

## Mark Making Magic: Stamping

Transform solid fabrics into your own original prints layered with colors, patterns, and textures! Discover all the mark-making potential of everyday household items as you create stamped circles, dots, lines, and grids. Not only are these fabrics super fun and meditative to make, but they look fabulous layered and stitched into your art quilts!

### Supply List:

- 1 or more yards of Fabric to stamp—below are a few options:**
  - Prepared for Dye fabrics—will not need to be prewashed (I really like [Dharma's Pimatex Cotton 45](#) that comes in black and white and has a lovely drape/weave).
  - Commercial solids from your stash (you may want to play with dark vs. light colors) I recommend prewashing to remove any chemicals that may interfere with the stamping process.
  - You may find it easier to cut out smaller swatches (~ 9-10" squares) to accommodate your workspace and create a variety of stamped samples.
- Paint:** Choose 2 or more bottles of Acrylic Craft paint that contrast with your selected fabrics. These are available in 2 fluid oz size bottles in most craft stores. Brands that I've used include: Folk Art, DecoArt, and Apple Barrel.
  - My personal favorites are [Folk Arts Color Shift Paints](#) and [DecoArt Dazzling Metallics](#) as they have pearlescent/metallic sheen and look very different when applied onto light vs. dark colored fabrics.
  - Options for choosing paint colors:
    - Colors that contrast with your fabrics (ie. light color paints on darker fabrics)
    - Primary colors that can be mixed to form new colors (ie. Red/pink, yellow, blue/turquoise)
    - Analogous colors (adjacent to each other on the color wheel)
    - A Color plus black and/or white paint to create shades and/or pastels.
- Paint Palette:** can use plastic or paper plates, foam trays, shallow plastic trays, and/or cardboard packaging from cereal/cracker boxes. Aim for palettes that are 8-10" in length/diameter to accommodate the variety of items we'll be stamping.
- 3 or more round foam daubers** (also called round paint foam sponge brush or pain stipplers) which are round foam domes mounted on a wooden handle. I recommend 1" in diameter foam daubers (slightly bigger/smaller is ok). I prefer these over foam paint brushes, which can work if you are unable to find the round daubers.
- Workspace Set Up:**
  - Protect your workspace by covering it with plastic garbage bags, plastic/vinyl table cover, etc
  - Paper towels and/or old rags for clean up
  - Plastic dishpan and/or container with water for clean up
  - I recommend wearing an apron and/or old clothing just in case
  - Optional:
    - 1 or more white corrugated plastic boards (~18" x 24"—similar to what is used for election/yard signs) as they are easy to clean and can be used to store/transport samples for drying.
    - Roll of [Glad Press N' Seal](#) (found in most grocery sections with foil/saran wrap/plastic bags)
- Scissors** (for cutting plastic/foam/paper)
- Bottle of Elmer's School Glue**
- Roll of Blue Painter's Tape** (I really like [Scotch/3-M Painter's Tape for Rough Surfaces](#): Brick/Concrete/Grout)



### Mark-Making Magic!

- Variety of Items for Stamping.** Start gathering a few items from each column. Most are common household items that can be saved from the trash/recycling bin. While it is not necessary to have every single item in each column, the more items you gather, the more you can play, experiment and layer into printed fabric!!

Circles & Dots	Lines/Grids	Make Your Own Stamps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wine corks</li> <li>• Bottles/jars/lids measuring 1-3" in diameter</li> <li>• Lego/Duplo bricks and flat plates (check \$1 stores)</li> <li>• Toilet paper/paper towel rolls</li> <li>• Office supplies: markers, pens, pencils, highlighters</li> <li>• Q-tips/cotton swabs</li> <li>• Deodorant base</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wooden tongue depressors, popsicle sticks, and/or disposable wooden chopsticks</li> <li>• Plastic credit card/gift cards/hotel keycards</li> <li>• Cardboard box/packaging</li> <li>• Plastic forks/knives</li> <li>• Rubber/plastic scrapers used for paint, spackle, and/or clay (some have textured edges to create interesting designs)</li> </ul>	<p><b>One or more stamp bases:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cardboard boxes (we can use the panels/sides)</li> <li>• Old/blank CDs/DVDs</li> <li>• Plastic lids/packaging</li> </ul> <p><b>1 sheet of craft foam (try to get the adhesive sticker-backed sheets)</b> You can use precut shapes too) plus any of these items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yarn, twine, and/or rubber bands</li> <li>• 10-20 Toothpicks/Q-tips</li> </ul>

- Optional: Camera to take photos of your process

More Mark-Making Magic photos are posted on my website:  
[www.melbeachquilts.com/teaching](http://www.melbeachquilts.com/teaching)

Questions/concerns? Feel free to contact me at  
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