surrounding cardboard, a little bit of painting outside the lines is okay.
- Block in colors, avoid any shading or blending.
- Work quickly, we want to print before the acrylic dries on the foam. Use a lot of paint but avoid blobs or puddles of paint.
- *Optional: If you have print making ink and/or a brayer, use it in place of a brush and paint.*

Step 6



- Place the cardboard sheet Styrofoam side down on the 8.5"x11" sheet of paper.
- Use a fist to apply pressure to the back of the cardboard, press down every part of the cardboard equally.
- Careful not to move the cardboard while pressing it into the paper, this will cause the print to smudge.
- *Optional: A spoon, baking pin, or baron (printmaking tool) may also be used to apply pressure to the print.*

Step 7



- Flip the piece over so that the cardboard sheet is at the bottom.
- Peel the paper away from the cardboard sheet. The paper may stick to the Styrofoam so peel slowly to avoid ripping the paper.
- Reveal your finished print!
- Set the print aside to dry before displaying.

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