

Stampin Up's latest Big Shot Accessory – Letterpress Plates!



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2 sizes of plates:

8" x 5-7/8" - Trick or Treat & Lots of Love

8" x 3" - Joyful Season & Northern Trim

Letterpress: A new crafting option – Letterpress plates let you create an inked debossed impression reminiscent

of an old world letterpress (Think Ben Franklin and his press).

Use with Multipurpose Platform and Standard Cutting Pad

For best results, use a standard cutting pad that is as unused as possible. You might dedicate a new one and mark it as embossing only.

Works best with Craft Stampin' Ink and porous paper, such as watercolor paper, though if a paper backing sheet is used colored and Naturals Cardstock as well as textured card stock will work as do classic inks. Classic inks may leave some staining on the plates.

Apply ink using Stampin' Pads, Stampin' Spots, Brayer, or Sponge Daubers

Instructions included with Letterpress plates. Or check out Stampin' Up's YouTube Channel for a training video.

Current plate images can be seen below with more coming in future mini's and catalogs.



Northern Trim – Letterpress Plate #120982, \$5.95

Joyful Season – Letterpress Plate - #120981, \$5.95



Lots of Love Letterpress Plate - #120983, \$7.95



Trick or Treat – Letterpress Plate - #120980, \$7.95



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So What is Letterpress?

Basically letterpress is the typesetting and printing you think of when you think of Ben Franklin and other printers and the early colonial broadsheets with type being composed on sticks, inserted into forms and locked down, rolled with ink, then paper being placed and an impression made from pressure applied that not only transferred the ink but also an indented (debossed) impression into the paper. Generally Gutenberg is listed as the creator of this technique though he may only be the most famous example (the Gutenberg Bible is considered a premier example of his work and the first major work printed with moveable type). You might even say that a typewriter creates a letterpress document of a sort though it's a different process with the keys striking the paper though the end result does leave both ink and an impressed or debossed form of the type.

Letterpressing can include images as well as text. We actually approximate the process when we brayer an Impressions folder with ink, insert paper and run through the Big Shot or when you ink one of our textures plates then add paper and pressure from the Big Shot. What many are calling faux letterpress since we aren't using moveable foundry cast type and images. Wood Cuts and other printing type techniques that also leaves an inked impression in the paper also fit the bill.

Basically a debossed image (impression with depth into the paper) that also transfers ink qualifies in the modern sense to be called letterpress. Just like the word sounds...letters pressed into paper = letterpress.

Links:

Stampin' Up Training Video:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/stampinupvideo#p/u/3/BJpeQ7fL5mw>

Stampin' Up Letterpress instruction sheet:

http://www.stampinup.com/us/documents/Letter_Press_instructions.pdf

<http://jlfstudio.wordpress.com/2010/11/15/letterpress-is-in-the-house-and-stampin-up-letterpress-plates-are-definitely-da-bomb>

<http://understandblue.blogspot.com/2010/11/love-ly-letterpress.html> - basic review and samples

<http://www.stampingtoshare.com/2010/09/927-using-northern-trim-letterpress.html> - tips and tricks and notes about classic ink

http://dianagibbs.typepad.com/stampin_with_di/2010/10/letterpress-with-versamark-tutorial.html - Letterpress with Versamark tips and video

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v7dtu96Av70&feature=player_embedded - Letterpress on Fun Foam

<http://www.nwstamper.com/experimenting-with-the-stampin-up-letterpress-dies> - experiments with paper and ink

http://pattystamps.com/pattys_stamping_spot/2010/09/letterpress-plates-samples-luv-2-stamp-group-meeting.html - samples

<http://thestampcamp.com/blog/10/08/stampin-up-letterpress/>

<http://crazystampinwomen.typepad.com/crazystampinwomen/2010/10/stampin-up-halloween-letterpress-plates-trick-or-treat-gift-bag.html>

<http://jlfstudio.wordpress.com/2010/11/11/letterpress-love-stampin-up-style>

<http://www.splitcoaststampers.com/gallery/photo/1836784?&si=letterpress>

<http://militarywifestampinspot.blogspot.com/2010/10/vintage-anniversary-card.html>