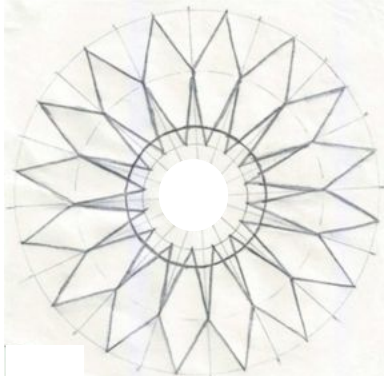


Painting a Quilt Using Foam Stamps

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This was my first attempt at painting a wholecloth quilt. It was good to keep it small at 17" x 17". Here is a description of the process I used.



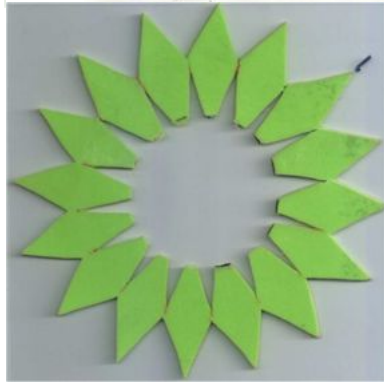
Draw a design on paper. Use a lead pencil to trace the design elements on the back of the design paper.

Make foam stamps of all the design elements using adhesive-back craft foam and clear acetate.

Use a lead pencil to trace the designs from the design paper onto the backing paper of the craft foam.

Cut foam on the traced lines with scissors and/or craft knife.

Remove backing paper and apply adhesive side of foam to clear plastic. Clear plastic (Dura-Lar) allows for easy placement.



Paint background.

Use white prepared-for-dyeing cotton fabric or prewash a high thread-count fabric. I used white cotton sateen.

Tape the outside edges of the cloth to white plastic-wrapped foamboard.

Spray water to slightly dampen the cloth. Use a sponge brush to paint watered-down Pebeo Setacolor transparent fabric paint (or other brand of fabric paint) onto the cloth.

Spread kosher salt/table salt/Ice Melt over the fabric to give a mottling effect after exposure/drying in the sun if so desired.

Lay paper, cardstock, or foam shapes in the places where color will be. The shapes disperse some of the paint as it is sun printing.

Put the cloth which is on the foamboard outside in full sun to sun print until dry for about 10-20 minutes.

Follow instructions for heat-setting the painted fabric. Setacolor Fixing is 5 minutes with an iron on cotton position or 5 minutes in oven at 300° F.

Add color to design elements.

Use transparent paint, transparent paint mixed with opaque paint for a less translucent effect, and opaque paint to cover other colors as desired.

Use a sponge brush to apply paint on the back side of foam stamps. Work quickly as paint dries quickly or add extender to keep paint wet longer.

It can also be done by painting only part of the foam stamp, print, paint another part of the foam stamp, print, etc. Some areas may need to have more than one layer of opaque paint to cover underlying paint. Put a mark on the plastic side of the foam stamp to aid in positioning if necessary.

