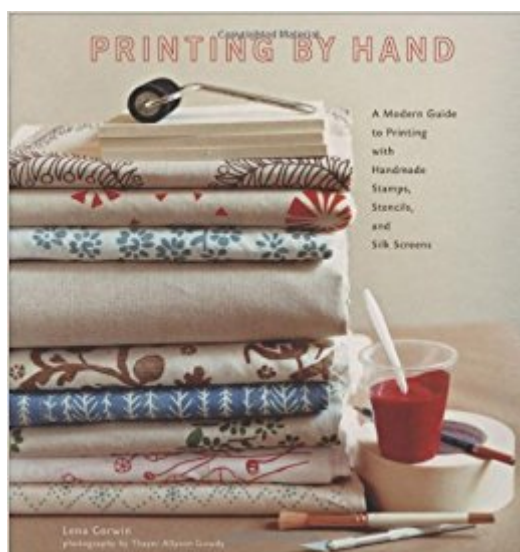


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# Printing By Hand: A Modern Guide To Printing With Handmade Stamps, Stencils, And Silk Screens



## Synopsis

It's the natural inconsistencies; the accidental differences between one finished piece and another; that make hand-printed fabrics, papers, furniture, and works of art so interesting. The quirks are what show the maker's intimate involvement in the process, and it's that unique quality that first attracted textile designer and illustrator Lena Corwin to hand-printing. Even though decorative prints are more in vogue than ever, there was until now no up-to-date hand-printing guide; no single source explaining the tools and materials that are used today, or reflecting a contemporary aesthetic. Corwin has given us that guide. Using step-by-step instructions and up-close photos, Corwin teaches crafters everything they need to know to master stamping, stenciling, and screen printing, from making their own printing devices to trouble-shooting when plans go awry. Her inimitable collection of projects ranges from stamped stationery and simple-to-sew pouches, to stenciled tote bags and furniture, to screen-printed bed linens and upholstery fabric. There's even a silk-screened dog bed. The author has created original artwork for each project (full-size patterns are included in an envelope at the back of the book), so that every crafter can achieve the same beautiful results. Or maybe not quite the same. Remember: It's the subtle differences that make hand-printing so special and alluring.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Lena Corwin is a textile designer and illustrator based in Brooklyn. Among her clients are

Marith + François Girbaud, Calvin Klein, Jill Stuart, and Elle Decor magazine. She also illustrated Stewart, Tabori and Chang's Kids Crochet and Kids Weaving. Thayer Allyson Gowdy is a San Francisco-based photographer whose work has appeared in magazines such as Real Simple, Health, and Country Living, as well as Stewart, Tabori and Chang's Knitting Nature and Knitting Lingerie Style.

Of all the books I have seen so far (many), in the realm of DIY printing on paper and fabric in your own home, this one stands out as the most accessible. I make relief prints on linen with linocut and carved rubber blocks, primarily. The projects outlined in the book are simple and attractive. Each project takes you from #1 "Prepare work surface" to "the final step: "Clean up." In between there are many innovative tips for printing at home without expensive equipment. The comparison charts included in the book are also extremely helpful. There is one for Choosing Inks and Paints for the various surfaces you are printing. Very helpful since inks vary wildly and produce very different results! There is another chart for choosing which print method is best for your project (stamp printing, stencil, screen printing, etc.) And another chart showing colors. This all sounds simplistic but the charts can save you a ton of experimenting and mistakes and expense in inks (believe me, I know.) Even if you are well-practiced in printing techniques, you will find the text and photos user-friendly and comprehensive. An envelope attached to back inside cover of book includes a bonus: paper design templates for all the printing projects in the book. I create my own images, but the templates are good to have to understand scale and/or incorporate into your own work. And the best part of this book? It is spiral bound. Have you ever struggled with trying to refer to a DIY book while immersed in a project?? The spiral binding allows the pages to lie flat and loose and easily turned (even with inky hands), as you follow the steps for your printing project. I think we tend to gravitate towards books where the author's design-sense corresponds to our own, in some way. That is the case with Lena Corwin's book, for me. However, I think most would find her designs and projects entirely appealing and enjoyable.

I wanted to do fast and dirty printing on fabric and this book has the easiest ways to do that (other than having someone else do it for you). There are several methods to get paint onto fabric and the designer walks you through them. I think the supplies are easy enough to find and use and the pictures are good to help you visualize the processes. It's a good book if you want to create some unique table linens, totes, or home accents without breaking the bank. Very do-able project options and good directions. And you don't have to use your potatoes to print with.

A good book for basic technique, but does not go into more complex techniques. Its nicely illustrated and thought out. It is too basic for me, but someone else may find it just right.

Beautiful book. Very inspiring

Very basic guide to various home printing techniques

I waited until I actually used this book to write a review. I like it a lot. She explains what type of ink you should use on what type of fabric and which technique to use, all on a handy chart. This is very handy and helpful when deciding on what to do with a project at hand. I decided to do some stenciling on canvas. I found the book to be helpful on what materials to buy (she even explains why you use it) and the technique. The only problem for me is that she uses fogged mylar and I cannot find that anywhere. I found clear ones but I wish she would have listed where (the references on the back were not of much help) but everything else I could find at an art store or Hobby Lobby/Michaels. The projects included in the book are really cute too. I'm going to try and make a baby blanket for my cousin.

So many great ideas in this book and you don't have to be a genius artist to create them. Well explained details and lovely photos and illustrations. Fun to just look at! Highly recommended!

Loved this book - beautifully written with careful, step by step instructions. I especially appreciated the detailed advice on how to maximize the beauty of printing. I had been searching for 6 months for a book like this - one that offered a more modern approach to printing by hand. (If I had found it earlier, I would have saved myself from much trial and error.) The photographs are as helpful as they are stunning. It is a book that lets your creativity flower.

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