



## **Kitchen Screen Printing**

- Embroidery hoop (a larger diameter one is preferable)
- Curtain gauze or old nylons
- Modgepodge or some other kind of acrylic gel medium
- Painting brushes, variety of thicknesses and styles
- Pencil

### **Preparation**

1. Prepare the surface for your image by stretching gauze or nylon over the embroidery hoop frame. The fabric should be taut to the touch.
2. If you have prepared a drawing, place it face down against the top of the embroidery hoop, so that it is facing you when you hold the underside of the hoop. Use a pencil to copy or trace the drawing. Keep in mind that the acrylic paint for your image will only pass through areas without gel medium.





3. Once you have traced the drawing, seal all of the surface areas that you do not want to ink up with the Modgepodge or gel medium. Hold up the image to the light to ensure that areas you want sealed are actually sealed. Leave overnight to dry. You may need to touch up areas that repel the gel medium.



#### For inking and printing

- Acrylic paint or water-based screen print ink (Speedball is the best)
- Flat container or plastic cup for paint
- Popsicle stick/s

- Piece of stiff cardboard, old plastic card (similar to bank or credit cards), or flat plastic putty scraper, plus extra for spreading paint
- Kitchen paper or shop towel sheets
- Painter's tape
- Packing tape
- Paper for printing (any thickness will do but textured paper will be harder to print on); I prefer Stonehenge

#### Method

4. Cover your work surface with either newsprint or newspaper and tape using the painter's tape.
5. Once your drawing is dry, cut your paper for printing. You want to leave at least 1" from the top and two sides, and 1.5" from the bottom for your edition. Also cut some newspaper or use printer paper (if your image is small enough) for tests.
6. Place your screen face down over a sheet of your cut paper. This will tell you where your image will be on the paper when you print. Using painter's tape, make markers at the corners of your paper. This will ensure that your paper is in the same place each time you print. You may also make additional markers for your screen, if you wish.
7. Seal off the areas around your image with packing tape to contain the paint or screen-printing ink. You may find you will need extra pieces of packing tape in case the ink or paint bleed through once you start printing.



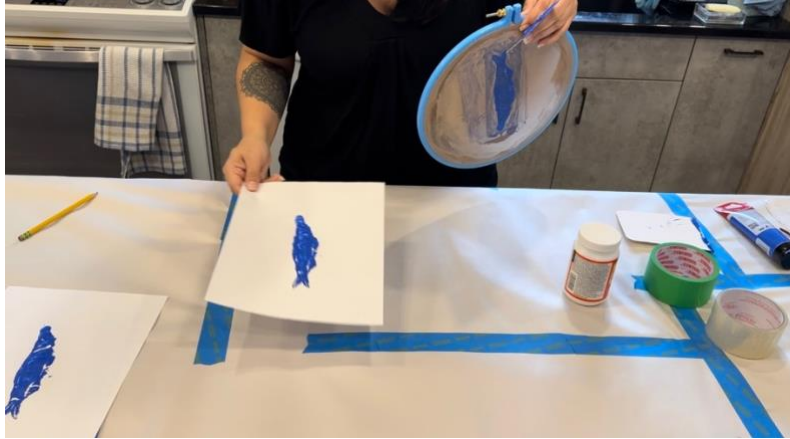
8. Working carefully and at another end of your workstation, pour some acrylic paint into a cup or container. Using a popsicle stick, apply it to your screen a centimeter from the edges of your image and then spread with a piece of cardboard. Your image should be full of paint or ink. You do not want to cover the entire screen with paint.



9. Place your test sheet within the paper markers you made earlier. You can use painter's tape to hold the paper in place by taping the paper just at the edges.
10. Holding your flat putty scraper or plastic card at a 45-degree angle at the top of the image, pass the paint or ink through your screen using consistent pressure. Your image will print. In case there are inconsistencies with inking, repeat step 7 and re-ink your screen. Print some more test prints.







11. Once you are satisfied with the ink consistency, print your edition. This method should yield at least 8 prints. Leave prints to dry flat overnight.



12. For cleaning, take the excess paint or ink off your screen and return it either to its source or store in a small, capped container. Once the screen is dry, you can dispose of the nylon or gauze by removing it from the hoop.

