

## Beyond the Basics Stamping Techniques: Week 1

Inspiration: Trends in Stamping, Using Inks to "watercolor", Using Outline Images in Black and White, Masking Techniques

Welcome to Stamping Imperfection's Technique-A-Week: Beyond the Basics Video Class Series
This is a free video class series to share intermediate stamping techniques. Create a new folder in your documents file on your computer and name it: Techniques. Save the PDF's from this video series in that file so you can refer to them. Take pictures of your work as you try these techniques and add those to the digital file. Please feel free to print this handout out for your own personal use. I encourage you to try the techniques and to save samples of your work with this handout in a binder. There is nothing like a resource binder with instructions and samples to refer to.

I will provide supply lists with links at the end of this. These are my affiliate links. By using these links you help me to keep my blog and YouTube channel going so I can continue to provide you useful resources and there is no extra cost to you. I really appreciate your support and I hope you enjoy these free class videos.

This week, I have 4 cards using one of the latest trends in stamping: Black and White Outline images. I'm sharing 4 easy "watercolor" techniques using your dye ink pads to add color to the images, as well as some masking techniques.
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Card 1: Ink Pad Watercolor Smoosh Technique with masking sheets
Card Recipe:
Watercolor paper cut 3-3/4 x 4-1/2"
Neenah Solar White 90 lb cut at $4-1 / 4 \times 11^{\prime \prime}$, score and fold at $5-1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$, one $1 \times 2$ " white card scrap
Black craft foam cut at $3-3 / 4 \times 4-1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$
Acetate sheet or cellophane stamp set packaging
Technique:

1. Create a mask for the large floral image or create any masks you may need for the stamp set you plan to use.
2. Place your watercolor paper or Bristol paper on a easy to clean mat. Squish your ink colors on to the mat and spritz with water.
3. Use the cellophane or acetate to pick up the watered-down ink. Then place the ink on the paper with the cellophane. Repeat this with all of your colors until you have the paper covered in color. White space is okay!
4. Dry this with a heat tool or set it aside to dry.
5. Place the dry mat on top of your card base and use this to position your stamps in your stamp positioner.
6. Place just the card base in the bottom right corner of your stamp positioner and stamp your images. You may need to do this in two or three steps if you are masking images. Stamp the images you want to appear in front of the others first, then leave those stamps in place and stamp and stamp the watercolor mat. Make sure you line this up $3 / 4$ " from the side and the bottom of the stamp positioner. Add your masks and repeat with the other stamps you wish to use.
7. Use double sided sticky tape to attach the mat to a piece of craft foam or use foam tape. Carefully line the top piece to the card base, aligning the images.
8. Create and add your sentiment and embellishments.

## Card 2: Ink Pad Watercolor Smoosh Technique with masking tape

Card Recipe:
Card base cut at $4-1 / 4 \times 11^{\prime \prime}$, score and fold at 5-1/2"
Card front: Cut Bristol paper and craft foam to $4-1 / 4 \times 5-1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$

## Acetate sheet or cellophane stamp set packaging

You will also need an easy to remove masking tape or paper with temporary adhesive to create the rectangle in the center of the card front and mask off the edges. I used 3M Removable Labeling Tape. I use the $2^{\prime \prime}$ width, but there are other options. You can also use purple tape or post it notes. All of these are available at your local office supply or department store. One roll lasts a long time!

Technique:

1. Mask off the Bristol Card Mat. Make any masks you will need for the images you are planning to stamp.
2. Squish your inks on to your craft mat and spritz with water. Use the cellophane to pick up the watered-down inks and add them to your paper until the rectangle is completely covered.
3. Dry this with your heat tool or set it aside to dry. Carefully remove the masking from your card front when it is completely dry.
4. Using your stamp positioner and masks, stamp the image and sentiment. Stamp the image so that some of it goes out of the watercolor area.
5. Add your embellishments.

Card 3: Ink Pad Watercolor Technique with a paint brush and masking sheets
Card Recipe:
Bristol Paper and craft foam cut at $4 \times 5-1 / 4$ "
Card base cut at $4-1 / 4 \times 11^{\prime \prime}$, score and fold at $5-1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$

## Technique:

1. Determine where your stamped image will be on your card front. This works best is you are using a corner or one part of the card front like one side or just the top or bottom. I used the bottom diagonal corner.
2. Use a round paintbrush to add some water to the area you plan to stamp. Squish your inks on to your craft mat and spritz them with water. Use your paint brush to drop them into the water on the card front until they move around and fill the space. You can drop on more water or give it a spritz if the color is not moving and mixing the way you want it to. This is fun to experiment with and never turns out the same way twice!
3. Allow the piece to dry or use your heat tool.
4. Using your stamp positioner and masks, stamp your image and sentiment.
5. Attach the card front to the foam with double sided tape or foam tape and attach to the card base and add embellishments.

Card 4: Ink Pad Watercolor Technique with a touch of color and masking sheets
Card Recipe:
Card base: cut at $4-1 / 4 \times 11^{\prime \prime}$, score and fold at $5-1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$
Bristol card and craft foam cut at $4-1 / 4 \times 5-1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$
Technique:

1. Use your stamp positioner and masks to add the image to your Bristol paper. I used the upper left corner, but you can place it anywhere! Also stamp your sentiment.
2. Squish and spritz your inks on your craft mat.
3. Use a round paint brush to add water to the parts of the image you wish to color. You want to leave most of the image without color.
4. Allow this to dry, attach it to the craft foam with double sided tape and attach to the card base.
5. Add embellishments.

The Supply List contains affiliate links. These allow me a small commission from the stamp companies that I purchase my supplies from at no extra cost to you. Thank you in advance for your support.

I hope that I have inspired you to try creating some cards with these techniques. Please share them on social media using \#stampingimperfection.


