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# Using Mica Powders on Black Embossing Paste



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## MATERIALS

Dreamweaver Matte Black Embossing Paste  
Palette Brand Stamp and Stick Gluepad  
Palette knife  
Variety of mica pigment powders  
Shallow pan of water  
Small scrub brush  
¾" Stencil brush or Jumbo dauber  
¼" and ⅛" stencil brushes  
Removable tape  
Paper towels

Colored 65-80# card stock  
LL332 Picasso stencil shield  
Dreamweaver Stencils used:  
Cardinal LL572  
Greetings LL240  
Cupcakes LL551  
Happy Birthday LM248  
Butterflies LJ887  
Butterfly Character LS68

## USING EMBOSSING PASTE

Attach the stencil to the card stock with removable tape. Extend the tape at least half an inch beyond all four edges of the stencil to keep the paste from smearing onto the paper that borders the stencil design. 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 stay in place until the last moment to use it as a hinge. That way you can flip the stencil back against the remaining piece of tape as if you were opening a door. After removing this piece of tape, drop the stencil immediately into a shallow pan of water and clean it with a small scrub brush. (For more step-by-step directions on how to use the embossing paste, refer to the book *"New Dimensions in Cardmaking"* by Lynell Harlow.)

## APPLYING THE STAMP AND STICK GLUE

When the paste is dry (in about 30 minutes) use removable tape to reposition the clean stencil back over the paste-embossed stencil design. Load the large stencil brush or a jumbo dauber heavily by pushing it onto the Palette Stamp and Stick Gluepad with firm pressure. Then tap the brush lightly onto the matte black paste-embossed design with a very gentle touch. This technique of heavy loading and then lightly tapping the glue on will keep the very wet glue from seeping under the stencil image and ruining your card stock. Load heavily, tap lightly, load heavily, tap lightly, until the entire paste-embossed image is coated with glue.

## STENCILING WITH METALLIC MICA POWDERS

Now that the glue has been applied, you can add color with mica powders. These beautiful iridescent pigment powders are very easy to apply. Polished Pigments from Luminarte were used, because they have such a variety of colors, but there are many other mica powders available, such as Pearl-Ex by Jacquard and Perfect Pearls from Ranger.

To prepare for applying the powder, dip the flat end of the stencil brush into the mica powder jar and tap the brush bristles onto a paper towel. This will load the pigment into the brush bristles. Use a rouging method or circular motion to apply the powder through the stencil openings. As you stencil using this rouging technique, be sure to keep the stencil brush bristles flat against the stencil. Start at the edge of the stencil openings and work towards the center of the openings. This will keep the powder from accumulating at the edge of the stencil design. When you are finished with adding the color, wet a paper towel or soft cloth to clean off the stencil.

## ABOUT USING "PICASSO" – A STENCIL SHIELD

The many curves of this stencil shield can be manipulated by placing it on top of the stencil to mask out areas from receiving excess color. It can also be used to create a vein in a leaf or to stencil clouds in a sky background. (For more information on using Picasso, refer to the DVD - *"Unique Techniques"* by Lynell Harlow)