

# Brayer Printing Techniques

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Fabric with multiple layers of brayer printing; printed with napped brayer, bubble wrap placed under the fabric and brayered, straw trivet placed under fabric and brayered.

## Basic Technique

Place a spoonful of paint onto an acrylic plate. Spread the paint evenly on the plate by rolling with the brayer. Roll the brayer over the fabric. If working with a large piece of fabric, it is helpful to pin the fabric to your work surface.

There are many ways to use brayers to create patterns and designs on fabric. Try some of the ideas below:

## Simply Brayers

- Use the brayer by itself to create a pattern on the fabric. When using a rubber brayer, this works best with a thicker layer of paint. As you roll, it creates ridges in the paint that transfer to the fabric when rolled.
- After rolling the brayer onto fabric, spray with water and roll again for a watercolor effect.
- Ink a foam roller and lightly roll over fabric.
- Create a custom color by placing two or more colors on the printing plate. The colors will mix as you roll the brayer over them.
- Use scissors to cut a design into a foam roller.
- Fold or scrunch the fabric. Roll an inked brayer over the fabric. Unfold the fabric to see the design. Re-fold and repeat, if desired.



Brayer printed with napped roller, then fabric was scrunched and a brayer was rolled over the fabric. This was repeated several times with different colors.

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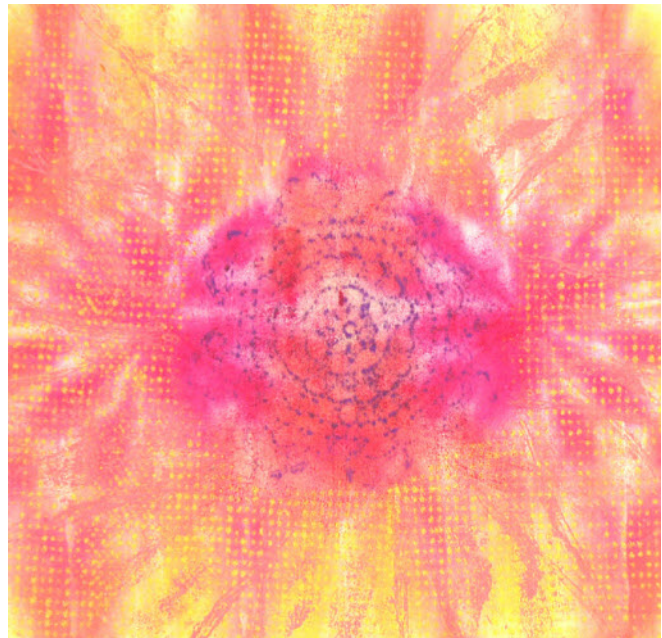
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Tools for brayer printing

## Brayers Plus...

- Place textured items under the fabric and roll an inked brayer over the items. Use your imagination – almost anything can be used. Try bubble wrap, corrugated cardboard, a row of bamboo skewers, leaves, a flat basket, broiler pan –anything with a texture!
- Scrunch a piece of paper or cheesecloth and roll around the brayer. Secure at each end with a rubber band. Roll the brayer over an inked printing plate and then on the fabric.
- Place rubber bands around the brayer. Roll over an inked printing plate and then on the fabric. String will give a similar effect and will adhere to an inked brayer.
- Ink a brayer, then use a brush or other item to create designs on the brayer by removing some of the paint. Roll the brayer onto the fabric.
- Ink a brayer, then roll it over a stamp to remove some of the paint. Roll the brayer onto the fabric.
- Put one or two rubber bands around a foam roller. Then ink the roller and roll onto the fabric.
- Place a texture plate under the fabric and roll an inked brayer over the fabric.
- Place a stencil on the fabric and roll an inked brayer over the stencil.
- Cut out shapes from self-adhesive fun foam. Or use the pre-cut shapes available at craft stores. Adhere to the brayer, ink and roll onto the fabric.
- Glue fun foam or string to an old rolling pin to create a pattern. Ink the rolling pin and roll onto the fabric.
- Try layering multiple techniques for depth. Let each layer dry before applying the next layer.



Fabric with multiple layers of brayer printing: rubber placemat placed under fabric and brayered, lace doily placed under fabric and brayered, printed with cheesecloth-covered brayer, printed with plain foam brayer

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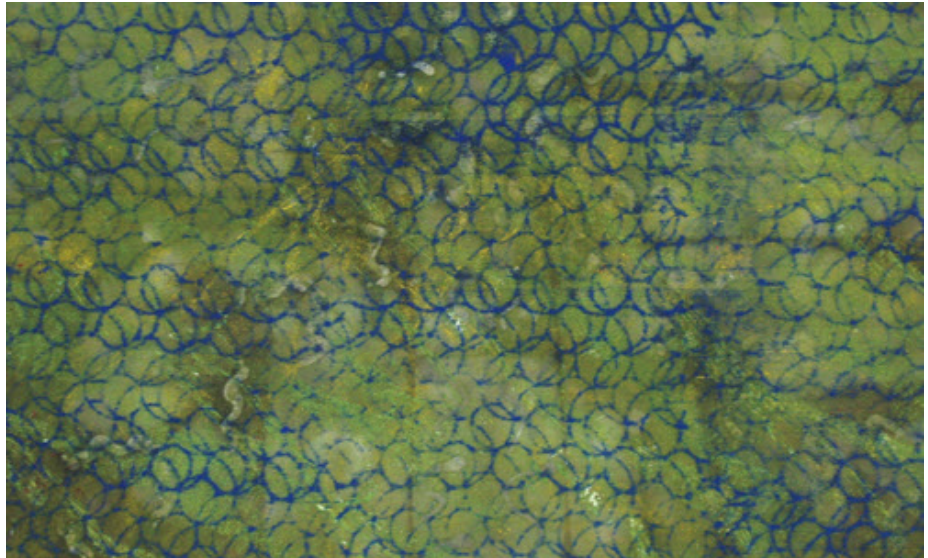
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## Recommended paints

Pebeo Setacolor

PROfab Textile Paint

Jacquard Textile Paint



Brayer printed with cheesecloth-covered brayer with 2 colors, lace fabric placed under fabric and brayered

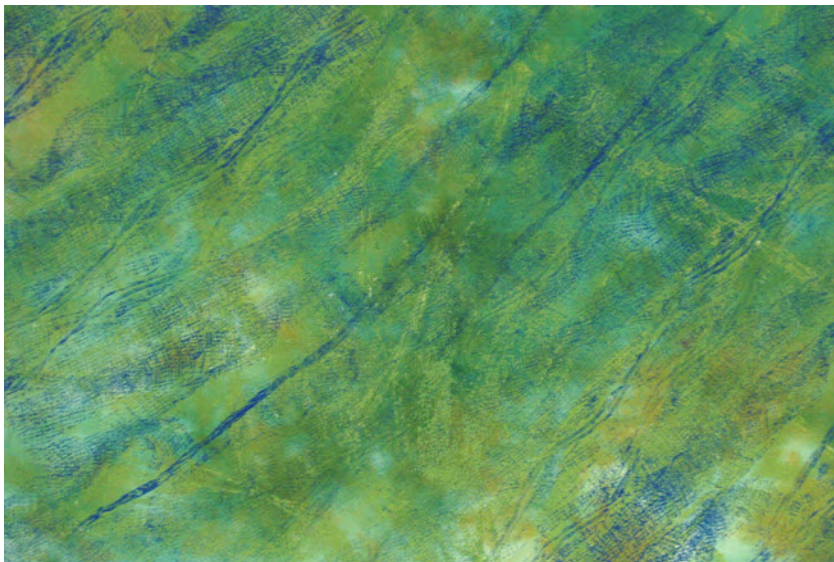
## Recommended Brayers

Speedball Pop-In Brayers

(The black foam pop-in brayer is perfect for all purpose brayer use.)

Napped rollers for painting walls

Foam rollers



Brayer printed with cheesecloth- covered brayer, printed several times in different colors.