



Make a Masterpiece

Make Your Own Stamps and Wrapping Paper

What you need:

- A stamp base such as plastic lids or caps, wooden blocks, or thick cardboard
- Foam back stickers (As an alternative, you can also experiment by cutting custom shapes from foam sheets or thick cardboard and gluing them onto your stamp base.)
- Tempera paint
- Water
- Tray or paper plate
- Paper towels
- Roll of long paper cut into two or three foot lengths to make wrapping paper, or other thick paper pieces to make bookmarks, gift tags, etc.
- Tape to keep paper flat
- Scissors

To make stickers:

- Pull the paper backing off of the foam stickers to expose sticky back.
- Firmly press the stickers onto a lid, wooden piece, or cardboard tube. Use your creativity to customize the stamp by arranging a design or making your own shapes by cutting foam sheets or thick cardboard. Older kids can plan how to use their stamp to make layers or create patterns.
- Lay a few paper towels in a tray or paper plate, and pour a bit of water the surface.
- Add a small amount of Tempera paint to the paper towels.



To make stamp pad:

- Lay a few paper towels in a tray or paper plate, and pour a bit of water on the surface.
- Add a small amount of Tempera paint to the paper towels.

To make wrapping paper: Once your stamps and stamp pad are ready, lay a sheet of long paper onto a tabletop, taping down the corners to help keep it in place. Press one of your stamps onto the stamp pad and then onto the paper. Experiment with creating different designs and layering effects!

Do you see patterns repeating? What happens if you mix paint colors? What else can you use to make stamps ... perhaps a fork, potato masher, or even fruits and vegetables? What else can you decorate with your stamps... perhaps some gift tags or bookmarks?