

# The Joy of Gel Printing

## The Colour Circle

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Wednesdays 29 July to 23 Sept, no class 12 August, 9th September, 7wk x 3hrs \$147

No previous experience is necessary, but I recommend you look at some YouTubes to get a feel for gel printing. It is important you have the correct basic materials. If you are unsure, bring what you have. Don't purchase anything until after the first class.

In the first lesson I will go into detail about the materials, why some are better than others, how they differ and what can be achieved. I'll have example prints on display that include book covers, pages for journals and collage papers.

### Essential materials to bring

- Gel plate - Preferably a commercial plate by Jelli Arts or Gel Press, but a sturdy homemade plate will work. Any size, A4 is ideal.
- Fluid acrylic paints - e.g. Jo Sonja, Amsterdam Standard Series, Liquitex Basics, Golden Fluid Acrylic, Matisse Fluid. Note these are fluid paints, not heavy bodied paints.
- A stack of A4 White paper - options. You only need one type initially, which you may stick with or swap.
  - a. Regular photocopier paper will work, but heavier 120 gsm copy paper is ideal because you can produce high-quality prints without tearing, e.g. J.Burrows Premium 120gsm A4 Digital Copy Paper 250 Sheets from Officeworks
  - b. Baking paper
  - c. Japanese rice paper e.g. Yasumoto sketch rice paper
  - d. 180-200 gsm Mixed Media paper
  - e. NO glossy or photo paper
- Something under your gel printing plate that is smooth, flat and acts as a non-porous barrier such as a Teflon sheet, baking tray, or glass surface.
- Soft rubber brayer - any size. Ideally something like the X-Press It 4" Premium Brayer
- Plastic mat to protect the table
- Apron
- Stencils - any size
- A roll of baking paper (parchment paper. It is heat-resistant and silicone-coated for oven use. Easy to get at the supermarket.
- Masking tape
- A rag like a chux that leaves a clear surface, i.e. no bits of cotton
- Baby oil, baby wipes, water wipes or hand sanitiser to clean your plate.
- Paper towels
- Notebook
- Name tag
- Rubber mat to open paint tubes
- Water spray bottle

### Optional materials to bring

Printing blocks

Rubber bands

Perm comb or similar for scraping paint on the plate

Leaves or other vegetation that isn't sharp

Other materials that can leave an impression, keys, feathers, etc, but nothing sharp that could damage your plate.