

Collagraph Printing



With thanks to Arts Care Gofal Celf's Nina Morgan

YouTube video tutorial available: <https://youtu.be/3ZZFLjTdPmo>
OR www.acgc.co.uk

List of Materials:

1. Cardboard, card from packaging, brown card from boxes or general thick card
2. PVA Glue and a glue stick
3. Water based printing ink or acrylic paint
4. Cartridge paper or any plain white paper/card
5. Coloured Tissue paper or foils from Easter eggs
6. Newspapers

List of Equipment:

1. Pencil
2. Scissors
3. Roller tray or sheet of plastic
4. DIY small foam roller

Step 1 –How to make a Collagraph Plate

1. Draw your design on to cardboard
2. Cut out a square of cardboard large enough for your design to fit
3. Cut out your design
4. Arrange your design on to your square piece of cardboard
5. Glue the design on to the square piece of cardboard
6. Leave your collagraph plate to fully dry
7. Remember if doing any lettering, the plate will print a mirror view, so words will need to be reversed.



Step 2 – Create a Collage

1. Prepare a collage for printing
2. Use white cartridge paper/card, glue pieces of coloured tissue paper, packaging foils onto the paper using a glue stick.
3. Try to ensure that your collage is fully dry before you begin printing
4. When collaging it's recommend that you use a piece of scrap paper underneath when glueing on to your tissue paper, this ensures that your collage paper is not sticky and the tissue paper is fully glued to the sheet.



Step 3 – Printing your Collagraph

1. Cover your work surface with newspaper
2. Pour a small amount of printing ink or acrylic paint in to a small roller tray, however if you don't have a tray you can use a piece of perspex/plastic.

3. Using a small foam decorating roller, carefully cover your roller by repeatedly rolling forwards and backwards in to the ink/ paint, and roller on the raised area of your tray. Try to avoid using excessive ink as this will cause problems when printing. If you have too much ink on your roller, roll your roller on to newspaper several times to remove excess ink.



4. Once your roller is covered evenly with ink/ paint, lightly roll your roller over your cardboard collagraph plate. Build up the layer of ink in layers.
5. Once your plate is covered evenly with ink, place your plate on to a clean sheet of paper – ink side facing upwards. Take your paper with your collage on, or plain paper if you prefer, and place down on to the ink surface of your collagraph. Carefully press the paper on to your plate, carefully rub the back of the paper until you've covered all areas of the design. You will begin to see an outline of your design which indicates that your print is ready.
6. Carefully peel the paper away from the plate to reveal your print. Remember the ink will be wet so carefully place your print somewhere safe to dry. Begin inking your plate for your next print....it is possible to print large editions so experiment and enjoy!

