



Printing with Stencils

This project is designed for all ages, but young children may need assistance from an adult.



Monotype is a form of printmaking which results in one-of-a-kind images. There are many methods that can be used for creating monotype prints. In this project, stencils are used to layer colors.

Materials Used in the Studio

- Construction paper for the stencils
- Watercolor or heavy drawing paper to print onto
- Scissors
- Red, blue and yellow tempera or poster paints
- Small foam rollers (also called brayers) from a craft or hardware store
- 3 plastic plates, or foam trays. Anything non-absorbent with a bit of a rim works well.



Start by cutting shapes out of pieces of construction paper. Both the negative and positive shapes can be used as stencils.

Then, arrange or overlap your shapes on a larger piece of paper.



Prepare each of your paints in a separate paint tray. Start with one or two spoonfuls of paint along the top of the tray.

Roll your brayer back and forth, in one tray to coat it evenly with paint. then roll the brayer slowly over your stencils.

Peel away the stencil to reveal the print you created. While a brayer is not in use, rest its handle on the edge of the tray to help keep your hands clean.

Overlap multiple colors or a variety of stencils to create a unique print with depth and contrast. Use a separate brayer when rolling out each color to avoid unintentional mixing.



Explore

What new shapes can you make when you overlap stencils?

What new colors can you make by overlapping colors?

Design a pattern by repeating the same stencils across the paper.

Try cutting a stencil in a new way—folding, cutting into the side, cutting out one shape to make another.

What more can you make?

Use stencils to make greeting cards, wrapping paper or scrap books to give friends and family.

For other printmaking projects to try, visit
www.carlemuseum.org/Resources/Activities