

Speedball.

FREE

CREATE BEAUTIFUL Hand-Stamped Cloth NAPKINS

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 mounting tape
- Speedball® Soft-Rubber Brayer
- Tracing paper
- Any simple image of your choice
- Fabric Ink, color or rainbow pad (all samples were made using fabric ink pads)
- Any #2 pencil
- Cloth napkins (while many fabrics are suitable for stamping, cotton is the best choice)

MAKING THE STAMP

1. Choose an image. Keep the image basic. Fabric stamping requires that images be simple, not detailed. Fine lines generally do not show well on fabric.
2. Trace, draw or photocopy your image. (Computers are endless sources for clip-art and words.)
3. Instantly transfer your image to the Speedy-Stamp block

• Transfer Rubbing Technique

Simply center your drawn, traced or fresh (still wet) ink-jet printed image



SPEEDY-STAMP™

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. *The older copy machines that use dry toners and inexpensive papers work the best for both the heat and the acetone transfer methods. These transfer processes can be tricky. After anchoring the photocopy face-down you may quickly iron the image on by starting at a medium-low setting (do not over-heat). When using acetone, soak a cotton ball and completely dampen the back of the photocopy while rubbing the image onto the Speedy-Stamp block.*

CARVE THE IMAGE

1. Carve a trough border around the image by guiding the carving blade forward allowing its V-shape to do the work for you. Carved-away areas will not print; the raised portion is what will become the image.
2. Test by inking and stamping the image as you carve.
3. EASY step-by-step instructions and illustrations are available inside the *Speedy-Stamp Ideas & Tips* brochure inside every kit.

CUT OUT THE STAMP

Using a craft knife, cut around the perimeter of the stamp, cutting through the V-trough border; or carve down (lower) all areas you do not want to print as part of your design.

PLAN AND POSITION

Printing paper images as you would like them to appear on the napkins could save both time and money. Stamp your images on scrap paper; then cut them out and arrange.

INKING

Ink your stamp with a Speedball soft-rubber brayer rolling repeatedly over the same color areas of your

rainbow pad. A light touch will help to ensure that you are inking the bold surfaces only, not the carved-out lines. Practice inking and stamping your image on scrap paper prior to the napkins.

STAMP THE NAPKINS!

Heat-set the ink: First, dry your stamped napkins for a minimum of 24 hours. Double heat-set the color by tumbling the dried napkins in a hot dryer for 20 minutes then iron the image with a hot iron. Waiting as long as possible to wash your napkins will help maintain the vividness of your stamped image.

IDEAS

Favors: Tying stamped napkins together with ribbon makes a beautiful and generous shower favor or gift.

Seasonal, hand-stamped napkins: These can add warmth and color to any holiday table. Thanksgiving turkeys, Christmas ornaments or July 4th flags – the options are endless.

Window Valance: Cloth napkin valances tend to look best on smaller windows. The amount of napkins needed will depend on the size of your window as well as the size and fold of your napkin. Napkins are stamped on one corner only, then folded. Fold by bringing one or each of the side corners toward the center back of the napkin until you find the desired shape and width. Attach a narrow curtain rod above your window (follow manufacture's directions). Hang the napkins loosely over the rod. Experiment, overlapping and folding in different ways. *Optional: Velcro the folded napkins to each other or to the back side of the rod for stability.*

Stamped personalized handkerchiefs make great gifts as well.

Paper napkins can be stamped in a jiffy for a child's party or just for fun.

*Projects designed by Linda Brennan



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

We Bring Creativity to Life™