

DRYPOINT CHRISTMAS CARD

You will need: Blank cards, drypoint plastic, image to trace, etching needle, etching ink, piece of glass/perspex or palette, piece of mountboard, scrim, cloth, sponge, j-cloth, etching press.



Step 1) Use a piece of drypoint plastic slightly smaller than the card. Tape the plastic over the image. Use the etching needle to draw the image onto the plastic.



Step 5) Use your thumb to apply a smudge of red ink to the robin's chest.



Step 2) Use a wadded-up piece of fabric to daub ink all over the drawing. Use a piece of mountboard to scrape off the excess.



Step 6) Use a damp sponge to dampen the surface of the card. Use a j-cloth to blot the paper. It should feel slightly damp but not wet.



Step 3) Use a piece of scrim with a twisting action to wipe the ink into the lines and begin to remove ink from the plate.



Step 7) Place the plate face up on the etching press. Place the card on top. Cover with blankets and put through the press.



Step 4) Use a piece of cloth to clean the excess off the plate. Be careful not to take too much ink out of the lines.



Step 8) Lift the paper from the plate to reveal your print.