

Lesson 5 - Block Printed Summer Bunting

Description

In this class we will be making Block Printed Summer Bunting. This is an easy introduction to home printmaking and can be done with recycled materials.

- Scissors
- Coloured paper - A3 or A4
- Stapler
- Tetrapak - shiny silver side inside and card outside - oat milk/juice cartons are usually made of this
- String
- PVA Glue/ double-sided tape/ glue stick
- Pencil
- Water-based block printing ink
- Roller

Artist Inspiration:

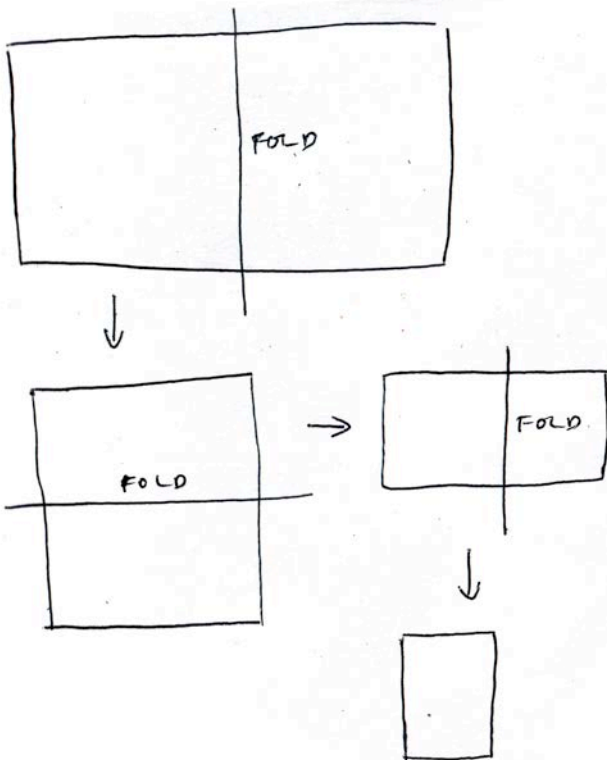


Mark Hearld - block print

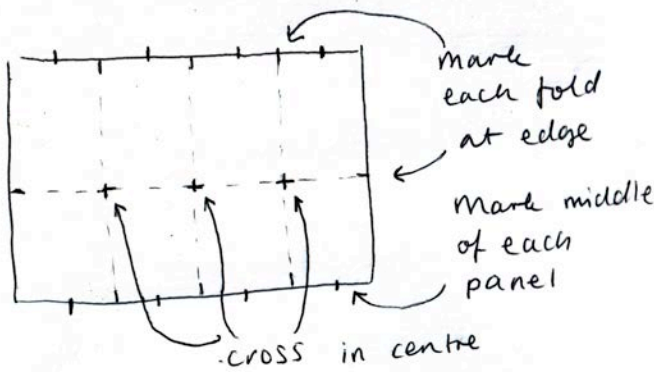


Harriet Popham - linocut print

Steps:



1. Fold paper to a6 size, as shown, using A3 paper.

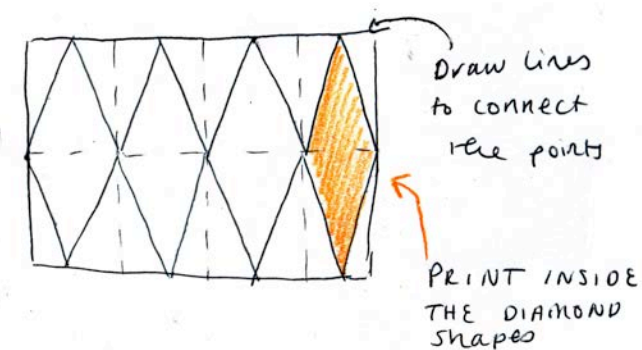


2. Unfold paper and lay flat

3. Mark each fold at the edge using a light pencil mark

4. Mark the centre of each panel at the edge

5. Mark the centre of each fold with a cross



6. Join up these marks to form 4 diamond shapes. These will be the triangular bunting panels when folded.

7. Repeat steps 1-6 for as many panels as you'd like on your string (I used 7). An odd number works well

for bunting to hang symmetrically with one triangle hanging in the centre, if you'd like it to look uniform.

8. Make one extra diamond as a template for your printing block and cut it out.
9. Fold your diamond in half along the pre-existing fold and draw around the triangular shape to give you a template on your tetrapak.
10. Keeping in mind that the silver part sticks to the ink, remove any parts where you'd like to have your paper shine through. I drew a simple sunshine shape and wave and cut them out.
11. When happy with your printing block, cut around the edges of your triangle so your block will be the same size as your bunting triangle.
12. Placing your block silver side up on a covered surface, use a roller to cover it in ink. If you don't have a roller or ink, you can use paint and a large paintbrush but keep in mind that it will be much harder to clean your block if you want to change colours.
13. Lay your template out flat and press your block ink-side down into each triangle shape within the diamond shapes you drew earlier
14. If you want to change colours, thoroughly wash and dry your tetrapak first
15. Leave ample time for drying. Waterbased inks will take longer to dry - I'd leave them for 24-48 hours.
16. For this next step - If your printed paper is thin (sugar paper or thinner), use double sided tape or a glue stick for this part. If you have used thicker paper, you should use PVA glue. You can also use a stapler if you would prefer.
17. Once your print is dry, placing it print-side down on your surface and run the beginning of your bunting string along the middle fold. Remember to leave enough string on the end of the bunting to tie in a loop for hanging.
18. Coat your paper in the appropriate adhesive
19. Fold and press the diamond into a triangle around the string
20. Repeat steps 17-19 until you have glued all of your diamonds to the string at even intervals.