

The 10 most important questions about decoupage quickly answered

Instructions No. 3322

Discover the world of decoupage: Creative design made easy

Discover the world of decoupage: Creative design made easy

Decoupage is one of the most charming and versatile craft techniques, techniques that can transform your home accessories and furniture into true works of art. Although it is easy to use, it requires some basic explanations at the beginning, especially if you compare the technique with its related methods such as Dècopatch and napkin technique . Our comprehensive guide will help you keep track and master the decoupage technique in full. Find out

the answers to the 10 most important questions and get inspired to personalize your home.



1.) What is decoupage?

Decoupage is a creative technique in which you glue cut-out paper motifs onto a surface and paint over them several times. The term comes from the French and means "to cut out" (*découper*). This technique is similar to napkin technique and *Dècopatch*.

2.) How do you do decoupage?

In the following infographic you can see the basic steps for decoupage.

Infographic decoupage tutorial

How-To:

Decoupage

1



2



3



4





- Prepare the surface on which the Paper is to be decorated. It should be clean and free of grease.
- In the first step, cut out the motifs from the Paper with precise contours.
- Moisten the back of the motifs with a sponge and a little water - this makes it easier to stick them on.
- Smooth the moistened motifs onto the base with decoupage glue.
- Allow everything to dry well and then apply several coats of decoupage varnish to minimize height differences between Paper and the surface. Optionally, you can sand the layers of paint in between to achieve a smoother surface.

3.) What materials are needed for decoupage?

In addition to Paper, glue and varnish, the basic equipment includes [contour scissors](#), [sponges](#) and a brush. For best results, we recommend a [brush for napkin technique](#).

4.) Which Paper is used for the decoupage technique?

Thicker papers are usually used for decoupage. These include special [decoupage papers](#), which are a robust choice at 63 gsm, as well as decorative candy papers and poetry pictures.

5.) What glue do you need for decoupage?

Special glue for decoupage is recommended as it optimally soaks the thick Paper and prevents tearing during processing.

6.) Is a special varnish needed for decoupage?

In order to create an even and protective surface, you need a special decoupage varnish, available in matt or gloss.

7.) On which materials can I work with decoupage papers?

Due to the thick paper, you can work directly on colored and dark surfaces. Materials such as wood, terracotta, ceramics, papier-mâché and metal are suitable.

8.) Decoupage and Dècopatch - what's the difference?

With Dècopatch, the Paper is much thinner at 20 g/sqm. It is usually torn out, whereas decoupage papers are cut out with precise contours. The use of other adhesives is also necessary.

9.) Decoupage, Dècopatch, napkin technique - aren't they all the same thing?

Although the techniques are similar, the materials and the Processing of material:. Each technique has its own special features in terms of paper thickness and the materials required.

10.) Where to find free ideas and instructions for decoupage

In our [craft techniques decoupage category](#) you will find many Article and in our [VBS online store under ideas and instructions](#) you will find numerous free inspirations and instructions.

Start your own decoupage project now and buy the materials you need conveniently in our store. Have fun crafting!

New instructions

Straight to your inbox every week

register now >

Article information:

Article number	Article name	Qty
740722-10	VBS Decoupage varnish, "Matt"100 ml (unfortunately sold out)	1
740715-10	VBS Decoupage varnish, "Glossy"100 ml (unfortunately sold out)	1
330350	VBS Painting sponges, 3 pieces	1
120272	VBS Napkin & Decoupage brush, set of 3	1
521802	VBS Silhouette scissors	1