


# OFFSET MONOPRINTING

## ☺ LCC STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE ☺

1. Stencil cutting
2. Mixing ink
3. Roll out ink
4. Attach metal sheet
5. Inking metal sheet
6. Paper and stencils on press
7. Print
8. Inking up again
9. Clean up

Speak to a technician before using printmaking equipment. 



a. Cut newsprint with scalpel or scissors for a sharp edge.



To create the stencil using newsprint:

When using a stencil, where it covers your paper, **no ink will print**. Where the stencil is cut away, **ink will print** onto your paper.

b. **Tear** newsprint for a soft edge.



### 9. Clean up

*Always wear gloves when cleaning and using chemicals!*



a. First, clean the areas where ink is rolled out using a rag and Eco Spirit.



b. Then clean the roller, using a rag and White Spirit.

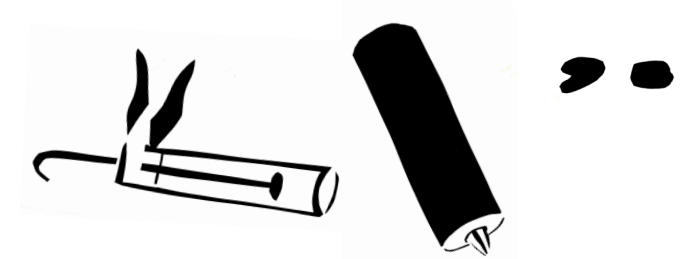


c. Finally, clean the rubber blanket on the press using a rag and Blanket Wash. Bring the press to the start position and clean the blanket as you roll the press. Make sure you clean all areas of the blanket.

### 2. Mixing ink

*Wear gloves when mixing inks to protect your hands.*

Chose colours from the litho relief **ink tubes**. Use a **caulking gun** to release ink from the tube.



To make your colour more **transparent** add **Extender**. Ratio 1 part Extender to 2 parts colour.

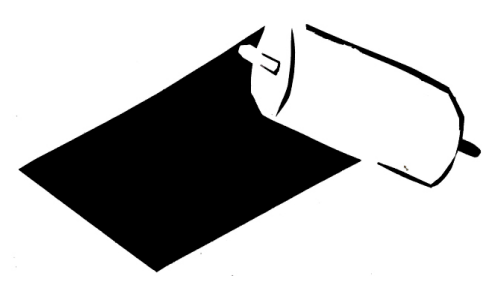
*Ask a technician if you want to create a blend and are unsure.*

### 3. Roll out ink

a. Use a **palette knife** to **scrape** ink onto the inking surface the width of your roller.



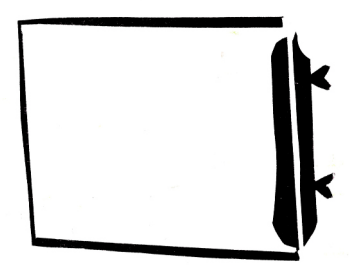
b. **Roll out** the ink into an even block with a roller.



If using a large roller remember to **twist it around**.

### 4. Attach metal sheet

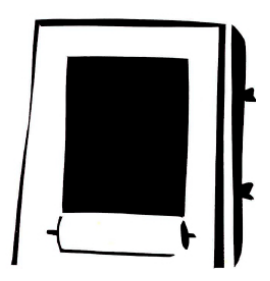
If not already attached, to the offset press, attach aluminium sheet. Make sure it is **tightened** in place with the clamps.



### 5. Inking metal sheet

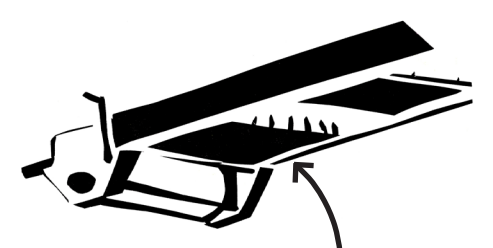
With the inked up roller, roll over the metal sheet **backwards and forwards 4 times**. Make sure you twist the roller. If needed - **reload** the roller with ink and repeat this process **twice**.

Plate should be **covered in ink** like this.



### 6. Paper stencils

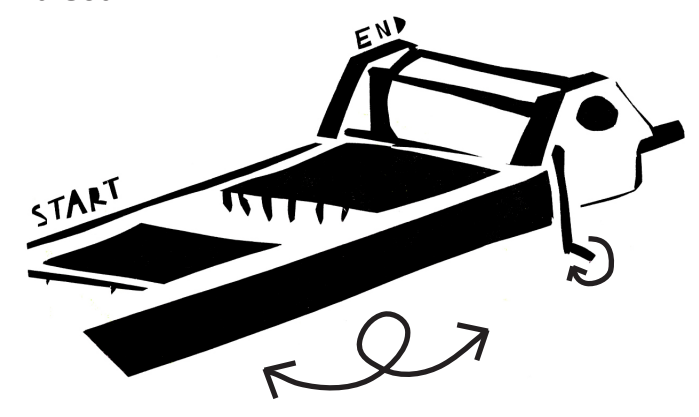
Place **paper here** and **stencil on top**. **Clamp** the paper if necessary.



*Add packing underneath if prints are not coming out sharp.*

### 7. Print

The offset lithography press has a **start** and **end** position. At the start position the blanket is **lowered**. At the end position the blanket is **raised**.



Once in the **start position** roll over area of ink to the middle of the press, forwards and backwards **4 times**. The blanket should be coated in ink.

*Make sure stencil and paper are in correct position before continuing.*

Next, roll the blanket over the ink and **continue to roll over your paper and stencil**. Continue until the blanket hits the end position. This should **raise the blanket** and stop the printing. Remove print and place in drying racks.



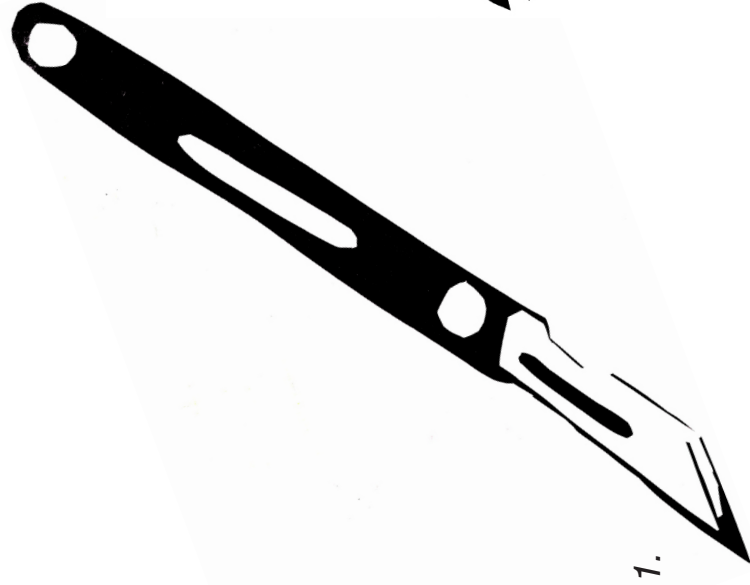
*Prints can take 2 days to dry.*

### 8. Ink up again

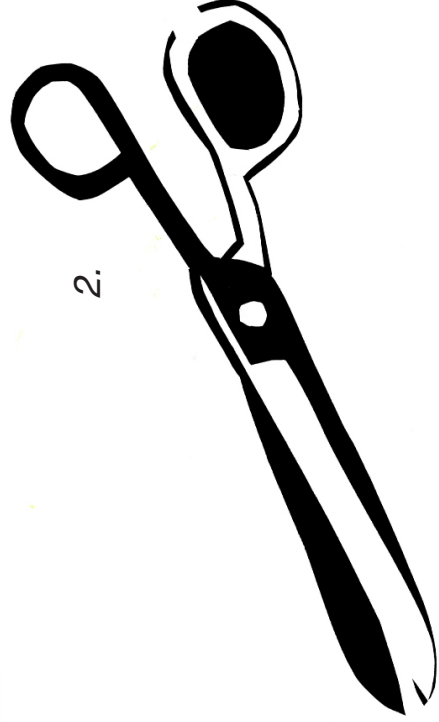
To continue printing repeat step 5 to 7.

*You can change colours - remember to clean up first!*

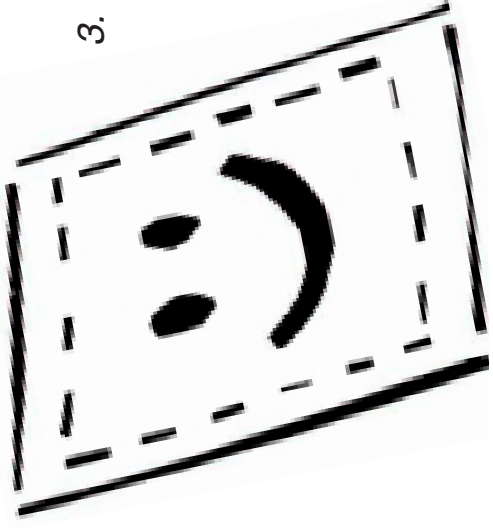
# OFFSET MONOPRINTING TOOLS



1.



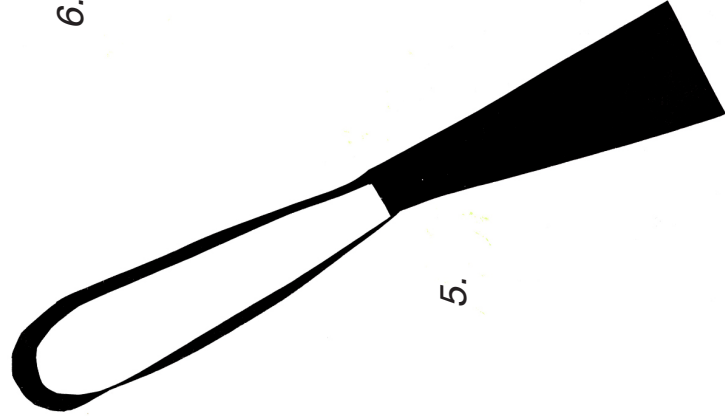
2.



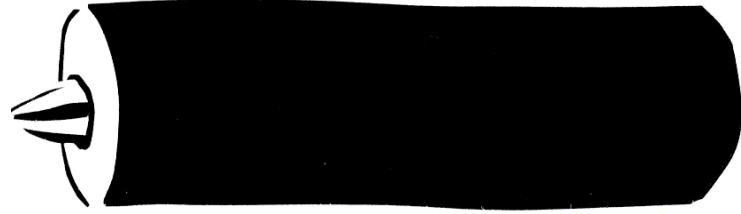
3.



4.



5.



6.



7.

1. **Scalpel** - used to cut out stencils.
2. **Scissors** - used to cut out stencils.
3. **Paper Stencil** - The stencil blocks the ink from being printed onto the paper.
4. **Globe Offset Press** - "START" side: where the ink is rolled out. Where the blanket is lowered. "END" side: Where the paper and stencil is placed. Where the blanket is lifted.
5. **Palette Knife** - used for mixing and laying out ink.
6. **Lithography Inks** - oil based inks. Can

take 2 or more days to dry.

7. **Roller** - used to roll out ink into an even layer.

8. **Caulking Gun** - used to get the ink out of the tube.

To book a time slot on the *Globe Offset Presses* please use the sign up sheets located on the glass doors.