

How to... make Prints

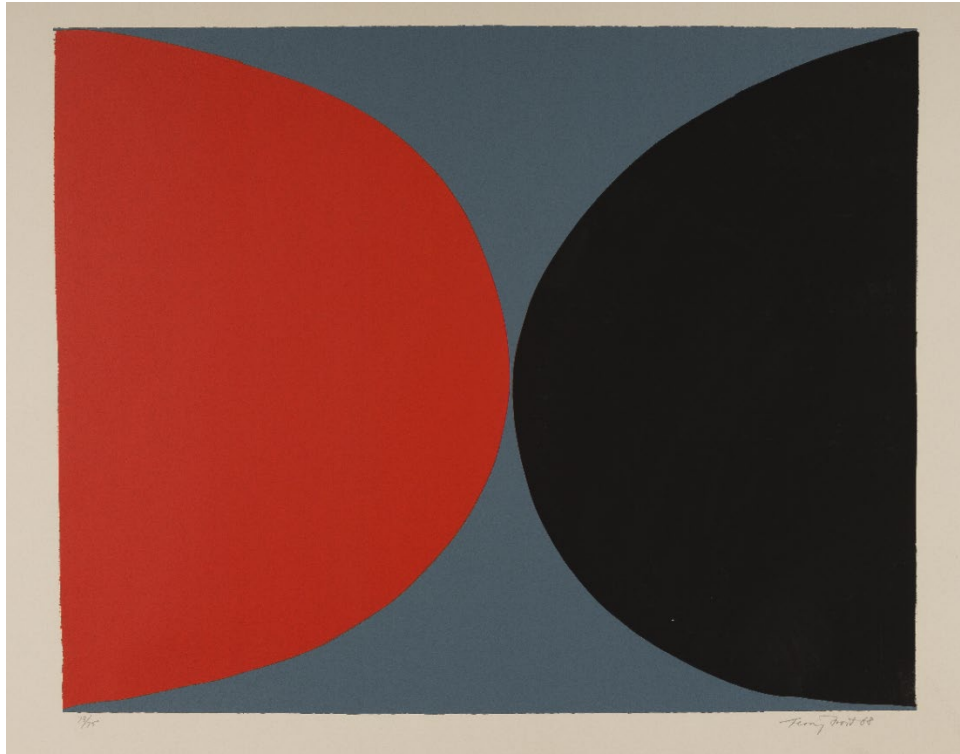


Kathleen Hale, *Fowls*, 1923, print on paper, UAC/12156/12. © Estate of Kathleen Hale.

Printmaking is a way of making pictures using ink and special tools. An artist puts ink or paint onto a block, plate or screen and presses it onto paper to make a picture. The same picture can be printed many times, making many copies of the artwork. Woodcuts and screen prints are Some common types of printing are woodcuts and screenprints.

Screenprints

Here is an example of a screen print from the University of Reading Art Collection:



Terry Frost, *Red and Black shapes on Blue/Grey*, 1968, silkscreen print on paper, UAC/10391. © Estate of Terry Frost.

Screen printing is a way of making pictures and patterns using ink or paint and a stencil. A stencil is a shape with hole cut out of it. The artist will push ink or paint through a stencil onto a surface like fabric or paper.

What you will need:

- Washable paint or ink
- Paper
- Scissors
- Pencil

Creating your own screenprint

1. Draw a simple pattern and carefully cut it out to make a stencil in a pattern you like.

2. Place your stencil onto a piece of paper or your material of choice.
3. Pick a paint colour and use a brush to paint over the top of your stencil.
4. Carefully peel the stencil off and look at the cool design you have made!
5. Try again with a new stencil and use different colours on the same stencil.

Woodcuts



Kathleen Hale, *The Fawn*. 1923, print on paper, UAC/12156/13. © Estate of Kathleen Hale.

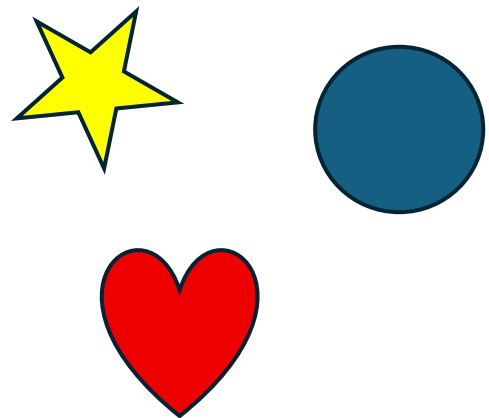
This is a woodcut print by Kathleen Hale. She was a student at the University of Reading School of Art. It is inspired by Japanese wood block printing.

Potato stamps

To create woodblock prints at home, you can use a potato stamp. You will need an adult to supervise or cut out the stamp.

What you will need

- Firm potatoes
- Knife (for adults only)
- Pencil
- Biscuit cutters
- Spoon or butter knife
- Paint
- Paper
- Paper towel



Creating a Potato print

1. Wash the potatoes and pat them dry with a paper towel
2. Ask an adult to cut the potatoes in half
3. Use a pencil to draw a simple shape (heart, circle, star) on the flat side of the half. You can also use the biscuit cutter to stamp a shape into the half
4. Carve the outline using a butter knife or a spoon so the shape is raised
5. Dry the surface and brush the paint onto the shape
6. Press firmly onto the paper to create a stamp and repeat with different shapes and colours

Lino prints



Sheila Flinn, *Tortoises*, date unknown, lino print on paper, UAC/11000. © Estate of Sheila Flinn.

This is a lino print by Sheila Flinn. Lino printing is a type of printmaking where a picture is carved into a special rubber-like block called lino. The artist rolls ink onto the block and presses it onto paper to make a print. The same picture can be printed many times. Lino printing is fun because each print can be colourful and unique.

Leaves and flowers

You can also use leaves as tools in printmaking. Collect some leaves from outside to get started on this activity.

What you will need:

- A selection of leaves and flowers
- Paint or ink
- Crayons
- Paper

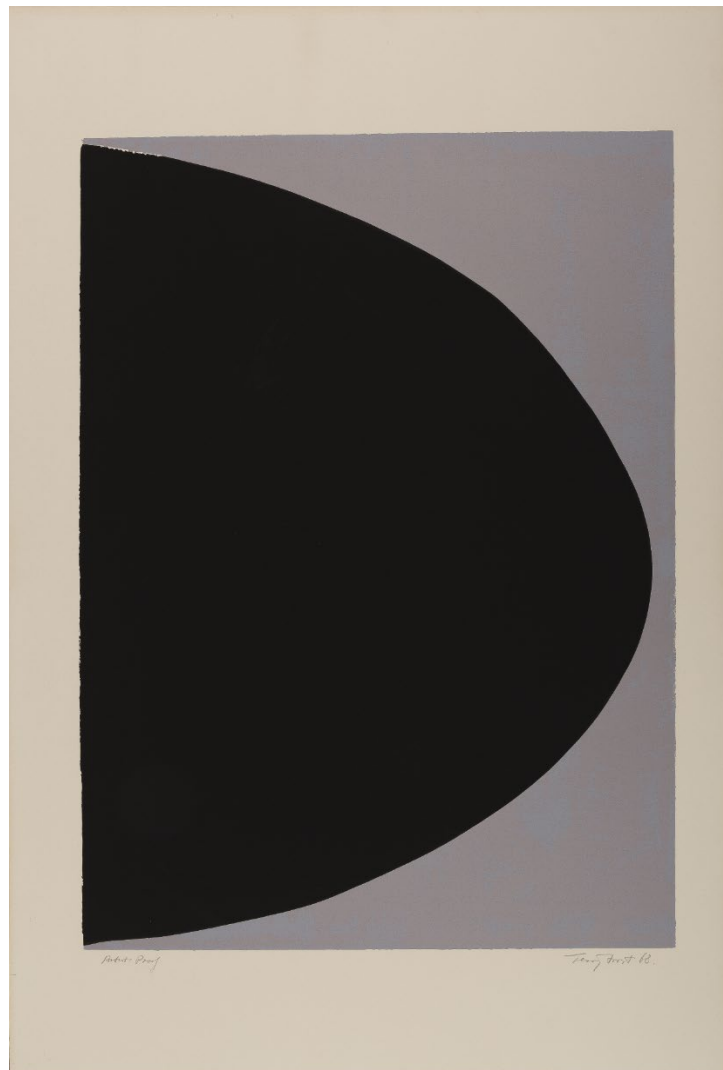
1. Place the leaves underneath the piece of paper
2. Use a crayon to rub over the top of the paper and the leaf shape should appear.

Using leaves and flowers

1. Paint a side of a leaf or a flower

Press it into the paper and lift it off to see the pattern and shape of the leaf.

Make sure to take a look back through this resource for some more inspirational examples of printmaking from the University of Reading Art Collection!



Terry Frost, *Artist Proof (Black on Violet)*, 1968, silkscreen print on paper, UAC/10864. © Estate of Terry Frost.