

Cool Collographs: Printmaking

A collograph is a type of print created by collaging materials onto another surface, then applying ink or paint to create a print. Unlike a stamp, where material is carved out of a block to create an image, collographs start as a flat surface, and material is added to create a low relief image. By using recycled materials, we can experiment with different textures!

MATERIALS

- Liquid glue
- Scissors
- Paper
- Recycled scraps (cardboard, yarn, fabric, bubble wrap, leaves, etc.)
- Paint or ink pad
- Sponge, paintbrush, or ink roller
- Spoon or rolling pin (optional)



STEP ONE

Gather Materials

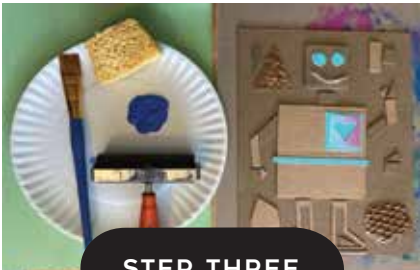
Gather materials from around your home or recycling bin that are relatively flat. You will need one piece of sturdy cardboard to be your background.

STEP TWO

Create your Composition

What do you want to create? Your favorite animal? A landscape? Draw and cut out shapes from your scraps and begin to layer them to create your subject. Make sure each layer is glued down firmly!

Tip: If you want to make letters, be sure to write backwards (like a mirror). This will ensure your letters read correctly on your print.



STEP THREE

Apply Color

Use a sponge or paint brush to apply an even, thin layer of paint or ink to your collograph. Wipe any areas that you do not wish to have color. The highest layers will appear the most on your print.



STEP FOUR

Print!

Carefully flip your collograph onto a fresh sheet of paper, paint side down. Rub the back of your collograph evenly with your hands, a spoon, or a rolling pin.



STEP FIVE

Peel and Reveal!

Peel your collograph back from your paper and admire your print!

*You might need to experiment with different amounts of paint, how much pressure to use to print, or which areas to clean before printing. Have fun!!