

Block printing: Creating repeat patterns using letters with Andy McKenzie

By Andy McKenzie, *photographed by Jan Ayton*

Teenagers from AccessArt's Experimental Drawing Class worked with artist Andy McKenzie to create repeat patterns of letters.

Blocks were created from an assortment of wood offcuts and a thin sticky-back foam. Each student was encouraged to create a simple block with their initial letter and then create patterns with it.

The foam was cut with scissors, the backing paper then removed and stuck firmly onto the block.

Water based Ink was rolled out on a separate 'inking plate' and the ink rolled directly onto the block or alternatively the block was 'dabbed' into the inked plate.

The blocks can be washed and used multiple times with different colours and pattern possibilities are infinite!



Test blocks showing negative and positive block a pattern block and some test prints

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