

Sponge Printing



Looking for a project that uses up old craft items? Do you have lots of leftover craft paint or paint-by-number paints?

Using common items around the house, you can create some patterned paper that can be used to cover a sketch journal or as wrapping paper. Toothpicks, sponges, construction paper, and leftover craft paint be transformed into something beautiful, even by little hands!

Supplies:

- Clean kitchen sponges
- Scissors
- Marker
- Acrylic craft paint (leftovers from a model making project or paint by numbers is fine)
- Toothpicks
- Dark construction paper
- Wax paper or foam plates



Directions:

1. Draw a leaf shape (or other shape) onto the sponge with the marker. You may want to use a real leaf as a template.
2. Cut out the leaf shape with a pair of scissors. You may want to make several sponge printers, one per color desired.
3. Pour out a small amount of the paint onto the wax paper or foam plate.
4. Dip the cut sponge into the paint and spread the paint around a bit so that it is not loaded too heavily on the sponge.
5. Press onto the dark paper, creating patterns and changing colors as desired.
6. You can layer one color over another for an interesting effect.
7. Once dry, dip a toothpick into a light colored paint, like yellow or cream. Use the toothpick to draw the veins in the leaves. Using a toothpick creates an uneven, organic line and prevents the painter from making the veins too wide.

