



STAMPED GIFT WRAP

Use stamps to create personalized gift wrap with a kind holiday message.



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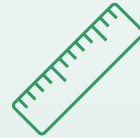
About the Activity

This fun activity uses multiple art techniques and math concepts to teach children how they can create their own personalized wrapping paper.

Supplies



Pencil



Ruler



Tape



Acrylic paint
(DecoArt Dazzling
Metallics Acrylic Paint in
Champagne Gold, 2 oz.)



Holiday rubber stamp
(Hero Arts Wood Mounted
Rubber Stamp Snowflake,
about 4 in.)



Paint roller
(Speedball Soft Rubber
Brayer, 2 in.)



Styrofoam plate



Scissors



Easel paper

Grades: Pre K-12

Topics: Creative Arts, Math

Time: 1-2 hours





ACTIVITY STEPS

Adding a personalized touch to a gift makes it extra special. With just a few simple materials, you will be able to create your own wrapping paper using rubber stamps.

1. Roll out the desired amount of paper onto a large, flat surface.
2. Tape the paper to the surface.
3. Using the ruler, draw a faint pencil line 7 ½ inches down from the edge of the paper.

Did You Know?

A ruler measures length. You may sometimes hear people call a ruler a rule, scale, or line gauge.

Did You Know?

The term **horizontal** refers to a line that runs left to right, whereas the term **vertical** refers to a line that runs up and down.

4. On the line, locate points every 4 inches. Indicate by a dash on the horizontal line. This is the width of the wood on the back of most stamps. If your stamp is a different size, you'll want to locate and mark points the same width of the wood on your stamp.



5. Squeeze a line of gold paint onto the styrofoam plate.
6. Roll the paint roller into the paint to equally distribute the paint onto the roller.

Did You Know?

A **brayer** is used to thinly apply ink or paint to a surface. You can make your own brayer at home by wrapping a paper towel tube with plastic wrap!



Activity Steps Continued...

7. Using the roller, apply a thin, even coat of paint to the raised sections of the stamp.



8. Holding the stamp on the curved sides of the wood backing, carefully line up the top edge of the wood with the pencil line.
9. Press down firmly without rocking.
10. Continue applying the stamp down the length of the paper, using the pencil line as the guide for the top edge of the stamp.

Did You Know?

The oldest use of stamps didn't involve ink at all. Instead, people would press the stamps into wax to create a seal for important letters. Each stamp, or seal, was different and indicated who was sending the letter.

11. For the most solid application of the stamp, use the roller to reapply paint between each press.
12. When the desired pattern is complete, allow the paint to dry.
13. Wash the stamp with warm, soapy water.
14. Erase the pencil line from the paper.

Did You Know?

The Hall brothers, creators of the Hallmark Cards, Inc., invented modern-day gift wrap.





TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

See how much you've learned about making custom gift wrap!

1. A brayer is used to apply paint to a surface
 - a) Thinly
 - b) Horizontally
 - c) Quickly
2. A ruler can also be called...
(Select all that apply.)
 - a) Rule
 - b) Line gauge
 - c) Scale
3. Horizontal refers to a line that runs
 - a) Up and down
 - b) Back and forth
 - c) Left and right
4. Paint should be applied to the stamp...
 - a) Without rocking
 - b) Thickly
 - c) With a paint brush
5. The oldest use of stamps involved stamps and
 - a) Ink
 - b) Wax
 - c) Paint

REFLECTION QUESTIONS • REFLECTION QUESTIONS • REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Today you used a ruler to create wrapping paper. What other kinds of art could you create using a ruler?
2. Why do you think a brayer was used to apply the paint to the stamp instead of dipping the stamp directly into the paint?
3. What are some things, other than stamps, you could use to create wrapping paper at home?
4. What other uses could your wrapping paper have besides being used to wrap a present?



INVESTIGATE AND **EXPLORE**

Take your new skills to the next level.

Search 'gift wrap ideas' and 'gift wrap art' to discover all of the fun and interesting ways you can use gift wrap to create beautiful and personalized works of art. Experiment with a brayer, brushes, and sponges to see how adding different textures and patterns create new and interesting designs. Use your skills with a ruler to measure the perfect place to hang your artwork.



Share It!

Don't stop today! Get creative and make your own wrapping paper using other decorations. Next time it's time to give a gift, tell the person receiving the gift why you created that specific design just for them. Adding a personalized touch to a gift will make receiving it that much more delightful. Teach others— a parent, babysitter, or younger sibling—how to make their own gift wrap.





CAREER CONNECTIONS

Julia is an artist who uses a special material called linoleum and X-acto knives to carve her own custom rubber stamps! She always loved drawing, and is always looking for ways to try new ways of making art. When she found out she could make stamps at home, she simply had to give it a try! Julia loves that stamp-making makes her art repeatable on lots of different types of surfaces.

Art is Julia's favorite way to express herself and communicate with others. Right now, Julia sells her art in an online store. She uses the extra money from selling her art to try even more new ways to create amazing art. Julia hopes to be able to sell her art in person soon and see what people like the most about what she makes.

