

Kitchen Art - Polystyrene Prints

with Emma Jones



You will need :

- Polystyrene pizza base or styrofoam containers or foam board.

If you use foam board it has a paper cover so you need to soak under the tap and peel/ rub off that paper and when all removed will be ready to use. I only use one side .

- Washable markers. I used Crayola super tips.
- Old pen or pencil. Anything to make a clean indentation on the surface.
- Paper - I used 250 g/m2
- Sponge and bowl/plate with water
- Spoon



1. Either design and then copy on to your piece or just directly mark on to the surface.

2. Abstract marking or specific image up to you.

3. Colour in your piece.

4. Squeeze out excess water in your sponge and wet your paper.

5. Place your image down on the paper, hold in place with one hand and either use back of spoon or your knuckles rub all over to make sure you have an even print. Gently remove to see your print.



This print is with the foam board . Make sure you have completely removed the paper surface before starting . With the foam board it retains quite a bit of the colour on the board so think about how that will affect your next colouring in.



This print is with polystyrene. You can see after printing there is not much residual colour left on the surface.



Each time you make a print it will be different. That is the fun of experimenting! Too much water on the paper can make the colours bleed into one another. Not enough water and can resemble a dry chalk effect and areas might be missing.



If you want to continue experimenting have a go at using ink pads. I used a very small amount of water on the sponge for the paper for this .



You can also have a go at using acrylic paint. I have wet the paper only a little. If you don't have a roller use a clean kitchen cleaning pad. Use a little of the paint and gently slide across so you are not filling up the indentations. Each medium has a different finish and just enjoy experimenting to see different outcomes.



So when I had time to myself I drew around a pizza base and made a design which I then replicated using a pencil onto the pizza base. Make sure that if you are going to add words that they need to be written backwards as the print is a mirror image.



I used just one colour. The first print I used too much water on the paper and the colour bled and I realised I needed to go over the lines again to make them more defined. This was the second printing which I was really pleased with.

Go bold with your lines as thin ones will probably get lost.



I felt that as I had written love and there was quite a space between the birds I would draw a heart in. You can always add more lines.

You can use your picture to print again and again. So you might want to use your image for Birthday cards etc . If this project is something you have really enjoyed you might want to look into lino printing.

I hope you have had lots of fun experimenting. The fun is never quite knowing what you are going to get!!! Enjoy!