

Cut Your Own Rubber Stamps – Toolbox Series

Supply List

Something To Cut

Bring rubber carving material or erasers. Or both.

It doesn't matter what size you buy; you'll cut it to whatever size and shape you want. The more you bring, the more practice you get and the more playing you can do. This really is addictive.

Options include:

- Mastercarve by Staedtler (my favorite)
- Speedy Stamp by Speedball
- Magic Rub erasers by Sanford (available in office supply stores)
- Erasers by Staedtler-Mars work really well. For erasers, you're looking for plastic.
- Art gum erasers are okay if you want to cut out very simple designs; don't make this your only material.

Something With Which To Cut

- Speedball carving tool (The one I have has a pink handle with storage inside and comes with five different blades, including a "V" gouge and a "U" gouge.) You can do without this and I understand it costs money, but I firmly believe that you're going to love this technique and you'll want to have this.
- Any odd blades you may have, old linoleum tools, etc.
- Exacto knife for cutting the material to size

Cutting Mat

This will serve as a work area and it will protect the table. Bring an old one in case you get ink on it.

Soft Pencil

You'll use this to transfer an idea onto the face of the carving material

Paper

- Paper on which to draw.
- Paper on which to stamp
- Optional: Tracing paper. If you don't have tracing paper, deli sandwich paper or exam room paper work nicely. I'll have a roll to share if you don't have any.

Inkipad

You'll want to test your images as you work. You can bring whatever you want to use to ink your stamp, but I find that a simple, raised inkipad is just fine for this.

Inspiration

This includes line drawings, images you love, inspirations catalogs, and your design journal.

I'll show you how to make the transition from an image you like to a stamp you can cut. If you have a few simple images printed on paper, you'll have a head start. If not, we'll trace.

Note-Taking Tools

...in case you hear or see something you want to record