

Gelly Jam 2: Monoprinting with Gel Plates

Thursdays, May 7–June 11, 2:00pm–4:15pm on Zoom

Instructor: Kim-Lee Kho

Student Materials List

Basic equipment/supplies needed (see notes on each in the sections below)

- gel plate
- brayer
- acrylic paint
- paper
- cutting tools
- mark making tools
- texture-making materials/tools
- Cleaning

NOTES & SUGGESTIONS

Gel plate(s)

- 8"x10" rectangular is a generous and versatile basic size, or at a minimum, 6"x6" or 5"x7"
- Brand options include: Gelli Arts, Speedball, GelPress

Acrylic paint

- My preferred paint for this process is Liquitex Basics, which is medium-viscosity but you can use craft acrylics, fluid acrylics (aka soft body) or high-viscosity (aka heavy body) – NOT extra-heavy body though; results will vary depending on paint type
- White paint and tinted colours play a special role
- acrylic polymer medium (fluid, not gel) – gloss, semi-gloss or matte – optional but helpful
- *To slow paint drying:* Open medium (by Golden) or Slow-Dry medium (Liquitex) or retarder or (in a pinch) glycerin

Tools/supplies

- 4" brayer, preferably soft rubber
 - a dense foam roller (meant for paint) can be used in a pinch
- *If you have:* purchased stencils (we will also make custom ones)
- A variety of brushes, palette (optional), and a couple of plastic palette knives if you have
- One or more silicone and *non-metal* flexible tools, such as a spatula, for making marks in and with paint; cannot be used for food afterwards
- *If you have any paint pens or markers, eg:* acrylic paint pens, water-based markers, Pitt Pens, watercolour markers, oil-based paint pens etc; note: too fine a point could damage the plate
- *If you have any specifically water-soluble drawing media, eg:* graphite or crayons

- Scissors, craft knife, cutting surface (could be a sturdy cardboard backer)
- *Helpful:* a piece of a small-pore sponge or a cosmetic sponge

Cleaning

- spray bottle with water and paper towels or shop towels
- *optional:* baby wipes are very handy
- Purell or other alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- *optional:* Murphy's Oil Soap (not the spray version; available at Home Depot)

Papers/surfaces

- *What do you have? Options include:*
 - *scrap paper (regular letter size pages) for rolling excess paint off your brayer*
 - basic white bond paper, whether office paper
 - OR cheap & cheerful sketchbook paper
 - OR my most-used paper: premium bond, 28lb or 32lb (it's acid-free), eg:
 - <https://www.staples.ca/products/913261-en-hammermill-colour-copy-digital-fsc-certified-paper-28-lb-100-bright-85-x-11-ream>
 - <https://www.staples.ca/products/2946258-en-xerox-bold-digital-printing-paper-32-lb-white-500ream-3r11764py>
 - some corrugated cardboard or corrugated paper
 - *optional:* mixed media or watercolour paper (good affordable lines: Canson XL & Strathmore Vision)
 - OR heavyweight paper, eg cover or card stock
 - *optional:* unwaxed deli paper (Amazon) or Gelli Arts parchment
 - *optional:* coloured paper and/or patterned paper with reasonably smooth surface, could be brown kraft paper (from pads or shipping packaging or envelopes)

Fun stuff to work with (*these are just some ideas, see what you have*)

- 2- to 4-ft lengths (depending on the size of your plate) of:
 - string/twine
 - yarn
 - embroidery floss
 - thread
- craft or fun foam
- plastic mesh
- burlap and/or cheesecloth
- eraser and/or pencil with eraser tip
- bubble wrap
- anything with an interesting texture for impressing into paint, eg egg carton (esp paper type)
- q-tips
- plastic comb(s)
- Princeton Catalyst wedges or handled tools (patterned edge)