

Barbara Santerelli, of Imagina, celebrating 10 years of transparent Clarity Stamps, continues her series of projects covering card making's major stamping skills and techniques. This month she conducts some techniques revision.

Token effort

Have you read the new Harry Potter yet? It's an epic, I can tell you - not because I've read it, but because I keep having to move copies left lying around the house. It's certainly a biggun!

Anyway, it got me thinking about books, so this month let's revise a few techniques while we make a bookmark and book token card.

GET READY...

- Alphabet Jungle stamp
- Versamark pad
- Tiramisu Brilliance pad
- Cabin Fever Adirondack pad
- Clear embossing powder/ultra-thick enamelling powder
- Special white postcard
- Speedball brayer
- A4 burgundy card
- A4 white card
- A5 gold card
- Tassel ties
- Punches
- Old baking tray, scrap paper and masking tape
- Heat gun
- Gold Krylon pen

GO

Bookmark

STEP 1

Cut a piece of burgundy card 2x6in. Place a sheet of scrap underneath and stamp the alphabet jungle all over it with your Versamark. Vary the position of the stamp so that the large A is over to the left and right, too. Try not to overlap the images.

STEP 2

Put a clean sheet of scrap underneath and sprinkle clear embossing powder all over the bookmark. Tap off excess and heat from underneath for a glassy finish. You will be impressed.

STEP 3

Punch a couple of shapes into the dark bookmark. I used corner slits.

STEP 4

Put double-sided tape on the back, getting as close to the edge as possible. Mount the bookmark on white card and trim. Not only have you reinforced the card but now you can write a message to the recipient, too.

STEP 5

Punch a hole at the top and thread through a tassel tie or ribbon.

Book token card



I thought it would be useful to go over a few techniques which all use the Versamark, so this particular card has a false front - a flap, if you like - to show off another technique. In effect, you have two cards in one.



STEP 1 - FRONT

The tile first. Stamp the ABC onto a piece of mountboard and trim it to 2.25x2in. Allow to dry. Using a make-up sponge, dab yellow from the butterscotch end of the Cabin Fever rainbow pad all over the tile to antiquify it.

STEP 2

When the inks are dry, dab the Versamark all over the front of the tile. With clean scrap paper underneath, sprinkle ultra thick enamelling powder all over the tile. Dust off and heat from above. When the tile has cooled completely, repeat this step, wetting the tile with the Versamark first, then sprinkling and heating.

STEP 3

Now let's try something really cool... Clean off your stamp. Keep it close by, because you are going to need it quickly. No answering the phone or doorbell now. Brace yourselves...

Wet the tile a third time with the Versamark, sprinkle on thick powder, tap off excess and heat from above.

While the tile is still soft and hot on top, press the ABC stamp into the molten mass, directly over the image underneath. Press it in hard and hold in place until the tile has cooled. Slowly peel the tile off the stamp. You'll be impressed. And NO, it doesn't destroy your Clarity stamp! I have heard that you should stamp wooden stamps in Versamark before pressing them into the hot mass to protect them, but it's not necessary with a polymer stamp.

STEP 4

Run a gold Krylon pen around all four sides to finish it off.

STEP 5 - BACKGROUND

Cut a piece of A4 burgundy card in half to measure about 6x8in. Stamp the ABC stamp all over, in rows, with the Versamark. Allow to dry then trim a little off the sides so that the gold A5 card underneath will show when you wrap it around.

STEP 6 - GOLD LAYER

This is the resist technique. We've tried it a few times, but many of you still have trouble so let's try again.

Take a special white postcard (encaustic card) and frame with masking tape. Make sure you de-tack the masking tape beforehand, on your arm, apron or on whoever's standing too close!

STEP 7

Now fill the centre using the ABC stamp and Versamark. Put to one side

STEP 8

Ink up your brayer in the Cabin Fever. Saturate the roller then roll off excess ink if working with a new pad. The trick is to flick. Roll the brayer up and down the artwork, very lightly at first and increasing pressure gradually. Flick the brayer to rotate the ink and avoid striping.



STEP 9

Remove the masking tape to reveal a sharp wide ledge. You'll be impressed.

STEP 10

Trim the white card and run gold Krylon pen around the edges. Mount this artwork on burgundy card and trim to a sliver. Using double-sided tape, mount this onto an A5 gold card.

STEP 11 - INSIDE

Back to basics. Simply stamp the ABC stamp in Cabin Fever into the inside and blot. After the resist technique, you'll be quite happy with this one!

STEP 12

All that's left is to assemble the card. Run a length of double-side tape up the back of the gold A5 card. This will keep the burgundy sleeve in place. The tassel tie is just for looks.

Finally, use a corner punch to insert the book token and there you have it. These colours are especially appropriate for a man and the whole thing should only take a couple of hours. Certainly faster than reading that book I keep tripping over!

Source

All stamps and accessories used in this project are available from Imagina Clarity Stamps, Ludwells Farm, Spode Lane, Cowden, Kent TN8 7HN. Tel: 01342 850111.

Special prices are offered to Making Cards readers: Alphabet Jungle stamp £8.50 (normally £8.95); Versamark pad £5 (£5.49); Speedball brayer £9.99 (£11.99); Tiramisù Brilliance pad £5.99; Cabin Fever Adirondack pad £5.80; Clear embossing powder 1oz £3.99; Ultra-thick enamelling powder 1oz £3.99; 50 special white postcards £3.49; heat gun £24.95; Gold Krylon pen £7.99.

Order direct from Imagina and add £2 p&tp.