

## Stenciling Steps

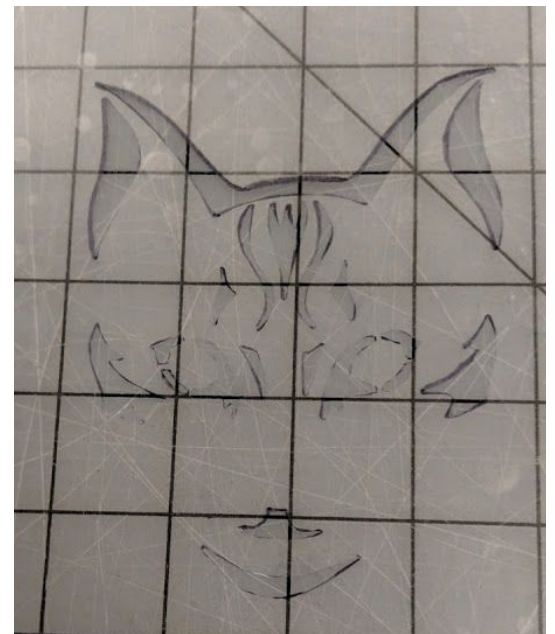
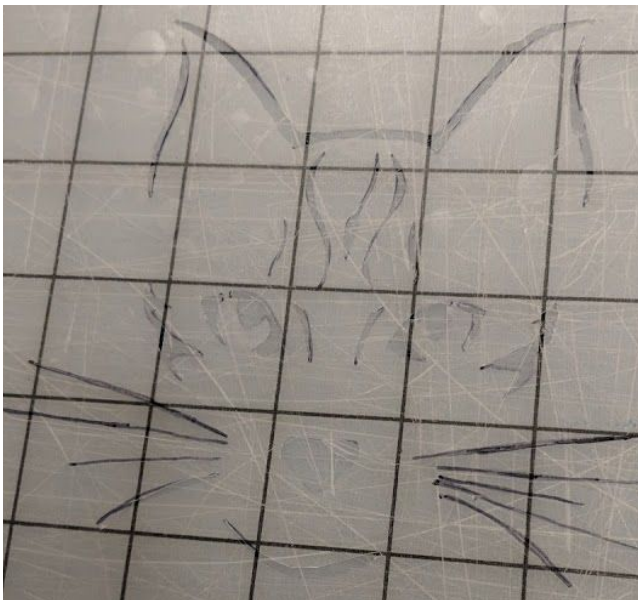
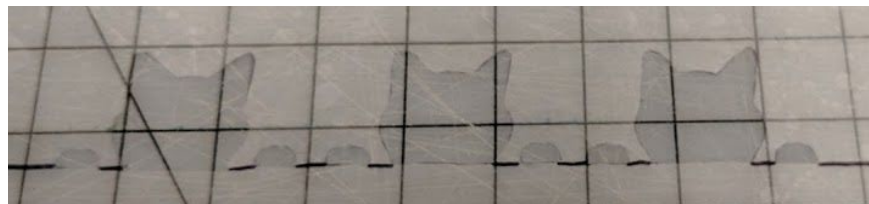
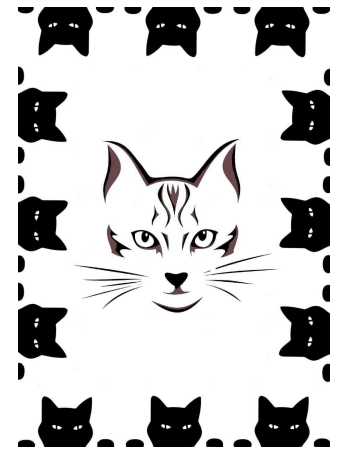
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#1- The first step was to create a design. I found images of cat silhouettes on the internet and put them in sketchbook to see how the whole piece would look at the end.

#2- Next, I put two pieces of contact paper together and removed the air bubbles to create a clear mat from which to create my stencil.

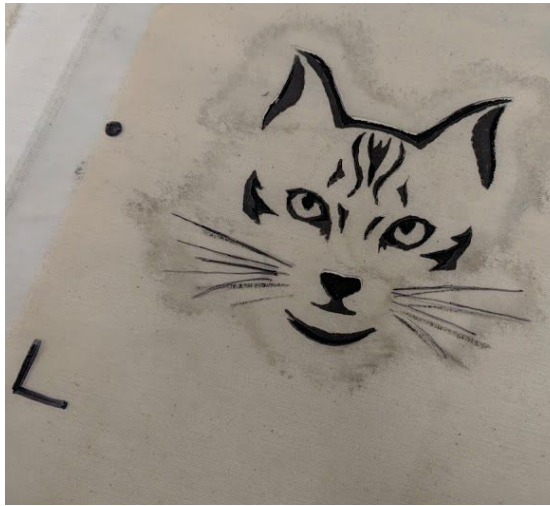
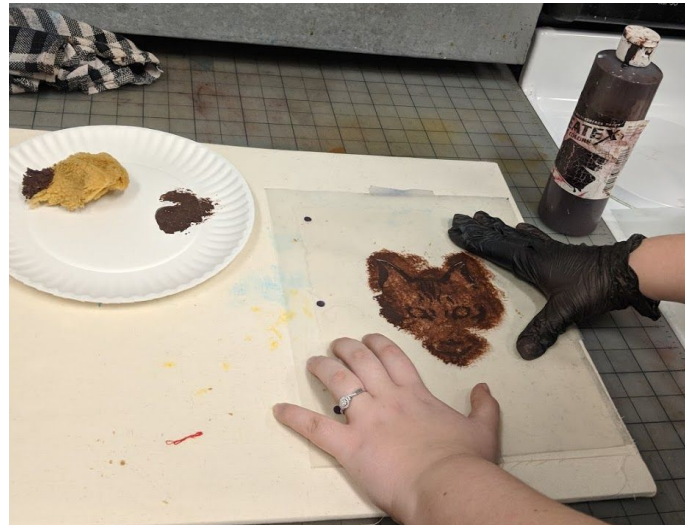
#3- I laid my clear mat on top of my design and traced the spots I knew I needed to cut with the x-acto knife. I had to use bridges around the whites of the eyes on the big cat. You can see on the border stencil that I drew a line between the cats. This was so I could line up the cats on the base of my fabric.



#4- I then cut out my fabric to match the 8x11 requirements. I chose to do my stencil on a piece of muslin and a leopard print cotton fabric.

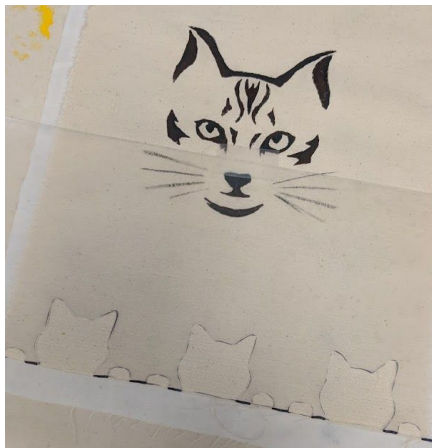
#5- For my first attempt, I worked on the muslin fabric. I used a dark brown acrylic paint for the highlight on my big cat, and black acrylic for the darker sections. I painted the first stencil and allowed it to dry before placing the second stencil on top. I used a hole punch for registration marks to make sure my stencils lined up properly (see markings on picture below). I also used a sea

sponge to dab the paint onto my stencils. I noticed that my whiskers were not coming out through the stencil, and decided that they would be easier drawn on by hand.



#6- I let both of these layers dry, washed the paint off of the stencils, and proceeded to stencil out my border. The border was actually pretty nice. I didn't have to let the sections dry in between, so I just went around moving my stencil and let the completed piece dry in the drying cabinet on a tray. I used Jacquards

purple textile paint for this. I wanted to see which paint would work better. I found that the textile paint worked its way into my stencil more smoothly than the acrylic.



#7- Next, I tested how my original planned color scheme and design would work on my patterned fabric. I was worried that the brown would be lost, so I wanted to test my fabric and see if the deColourant paste would work. I tested a swatch and it worked beautifully. I also tried to put some black on top of the deColourant to see how that would look, and I was pleased with the outcome.





#8- I found on my muslin attempt that it was harder to center my big cat without seeing its relationship to the border, so this time I did the border first. I felt that a white border of cats would stand out better on my patterned fabric, so I used white Jacquard textile paint and a sea sponge.



#9- I let the border dry and then applied the deColourant in the same way that I used the paint, with a sea sponge, and drew on my whiskers with a paint brush. I allowed that to dry and then pressed it with the iron to set the paste.

#10- I lined up my second stencil and sponged on black textile paint. I let this dry and then the piece was done.