

Holiday Stencils



Let the kids have fun creating handmade holiday cards using a stencil made from a foam plate. Many different looks can be created with this one, easy-to-make stencil.

Supplies:

Foam plates
Pencil
X-Acto knife (or sharp steak knife)
Tempera (poster) paints
Sponges

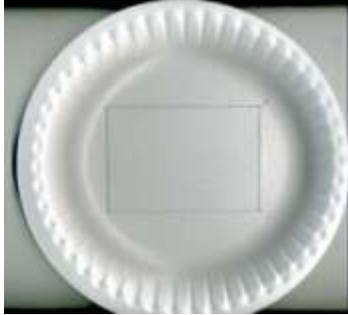
Directions:



1. Draw a 3" x 4" rectangle on a piece of white paper.



2. Using a pencil, create a simple holiday design, such as a word (like Peace, Joy or Love), or a symbol of the season.



3. Now draw another 3" x 4" rectangle on a foam plate.



4. Redraw the design inside the rectangle on the plate. (You may also transfer the design by taping the paper onto the plate and tracing over the lines with a ballpoint pen to make an impression on the plate.)

5. Carefully cut out the design with the X-Acto knife. (This step should not be completed by young children. Please use discretion!)



6. Spread various colors of tempera paints onto a sponge, being careful not to blend the paint too much.

7. Lay the foam plate stencil onto a piece of colored construction paper and press the painted sponge over it. Lift the plate off the paper and allow to dry.



8. Cut out the printed design and paste onto a card made from construction paper of a different color.

This template can be cleaned and reused in various ways.

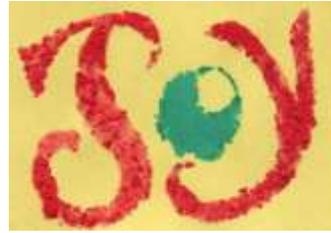
See below for some other samples:



with oil pastels



with a paintbrush



with a small sponge