

Tips for creative design with stencils

Instructions No. 3341

Discover the World of Stenciling: Creative Ideas for Your Projects

The **stencil technique** is a proven method to quickly and easily transfer motifs without the risk of freehand painting. Whether on boxes, canvases, or walls – **stenciling** is versatile and easy to master. In this article, you'll find useful **tips** and learn more about the creative uses of **stencils**.



Why Stenciling?

Stencils are especially popular in wall decor. You can quickly add a personal touch to your home. But furniture, canvases, and paper crafts also benefit from this technique. Stencils offer beginners a sense of security and also inspire experienced creatives. Visit our [VBS craft shop](#) to discover high-quality stencils made from washable and durable plastic.

Material Tips

1. Tip – Choose the Right Paint

Use thick paint for stenciling to avoid bleeding. Acrylic paints are ideal as they are mixable, high coverage, and lightfast.

2. Tip – Use Stencil Brushes

Real [stencil brushes](#) have short, straight bristles. They dab delicate motifs without getting paint under the stencil. For color transitions within a motif, stencil brushes are preferable. Especially as stenciling is more about dabbing than painting (see tip 8).

3. Tip – Don't Forget the Palette

To avoid too much paint, use [palettes or cups](#). This way, you can easily dab off excess paint and achieve a perfect result.

4. Tip – Self-Adhesive Stencils?

When purchasing, pay attention to whether your stencils are self-adhesive. They stick to various surfaces but are not suitable for mirrored motifs.

5. Tip – Adhesive Spray Keeps the Stencil in Place

An adhesive spray ensures the stencil does not move. It can be easily removed or washed off and makes working easier.

Preparation Tips

6. Tip – Clean Surface

Before you start, ensure your surface is clean and free of grease or dirt to guarantee optimal results.

7. Tip – Guide Lines for Borders and Patterns

Use pencil lines or strung threads to help position stencils for borders evenly. Mark endpoints for equal spacing.

Processing Tips

8. Tip – Dab Instead of Painting

Dab the paint with little pressure from the inside out. Avoid brushing motions to retain clear contours.

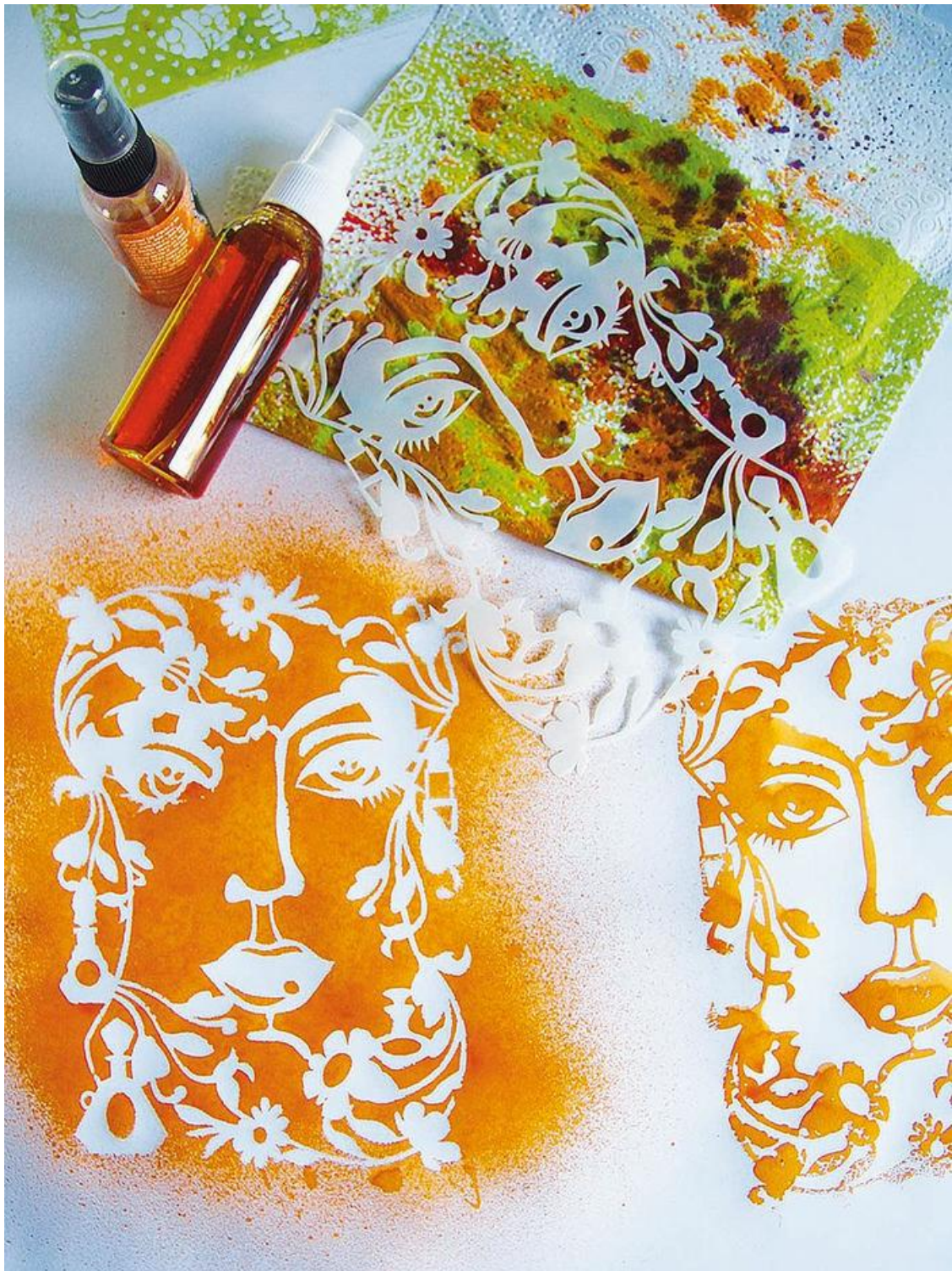
9. Tip – Create Interesting Effects with a Sponge



An alternative method is using sponges. [Daubers](#) create very even motifs thanks to their fine-pored sponge.

10. Tip – Think Positive and Negative

Stencils can be used negatively (using the spaces) or positively (directly on the stencil). As a negative, simply lay the stencil and dab the gaps with paint. Or stamp with the stencils by applying paint directly on the stencil and pressing onto the surface. This technique opens up amazing design possibilities.



11. Tip – Keep the Stencil Clean

Don't forget to regularly clean your stencil to avoid unwanted paint residues when reapplying.

Tips for More Creativity When Stenciling

12. Tip – Spray Bottle Technique

With a [spray bottle](#) and diluted stencil paint, wonderful effects can be created. For creative fabric design, work with a [Fashion Spray](#) and stencils.



13. Tip – Letter Stencils

Letter stencils offer endless creative possibilities. Experiment with different fonts and create unique texts.



14. Tip – Stenciling on Glass

Stencils are particularly beautiful on glass. With [window paints](#), motifs can be reused, ideal for seasonal decoration.

15. Tip – Add Shine to Your Stencil Idea

With [leaf metal](#), shiny accents are created. Apply [adhesive milk](#) in a stencil-like manner and apply the leaf metal with a brush. Uneven edges can be easily removed.

16. Tip – Stencil Three-Dimensionally

Use [texture paste](#) to create three-dimensional effects. Instead of paint, use a spatula to make your creations three-dimensional.

17. Tip – Make Your Own Stencils

Create your own stencils from [lamp foil](#). Use a [cutter knife](#) to cut out your designs and enjoy the durability of the foil.

18. Tip – Still Looking for a Bright Idea for Stenciling?

Try this [world map](#). The possibilities this world map offers are impressive and provide many creative options.



Have fun stenciling! ❤️

Visit our [VBS craft shop](#) now and secure all the materials you need for your next stenciling project!

Must Have



[VBS Stencil brush, set of 3](#)

5,79 €

[Item details](#)

Quantity:

1

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Article information:

Article number	Article name	Qty
26792	Stencil "House of Roses", 12 x 12 cmPapillon	1
14730	Stencil "Saloon writing"	1
12126	Stencil "Butterfly motives", A4	1
451925-10	VBS Stencil, self-adhesive, DIN A5Flowers	1
120708	Painting sponge "Stippling Brush", set of 3	1
120159	VBS Painting sponge "Stencilling Gnome", 3 pieces	1
550932	VBS Stencil brush, set of 3	1
110938	Spray adhesive Odif 404, removable	1
801201	Pump spray empty bottle	1
453004	Stencil "World Map XXL", A2	1
841795-41	VBS Acrylic paint, 75 mlPrimary Blue	1