



How to stencil with a stencil roller and brush

Stenciling is easy when you follow a few basic guidelines!

If you properly prepare the surface to be stenciled and use the proper tools and techniques, your stenciling project should be a fun and rewarding experience. Not to mention how much money you can save with DIY (Do It Yourself) decorating. Any mistake is easy to correct, so let's stencil something!

What you will need:

Stencil (standard or customized to order) - Eldes Art Stencils

Paint (washable or acrylic) – DIY stores

Base coat paint (for touch-ups) - if the wall to be stenciled is white, a little white paint. – DIY stores

Paper tape - DIY stores

Stencil brushes - Eldes Art Stencils

Sponge stencil, with rounded edges - DIY stores

Paint tray or paper plate – DIY stores

Paper napkins (roll) - – DIY stores

Temporary Adhesive Spray, repositionable (optional) - Eldes Art Stencils

Boloboc (or level) (optional) - DIY stores - can also be a phone application

Sample card (optional)



Preparing the walls

Make sure the walls you will be stenciling on are properly prepared!

There is no point in putting your beautiful artwork on a poorly prepared surface.

The walls must be clean, dust-free and in good condition.

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Any cracks must be repaired, filled, primed and painted before stencilling.

The base coat paint must be allowed to dry for at least 24 hours before stencilling.

We do not recommend stenciling over walls painted with oil-based paint.

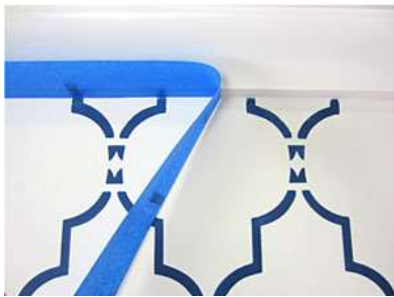
We do not recommend stenciling textured walls as paint seepage may occur.

The use of temporary repositionable adhesive spray is not mandatory, but for some more delicate stencils or with large cutouts it can be helpful.

The use of temporary repositionable adhesive spray is recommended for ceiling stencilling.

Fixing the Stencil

When stenciling, we usually use paper tape to secure the stencil. For walls, mask plinths, socket and switch gaps, ceilings and those surfaces that will not be stenciled After stenciling, always remove the fixing tape slowly, pulling it at an angle to avoid peeling the base paint.





A few words about paints

Wall preparation and priming (valid both for new walls and for already painted walls that want to be repainted)

If your walls need repairs (cracks, holes, etc.), first clean and repair those areas, let them dry, and then sand them with fine abrasive sandpaper (220). Be sure to dust off the repairs before priming them. You can also wipe the repairs with a damp towel to remove any traces of dust. Applying a repair primer will help ensure good paint adhesion. Good paint adhesion is important because you will be taping the stencil to the wall and you want to prevent the tape from peeling off the base coat paint. Allow the wall to dry completely before applying the base coat.

Base paint

We recommend covering your walls with a washable water-based paint using a stencil for a smooth finish. Matte washable paints accept the stencil better than brighter paints. Matte washable paint is more porous, so it catches the stencil paint before it has time to run down the edge of the stencil, resulting in a sharper print. Matte paints are also easier to touch up. So if you get any mistakes/spills under the stencil when you stencil the walls, it's easy to paint over the mistake and then re-stencil the area with great results.

Paint for Stencil

For the walls, we recommend a good quality acrylic or washable paint. Also, acrylics for handmade work great. We do not recommend using spray paint as it is difficult to control. Oil based paints are also not stencil friendly. You can stencil with metallic paint, structural paste or even Plaster, for 3D relief effects.





Using the repositionable temporary adhesive spray

Temporary repositionable adhesive spray can help you make the edges of your stenciled design sharper, but you don't have to use it for the stencil. If a stencil is a delicate, more crowded design or has large cutouts, spray adhesive can help hold the stencil in place and achieve better results. Spray the back of the stencil with an even coat. Do this in a well-ventilated area and be careful not to oversplash. Allow the glue to dry for 2 minutes so that it does not transfer to the surface of the project. Reapply spray adhesive as needed during stenciling.

Choice of colors

Look at some references for color combinations that work well together and do a test run so you feel comfortable with your choices. Always consider your data, such as existing fabrics, flooring or carpet colors. We like to use white cards for color swatches.

Testing

It's always a good idea to test your stenciling technique and color selections before starting the project. You can test the stencil and colors in an inconspicuous spot on the wall, but it's best to make a sample card. You can use a piece of cardboard, a pizza box, a piece of tin, or a piece of plywood for the sample. You'll need to cover the swatch with the same paint as your wall. Then you can make a few prints to get comfortable with your technique. You can also test the swatch in different areas of the room to see how the light might affect the color. And finally, you'll have a sample to take with you when you shop for fabric and furniture to match your beautifully patterned walls!





Fixing / Positioning the stencil

Place the stencil on the wall where you want it. Use several pieces of paper tape to secure the stencil. If your stencil needs to be leveled, use a bollard or leveler. Leveling is not required for all stencil designs such as flowers, branches, birds, etc. For stencil designs like these, simply place them on your eyes. For ceilings, the method is the same, but we recommend using spray adhesive in addition to tape to help hold the stencil in place.



Stenciling with a sponge roller

This is a super fast way to do the job. Perfect for walls! Pour stencil paint into a pan or plate and UNIFORMLY load your sponge roller cylinder by rolling it back and forth through the poured paint a few times. Once the stencil roller is evenly saturated with paint, blot off the excess paint by rolling it a few times on folded paper towels. If the roll leaves streaks on the paper towels, reload the roll so that it is evenly coated and then unload it again onto the folded paper towels. The roll should feel somewhat dry. It is always better to have less paint on the roller as too much paint can cause drips under the stencil edges of the paint.





About spills under the stencil edges of the paint.

Bleeding occurs when paint seeps below the edge of the stencil, leaving a less than perfect print. Don't worry too much about this, but take steps to reduce the amount of prelicks. You know there will always be a little prelick here and there as we create a hand painted finish. But when the wall is finished and you look at the whole project, your eye will see the color and the pattern. In most cases, you wouldn't even notice a little oozing. But we still want to keep prelicks to a minimum, so we stick to these guidelines:

Use a washable, matte, high-quality base coat.

Make sure the wall is smooth with no textures.

Do not overload the stencil roller with paint and gently, without pressing hard on the roller.

Use spray adhesive for sharper edges. (optional)

Minor mistakes and spills can be wiped away with baby wipes or a damp cloth while the mistake is still fresh.

Afterwards, mistakes can be touched up later with a small stencil brush.



Stenciling with the stencil brush

Using a stencil brush works great for furniture, craft projects, and multi-colored patterns. And also for edges and corners when stenciling walls. Select the size of the stencil brush based on the size of the stencil openings. The smaller the openings - the smaller the brush.

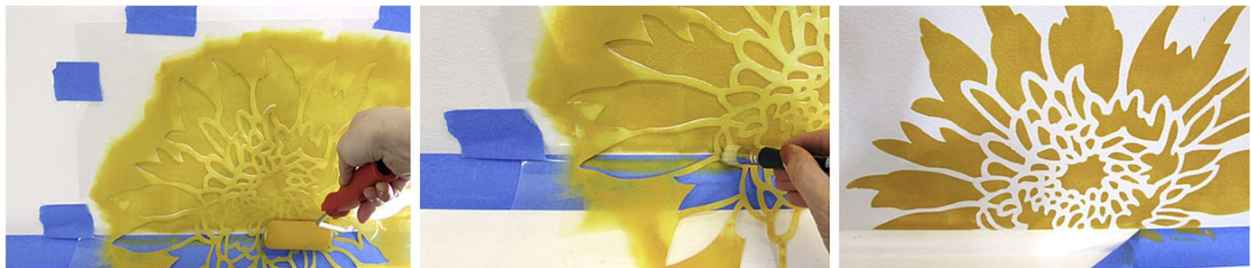
Pour the paint onto a tray. Dip the tip of the stencil brush into the paint and then swirl it on the tray to distribute the paint evenly across the tips of the brushes. Drain the excess paint on some folded paper towels. Like the roller, the brush should look almost dry. You can use a light rotating motion. When

stenciling with multiple colors, use a specific brush for each color to avoid color mixing.



Stenciling around the edges

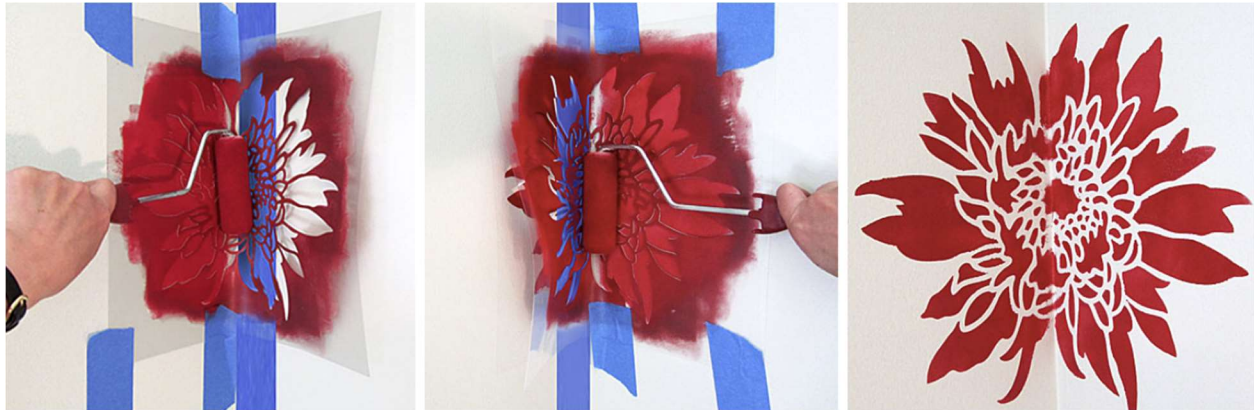
For baseboards, windows and doors, simply mask and fold the stencil, using pieces of tape to help secure it if necessary. Use a stencil brush to detail the border.



Stenciling at Corners



This is done by first masking the opposite wall and bending the stencil in the corner. Tape the stencil only to the side of the wall you are stenciling and run straight into the corner. Then use a stencil brush to go deep into the corner fold to fill in all the openings. Once you've finished printing on the first wall, remove the stencil and stick the wall you just completed. Next, line up the stencil with the print on the finished wall, tape the part of the stencil you'll be painting to a new wall, leaving the other half free. Continue stenciling on the next wall.



Cleaning the stencils and accessories

If you clean your brushes, rollers, and stencils as soon as you're done with the project, the paint comes off much easier.

Don't soak your stencil brushes for a long time: the natural bristles expand and can split the metal coat.

Using a drop of laundry detergent.

Do not let brushes or rollers dry out during the project. If you take a break, put them in a plastic bag or cover them with a damp cloth.

Your stencil does not need to be cleaned after each iteration. It's time to clean the stencil when there is a visible build-up of paint - usually after a few reps. In our experience, 10-15 reps or more. You could often stencil an entire medium-sized wall without cleaning the stencil. To clean your stencil, place it on a flat surface such as a table or in the shower/tub, spray it with water and/or thinner, and scrub gently with a dish brush under running water. If the paint on the stencil is very dry, let it soften a bit before rubbing. Place the cleaned stencil on paper towels and dry it or roll it with a paper towel roll -



works great!



Stencil Storage

It is best to store your stencil whenever possible. We recommend placing your clean stencils between 2 pieces of paper or cardboard and storing them somewhere where they can lie flat.

Are you ready to stencil?

Stenciling is such an amazing and easy technique that opens the doors to endless decorative possibilities! Get inspired! Just follow these instructions and you'll be stenciling like a pro in no time! Want to learn more about stenciling? Follow our communication channels on how to stencil!

You can find videos on how to use the stencils on our site www.eldes.ro (at the bottom, in the circled sections):

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Metode de plata
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Regards,

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