



What is Decoupage?

Wikipedia defines decoupage or *découpage* as the art of decorating an object by gluing coloured paper cut-outs onto it in combination with special paint effects such as gold leaf and other decorative elements. Commonly, an object like a small box or an item of furniture is covered by cut-outs from magazines or from purpose-manufactured papers.

Why not create your own decoupage masterpiece?

What do I Need?

Any "Wooden Blank" like a Tray, Placemat, Box, coaster etc.

Modge podge 250ml

Brush or Sponge Applicator

Genuine Heritage Acrylic Paint

Rubber Roller

Step one

Prepare your chosen wooden blank by wiping any dust from the surfaces.

Apply a basecoat of Genuine Heritage Acrylic. One coat should be sufficient however, should you choose, you may apply a second coat. Make sure the paint is consistent and smooth as the Modge Podge will highlight any inconsistencies.

Once dried, apply a thin coat of **Genuine Heritage Modge Podge** over the painted surface. Apply the Modge Podge in one direction only and allow to dry.



Step Two

Choose the pictures that you wish to decoupage your blank with, these can be anything from prepared decoupage paper, wrapping paper, magazine cut outs, photographs, postcards, there is no limitation as any image can be used for decoupage.

- Cut out your print very carefully with a craft knife or sharp pair of scissors.
- Apply a generous amount of **Genuine Heritage Modge Podge** with a sponge applicator or paint brush to the back of your print, ensure that the entire surface is covered. Alternatively, you can apply the **Genuine Heritage Modge Podge** directly onto the painted surface in the approximate position where you wish to glue the print.
- Position the print very carefully, do not press the print down at



Heritage Craft Product's Guide to "Simple" Decoupage



- Lift a part of the print and very gently start smoothing out the air bubbles with a **rubber roller**. It is best to try rolling from the centre towards the edges, continue doing so gently until you are satisfied that all the bubbles have been removed.
- Gently remove any excess **Genuine Heritage Modge Podge** with a damp cloth or sponge and then allow to dry.
- Several thin coats should be applied to a print, up to ten, remember to allow each coat to dry thoroughly before applying the next coat.
- Each coat must be applied in the opposite direction i.e. one coat vertically, once dried, the next coat horizontally.
- Once all prints have been glued, the same process must be followed on the entire surface.
- Once thoroughly dried, to create a smooth finish you can use 1200 water paper to gently sand the entire surface (dip the sandpaper into water before sanding).
- After sanding apply 4 to 5 layers of **Genuine Heritage Modge Podge** and continue the process until satisfied with the finish.



Top Tips:

- Never dip a wet or dirty brush into your **Genuine Heritage Modge Podge** this may contaminate the fluid, always pour into a saucer and work from the saucer and do not pour any left-over fluid back into the bottle.
- To remove a stubborn air bubble try using a pin to prick the bubble to release the air and roll over with a rubber roller.
- **Genuine Heritage Modge Podge** takes about 30 minutes to dry between applications.
- Use a hair dryer to speed up drying time.

