

The 10 most important questions about decoupage quickly answered

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Discover the world of decoupage: Creative design made easy

Discover the World of Decoupage: Creative Design Made Easy

Decoupage is one of the most charming and versatile crafting techniques that can turn your home accessories and furniture into real artworks. Although the application is simple, some basic explanations are needed initially, especially when you compare the technique with its related methods such as Décopatch and Napkin Technique. Our comprehensive guide helps you keep an overview and master the decoupage technique fully. Discover the answers to the 10 most important questions and get inspired to design your home individually.



1.) What is Decoupage?

Decoupage is a creative technique in which you glue cut-out paper motifs onto a surface and revarnish them several times. The term comes from the French and means "to cut out" (*découper*). This technique is similar to the Napkin Technique and Décopatch.

2.) How to make Decoupage?

The following infographic shows you the basic steps for Decoupage.

Infographic Decoupage Tutorial

How-To:

Decoupage

1



2



3



4



- Prepare the surface where the paper will be decorated. It should be clean and grease-free.
- In the first step, cut out the motifs from the paper along the contours.
- Moisten the motifs with a sponge and some water on the back - this facilitates gluing.
- Smooth the moistened motifs with decoupage glue on the surface.
- Let everything dry well and finally apply decoupage lacquer multiple times to minimize height differences between the paper and the surface. Optionally, you can sand the lacquer layers in between to achieve a smoother surface.

3.) What materials are needed for Decoupage?

Besides paper, glue, and lacquer, a contour scissors, sponges, and a brush are part of the basic equipment. For best results, a brush for napkin technique is recommended.

4.) What kind of paper is used in the Decoupage technique?

For Decoupage, thicker papers are usually used. These include special [decoupage papers](#), which, with 63 g/m², are a robust choice, as well as decorative candy wrappers and storybook images.

5.) What kind of glue do you need for Decoupage?

Special decoupage glue is recommended as it soaks the thick paper optimally and prevents tearing during processing.

6.) Do you need special lacquer for Decoupage?

To create an even and protective surface, you need special decoupage lacquer, available in matt or glossy.

7.) On what materials can I work with Decoupage papers?

Due to the thickness of the paper, you can work directly on colored and dark surfaces. Suitable materials are wood, terracotta, ceramics, papier-mâché, and metal.

8.) Decoupage and Décopatch – what is the difference?

In Décopatch, the paper is significantly thinner at 20 g/m². It is usually torn, while in Decoupage, papers are precisely cut along the contours. The use of other glues is also necessary.

9.) Decoupage, Décopatch, Napkin Technique – isn't it all the same?

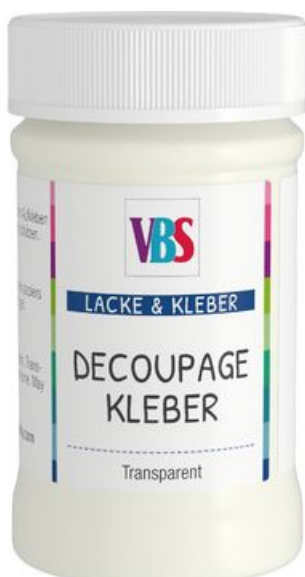
Although the techniques are similar, the materials and processing differ. Each technique has its characteristics regarding paper thickness and needed materials.

10.) Where can I find free ideas and guides for Decoupage?

In our [craft techniques category Decoupage](#) you will find many articles, and in our [VBS online shop under Ideas and Guides](#) you will find numerous free inspirations and guides.

Start your own decoupage project now and purchase the necessary materials easily in our shop. Have fun crafting!

Must Have



[VBS Decoupage adhesive, 100 ml](#)

3,09 €

(1 l = 30,90 €)

[Item details](#)

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330350	VBS Painting sponges, 3 pieces	1
120272	VBS Napkin & Decoupage brush, set of 3	1
521802	VBS Silhouette scissors	1