
Monotype Print

— Printmaking Techniques —

#2

What is a Monotype Print

Monotype, in printmaking, a technique that generally yields only one good impression from each prepared plate. Monotype printing is where a person paints upon a surface and then presses that surface to a paper

Monotype

Printmaking

Making a monotype is not too difficult or expensive to make.

The materials and equipment are often quite affordable.

You may even have them already at home.

**You don't
necessarily need
special printing
inks, but can use
tempera paints or
other paints.**

**However, you may
think about
investing in inks
for more control of
your imagery &
higher quality
prints.**

Materials:

A small glass for a printing block:

- Plexiglass
- Glass from an old picture frame
- Acrylic Glass

Roller:

- Rubber
- Paint

Brushes:

- Paint brushes
- Q-Tips
- Rags
- Toothpicks/Skewers

Print Medium/Absorbent Paper:

- Acid-free Drawing Paper is the best choice to absorb the thick layer of ink.
- The paper should be larger than the glass plate so you can:
 - cut it to the right size
 - include edition number, title, & signature

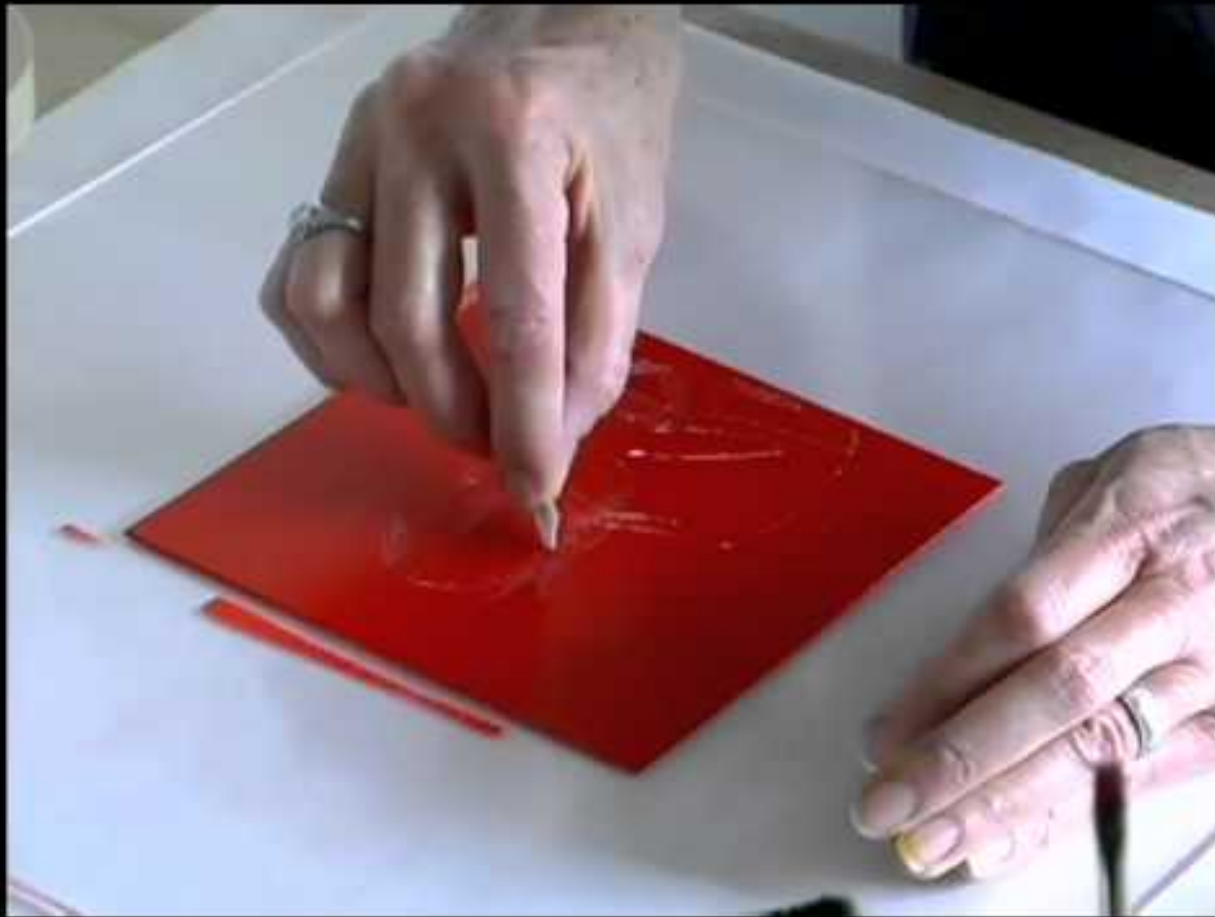
Paint or Ink:

- Printing Ink
- Acrylic Paint
- Oil Paint
- Tempera Paint

*Note: Watercolors do not work with this method because they are too fluid and do not cover the surface sufficiently

Simplified Monotype Print Steps:

1. Sketch your design based on following prompts below:
 - a. *Take a stance on a social justice topic of their choosing.*
 - b. *Are influenced by their culture.*
 - c. *Share a message with the community.*
2. Place sketch under plastic CD case or plexiglass
3. Using your brush, paint your image using Tempera Paint with a drop of liquid soap onto the plastic CD case/plexiglass using a minimum of 3 colors.
4. You have to work quickly ... don't let the paint dry!
5. Lightly place your paper over the plastic CD case/plexiglass
6. Gently rub with the palm of your hand.
7. Carefully peel away your paper.
8. Let dry
9. Add Edition number, Title, and your Signature
10. Repeat for 2nd edition



**Video:
Monotype
Demo with
Barbara
van Buskirk**

Criteria for Monotype Print

Subject/Theme: Using one of the following prompts below create a Monotype print

a) Take a stance on a social justice topic of their choosing.

a) Are influenced by their culture.

a) Share a message with the community.

Size:

5.5" x 5 plastic CD case as the print base
9" x 12" white paper for the Monotype Print

Criteria:

Create a sketch based on one of the 3 prompts:

- *Take a stance on a social justice topic of their choosing.*
- *Are influenced by their culture.*
- *Share a message with the community.*

Use a minimum of one of the following:

- *2 images and 3 details*
- *1 image and 4 details*
- *3 images and 2 details*

Use a minimum of 3 colors

Complete 2 prints

Each print is labeled with:

- *Edition Number*
- *Title*
- *Signature*



Monotype Print:

Monotype print is a unique printing technique, typically painterly in effect, made by applying paint or printing ink to a flat sheet of metal, glass, or plastic.

The painted image is transferred to paper either by manually rubbing or using a press. Mediums are applied to the plate using two different methods.



Monotype Printing Steps:

1. Create your design on a piece of sketch paper.
 - a. *Note: you are creating a mirror image, so if you are writing any words they will need to be written in mirror image

2. Your Monotype prints will be based on one of the follow prompts below;
 - a. Take a stance on a social justice topic of their choosing.
 - b. Are influenced by their culture.
 - c. Share a message with the community.

...Continued Monotype Printing Steps:

5. Pre-cut your printing paper

- a. The paper should be larger than the glass plate on all sides with an additional ½ inch to 1 inch on the bottom to include edition number, title, & signature
- b. Put print paper aside for later

6. Lay sketch paper under the plexiglass

...Continued Monotype Printing Steps:

7. Paint your image on the plastic CD case/plexiglass

8. Be careful in the beginning with very intricate structures of your imagery/motif. *

- a. Note: We are using paint instead of printing inks, so the delicate aspects of your image may be lost during the printing/transfer process

9. When you are satisfied with the painted image, you can start

...Continued Monotype Printing Steps:

10. Leave the glass plate with the image facing towards you and align the print medium in the centre.

- a. It is best to orientate yourself at the bottom of the glass until you find a position of the paper where the image is centered.
- b. Then slowly lower the paper while making sure that the paper is evenly spaced to the edges.
- c. After initial contact with the ink, do not move the paper back and forth. Otherwise you risk smearing your beautiful picture.
- d. Once the drawing paper is placed on the glass, do not move the paper horizontally.

...Continued Monotype Printing Steps:

11. Press the paper vertically against the glass so that the paint can be applied over the entire surface and absorbed by the paper
12. Use the palm of your hand/roller to properly press the paper against the image
13. Carefully lift the paper
14. Let the paper dry completely
15. Add Edition Number, Title, and Your Signature
16. Repeat for 2 editions

Additional Videos



Video: Creating Monotype Print



Video: Monotype Print