



Unit – III: Basic Print Design Techniques

Unit Overview

In the earlier unit you learnt about the different categories of prints. In this unit you will learn about the different techniques to develop innovative, unique and interesting prints. Different techniques render different results in terms of look, feel, mood and texture. Techniques accommodate to the changing fashion trends and create new looks. Special effects to a design can be given to create a new appearance or to enhance an existing design. Some of these techniques are Wax Resist Technique, Fevicol Resist Technique, Bleach Technique, Rubber Solution Technique, Salt and Sugar Technique, Bubble Effect Technique, Etching Technique, and Intercutting Technique. These techniques bring originality, add texture and give a three dimensional look to the print design being developed.

Objectives of the Unit

- To develop an interest and confidence for creating print designs.
- To explore various art media for developing interesting designs.
- To develop the ability to choose the most appropriate technique for creating interesting designs.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the unit, the students shall be able to –

- Create interesting designs by using various art media.
- Appreciate the techniques involved in developing interesting textures.
- Use art media more innovatively and confidently.
- Develop interesting colour combinations and designs.
- Understand the relation between motifs and background.

3.1 Wax Resist Technique

The fact that wax and water do not mix, the wax crayon repels the water paint so the design made in wax crayon will not be covered by the paint. This will retain the ground colour of the paper or the colour beneath, as well as create interesting textures. The area on which wax is



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applied repels water in the paint so the paint either runs off or collects in little drops on it. The effect created is hazy, dotted, cracked, blotchy and undefined. (Fig. 3.1.1., 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.1.4)

Materials Required:

1. Drawing/ Cartridge sheet
2. Photo ink/ water colours
3. Paintbrush
4. Water container
5. Colour palette/ Mixing bowl
6. Oil Crayon/ Wax colour

Steps:

1. Take a Drawing/ Cartridge sheet.
2. Make the outline of your design on paper using a pencil.
3. Now colour the design with the wax crayons using force.
4. Prepare thinned down photo ink/ water colour paint on your palette.
5. Apply photo ink/ water colour all over the design with a very light hand.
6. Leave the print design to dry.

Precautions:

1. The colour of the wax crayon and water colour should be preferably contrasting.
2. Make sure that you apply the photo ink/ water colour on the wax crayon for maximum resist effect.
3. Use the crayon with a steady hand so that no white spaces are left on the paper.

Result:

The wax crayons resist most of the water colour. Although a few drops of colour remain on the surface to give an interesting texture.

Some Print Designs using Wax Resist Technique:



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Fig. 3.1.1 Kuhu Shrivastav (Textile Design: 2011-2015)



Fig. 3.1.2 Aashima Vaid (Textile Design: 2011-2015)

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3.2 Fevicol Resist Technique

Fevicol being an adhesive, when dried, forms a thick and hard layer on the paper. This layer withstands paint or absorbs only a minimal amount. The Fevicol layer provides a third dimension



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Fig. 3.1.3 Manvi Pande (Textile Design: 2011-2015)



Fig. 3.1.4 Manvi Pande (Textile Design: 2011-2015)



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to the print. After the application of paint it creates a light and shade effect as the amount of paint absorbed by the adhesive is different from the paper. The texture formed thus is illusionist, 3D, camouflage, embossed and glossy. (Fig, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4)

Materials Required:

1. Drawing/ Cartridge sheet
2. Photo ink/ water colours
3. Paintbrush
4. Water Container
5. Colour palette/ Mixing bowl
6. Fevicol

Steps:

1. Take a Drawing/ Cartridge sheet.
2. Use Fevicol to create an interesting design or texture.
3. Let the Fevicol dry completely.
4. Once the Fevicol has dried, apply the photo ink/water colour on the design.
5. The area resisted by Fevicol will absorb minimal amount of the Photo ink/ Water colour and will create an interesting pattern/texture.

Precautions:

1. The Fevicol should be completely dry so as to resist the Photo ink/ Water colour.
2. Use minimum amount of water over the Fevicol so that it doesn't get wet again.
3. Use a thin layer of Fevicol to make the design so that it dries faster.
4. Avoid intricate designs since the Fevicol has a tendency to spread.

Result:

The area covered by fevicol will more or less resist the Photo ink/ water colour or slightly absorb it to give a light and shade effect and also the print design looks embossed.

Some Print Designs using Fevicol Resist Technique:



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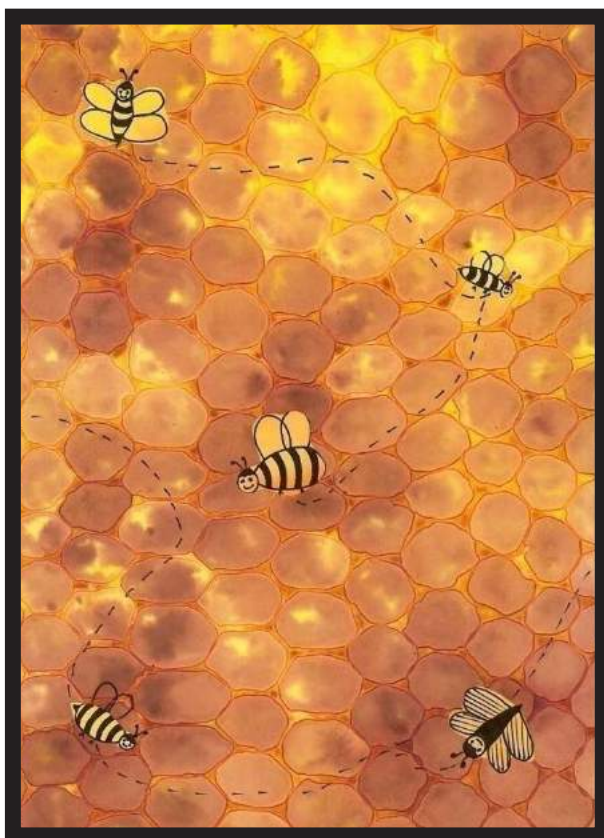


Fig. 3.2.1 Aashima Vaid (Textile Design: 2011-2015)

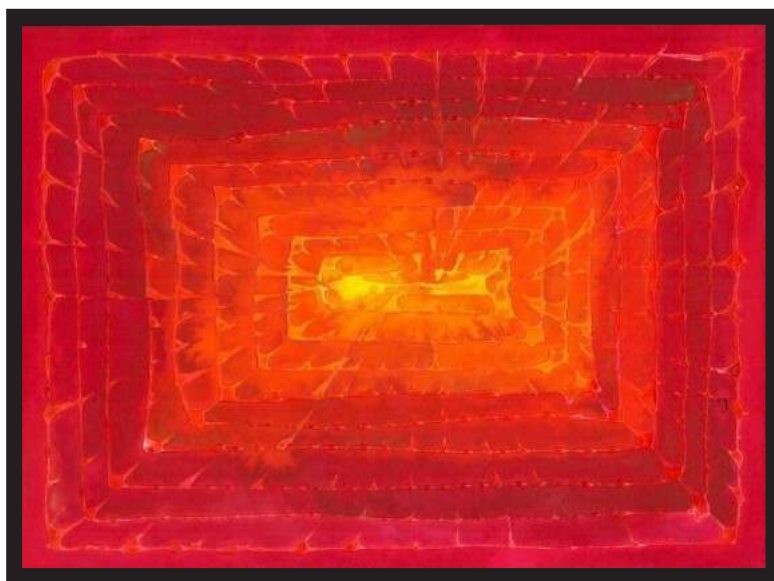


Fig. 3.2.2 Manvi Pande (Textile Design: 2011-2015)

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Fig. 3.2.3. Gausul Qamar Khan (Textile Design: 2011-2015)

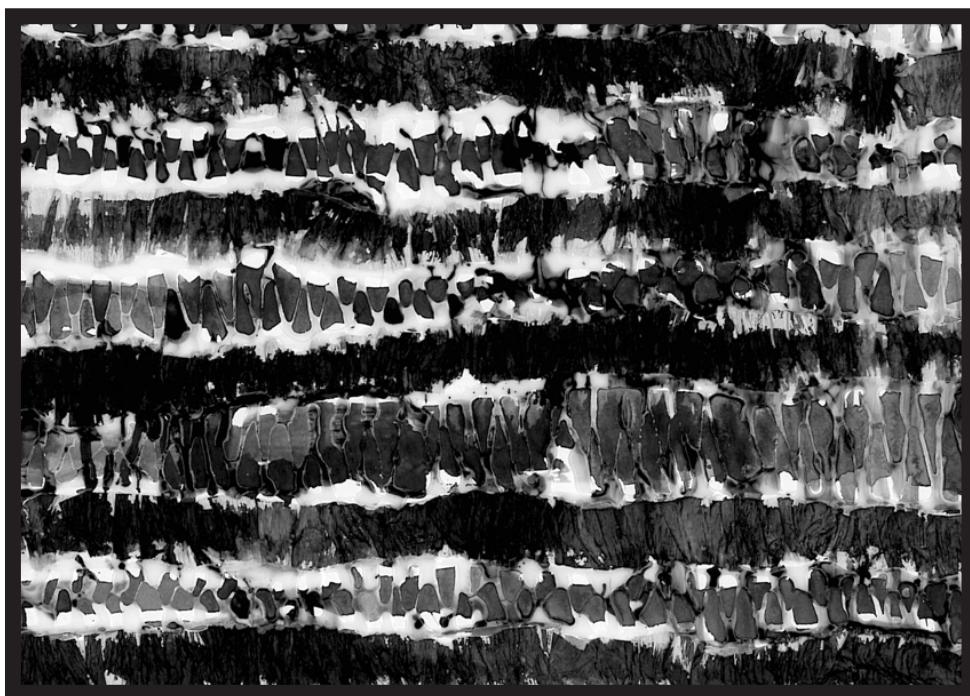


Fig. 3.2.4 Kuhu Shrivastav (Textile Design: 2011-2015)



3.3 Bleach Technique

Bleach is a chemical which removes colour or whitens through the process of oxidation. The bleach removes areas of colour from a painted background, making it possible to apply a new colour to these areas, or leave them white. This technique is particularly effective when light or bright colours are used on darker backgrounds. Application of bleach creates contrasting background highlighting the motif particularly. The amount of bleach used influences the whitening of colour, thus producing different shades of the same colour. (Fig. 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 3.3.5)

Materials Required:

1. Drawing/ Cartridge sheet
2. Photo Ink
3. Paintbrush
4. Toothpick
5. Water container
6. Colour palette
7. Mixing bowl
8. Bleach
9. Tissue
10. Kite paper

Steps:

1. Take a Drawing/ Cartridge sheet.
2. Paint the entire sheet with Photo Ink as a background.
3. Let it dry completely.
4. Create designs with bleach using a paintbrush/ toothpick over the sheet.
5. Leave the bleach for about a minute, and then carefully blot it with a tissue.
6. If the area does not look white enough after one application, apply the bleach again. The lighter the base colour, the faster the bleach will work.
7. Let the bleached area dry well before reapplying colour.
8. You can also use strips of kite paper and apply bleach on it in order to add colour and texture.



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Fig. 3.3.1 Manvi Pande (Textile Design: 2011-2015)



Fig. 3.3.2 Manvi Pande (Textile Design: 2011-2015)

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Fig. 3.3.3 Gausul Qamar Khan (Textile Design: 2011- 2015)

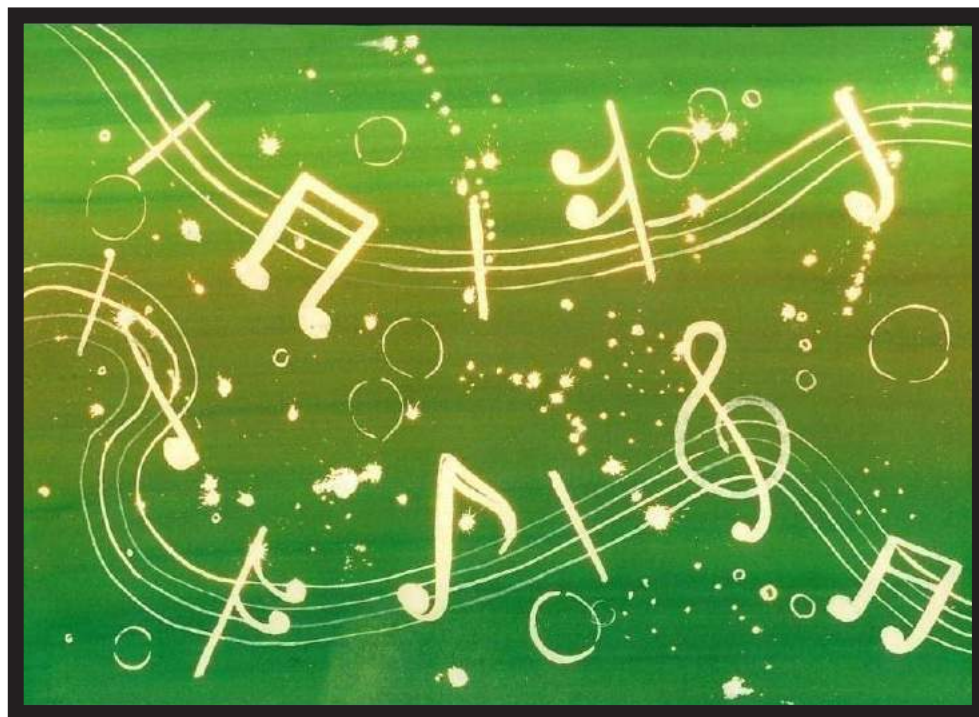


Fig. 3.3.4 Kuhu Shrivastav (Textile Design:2011-2015)



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Fig. 3.3.5 Anupriya Mridha (Textile Design: 2011- 2015)

Precautions:

1. Avoid any contact of bleach with the skin as it may cause irritation.
2. Let the photo ink dry completely so that the bleach do not spread.
3. Do not leave bleach on the paper too long and do not cover large areas with bleach or the surface of the paper will be eaten away.

Result:

The bleach gives a washed out effect on the paper and makes the colour disappear, thus creating an interesting pattern. The design created can be intricate and clearly defined.

Some Print Designs using Bleach Technique:

3.4: Rubber Solution Technique

Rubber solution once dried on paper unlike Fevicol can be easily removed from the paper. The rubber solution acts as a resist to the water colour/ photo ink, thus retaining ground colour or where ever it has been applied. The rubber solution is generally used to mask an area to prevent paint from touching specific areas. This can be done to add highlights to a print design or to protect an area on which paint has already been laid down so that another colour does not seep into that area. Depending on how the solution is used it can either create crisp, sharp lines or softer, smudged edges. (Fig. 3.4.1, 3.4.2, 3.4.3)



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Fig. 3.4.1 Aashima Vaid (Textile Design: 2011-2015)



Fig. 3.4.2 Aashima Vaid (Textile Design: 2011-2015)

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Fig. 3.4.3 Aashima Vaid (Textile Design: 2011-2015)

Materials Required:

1. Drawing/ Cartridge sheet
2. Photo Ink/ Water colours
3. Paintbrush
4. Water container
5. Colour palette/ Mixing bowl
6. Rubber solution (Dunlop)

Steps:

1. Take a Drawing/ Cartridge sheet.
2. Make a design on the sheet using the rubber solution where the colour needs to be resisted.
3. Let the rubber solution dry completely.
4. Once the rubber solution has dried completely apply Photo ink/ water colour over it.
5. Let the paint dry.
6. Now carefully peel off the layer of rubber solution.



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Precautions:

1. Make sure the print design dries completely before removing the rubber solution; otherwise it may smudge and ruin the sharp edges you set out to create.
2. Peel off the rubber solution carefully without tearing the paper.

Result:

The rubber solution resists the paint and once peeled off the ground area starts showing, bringing out the design.

Some Print Designs using Rubber Solution Technique:

3.5 Salt and Sugar Technique

Application of salt or sugar adds an irregular, three dimensional texture to the print design. When the salt/ sugar are sprinkled on the wet photo ink already applied on the surface the salt/ sugar texture appears on the areas where the salt/ sugar falls or comes in contact with the photo-ink. (Fig. 3.5.1, 3.5.2, 3.5.3)

Materials Required:

1. Drawing/ Cartridge sheet
2. Photo Ink/ Water colours
3. Paintbrush
4. Water container
5. Colour palette/ Mixing bowl
6. Salt/ Sugar

Steps:

1. Take a Drawing/ Cartridge sheet.
2. Create a colourful background on the sheet with the help of Photo Ink.
3. While the paint is still wet, sprinkle salt or sugar randomly onto the paper.
4. Let it remain for a few minutes to react with the paint.
5. Leave the print design to dry.
6. Once completely dry, dust off the excess salt/ sugar.



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Precautions:

1. The salt/ sugar should be sprinkled while the photo ink is still wet on the paper.
2. Make sure that you sprinkle the salt/ sugar randomly.
3. Let it remain on the paper for a few minutes to react with the photo ink.
4. Dust off the excess salt and sugar only after the paper is completely dry.

Result:

The sprinkled salt/ sugar give a rough and grainy surface and also create a patchy effect.

Some Print Designs using Salt and Sugar Technique:

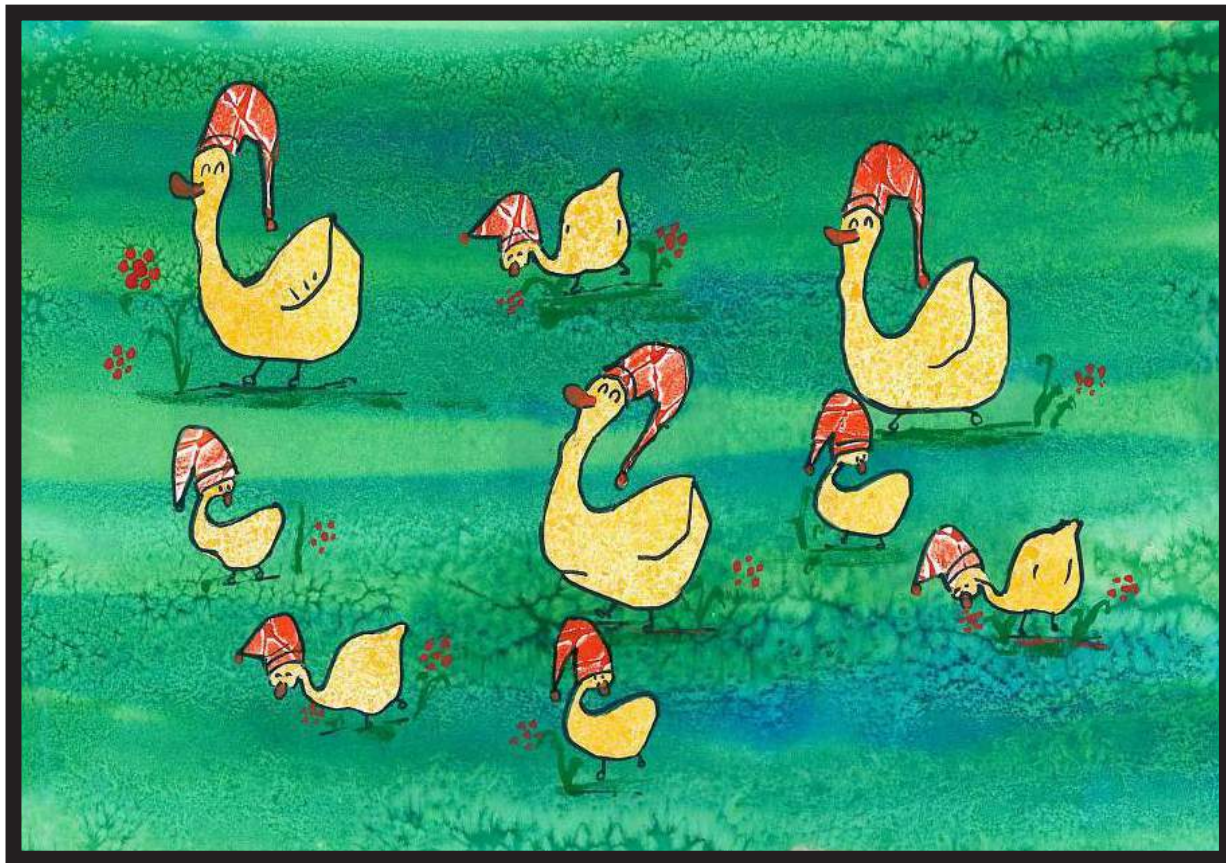


Fig. 3.5.1 Gausul Qamar Khan (Textile Design: 2011-2015)



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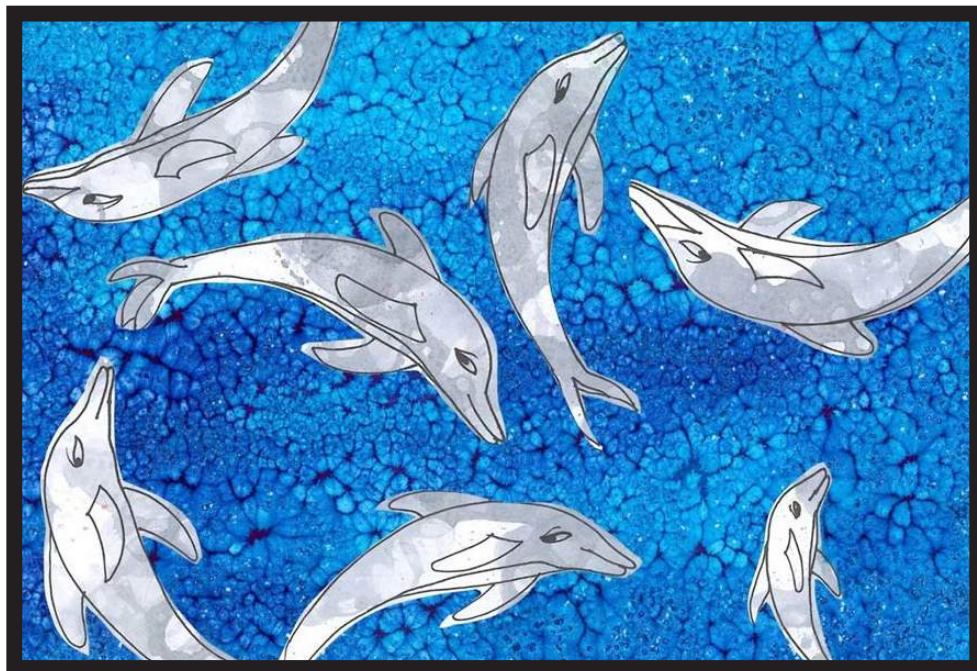


Fig. 3.5.2 Aashima Vaid (Textile Design: 2011-2015)



Fig. 3.5.3 Aashima Vaid (Textile Design: 2011-2015)



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3.6: Bubble Technique

Bubble effect is one of the most interest and fun-to-do techniques. Paint is mixed in a soap solution and blown with a straw in a container creating colourful bubbles. A sheet of paper is held very lightly over the container overflowing with bubbles. The bubbles once in contact with the paper burst and form translucent, vibrant circles. This technique adds illusion and gives a psychedelic look. (Fig. 3.6.1, 3.6.2, 3.6.3)

Materials Required:

1. Drawing/ Cartridge sheet
2. Photo Ink/ Water colours
3. Paintbrush
4. Plastic cups/ containers
5. Liquid soap solution
6. Straws

Steps:

1. Take a Drawing/ Cartridge sheet.
2. Take the number of cups/ containers depending on the number of colours required in the design.
3. Pour in a few drops of liquid soap solution and ink/paint in each cup/ container.
4. Fill half cup/ container with water.
5. Now with the help of straws blow into each cup creating coloured bubbles.
6. Gently place the paper on top of the cups, overflowing with bubbles.
7. Let bubbles burst on it, forming colourful circular patterns.
8. Remove the paper from the top of the cups and let it dry.
9. Repeat this process for each colour.

Precautions:

1. Use the right amount of soap solution so that maximum bubbles are formed.
2. Keep blowing into the cups to generate more bubbles.
3. Place the paper very gently over the cups for maximum bubble effect.



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Result:

The bubbles create random colourful circles on to the paper, which creates an illusion.

Some Print Designs using Bubble Technique:

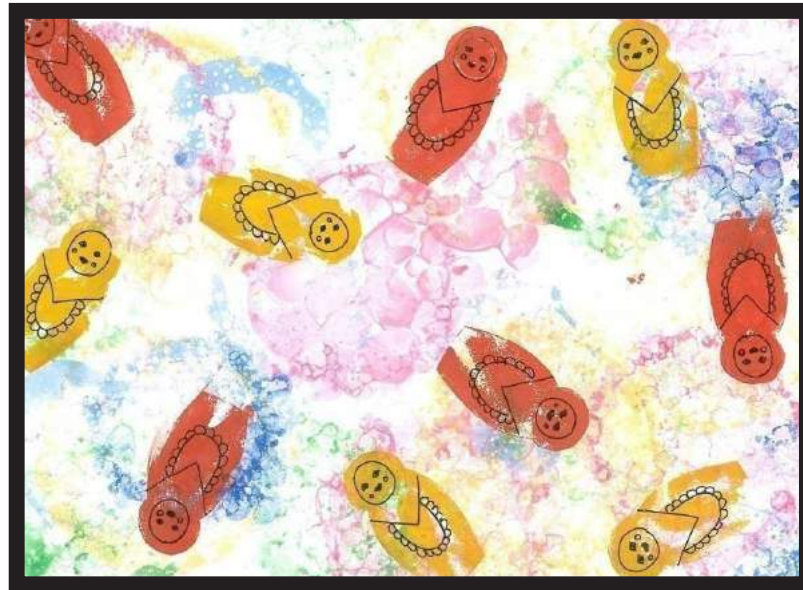


Fig. 3.6.1 Mrigya Sharma (Textile Design: 2011-2015)



Fig. 3.6.2 Gausul Qamar Khan (Textile Design: 2011-2015)



Fig. 3.6.3 Manvi Pande (Textile Design: 2011- 2015)

3.7 Etching Technique

The etching technique consists of layering two or more colours over each other and then etching out a design from the top layer with a blade/ scraper to bring out colour of the lower layer. For creating an effective design it is better to apply a lighter colour on the lower layer and a darker one over it. Darker the upper layer, clearer will be the colours of the etched area. (Fig. 3.7.1, 3.7.2, 3.7.3, 3.7.4)

Materials Required:

1. Drawing/ Cartridge sheet
2. Poster colours
3. Paintbrush
4. Oil pastels/ wax colour
5. Blade

Step

1. Take a Drawing/ Cartridge sheet.
2. Colour the entire sheet with bright shades of wax crayon in random patches.
3. Use a darker colour wax crayon/ poster paint as the top layer of colour over the previous layer.



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4. If poster paint is used, let it dry completely.
5. With the help of a blade or any sharp object, carve an interesting pattern, scraping off the upper layer.
6. Dust off the scraped colour from the surface of the sheet.

Precautions:

1. While colouring the first layer make sure no white spaces are left.
2. For the second layer, make sure the previous lower layer is not visible.
3. While using poster colour use thick paint and minimum amount of water.
4. While using a blade or sharp object, do not use too much pressure or you may tear the paper.

Result:

The designs develop an interesting tone on tone, merged effect often having a three dimensional look to it.

Some Print Designs using Etching Technique:



Fig. 3.7.1 Utkarsh Anand
(Textile Design: 2011-2015)

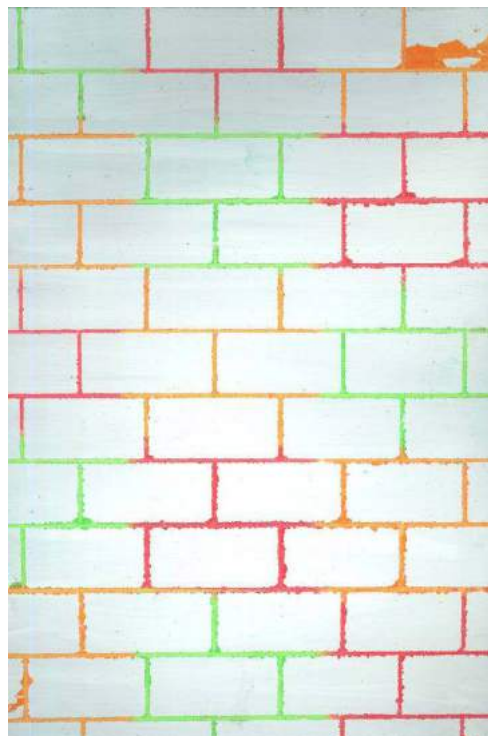


Fig. 3.7.2 Aashima Vaid
(Textile Design: 2011-2015)

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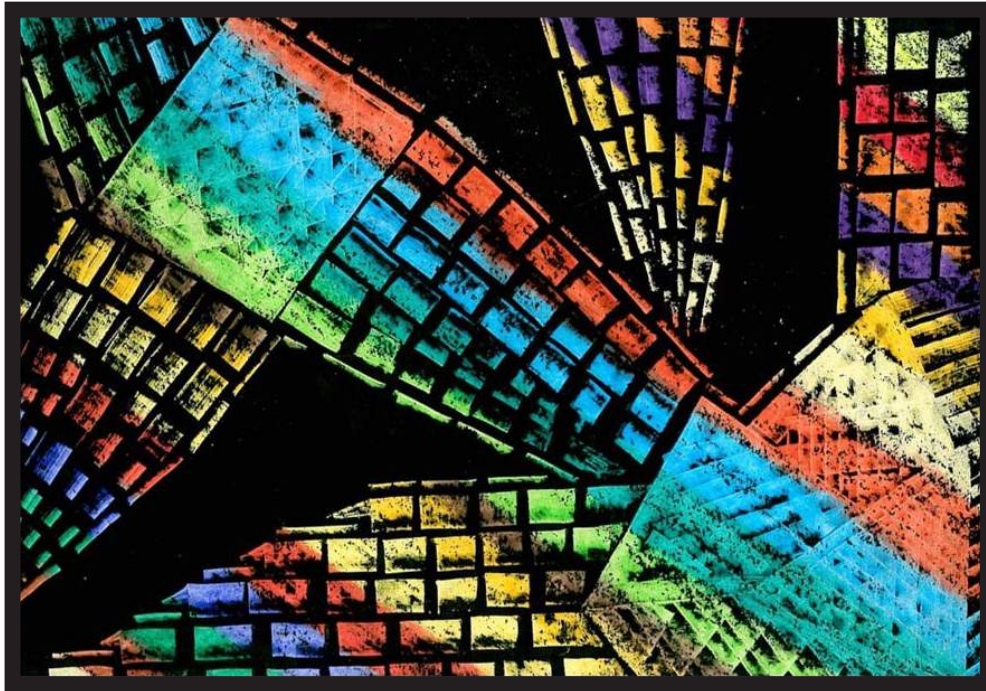


Fig. 3.7.3 Kuhu Shrivastav (Textile Design: 2011-2015)

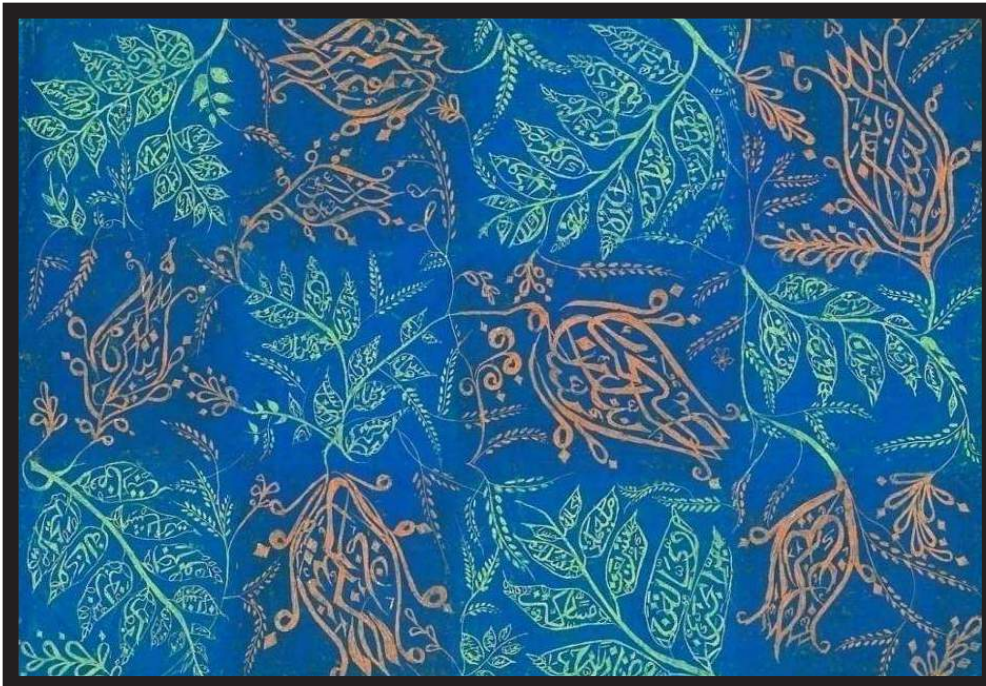


Fig. 3.7.4 Gausul Qamar Khan (Textile Design: 2011- 2015)



3.8 Intercutting Technique

Intercutting is one of the most versatile techniques. Different contrasting techniques can be cut and joined together like a maze creating an interesting interplay of the various techniques used. The play of different textures, layering, and contrasting effects make the print very interesting and innovative. (Fig. 3.8.1, 3.8.2, 3.8.3, 3.8.4)

Materials Required:

1. Drawing/ Cartridge sheet
2. Photo Ink/ Water colours
3. Paintbrush
4. Water container
5. Colour palette/ Mixing bowl
6. Cutter
7. Cello tape

Steps:

1. Take two or three Drawing/ Cartridge sheets depending on the design to be created.
2. Create interesting backgrounds using various techniques.
3. Now take one of these sheets and cut out some motifs creating windows.
4. Stick pieces of the other sheets behind these windows to completely cover each one of them using cello tape at the back.

Precautions:

1. Be careful while cutting the pattern using a cutter.
2. Combine sheets with contrasting techniques and colours.
3. Make sure that the piece/ patch is big enough to cover the entire window.
4. Stick the patch securely at the back with cello tape.

Result:

The cut out will create an interesting inter play with the textures and also give a 3D effect.

Some Print Designs using Intercutting technique Technique:

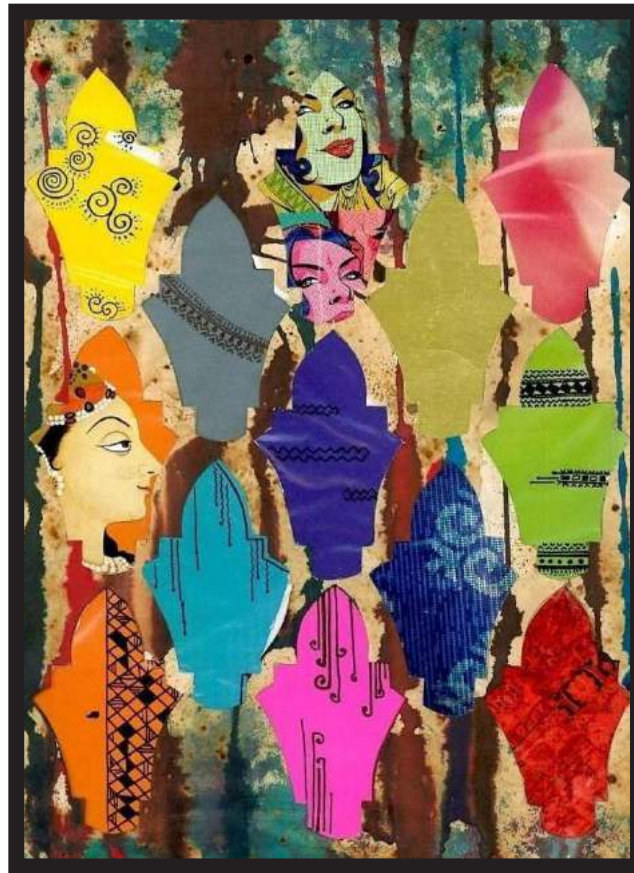


Fig. 3.8.1 Prashneet Oberoi (Textile Design: 2011-2015)

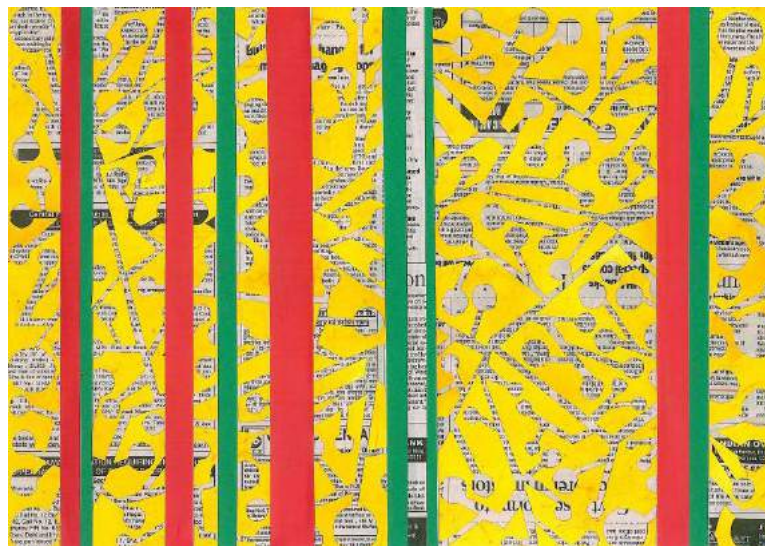


Fig. 3.8.2 Manvi Pande (Textile Design:2011-2015)



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Fig. 3.8.3 Manvi Pande (Textile Design:2011-2015)



Fig. 3.8.4 Gausul Qamar Khan (Textile Design: 2011-2015)



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3.9 Stamping and Sponge Technique

The stamping block or sponge acts as a medium of leaving an impression on a surface when it is dipped in colour and stamped. The block could be made up of any material for example cross section of a lady finger, sponge cut into different shapes, dry leaves etc. Block printing is also an example of stamping technique. (Fig. 3.9.1, 3.9.2, 3.9.3, 3.9.4)

Materials Required:

1. Drawing/ Cartridge sheet
2. Photo Ink/ Water colours/ Bleach
3. Paintbrush
4. Water container
5. Colour palette/ Mixing bowl
6. Stamping block/ Sponge

Steps:

1. Take a drawing paper
2. Dip the stencil block in paint/ photo ink/ bleach.
3. Stamp it over the drawing paper.
4. Use different stamping blocks to create different designs.

Precautions:

1. Do not mix too much water in paints or the colour will not stamp well.
2. Stamp using pressure of hand.

Results:

The print is composed of the design of the stamps used



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Fig. 3.9.1 Anupriya Mridha (Textile Design:2011-2015)



Fig. 3.9.2 Gausul Qamar Khan (Textile Design:2011-2015)



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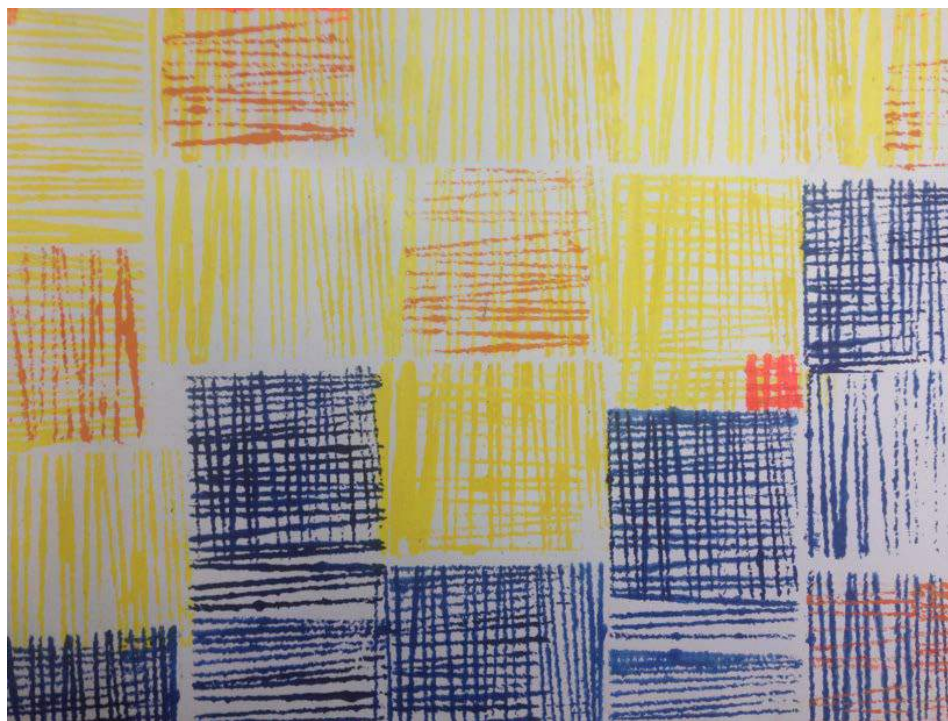


Fig. 3.9.3 Prashneet Oberoi (Textile Design:2011-2015)



Fig. 3.9.4 Anupriya Mridha (Textile Design:2011-2015)



3.10 Dry Brush Technique and Stencil Technique

Different textured surface or sheets can be used for the dry brush technique. The dry brush effect adds a three dimensional feel to the print. An interesting stencil can be made, kept over a sheet of paper and a dry brush can be brushed cover the stencil creating interesting shapes with textures. (Fig. 3.10.1, 3.10.2, 3.10.3, 3.10.4)

Material required:

1. Drawing/ Cartridge sheets (Different textures)
2. Acrylic colours/ poster paints mixed with fevicol
3. Paintbrush Different sizes)
4. Water container
5. Colour palette/ Mixing bowl

Steps:

1. Take a drawing sheet.
2. Put the dry paint brush in acrylic paints.
3. Make any design of your choice on the sheet
4. Use different colour and sizes of brush for making of different designs

Precautions:

1. Wash the brush properly before dipping and using another colour
2. Dry the brush before putting it in acrylic colours.

Results ;

Different textured sheet after application of dry brush will look little more embossed and the entire design gets a three dimension feel.

3.11 Photocopy Technique

It is a unique technique for making prints. This technique is particularly effective when dark or bright colours are used on the darker backgrounds. Application of this technique creates contrasting background highlighting the motif particularly. Since the photocopy is in black and white so when it merges with a colourful background it creates a beautiful textured collage effect. (Fig. 3.11.1, 3.11.2, 3.11.3, 3.11.4)



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Fig. 3.10.1 Prashneet Oberoi(Textile Design: 2011-2015)

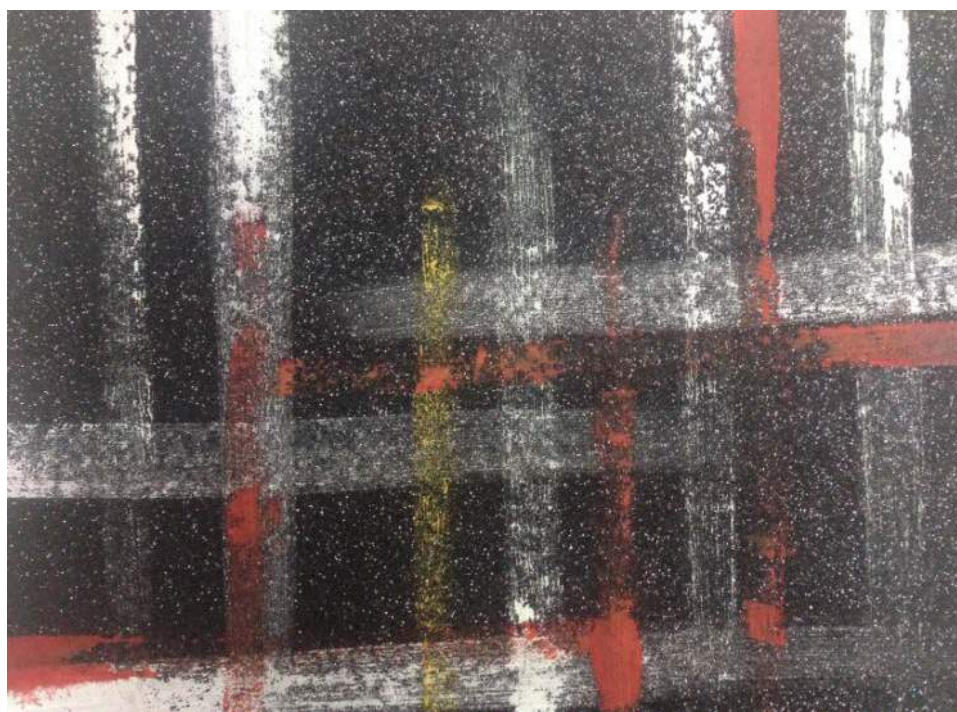


Fig. 3.10.2 Prashneet Oberoi (Textile Design: 2011-2015)



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Fig. 3.10.3 Prashneet Oberoi ((Textile Design:2011-2015)



Fig. 3.10.4 Prashneet Oberoi ((Textile Design:2011-2015)



Printed Textile

Materials Required

1. Cartridge/drawing sheet
2. Photo ink/water colour/oil pastel
3. Paint brush
4. Water container
5. Colour palette
6. Mixing bowl
7. Bleach
8. Photocopy images in black and white
9. Scissors
10. Fevicol /glue

Steps:

1. Take a drawing/ cartridge sheet.
2. Paint the entire sheet with photo ink or creates textures if you want as your background.
3. Let it dry completely.
4. Get the photocopy of your visuals which you think is going with your theme.
5. Cut the photocopied visuals with different shapes and patterns.
6. Paste it on top of the background and arrange it creatively.

Precautions:

Let the painted sheet dry it completely then only paste the photocopied pattern on top of it.

Result:

It gives the beautiful effect when it is effectively applied on the colourful and darker backgrounds.



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Fig. 3.11.1 Abhishek Gupta (Textile Design:2011-2015)



Fig. 3.11.2 Abhishek Gupta (Textile Design:2011-2015)

Printed Textile

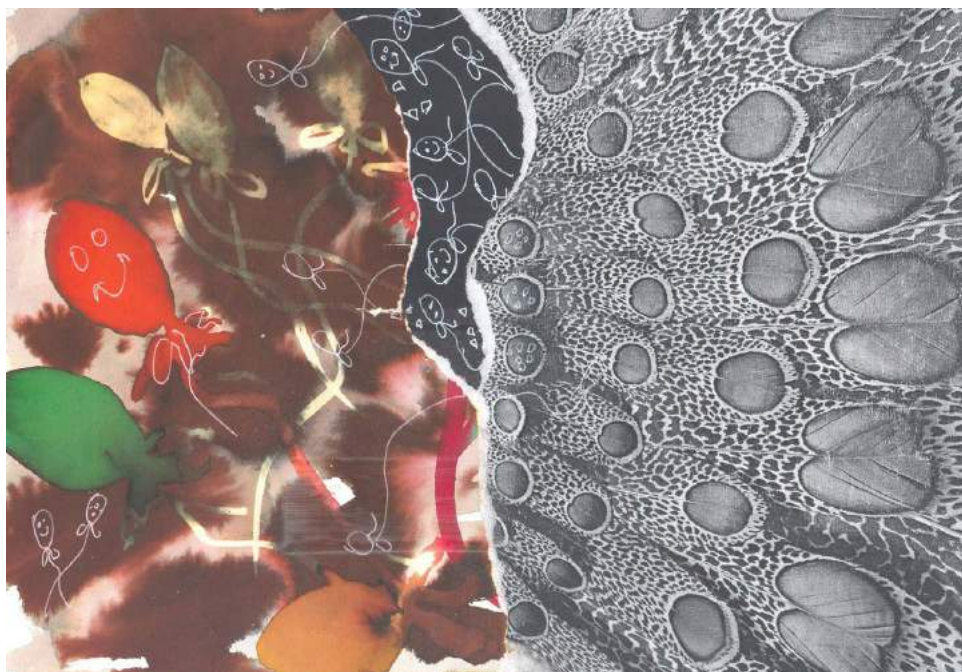


Fig. 3.11.3 Abhishek Gupta (Textile Design:2011-2015)



Fig. 3.11.4 Abhishek Gupta (Textile Design:2011-2015)



3.12 Collage Technique

It is the technique of creating collage kind of prints. It is a fast and convenient method of creating prints. It is created by cut outs of various prints in different shapes and patterns and then put all together in a same piece of paper interestingly. (Fig. 3.12.1, 3.12.2, 3.12.3, 3.12.4)

Materials Required:

1. Drawing/ cartridge sheet
2. Photo ink/water colour/oil pastels
3. Paint brush
4. Water container
5. Scissors
6. Fevicol/ glue
7. Colour palette
8. Mixing bowl
9. Bleach

Steps:

1. Take drawing/ cartridge sheet
2. Create different types of textures as many as you can using photo ink, water colour etc.
3. Cut out the printed textures according to your theme or with different shapes and patterns.
4. Paste the cut out textures creatively in separate sheet.
5. It will create collage of different prints.

Precautions:

Let the printed sheet dry completely before the cut out.

Result:

1. This technique helps in creating beautiful collages.
2. It gives the 3D effect to the print by the emergence of different print in a same piece of paper.



Fig. 3.12.1 Abhishek Gupta (Textile Design:2011-2015)



Fig. 3.12.2 Abhishek Gupta (Textile Design:2011-2015)



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Fig. 3.12.3 Abhishek Gupta (Textile Design:2011-2015)

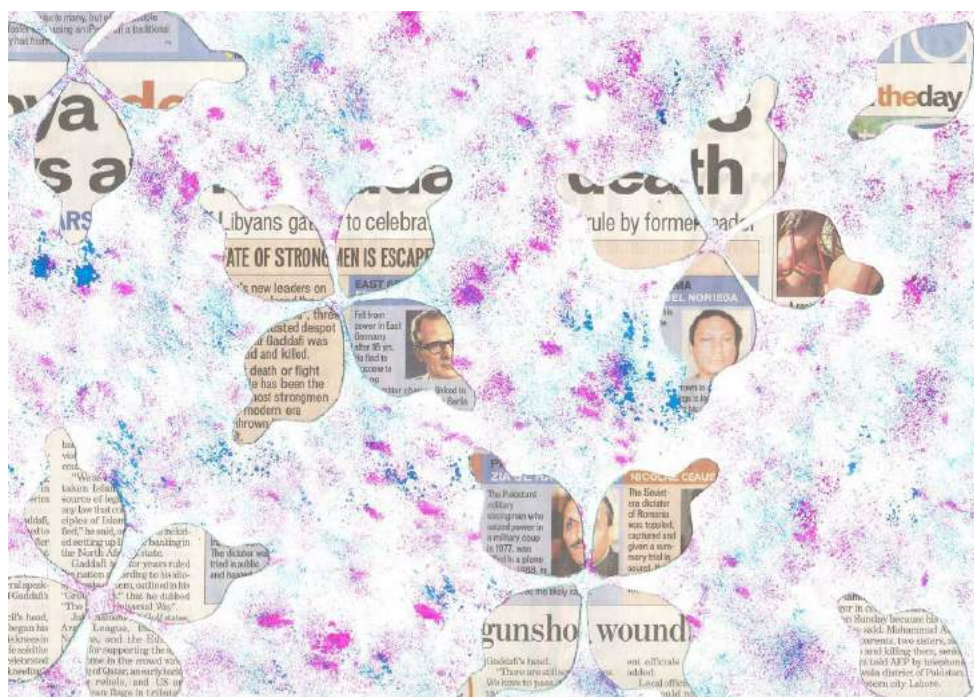


Fig. 3.12.4 Abhishek Gupta (Textile Design:2011-2015)



Exercise

3.1 Fill in the blanks

- Techniques accommodate to the changing _____ trends and create new looks.
- Wax crayon _____ the water paint so the design made in wax crayon will not be _____ by the paint.
- The Fevicol layer provides a _____ to the print.
- Bleach is a chemical which removes colour or whitens through the process of _____.
- Rubber solution once dried unlike Fevicol gets easily _____ from the paper.
- The etching technique consists of _____ two or more colours over each other and then etching out a design from the top layer to bring out colour of the lower layer.
- Intercutting is the most versatile technique as different contrasting techniques can be _____ and _____ together like a maze creating an interesting interplay of the various techniques used.

3.2 Answer the following questions

- Why are print design techniques important for creating a textile print?
- Due to which principle is the wax resist technique applicable?
- Describe a print on which fevicol technique has been used?
- Explain how does bleach work on paint?
- Give two reasons to use rubber solution for creating a print?
- Explain the processes of salt and sugar technique?
- What is the most crucial element in the Bubble technique and why?
- Why is intercutting the most versatile technique?

3.3 Match the following columns

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| a) Bleach | Engraved |
| b) Inter-cutting | Oxidation |
| c) Salt and sugar | Versatile |
| d) Fevicol | Grainy |
| e) Etching | Embossed |