

Block Print and Play!

Learn to hand carve your own block prints for use on paper and/or fabric. Learn more about the supplies, tools, and block printing process as you go through the steps to design, carve, and print your own original block printed patterns. Be forewarned that block printing is super fun and addicting!

Materials/Supplies Needed:

- Linoleum Cutter: Speedball's Linoleum Cutter Assortment Set #1 comes with 5 cutters/tips and is a great option for getting started with carving your own block prints. You can purchase additional handles to minimize changing tips. Mel's go-to carving gouges are made by Pfeil with the L 12/1 and L 9/2 gouges used the most often.
- 2 or more Speedball Speedy Stamp Carve Blocks measuring 4"x6" or bigger
- X-acto knife and a small cutting mat (6" or bigger)
- 1 or more ink pads. Recommended brands: Tsukineko VersaFine Claire—available in 24 colors with option for refill ink, Tsukineko Kaleidacolor-beautiful ombre ink pads, and/or Memento Lux (which works on fabric too).
- Pencil with soft lead. Mechanical pencils work great especially if they have a metal cylinder tip which can be used to punch tiny dots!!
- 10-15 sheets of printer paper
- OPTIONAL:
 - Acrylic Stamp Blocks (they are available in assorted sizes and shapes. I suggest starting with a 2-3" square), 1-2 packages of Tsukineko's Tack 'N Peel Reusable Cling Sheets, and a pair of scissors (for cutting the Tack 'N Peel).
 - Fabric (light colored solid/solid-like)—can be 5" or 10" charm squares or bigger.

Visit [Mel's Block Print & Play online gallery](#) to learn more about her block printing adventures and creations.

Email Mel with questions/concerns:
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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 can 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.
- 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. Another option is to use 3 or more makeup sponge wedges.
- I recommend wearing an apron and/or old clothing just in case
- 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)
- 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! I'll bring some stuff for folks to try as well!



Mark-Making Magic!

| Circles & Dots | Lines/Grids |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wine corks • Bottles/jars/lids measuring 1-3" in diameter • Lego/Duplo bricks and flat plates (check \$1 stores) • Toilet paper/paper towel rolls • Office supplies: markers, pens, pencils, highlighters | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wooden tongue depressors, popsicle sticks, and/or disposable wooden chopsticks • Plastic credit card/gift cards/hotel keycards • Cardboard box/packaging |

- Q-tips/cotton swabs
- Deodorant base
- Foam hair curlers

- Rubber/plastic scrapers used for paint, spackle, and/or clay (some have textured edges to create interesting designs)

Optional: Camera to take photos of your process

More Mark-Making Magic photos are posted on my website:
www.melbeachquilts.com/teaching

Questions/concerns? Feel free to contact me at
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