



DIY Kit Instructions

Your kit includes: board, stencil, stain, brush, paints, sponges, hanger (if applicable)
You may need: scissors, tape, paper plate, scraper (old gift card), hammer, sandpaper

STAINING

1. Apply stain (using the foam brush) with the grain of the wood in ONE LIGHT coat. Use your brush or a paper towel to wipe away any excess stain or drips.
2. Stain the tops and sides of your sign – if you will be using your sign outdoors you can stain the back as well.
3. LESS IS MORE! Please use a light coat as the stencil will not adhere properly if the stain is not able to dry or has been applied too heavily. This will cause the paint to bleed underneath the stencil and your design will not have nice, crisp lines.

APPLYING THE STENCIL

Quick Method

1. Flip your stencil over so that it is face down. Gently peel away the paper backing from the stencil making sure all the little blue pieces (like middles of letters) stay with the stencil. If pieces are still not wanting to come away from the paper backing, just rub down firmly before trying to peel again.
2. With your board flat in front of you, line up the stencil on the board and press down gently. Using a scraper (or your hand), rub down firmly all over the stencil.
3. Starting at a corner, peel the white masking off the blue stencil vinyl. Peel straight back towards yourself at a 180 degree angle – if you pull up when removing you may pull up the stencil as well.

Hinge Method

1. Center your stencil on your board. Secure your stencil to the board by laying a piece of tape across the center and under the board. Rub firmly all over the top of the stencil with a scraper or your hand to make sure the stencil is stuck to the transfer tape.
2. Peel away the paper backing making sure all the little blue pieces (like middles of letters) come away with the stencil. Peel close to the tape and then cut away the paper backing.

3. Keep the stencil held up and slowly push it down onto the board from the center out using your hand or stick/card. REMOVE THE TAPE.

4. Flip the remaining part of the stencil over and remove the backing from the middle out to the end. Apply the same way as the first half, going out from the center to the edges with your hand/scraper.

5. Once you have the stencil down, go over it really firmly with the scraper, focusing on all of the edges of the letters and designs.

6. Starting at a corner, peel the white masking off the blue stencil vinyl. Peel straight back towards yourself at a 180 degree angle – if you pull up when removing you may pull up the stencil as well.

PAINTING YOUR DESIGN

1. Using the white sponges, put a little bit of paint on and dab it off on your plate – you do not want to put your paint on too thick.
2. USE LIGHT COATS – DAB – DON'T RUB. Heavy coats of paint won't dry properly, will bleed under the stencil and risk peeling up when the stencil is removed. The first coat you put on may look transparent – don't worry, your second coat will be much better.
3. Let paint dry between coats – if you are doing light coats this will not take long at all.

FINISHING

1. When you are finished painting you can peel up the stencil. For the little pieces you can use a pick or a tweezers – take care not to poke down into the wood.
2. A hanger and nails are provided with your kit. You may also use sandpaper (optional) to distress your sign.
3. A light coat of polycrylic sealer (included) can be applied to seal the paint and protect the wood.