

Scratch Art

4 and up

Creating a beautiful scratch art piece is easier than you think. The technique can be used for anything you like to draw. Usually in scratch art, a black coating is engraved or scratched to reveal a colourful undercoat. You can make your own scratch art paper with the instructions below. Once you have mastered the basics, get creative with your colour choices, including the colour of the top or scratch coat.

MATERIALS: (see alternatives below)

- ⇒ Sturdy blank paper or card stock - consider smaller pieces as they are quicker to fill with colour.
- ⇒ Oil pastels (\$6 - \$7 for a beginner's box of pastels)
- ⇒ Pointy object - skewer, toothpick, chopstick, or fork
- ⇒ Painter's tape - optional - Cover the edges of the paper to leave border when the work is done.

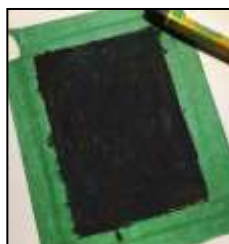


Alternative Materials:

While oil pastels give the best results, wax crayons will work, too. Pencil crayon can be used for the colour layer only. Black paint is an option for Step 2 below. Acrylic is more effective than tempera paint. Mix in a few generous drops of dish soap to help the paint stick to the oily pastels or waxy crayons. Use a sponge brush or large paint brush to apply the paint.

Steps:

1. Cover your paper with colours any way you wish, variety is the goal. It's important to fill the entire sheet with colour.
2. Use the black pastel to cover the colours. Colour across the page and then from top to bottom. This will help to really cover the whole surface.
3. Time to engrave! With your pointy object, draw/carve into the black to reveal the colours underneath! The more details you add the more colourful your image will be. If using paint, you can scratch in the wet paint or let the paint dry first. To clean paint flakes from surfaces, avoid using water.



Tip: Use the shape of an object (a silhouette) to create beautiful scratch art! Cut out a silhouette of something you like. Trace around the silhouette on your scratch paper and then remove it. Now the fun part! Scratch in the details or scratch the whole shape until you have a colourful silhouette.

You can make minor corrections to your scratch work with the black pastel.

