

Speedball.

SPEEDY-STAMP™

FREE

Create Hand-Stamped STATIONERY CARDS & GIFT WRAP

Create hand-stamped stationery, greeting cards, recipe cards,
place cards and gift wrap with Speedy-Stamp™.

Hand-made stationery and cards make ideal personalized gifts.

SKILL LEVEL

Easiest Easier Easy

MATERIALS CHECKLIST

- #4100 or #4141 Speedball®
Speedy-Stamp™ Stamp Carving Kit

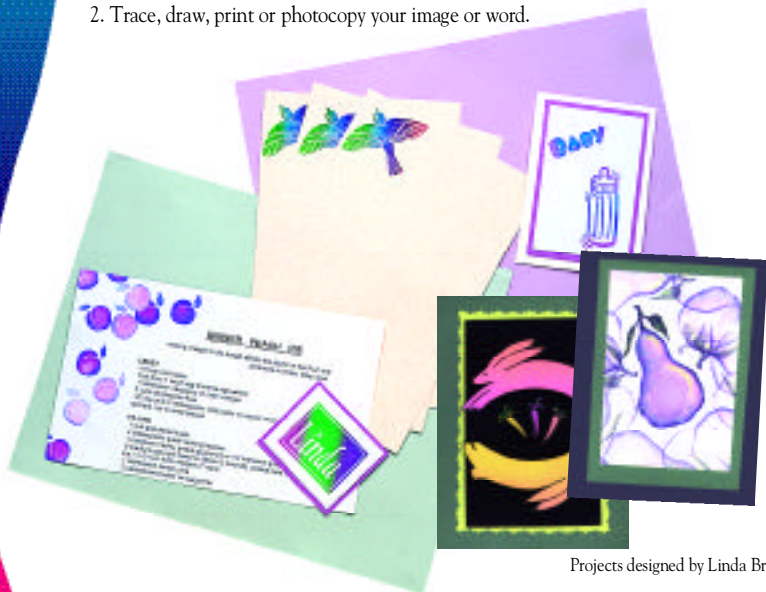
Or Speedball:

- Speedy-Stamp™ Rubber Carving Block
- Speedball® No. 2 V-shaped line cutter
- Speedball® No. 4 U-shaped gouge
- Speedball® Wooden Cutter handle
- Speedball® Mounting Block with
two-sided tape

- Speedball® Soft-Rubber Brayer
- Tracing paper
- Any image of your choice
- #2 pencil
- Ink pad (all examples were stamped
using a dye-based rainbow stamp pad)
- Paper: Keep in mind that texture, not
just color, can effect the look of station-
ary and greeting cards. For example, a
solid image stamped onto linen paper
can look woven, while the same image
stamped onto glossy paper will appear
flat yet strikingly bold. Plain white
smooth card stock is inexpensive and
perfect for first efforts.

MAKING THE STAMP

1. Choose an image (computers are endless sources for clip-art and words.)
2. Trace, draw, print or photocopy your image or word.



Projects designed by Linda Brennan

- Instantly transfer your image or word to the Speedy-Stamp block with any one of the following techniques.

• Transfer Rubbing Technique:

Simply center your drawn, traced or fresh (still wet) ink-jet printed, image face-down, directly onto the Speedy-Stamp Block. Rub the back of the image with the back of your fingernail. When you lift away the paper, the image will be in place ready to carve.

• Iron-on and Acetone Technique:

Laser and photocopied images may be transferred with the heat of an iron or with acetone.

CARVE THE IMAGE

- Letters should be large and bold for initial attempts in carving words, as with the place card sample (Linda).
- Test-print your image as you carve.
- Hold the carving tool low, as parallel as possible to the block, so that you can make shallow horizontal cuts. Using the very lowest part of the tip only will ensure a narrow line; as you plow deeper the carved line will widen. Keep both edges of the V-blade above the surface of the block.
- When following the curves of your design, it's easier to rotate the image than to twist the carving tool about. Try placing a small piece of paper under the image to make rotating easier.
- Carved-away areas will not print; the raised portion is what will become the image.
- For a solid image stamp, carve a trough border around the image by guiding the carving blade forward, allowing its V-shape to do the work for you. For a negative image, carve the design out of the block, leaving the sides raised. When your lettering has tendrils, it is easiest to carve each letter starting at its tips, letting the 'V' in the blade create the tendril, moving to remove each piece at the center of each letter.



We Bring Creativity to Life™

CUT OUT THE STAMP

- Using a craft knife or Speedball #6 knife blade, cut around the perimeter of the stamp, cutting through the V-trough border; or carve down (lower) all areas you do not want printed as part of your design.
- When using more than one image, carve each image separately so that you may later use them individually or in a different sequence.

INKING AND STAMPING

- Practice inking and stamping your image on scrap paper.
- A small, narrow striped ink pad was used in making the bird stationery while a large stripe pad was used for the baby announcement and the "Linda" place card.
- Ink your stamp with a Speedball soft-rubber brayer, roll repeatedly on the ink pad.
- Two-tone your stamped image with a rainbow pad, seen here in the peach recipe card. Simply ink the stamp with a Speedball soft-rubber brayer. Roll the brayer repeatedly over the rainbow stamp pad and then over the stamp.
- Notice the differences in intensity on the color of the peaches; this is created by multiple stamping after you gently exhale onto the stamp after one inking. This can help to "reactivate" the color of drying ink. OR
- Stamp on a clean brayer and roll out multiple images. Ink brayer with stamp pad and roll out colorful backgrounds for your stamp impressions.

FOR FUN

Stamping is quick, clean and fun; stamp your images on lunch sacks, paper napkins, a calendar, envelopes, and matching wrapping paper.

(Images may be easier to carve if enlarged on a photocopier.)

