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Collage Techniques Using Metal Stencils



Use metal stencils to create collage backgrounds with the Memories Mists; then stencil iridescent pigments onto the matte black embossing paste.

COLLAGE TECHNIQUES USING METAL STENCILS

MATERIALS

1/8", 1/4" & 1/2" stencil brushes	Pan of water/sm. scrub brush	Palette knife
Cardboard box made into a "spray booth"	3/4" removable tape	Paper towels
Dreamweaver Matte Black Embossing Paste	Polished Pigments by Luminarte	Copy paper
Variety of white and light colored card stock	Palette Brand Stamp and Stick Gluepad	
Blueberry Shake and Lavender Tea Memories Mists (MM) by Stewart Superior		
Dreamweaver metal stencils: LL437 Feather, LJ875 Four seasons, LJ855 Corner leaves, LL581 Med. deckle template, LJ880 Large deckle template, LG696 Comfort		

SPRAYING A COLLAGE BACKGROUND (LL437 FEATHER STENCIL)

Make a spray booth by cutting open one side of a cardboard box and extend this flap open. You should now have three sides of the box standing to protect the surrounding area. Place the card stock to be sprayed inside. To spray a fine mist, hold the spray bottle at an angle 18-24 inches above the card stock and firmly press down on the atomizer. If ink builds up at the atomizer's spray opening, wipe it off with a paper towel. To spray large droplets, hold the bottle 12-18 inches above the card stock and gently push the atomizer halfway down. Use a paper towel to wipe the stencil clean. Although the card stock is dry to the touch almost immediately, moisture has been absorbed into it. If you are planning to use embossing paste on your sprayed project, let the damp card stock dry for a couple of hours before proceeding. To create a collage effect with the feather stencil, begin by lightly spraying an entire light-colored paper with Blueberry Shake Memories Mists. Next, place the feather stencil diagonally on the left side of the card and spray a fine mist of the same blue color. (Do not use tape to position the stencil because the moisture from the spray will cause the tape to leave a sticky residue on the paper.) Hold a piece of copy paper over the part of the card that extends beyond the stencil to protect it from too much spray. Hold the paper about one inch above the surface of the card when you spray to create a softer-edged design. Then move the stencil to another position and spray using the Lavender Tea color. Shield your card with the paper again. Move the stencil and spray another layer of one of the Memories Mists color to complete the background. The more layers you add, the more intense the colors will become.

USING EMBOSSING PASTE AND STENCILING TECHNIQUES

1. Attach the feather stencil to the card stock with removable tape. Extend the tape at least half an inch beyond the all four edges of the stencil to keep the paste from smearing onto the paper. Use the Matte Black Embossing Paste and the palette knife to smooth the paste into the stencil openings. When you remove the stencil, let the first piece of tape you applied remain on until the last moment, to use it as a hinge. That way you can flip the stencil back against the last piece of tape as if you were opening a door. After removing this piece of tape, drop the stencil immediately into a pan of water and scrub it clean. (For more step-by-step directions on how to use the embossing paste, refer to the book **"New Dimensions in Cardmaking"** by Lynell Harlow.)
2. The paste will dry in approximately 30 minutes. Reposition the clean feather stencil back onto the pasted stencil design. Tap a large stencil brush onto the Palette Stamp and Stick Gluepad and then tap it onto the matte black paste-embossed feather. Remove the stencil and clean it off with water.
3. Reposition the clean stencil on the paste-embossed and glued feather image. Load a small stencil brush with one of the iridescent pigment powders by dipping the flat end of the stencil brush into the jar. Before tapping the pigment powder onto the feather, tap the brush bristles against a paper towel. This will load the pigment into the brush bristles. I chose my favorite colors of Polished Pigments from Luminarte although other iridescent pigment powders could be used. After stenciling the black feather with these iridescent colors, finish the card by embossing a message in the upper right hand corner of the card. Use the LG691 Thank You and Matte Black Embossing Paste.

COMFORT CARD TIPS: (LJ855 CORNER LEAVES STENCIL, LL581 MEDIUM DECKLE TEMPLATE, LJ880 LARGE DECKLE TEMPLATE, LG696 COMFORT STENCIL)

Use the deckle edge templates to create collage designs with the sprays. The Memories Mists sets are packaged with a chalk ink cube that is a slightly darker color than the spray inks. Use the chalk ink to stencil the corner design of leaves after you spray them. This will enhance your design and create a sharper stenciled image. To create the Comfort Card, I used this darker chalk ink and the comfort, peace, hope stencil. Then I paste-embossed the design using the shadow technique from **"New Dimensions in Cardmaking."**