

Stenciling



Stenciling is the creation of a pattern by masking an area of a surface and applying color to the exposed parts by brushing or sponging paint through a cutout overlay placed on the surface.

The general process can be completed with an image cut from paper or cardboard so that when inked, painted, or otherwise filled in, the image can be repeated throughout an edition.

Stenciling is an excellent way to accent a border of your wedding correspondence.

You Will Need

- ink pads in desired colors
 - makeup sponges
 - stencil
 - removable tape
1. Cut paper to desired size, or use purchased card. Print message on card or paper, if message is desired on the painted paper.
 2. Secure stencil over paper, using removable tape. Press makeup sponge onto ink pad.
 3. Apply ink to paper, using a pouncing motion, replenish ink as needed. Use new sponge for each additional color, overlapping and blending as desired.

A wedding is a ceremony that celebrates the beginning of a marriage or civil union. Wedding traditions and customs vary greatly between cultures, ethnic groups, religions, countries, and social classes.

In some countries, cultures and religions, the actual act of marriage begins during the wedding ceremony. In others, the legal act of marriage occurs at the time of signing a marriage license or other legal document, and the wedding is then an opportunity to perform a traditional ceremony and celebrate with friends and family.

A woman taking part in the ceremony is called a bride, a man called a bridegroom, after the ceremony they become a wife and a husband, respectively.



Wedding ceremonies vary within country and cultures however, most contain wedding vows of some kind and a proclamation of marriage, usually officiated by a local religious clerk. Most weddings also involve wearing the traditional clothes of the culture in which the couple is wedding. A wedding is often followed or accompanied by a wedding reception.

Other elements may include music, poetry, prayer, scripture, or other traditions. In most societies a number of traditions or customs have emerged around the wedding ceremony, many of which have lost their original symbolic meaning in the modern world. Other wedding traditions are relatively recent. Some elements of the Western heterosexual wedding ceremony symbolize the bride's departure from her father's control and entry into a new family with her husband. In modern Western weddings, this symbolism is largely vestigial, since husband and wife are of equal power and status. In some cultures, same-sex weddings are celebrated.

Offers ideas, insights & details for engagement, wedding and anniversary plans. Featuring insights into:

- [Anniversary](#)
- [Engagement](#)
- [Wedding](#)

If you are planning on being a wedding consultant or photographer there is a strong likelihood you will be limited to the number of weddings you can do on any specific day.

Most weddings are local, so look for information pertaining to your area. For the number of weddings in any specific area call the County Clerks office in that county.

Statistics for the Wedding Industry

- **2,226,000** weddings occurred in the US from June 2004 to June 2005 spending approximately \$85 billion. If considering all the items a bride will purchase 6 months prior to 6 months after her wedding the total exceeds 120 billion dollars.
- Over **9,000,000** weddings in China per year with an average \$19,900/wedding.
- 714,000 Japanese brides spend an average of \$70,000 per wedding in 2005.
- Number of worldwide weddings 115,000/day.
- #1 wedding city in the world is **Istanbul, Turkey** with 166,000 for the year.
- #2 wedding city in the world is **Las Vegas, Nevada, USA** with 116,000 weddings.
- #3 wedding city (2nd in USA) is **Gatlinburg, Tennessee, USA** with 42,000 weddings.
- #4 wedding city (3rd USA) is **New Orleans, Louisiana, USA** with 36,545 marriages in 2002.
- In Australia figures show that the average age of a bride in 2003 was 29, compared with 26 in 1993. And 75 per cent of couples lived together before marrying, up from 16 per cent in the 1970s. Average number of guests that are being invited to a wedding is 164.

If you are looking to determine the number of brides in a specific area and you do not have the time to locate the county or city clerk's office to get that information. About .007% of the population will wed in any specific area during a year's time frame.

Watercolor Painting

Watercolor painting is the painting technique of using paint made of colorants suspended or dissolved in water. Although the grounds used in watercolor painting vary, the most common is paper. Others include papyrus, bark papers, plastics, leather, fabric, wood, and canvas.

- You Will Need
 - Watercolor paper or purchased cards of watercolor paper
 - 1 to 3 tubes of light shades of watercolor paint
 - paintbrushes
 - Kosher salt
 - Palette or small dishes
1. Dampen paper with water. Squeeze paint onto palette. Mix desired color, if necessary. Wet brush and dilute paint with water.
 2. Apply diluted paint to paper in broad random strokes. If more than one color is desired, use a different brush for each color. Tilt and turn paper to distribute paint to desired areas.

Average traditional wedding in the USA is \$20,000 - \$25,000 ** Average age for first-time brides is 25 years. For grooms, it's 27. ** June is the most popular month for weddings, followed by August, September, October and May ** One third of engaged couples retain a wedding consultant. ** The average household income of a newly married couple is \$60,000/year.

99% of couples who get married go on a honeymoon. ** Couples spend an average of \$5,000 on their honeymoon. ** The honeymoon industry is a 12 billion dollar a year industry. ** An average honeymoon vacation is one week. 45 percent of honeymoon trips are to domestic locations; 55 percent are international. ** Most popular honeymoon activities that honeymooners enjoy are:

- Visiting a new place for sightseeing, restaurants, entertainment and nightlife - 75%
- Beaches and lakes - 45%
- Casinos - 20%
- Cruises - 15%
- Golf/sports vacations - 10%
- Skiing trips - 5%

3. Lay paper flat. Sprinkle kosher salt sparingly over wet paint. Allow to dry.
4. Brush salt from completely dry paper. Cut paper to desired size.

Die Cutting

Die cutting is a method of using sharp steel ruled stamps or rollers to cut various shapes i.e. labels, boxes, image shapes, either post press or in line. The process of cutting paper in a shape or design by the use of a wooden die or block in which are positioned steel rules in the shape of the desired pattern.

You Will Need

- mat knife, cutting mat
 - template or stencil, optional
 - straightedge, optional
1. Cut paper to desired size or use purchased card.
 2. Choose design for die cut. The larger or simpler the design, the easier it is to cut out. When cutting out a rectangle or square, straight inside corners are easier to cut than rounded ones.
 3. Embellish card as desired. Trace area to be cut, using stencil or template, unless area will be cut freehand.
 4. Cut out design using a mat knife; use template or straightedge to cut straight lines.

Making a Deckled Edge

A "deckled edge" is the feathering, ripping, or tearing of material to produce a jagged uneven edge. The rough uneven material edges produce a natural handmade appearance generally associated with historical printing of the 19th century.

You Will Need

- Art deckle ruler
1. Print message on paper, if message is desired on the deckled-edged paper. Place paper right side down on work surface.
 2. Dampen $\frac{3}{4}$ in. edge of watercolor or heavier weight paper, using clean paintbrush and water. For lightweight paper, such as bond, omit this step.
 3. Place art deckle ruler $\frac{1}{2}$ in. from edge of paper, hold firmly in place, Slowly tear $\frac{1}{2}$ in. edge off, pulling it against edge of ruler.
 4. Remove ruler. Smooth edge outward, allow drying.