

How to...

FREE
information

3D Decoupage

Equipment

Set of images
Silicone glue or foam pads
D coupage scissors or craft knife
Tweezers
Shaper tool – ‘hockeystick’
Plastic sponge or craft style paint brush
Cutting mat
Cold glaze or varnish

Method

Selecting your design

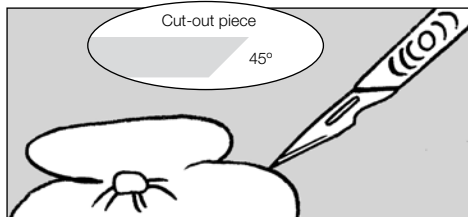
Choose a set of images – pre-packed sets usually include five identical copies of a print. This will give you enough different levels to your picture. If it is your first attempt at this craft, choose pictures which have a clear outline around the images and defined background and foreground to add dimension.

Cutting

A large part of the work in d coupage is in cutting out, therefore it is most important to use a sharp cutting instrument. To ensure you get clean edges and precise cuts you will need d coupage scissors or a craft knife. You may find it easier to cut roughly around the shape with scissors then trim it with a craft knife. A cutting mat can be used, providing a non-slip surface for cutting.

Always cut along the outline of the piece you require at a 45  angle. This will give a clean edge with no white paper showing on your cut-out piece.

If a white edge does show, just colour the edge with an appropriate colour crayon.



Layering

When you have selected your image, decide how your picture should be layered. Always work from back to front, starting with the background and build up to the foreground. Your first image is used as the base so no cutting is needed on this one. With the next image, cut out the complete picture removing any background that shows through the centre. With the rest of the images, cut out the detail you require for the middleground and foreground.

Shaping

After you have finished cutting out the pieces and before gluing them on in layers, a shaper tool can be used for added effect.

Place the cut-out piece on a shaping pad face down and, with a gentle circular motion from the centre, rotate a shaping tool until the desired shape is reached. (See diagrams)



Feathering

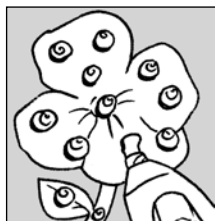
When you are cutting out birds and animals, they look more realistic if you feather round the edges.



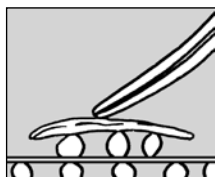
Cut at 90° angle following the shape of the feathers. Start the cut about 1/4 of the length of the feather at first – you can always make this longer if you wish. Place on a shaping pad and shape as required.



1. To apply silicone, place nozzle to paper and squeeze lightly leaving 1/4" depth of silicone.



2. Silicone only the area to be overlaid by the print you are adding. Space each 'blob' about 1/2"– 3/4" apart to give good support for the next layer. Make sure that you don't apply silicone too close to the edges as it may show.



3. Apply the next layer and tap down lightly.

4. Leave to dry then add more layers

Glues

Foam pads are easy to apply and very effective to create layers.

Silicone glue is clear drying, it holds its shape and does not run or shrink.

Tweezers are used for handling tiny pieces of the design and a cocktail stick can be used for applying small amounts of sealant.

Varnishing

When you have completed your picture cold glaze or varnish can be used to highlight certain areas. It should be applied with a small, soft, craft-style paint brush or plastic sponge. Use two or three coats (allowing to dry between each one) depending on the finish you require.

Framing

If you wish to frame your work a box frame is essential to accommodate the depth. The glass will provide protection from dust.

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