

Wisconsin Regional Artists Association Outreach

Community Art (Inclusive art for all ages)

“Monotypes Made Easy”

Cardstock weight paper
Watercolors or acrylics
Createx Monotype Base
Flat brush size 1-1 ½”
Paper plates for mixing

Paper towels & Tarp
Water tub to rinse brushes
Styrofoam (Meat trays)
Medium round brushes
Pre-cut template (mat board)

Step 1...Trace pre-cut template to desired format size. Then use a scissors to cut the Styrofoam into template-sized stamps.

Step 2...Emboss your design into the Styrofoam plate using a stylus or the handle of a brush. The embossed lines and marks will leave broken lines and the white of the paper and the raised portions will print color. Your design image will be reversed during the printing process. Tapping the edges with an object like a plastic ruler creates a deckled edge look.

Step 2...Use a flat brush to coat the plate with Monotype base (Clear dish soap also works). Coat the entire surface evenly. This makes the surface slippery and helps the paint transfer.

Step 3... Mix the paint to the consistency of thick cream. Apply paint to the Styrofoam plate using a small round brush following your embossed sketch. If you are using acrylic you will need to work quickly so paints do not dry. Try not to disturb the monotype coating, because the coating is what makes the paint release and transfer.

Step 4... Paint as desired. You may be surprised at how much detail you can get. If you want to reserve white spaces on your composition just don't paint those areas or poke a hole in the stamp plate.

Step 5... Stop while your colors are still fresh. Strive for smudged impressions and soft edges. Avoid overworking. Think painterly!

Step 6...Now you can place the stamp plate on top of your paper. Hold the plate in place with one hand and press with the other hand.

Steps 7...Apply even pressure and lift the stamp plate up (clean off paint & dry to reuse the stamp plate again).

Steps 8 ...You can use a brush to enhance your work while it is wet or after it dries. Once the paint is dry, sign your name with pen or pencil in the lower right and corner.

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