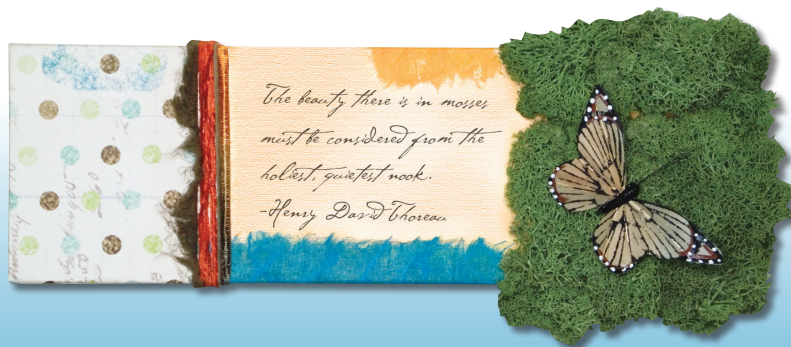
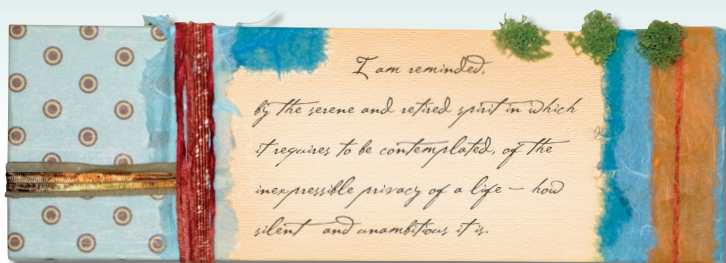


create original art for your home!

canvas décor

project sheet



Project Idea: Creative Collage

What inspires you? Nature, poetry, textures, fabric, found objects? The project you see here is offered purely as inspiration. This project sheet presents a number of ideas and techniques for creating your very own collage wall art with materials and colors chosen by you.

Project Materials

This list is full of suggestions aimed to spark some ideas for materials to use in your collage.

Stretched Canvas Choose any size, number and configuration

Acrylic Colors & Mediums _____

- **Acrylic Color** is a good choice for mixed media – it dries quickly and requires only water for thinning and clean-up.
- **Acrylic Medium** dries clear and can be used as a “glue” to adhere clippings and flat objects and also for transferring images or text from photocopies.
- **Acrylic Texture Medium** can add dimension and tactile interest to your artwork.

Collage Objects _____

- Paper (color, texture & inclusions)
- Found items & embellishments
- Ribbon, fabric & fibers
- Twigs, leaves & natural materials
- Printed text & images: magazine clippings, photos, etc.
- Rubber stamps

Other Basic Supplies & Tools _____

- Brushes
- Color mixing cup(s) or palette
- Palette/mixing knife
- Glue gun
- Scissors, craft knife, cutting mat
- Sponges (to create texture)
- Color shaper or wipe-out tool
- Masking tape



Project Difficulty Level:
SELF-GUIDED

canvas décor project: Creative Collage



Project Concept

This project sheet presents ideas and techniques for creating your very own collage wall art with materials and colors chosen by you. This self-directed project allows you absolute artistic control. Mixed media presents rich possibilities for combining words and images, color and texture, using combinations that create harmony or juxtaposition.

Using Acrylic Color & Mediums

Choose colors that will compliment your décor and the other media in your collage. Try mixing colors for a variety of shades and tints. A good, basic mixing palette might consist of Quinacridone Magenta, Naphthol Red Light, Hansa Yellow Medium, Phthalo Green (Blue Shade), Phthalo Blue (Green Shade), Yellow Ochre and Titanium White.



Texture Medium

Many textures are available including stucco, coarse grain, fiber, pumice, flakes and more. Apply texture medium as-is, or add acrylic color. Apply to the canvas generously, building up to the thickness you desire to create a tactile, dimensional surface that begs to be touched.

Acrylic Mixing & Application Tips

Thin acrylic color with a little water to make it spread easier. Wash brushes thoroughly with water between each application of color. Never allow acrylic color or medium to dry on a brush.

Glazing, Stamping and Wipe-Out

Glazing is a technique in which a thin layer of color is applied so that the resulting film is semi-transparent. Color may be thinned with water or medium to create a glaze. Glazes may be used over découpage. Rubber or foam stamps may be used to make an impression in a wet layer of glaze. Use a rubber tipped hand tool in a wet layer of glaze (or solid color) to sketch an image, or to add texture with handwriting or abstract shapes.



Découpage and Flat Materials

Paper, fabric, ribbons, magazine clippings, printouts or any manner of flat objects can be adhered to the canvas surface using Acrylic Medium, glue or Mod Podge. Apply a layer of medium to adhere clippings, then use a layer over the top to seal it if you choose.

Photocopy Transfer

Images and text can be transferred to canvas from any photocopy or laser print. This technique works best with photocopies on transparent film or other non-absorbent substrate.

Quick/Direct Method:

Apply a thick layer of acrylic medium to both the face of the photocopy and the area of the canvas it will be applied to. Apply the image, medium side down, to the canvas and gently smooth out any air bubbles. Allow to dry completely. Carefully peel off the transparent film. OR, if you used an image on paper, use water to wet the paper and gently rub with your fingers to remove the paper fiber. Note that this method will generate a mirror image.

Indirect Method:

Apply a coat of acrylic medium over the image, and let it dry. Repeat, adding up to 10 coats, until you have a thick layer of acrylic medium across the image. Allow to dry completely. Trim excess from the image. Submerge in water and soak for about 5 minutes until the transparent film or paper can be carefully removed without disturbing the pigment that is now embedded in the layer of acrylic medium. Adhere the image to canvas with fresh medium.

3-D Mixed Media

Any 3-D object can be attached to your canvas with the proper ingenuity. This is where fibers, found objects, ribbon, thick fabric and embellishments come into play. Objects can be secured in place with glue, cement or by tying them with string or wire. Hot glue guns are effective for attaching most medium-weight objects. You might also try stitching through the fabric of your canvas. Consider embroidering the canvas. You can even cut a hole in your canvas and have items emerge from behind for pop-out art.

Decorate the front and sides of the canvases and hang your completed artwork. Nice work!

We'd love to see your completed masterpieces! Send us a photo on our Facebook page, where you can also view inspiration from other artists. Visit www.Art-Alternatives.com for other project ideas.