



## Stamp, Sketch, Type: Mark-Making on Fabric

Materials needed to participate in the online workshop led by

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### Must have

- [Embossing stylus](https://www.dickblick.com/products/fiskars-embossing-stylus/?fromSearchh=%2Fsearch%2F%3Fq%3Dembossing%2520tool): Any stylus tool with a small round metal ball point will work  
(<https://www.dickblick.com/products/fiskars-embossing-stylus/?fromSearchh=%2Fsearch%2F%3Fq%3Dembossing%2520tool>)
- Scissors
- [Black ink pad](https://yellowowlworkshop.com/products/black-ink-pad) from Yellow Owl Workshop - in the Twin Cities: you can often purchase the Yellow Owl ink pads at Wet Paint (St. Paul, MN) or MCBA's Shop (Minneapolis, MN). I only use the black ink, but you are welcome to order colors in addition to black.  
(<https://yellowowlworkshop.com/products/black-ink-pad>)
- Iron, and a surface to iron on
- 1 yard 100% cotton muslin, bleached or unbleached. Choose "premium muslin."
  - Standard grades of muslin are available for \$4-6 a yard; I use premium muslin that costs \$7-10 a yard. The finer weave will deliver more crisp lines.
  - In addition to muslin, linen is also suitable for drawing and stamping. However, the texture is much more pronounced.
    - If you intend to run linen through a typewriter, be sure to purchase what's called "handkerchief linen" (a super light weight linen that's a little translucent).
  - I recommend preparing your fabric with a process I call "easy scouring." This won't quite do the job for dyeing, but is usually fine for my purposes.
    - In a top-loading washing machine:
      - Run hot water. Add ½ cup of [Arm & Hammer washing soda](https://www.walmart.com/ip/Arm-Hammer-Super-Washing-Soda-Detergent-Booster-Household-Cleaner-55oz/19407690) to the hot water and make sure it's well-dissolved  
(<https://www.walmart.com/ip/Arm-Hammer-Super-Washing-Soda-Detergent-Booster-Household-Cleaner-55oz/19407690>)

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- Place fabric in machine. Don't include anything else in the load. Run the load.
- Dry on a clothesline, or in the dryer without dryer sheet
- Iron
  - Don't have time to scour your fabric? Stamping will probably work fine. However, drawn lines won't look as nice, and you may not be able to typewrite on it at all.
- Carbon paper - I have tried several kinds and now only use [Staples brand](https://www.staples.com/Staples-Carbon-Paper-8-1-2-x-11-Black/product_150912?ci_sr_c=17588969&ci_sku=150912&KPID=150912&cid=PS:GS:RE:RP:NB:FALSE:TXT:SV:Open:1679103750:60732599210:&gclid=Cj0KCQiAxc6PBhCEARIsAH8Hff2iEw_U6G-74IB7GihYdg7TVXJrRRCKKOa3O5eRu__SSKPHWfGgDpkaAkVeEALw_wcB) ([https://www.staples.com/Staples-Carbon-Paper-8-1-2-x-11-Black/product\\_150912?ci\\_sr\\_c=17588969&ci\\_sku=150912&KPID=150912&cid=PS:GS:RE:RP:NB:FALSE:TXT:SV:Open:1679103750:60732599210:&gclid=Cj0KCQiAxc6PBhCEARIsAH8Hff2iEw\\_U6G-74IB7GihYdg7TVXJrRRCKKOa3O5eRu\\_\\_SSKPHWfGgDpkaAkVeEALw\\_wcB](https://www.staples.com/Staples-Carbon-Paper-8-1-2-x-11-Black/product_150912?ci_sr_c=17588969&ci_sku=150912&KPID=150912&cid=PS:GS:RE:RP:NB:FALSE:TXT:SV:Open:1679103750:60732599210:&gclid=Cj0KCQiAxc6PBhCEARIsAH8Hff2iEw_U6G-74IB7GihYdg7TVXJrRRCKKOa3O5eRu__SSKPHWfGgDpkaAkVeEALw_wcB)).
- Stamps – mass-manufactured rubber, hand-carved, or both! Use whatever stamps you already own. If you're looking for an excuse to buy more stamps, here are a few favorite suppliers:
  - [Present & Correct](https://www.presentandcorrect.com/collections/rubber-stamps) (<https://www.presentandcorrect.com/collections/rubber-stamps>)
  - [Princeton Architectural Press](https://papress.com/collections/stamp-sets) (<https://papress.com/collections/stamp-sets>)
  - [CaseyStamps](https://www.caseyrubberstamps.com/catalog) (<https://www.caseyrubberstamps.com/catalog>)
  - [Yoseka](https://yosekastationery.com/collections/stamps?page=1) (<https://yosekastationery.com/collections/stamps?page=1>)
  - [Yellow Owl Workshop](https://yellowowlworkshop.com/collections/rubber-stamps) (<https://yellowowlworkshop.com/collections/rubber-stamps>)

## Nice to have

- Newsprint or scrap paper for keeping work surface tidy
- For folks wanting to use a typewriter: lightweight tracing paper - I use [canary yellow paper](https://www.dickblick.com/products/bienfang-canary-sketching-tracing-paper/?clickTracking=true&wmcp=pla&wmcid=items&wmckw=10407-4212&gclid=Cj0KCQiAxc6PBhCEARIsAH8Hff16SF1fuaz1LTOhZXGLxDEdZGv5_dE9TNY1npPSDYxZFxVjoA4tTo8aAu2oEALw_wcB) on a roll. Generally, the lighter the better. ([https://www.dickblick.com/products/bienfang-canary-sketching-tracing-paper/?clickTracking=true&wmcp=pla&wmcid=items&wmckw=10407-4212&gclid=Cj0KCQiAxc6PBhCEARIsAH8Hff16SF1fuaz1LTOhZXGLxDEdZGv5\\_dE9TNY1npPSDYxZFxVjoA4tTo8aAu2oEALw\\_wcB](https://www.dickblick.com/products/bienfang-canary-sketching-tracing-paper/?clickTracking=true&wmcp=pla&wmcid=items&wmckw=10407-4212&gclid=Cj0KCQiAxc6PBhCEARIsAH8Hff16SF1fuaz1LTOhZXGLxDEdZGv5_dE9TNY1npPSDYxZFxVjoA4tTo8aAu2oEALw_wcB))

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- [RIBtype](https://www.ribtype.com/?qclid=CjwKCAiAlfqOBhAeEiwAYi43FxxViqf3JX34Yf1j8TNXs8Ekwc8BUARuTTPAN5_7NA4rz2XhZ6sbzhoCdjAQAvD_BwE) letter stamps (you'll need both a handle and an alphabet). These are a little bit of an investment, but they are designed for heavy use and hold up really well. It's nice to be able to order extra letters or punctuation as needed.  
([https://www.ribtype.com/?qclid=CjwKCAiAlfqOBhAeEiwAYi43FxxViqf3JX34Yf1j8TNXs8Ekwc8BUARuTTPAN5\\_7NA4rz2XhZ6sbzhoCdjAQAvD\\_BwE](https://www.ribtype.com/?qclid=CjwKCAiAlfqOBhAeEiwAYi43FxxViqf3JX34Yf1j8TNXs8Ekwc8BUARuTTPAN5_7NA4rz2XhZ6sbzhoCdjAQAvD_BwE))
- Typewriter
  - This is not a typewriter maintenance class. I will not be able to provide technical support to help you get a typewriter up and running, or problem-solve mechanical issues which may occur.
  - Running fabric through a typewriter is not something it was designed to do. It probably won't break your typewriter, but over time, lint from the cloth will build up in the mechanisms (like with a sewing machine).
  - I recommend thrifting an electronic typewriter for your fabric typing needs. Check thrift stores & your relatives' basements. There are a lot of them sitting around. Electronic typewriters are much less collectible than manual typewriters.
  - I've never spent more than \$20 on an electronic typewriter. Ribbon is usually \$10-15. ■ Before purchasing any typewriter, plug it in to make sure it works, and ensure you can get the ribbon for it easily. All my typewriters take a Smith Corona H ribbon, which can still be purchased at Staples.
    - Nice features in a typewriter you will use for fabric:
      - Heavy duty paper setting
      - Heavy or bold impression setting
  - You can tell if a typewriter has these features by googling the model and reading the manual
  - Even if you've owned your electronic typewriter for years, I recommend downloading the typewriter manual and reading it before the workshop. This will give you useful info about the handy features of your particular model. I keep a printed copy of my manual on hand at my studio.

## Recommended set up for workshop:

- Table top - put some newsprint down
- Typewriter plugged in, if you're using one
- Iron plugged in nearby