

Printmaking is the method of creating a picture or design from a prepared block or plate. There are many kinds of printmaking that are used all over the world, like screenprinting, stenciling, linocut, and lithography. All of them use positive and negative shapes to create an image or design. When you add printed details to fibers, like fabric or paper, this is called surface design!

For this project, you will etch into a foam printing board to create your own design and use it to print onto cards. Please keep in mind that your printing boards are extra fragile, so be careful not to ding or dent them!



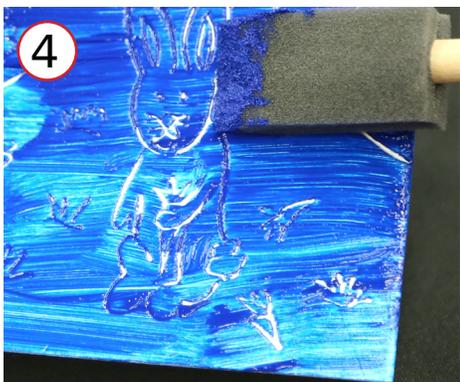
**1**  
Trace the outside of a printing board on a blank sheet of paper. Design your print inside the lines with pencil. Remember that everything you draw will print backwards!



**2**  
Once you have your design drawn on paper, cut it out and lay it on top of your printing board. With a light pressure, trace over your lines, leaving a slight imprint on the printing board.



**3**  
Remove your paper. Using more pressure with your pencil, you can deepen/widen your lines, which will change the thickness of the lines on your print.



**4**  
Dab your foam brush with ink. Your brush should just be lightly covered with ink. If you put on too much, you will fill in your lines, and they will not appear when you print.



**5**  
Once your printing board is covered with a light coat of ink, place design side down on a test piece of paper. Press evenly around all parts of the printing board without moving it around.



**6**  
Continue to create test prints until you perfect it. Once you feel comfortable, start printing onto your cards. Once it is printed, allow 24 hours to dry.

**For more information and for video tutorials please go to [youthfiberart.org](http://youthfiberart.org)!**

Ink is non-toxic, non-flammable, water based, and contains no solvents.

If ink gets on skin, wash with warm soapy water. Intended for ages 9 and up.