

Embossed Metal Textures and Patterns

When we look closely we can find patterns and textures in unexpected places.
Look at the art of

Vocabulary:

Pattern - a design in which lines, shapes, forms or colors are repeated in a predictable manner.

Texture - refers to the way an object feels to the touch or looks as it may feel. Invented textures can be made with the repetition of lines or shapes to create a pattern.

Embossing - the art of producing raised patterns on the surface of metal, leather, textiles, paper, and other substances.



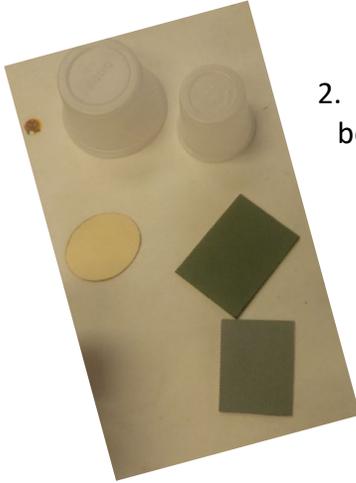
Materials:

- Heavy duty aluminum foil or craft foil cut into approx. 4" x 6" pieces
- Embossing tool or pencil with a worn down point (nothing sharp!!!!)
- Thick pad of newspaper
- 1"-2" Shape templates (small lids, cardboard circles, squares, etc.)
- Optional: glue stick and colored paper for mounting finished piece

Procedure:

1. Cut foil for your picture. Try to keep it wrinkle free. If necessary you can place metal sheet on a thick pad of newspaper and use your hand to smooth away unwanted lines.





2. Look through your template selection and choose one to be the focus of your patterned picture.

Metal foil must be placed on top of paper padding when drawing or embossing.

3. Use a dull pencil (or embossing tool) to trace your shape template in 4-6 places on the metal sheet.
4. Make a **PATTERN** of lines, small circles, dots, etc. between the shapes. This will create a



visual **TEXTURE** for the background.

5. Use the embossing tool to redraw the main shapes to make them more pronounced. ***Be very careful not to draw a hole through your foil.***



6. Turn metal over and use flat part of embossing tool (Or eraser on pencil) to pop out the



shape by rubbing on surface of shape.

7. Return metal to other side and redraw the outline of shapes to make them more pronounced. This adds more tactile texture to the piece.

Mistakes happen. Use your mistake foil to test your tools or your technique. Then use another piece of foil and try again.

8. When finished, use your embossing tool to write your name on edge or corner of finished piece.
9. Optional: Mount embossed metal design onto a piece of colored paper. To create a colored frame around your design cut a piece of colored paper that it is $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 1" wider on all sides than the piece of metal. Apply glue to the paper and carefully press metal to the surface.

