



Stamp printing Materials

The essentials

Carving block: easy-carve vinyl block for stamp making. Available in craft shops and online. I use Facticis, Milan or Speedball, but there are also other good brands available.

Lino carving tools: you can start with simple, inexpensive tools, like the kind that has a handle and you change the blades, I started with this sort. Now I use Flexicut carving tools, the micro palm set. You need a fine V-shaped tool and a medium U-shaped tool to start with.

Cutting mat (A4 or larger)

For transferring your design to the rubber block:

Pencil (HB, B)

Tracing paper

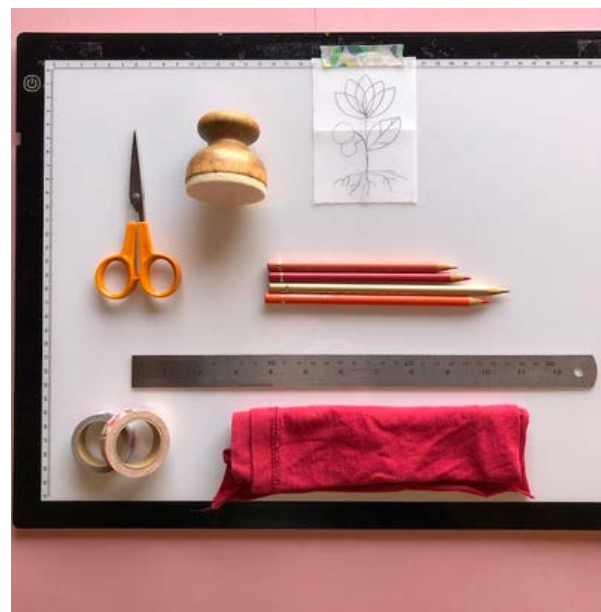
Metal Spoon or Bone folder for rubbing the pencil design onto the rubber block.

Cutter for cutting the rubber block

Scalpel craft knife for cutting around the edges of the stamp

Inks

Rag cloth for keeping things clean



Things that are not essential, but are good to have:

Printing baren (small)

Scissors

Metal ruler

Coloured pencils (I use Faber Castell Polychromos or Prismacolor)

Washi tape

LIGHT TABLE, I love my light table. I draw my designs on tracing paper, stick them to the light table with washi tape, place the printing paper over the top and use the design underneath to guide my printing. A4 size is large enough (although I have A3).

Help with circles

Drawing compass

Circle / shape stencil templates

Simple rotary tool for carving small circles/dots (small and cheap is good enough)

For looking after your tools:

Flexicut slipstrop for sharpening tools

For cleaning the pencil marks off freshly cut stamps

Oil (I use almond oil, but any oil will do)

Soap (I use hand soap)

Old toothbrush

With just a drop of oil rub off the pencil marks on the stamp, put a bit of soap on the toothbrush and gently scrub off the oil, wash under water.

Paper

Scrap paper, nice paper for experimenting, and good quality paper for final designs (smooth finish).

