

Stenciling Steps

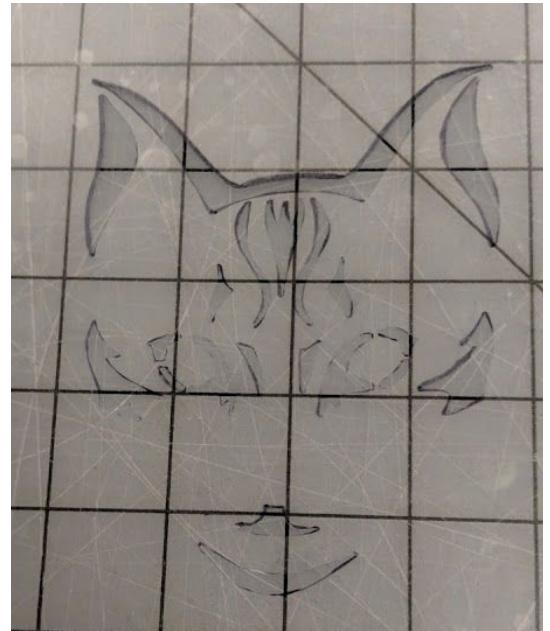
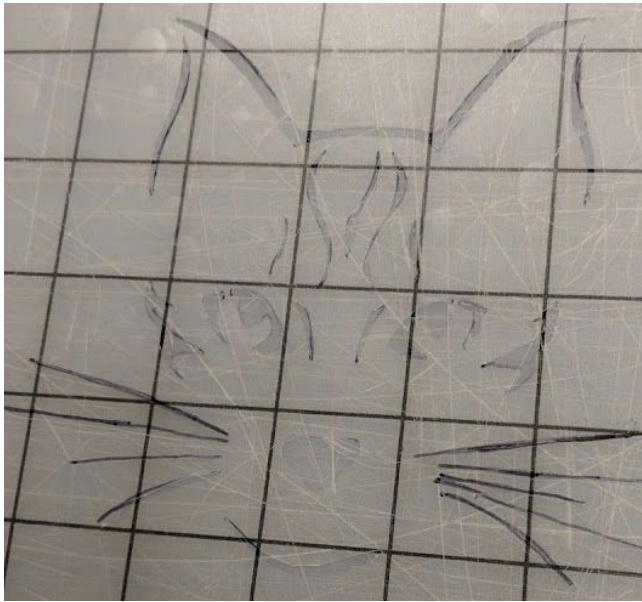
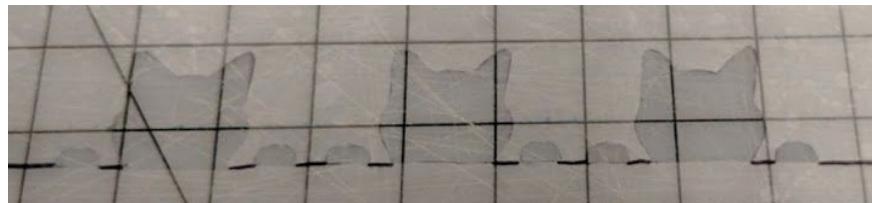
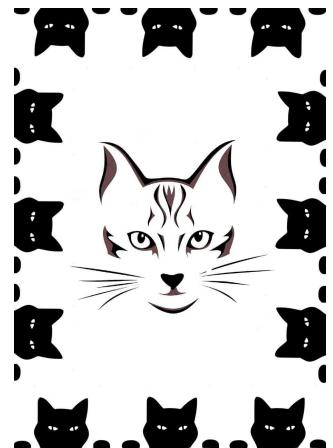
Allison Jones

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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.

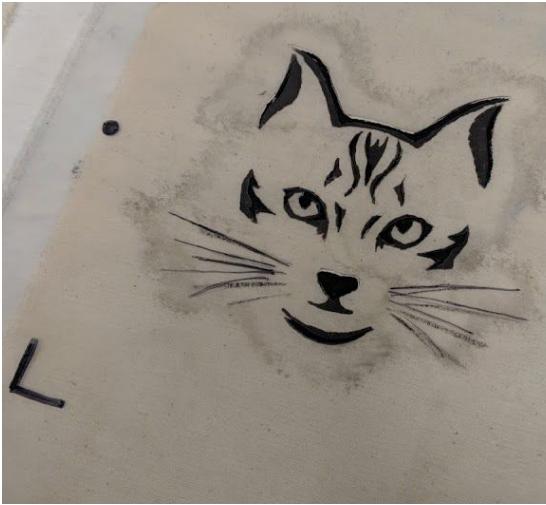


#4- I then cut out my fabric to match the 8x11 requirements.

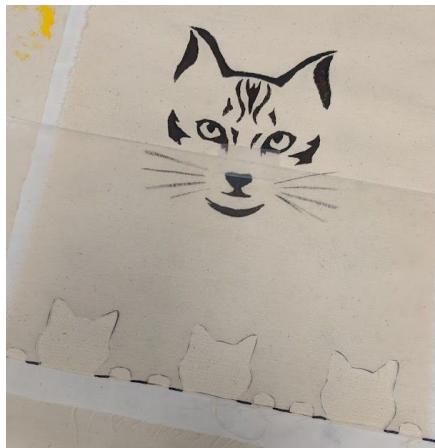
I chose to do my stencil on a piece of muslin and a leopard print cotton fabric.

#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.



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.



#6- I let both of these layers dry, washed the paint off of the stencils, and proceeded to

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

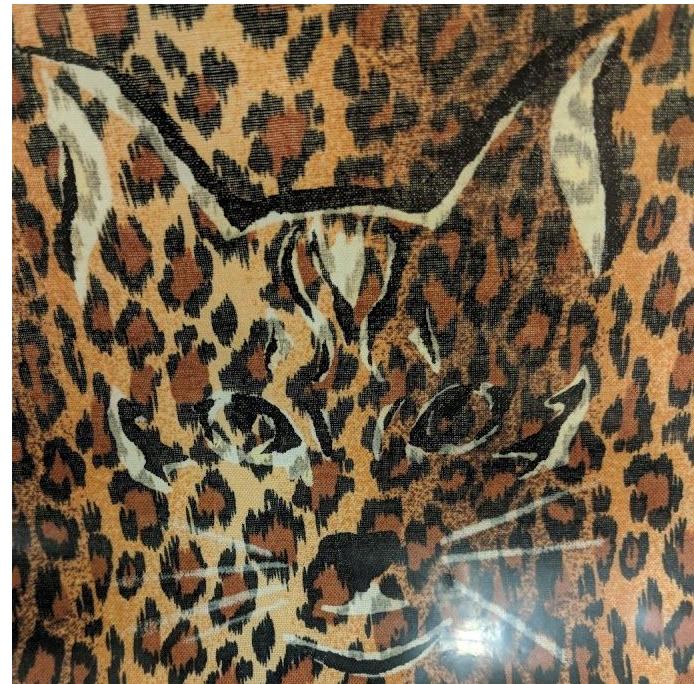


#7- Next, I tested how my original planned color scheme and design would work on my patterned fabric. I was worried that the brown would be lost, so I wanted to test my fabric and see if the deColourant paste would work. I tested a swatch and it worked beautifully. I also tried to put some black on top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