

### Eggshell Printmaking

This is a fun and easy printmaking project that is truly abstract. Abstract art uses visual language of shape, form colour and line to create a composition. Your final piece can be turned vertically, horizontally, or whichever way pleases you.

What you will need:

- Sketchbook paper or printer paper
- Ruler, pencil, scissors, marker
- Two pieces of paper towel and four squares of toilet paper
- Plastic (grocery) bag
- Two colours of craft paint
- Vegetable oil (light oil)
- Two containers for your paint
- Paintbrush  $\frac{3}{4}$ " or a 2.5x3.5" piece of card stock
- Newspaper or plastic table cloth for working area
- Find two to three items for your artwork:
  - Dried clean eggshells, kosher salt, wide elastics cut into pieces, oatmeal flakes, cardstock or paper cut into random shapes. Note: Whatever you use must be fairly flat.



In the first step, you are drawing two rectangles. The first rectangle is on plastic for your paint, the second rectangle is on paper for your working art area.

#### Marking Your Areas

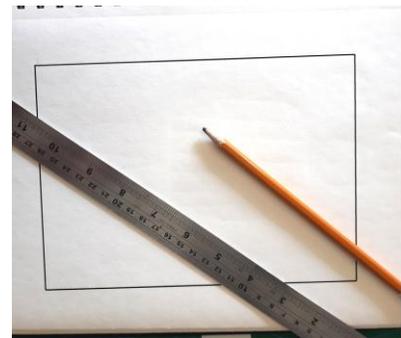
Cut the plastic bag in half, then with a marker draw a 6x8" (15x20cm) rectangle on plastic. Leave an inch margin around the rectangle. Now in pencil, draw another 6x8" rectangle on your paper. Place the paper on a protected flat surface. The area within the rectangle is your art area.



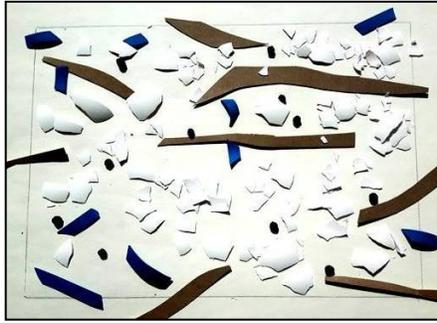
Materials



6x8" Area on Plastic



6x8" Area on Paper



**Setting up Your Paper Working Art Area**

For the paper art area, add clean broken eggshells, strips of card stock and cut up wide elastics. Arrange these items randomly within the rectangle until you are pleased with the balance.

**Prepare Your Paint**

Select **one** of your craft paint colours. In a small container, add 2/3 craft paint colour to 1/3 oil. Maybe about a tablespoon of paint will be needed. Mix well. When the consistency is like thick molasses pour onto the **plastic** rectangle area. Use the paintbrush or card stock to spread paint to the edges of the rectangle.



Next, carefully pick up the painted plastic sheet and turn it with paint side down and place over the rectangle paper art area. Don't worry too much if it's not perfectly lined up. Once you have placed the



plastic on top of the paper, rub the area lightly then slowly peel the plastic away from your paper. Throw the plastic into the garbage, as a lot of the material will be stuck to it. Pick off some of the leftover material on paper and discard.

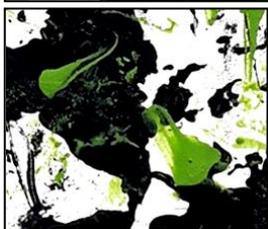


**Adding Extra Texture and Colour**

Use two of the squares of toilet paper, scrunched up, and dip into paint. Blot your tissue onto a piece of paper towel to take off excess paint and start lightly blotting some of the white areas.



In another container pour a small amount of second craft paint colour. With the same technique, use the other two tissue squares and scrunch up. Dip the scrunched toilet paper into the second colour and blot the excess on the paper towel and blot onto the painted and unpainted areas.



If you have a toothpick you can put some paint onto the tip and drag the toothpick across the paper in different areas. You can see a close up of the alternate colour drag marks (I used green) on the left bottom picture.

Once the paper dries you can cut the paper to the frame and glue onto a clean sheet of paper.