

Paste Paper is Fabulous! Let's Get Started

Did you know that you can create stunningly beautiful papers with paste or starch and acrylic paint? You can use card stock, old scrapbook paper, newspaper, scrap paper and more so it's a great recycling process, too. Gather your supplies and get creative!

Supplies:

- Elmer's Art Paste dissolved in distilled water or Sta-Flo Liquid Starch or Pre-mixed Wallpaper Paste
- Dylusions Ink Sprays by Ranger Industries
- Craft Paints in assorted colors. Be sure to use some metallic paints, too.
- Small disposable cups - one per color
- Craft sticks for stirring paint
- Foam brushes - one per color
- Newsprint or plastic to protect painting surface
- Old credit card or hotel key card
- Paint Eraser or plastic clay shaping tools
- Sturdy hole punches (We R Memory Keepers)
- Paper Towels
- Plastic Gloves
- Stencils
- Foam Stamps
- Bubble Wrap
- Deli Wrap Paper
- Card Stock
- Scrapbook Paper
- Old Newspapers
- Drying Rack or place to lay papers while drying

Process:

1. Take card stock sheets, scrapbook papers, etc., Dylusions Spray Inks and stencils outside. (Be sure to wear plastic gloves when using these inks. Although they are water soluble, they are powerful stainers on skin.) Lay various stencils on a sheet of card stock and spray with 2 or 3 colors of ink. No need to saturate or cover the entire sheet. It's best to leave white areas. Stack the sheets as you finish them which allows some color contamination that adds to the variety. As stencils become laden with ink, turn them face down and press onto card stock or paper to transfer excess ink.

2. Inside, protect your painting surface.

3. Mix paints as follows:

Into each disposable cup, squirt some acrylic craft paint. I prefer brighter colors and metallic paints. You can mix colors together, too. Start with 1-2 teaspoons of paint which doesn't need to be measured. Just eyeball it. Add about twice as much Art Paste (diluted in water) or Sta-Flo Starch or Wallpaper paste. Each one works quite well. Mix paint into the paste or starch thoroughly.

4. Paint an even coat of paint-paste mixture over the sprayed card stock. Before it has a chance to dry, scrape through the paint with some kind of texture tool. (Use old credit cards and punch holes along the edges to create unique patterns for scraping.) You may also add foam stamps or press bubble wrap into the wet paint or press stencils into the paint. Each one has a unique effect on the paste-paint mixture.
5. Allow this coat to dry thoroughly.
6. Continue adding paste-paint to each sheet of inked card stock and texturing, stamping, etc. Do not stack the drying papers.
7. When each paper is dry, add an additional color and more texturing or stamping in different ways.
8. If you don't like a paper or think it's the ugliest thing ever created, add another layer of paint-paste mixture and more texture. Some of the ugliest papers I've ever created turned out to be my favorites when I added just one more layer of color!

How to Get Creative With Paste Papers:

- ☼ Make an accordion book to showcase sections of your favorite paste papers.

- ☼ Create your own notecards.
- ☼ Die cut your paste papers and add them to cards, journal pages, books, scrapbook pages or bookmarks.
- ☼ Use paste papers as ATC (artist trading card) backgrounds or postcards.
- ☼ Cut paste papers into strips and weave them together.
- ☼ Choose a paste paper background and use as the substrate for drawing or doodling.