



YOU'VE GOT MAIL...ART! WORKSHOP
INSTRUCTOR: ROBEN-MARIE SMITH



SUPPLIES

Brown Paper Project:

Brown paper - approximately 11" x 16" (wrapping paper or packing material paper)

Scrap papers - text, ledger, napkins, magazine, etc.

Rubber stamps of your choice - I used the [Pinwheel](#) and [X Marks](#) rubber stamps from my Mixed Media Essentials line available at [Paperbag Studios](#)).

[Black pen](#)

Acrylic paint: I used [Amsterdam Olive Green Light](#), [Dick Blick White Artist Acrylic](#), [Amsterdam Sky Blue Light](#) and [Golden Green Gold](#).

[Bic Wite-Out Pen](#) or other white pen

Sewing Machine

Card stock - approximately 9 1/2" x 6 1/2"

[Glue stick](#)

Black dye ink pad

[Small plastic paint scraper/palette knife](#)

Small paint brush

Scissors

Gift Bag Project:

[Kraft gift bag](#)- approximately 8" x 10" (I got mine at Michaels)

[Assorted washi tape](#)

[Deli paper](#)- I get mine at Sam's. It is a thin wax paper. (I use mine as a palette for my paint and then use them in my work). You can use any kind of paper to cover the bag...get creative (i.e. tissue paper, wrapping paper, ephemera, etc.)

Assorted acrylic paint

[Black pen](#)

Label of choice - see downloads for selection of labels. I used one from [Quirky Handpainted print & cut Labels](#) by Mary Ann Moss.

Optional - arrow rubber stamp and black dye ink pad (I used the [Small Arrow](#) rubber stamp from my Mixed Media Essentials line available at [Paperbag Studios](#)).

[Glue stick](#)

Scissors

File Folder One Project:

Two Letter Size file folders - one for this project and one for the File Folder Journal Project.

One 2A Envelope (4 3/8" X 5 3/4") and a piece of white card stock - 4 1/2" x 6 1/4" (we paint them in this step and use them later for another project. You can use any size envelope for this.



Black pen

Acrylic Paint - I used [Golden Green Gold](#), [Golden Titanium White](#), [Amsterdam Sky Blue Light](#), [neon pink](#) and [neon yellow](#).

GelliArts Printing Plate (optional)

[Brayer](#) (Optional)

Sewing Machine

Rubber stamp border and black dye ink pad (optional) I used the [Scalloped Border](#) rubber stamp from my Mixed Media Essentials line available at [Paperbag Studios](#)).

[Bic Wite-Out Pen](#) or other white pen

Pencil

[Two security envelopes](#)- tinted/colored on inside

Scrap paper

Focal image (I made a photocopy of a little face I painted. Feel free to use anything you like).

Scissors

[Glue stick](#)

[Oil](#) or [wax pastels](#) (optional) Colored pencils will work as well.

Small paint brush

Also, we will be adding acrylic at this point to an envelope and piece of card stock. It will be used in a different project. (Cut the card stock to fit into the envelope you have selected).

File Folder Journal Project:

One Letter Size file folder, pencil and ruler

[Black pen](#)

[Glue stick](#)

Scissors

[Assorted washi tape](#)

Rubber stamp and black dye ink pad. I used the [Scratched Chevron](#) rubber stamp from my Mixed Media Essentials line available at [Paperbag Studios](#)).

Photo - approximately 3 1/2" x 3 1/2" (See downloads for the one I used).

Word/quote rub-ons (optional). You can use your own cursive handwriting for this as well.

Scrap pieces of paper

Sewing machine

Text weight papers - 6 sheets 8 1/2 " x 11"

[Wax linen thread](#)

[Bookbinding needle](#)

[Book awl or paper piercer](#)



Cardboard Project:

One piece of cardboard - approximately 9 x 6 1/2" (I cut mine from a shipping box).

Acrylic paint - I used [Amsterdam Sky Blue Light](#), [neon pink](#), [Amsterdam Primary Magenta](#), [Golden Green Gold](#) and [Golden Titanium White](#), Golden Van Dyke Brown Hue and [Dick Blick Acrylic Orange](#).

[Black pen](#) and pencil

[Glue Stick](#)

[Small plastic paint scraper/palette knife](#)

Found words cut from an old book (optional)

Food Package Project:

One used food package of your choice - I used a fried rice box that is 8 1/2" high x 4 3/4" wide.

Rubber stamp and black dye ink pad. I used the [Border with Circles](#) rubber stamp from my Mixed Media Essentials line available at [Paperbag Studios](#)).

[Stabilo Marks All Pencil](#) or other pencil of choice.

Small paint brush

[Cheap hairspray](#)

A few pages from an old book.

[Black pen](#)

Acrylic paint - I used [Amsterdam Sky Blue Light](#), [Golden Green Gold](#) and [Dick Blick Artist Acrylic White](#).

[Glue Stick](#)

Scissors

Stapler - I used the [Tim Holtz Tiny Attacher](#)

Sticky back velcro

Small strip of fabric

Black crayon or oil or wax pastel

[Washi tape for embellishment](#)

Gel medium

[Small plastic paint scraper/palette knife](#)

Plastic Project:

12" x 12" plastic sheet protector

1 piece of cardstock - 8 1/2" x 11"

[Assorted washi tape](#)

Old letter or pieces of old book paper

A few pieces of old book paper or other ephemera

[Black pen](#)

[Acrylic paint: white](#)

[Small plastic paint scraper/trowel](#)



Sewing machine

Paper Crafting Flowers - I used ones made by Prima Marketing but feel free to use what you have or any kind of craft flowers. I used white ones but you could also paint on other colors.

[Oil pastels](#)

[Glue stick](#) (I also used glue dots but they are optional).

Scissors

Wax Paper Project:

Two medium or large wax bags - I used cereal-cracker bags. Clean them before using them.

Labels of choice - see download for selection of labels.

Double-sided tape

[Black pen](#)

[Glue stick](#)

Stapler - I used the [Tim Holtz Tiny Attacher](#).

Pretty napkins, papers and other pretty things to put into your mail art piece.

Piece of card stock - start with an 8 1/2" x 11" and trim based on video instruction.

Scrapbook Paper Project:

1 - 12" x 12" piece of scrapbook paper

Little pieces of scrap paper

[Black pen](#)

Sewing machine

Photograph of choice

Piece of card stock

[Glue stick](#)

Catalog Project:

Catalog of choice

[Black pen](#)

[Glue stick](#)

[Dick Blick White acrylic paint](#)

[Small plastic paint scraper/palette knife](#)

Masking tape

Card stock - white

Scissors



Upcycled Art Journal Page/Artwork Project:

Photocopy of a piece of your artwork - I printed mine onto a piece of white card stock.

Two labels of choice

Fabric strips - two at about 12" x 1 1/4"

Sewing machine

[Black pen](#)

[Glue stick](#)

Ephemera Mailer Project:

[Catalog envelope](#)- I used a 9" x 12" white catalog envelope

Old papers - I used two large sheets from an old ledger

[Glue stick](#)

[Marks All Stabilo Pencil](#) or watercolor pencil - Black

Small paint brush

[Cheap hairspray](#)

[Oil or wax pastels](#)

[Dick Blick White acrylic paint](#)

[Small plastic paint scraper/palette knife](#)

[Black pen](#)

Small bits of painted deli paper scraps - optional

Envelope and Card Project:

Painted Envelope and card stock - painted during Part 2 video for File Folder One Project.

[Black pen](#) and [Glue Stick](#)

Rubber stamp and black dye ink pad. I used the [Large Arrow](#) rubber stamp from my Mixed Media Essentials line available at [Paperbag Studios](#)).

Fabric Postcard Project:

One piece of duck cloth/unprimed canvas - approximately 9 1/2" x 7 1/2"

Piece of [cotton muslin](#) - approximately 5" x 7"

Scrap of fabric and lace piece

Black embroidery thread

Embroidery needle

Scissors

Found words cut from an old book

[Glue stick](#)

Strip of fabric - approximately 20" x 1 1/2"



Sewing machine

One piece of coordinating fabric of your choice - approximately 9 1/2" x 7 1/2"

One piece of card stock - approximately 6" x 8 3/4"

Pouch with Fabric Flap Project:

One piece of card stock - 8 1/2" x 11"

Two pages from an old book - approximately 8" x 10"

A few stencils - I used [punchanella](#), [The Crafter's Workshop](#) Chevron Stencil and [Dylusions Number Jumble stencil](#).

Found quote (I share a few in the downloads)

[Glue stick](#)

Sticky back velcro

Piece of [cotton muslin](#)

Rubber stamp. I used the [Bold Flower](#) rubber stamp from my Mixed Media Essentials line available at [Paperbag Studios](#)).

Acrylic paint - I used [Amsterdam Primary Magenta](#)

[Black pen](#)

Sewing machine

Spray inks - I used [Dylusions Bubblegum Pink](#) and [Fresh Lime](#) and [Mister Huey's Opaque White](#).

[Dick Blick Artist White acrylic paint](#)

Scissors

Big tag or make one from card stock - 7" x 4 1/4"

A couple of ribbons to coordinate with the ink colors.



Explore Mail Art

[The International Union of Mail Artists](#)

[Smithsonian National Postal Museum](#)

[Mail-Art](#): German mail art site.

[The Envelope Collective](#)

[Collaborative Mail Art](#)

[Mail Me Art](#)

[Riitta Ikonen - Mail Art](#)

[Mailart 365](#)

[Mail Art Postcard Exhibition](#)

[Mail Art group on Flickr](#)

[Great Moments in the History of Mail Art](#) - A True Story By Allen Bukoff

[Make Every Day a Good Mail Day](#)

[Stuck in Vermont 22: Mail Art](#) (A video showcasing a mail art exhibit in Vermont.)

[Ray Johnson](#) - The Present of Mail Art

[Altered Mail Art Video](#) - Roben-Marie Smith



“Mail Art has no history, only a present.”
-Ray Johnson, initiator of the international mail art
movement.