

American artist, Robert Rauschenberg worked in a wide range of mediums but is known for a series of works that combine artmaking with the use of ordinary things. Inspired by Rauschenberg's process we are going to create image transfers. For this activity we will use images from magazines and gel medium or acrylic paints to create our prints using everyday materials.

For more information about this artwork click [here](#).

Robert Rauschenberg, *Gamble*, 1968. Lithograph, 40 1/2 in. x 27 1/2 in. Museum purchase.

### **Materials:**

- Paper (not watercolor paper, it will absorb too much water)
- Gel medium (such as mod podge) or acrylic paint
- Images from magazines
- Spray bottle with water
- Scissors
- Paint brush
- Spoon or brayer

### **Directions:**

- Pick images from magazines that you would like to use. Try to keep in mind a consistent theme of either a color, shapes, or subject matter.
- Transfer the image from the magazine on to the paper by using one of these methods:
  - Gel medium - paint a layer of gel medium over the image that you want to transfer. Paint in both directions to avoid having obvious lines across the image(s).

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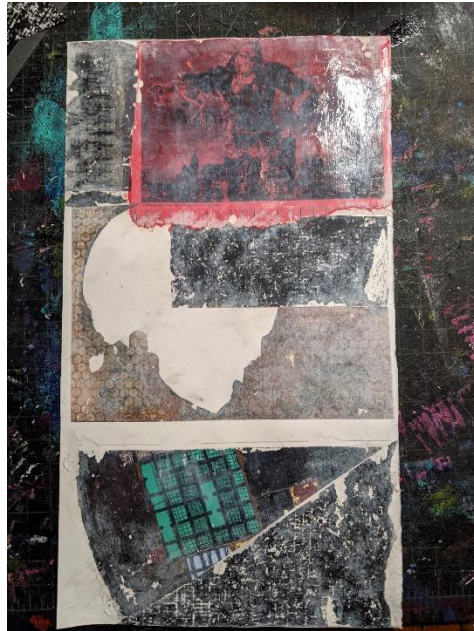
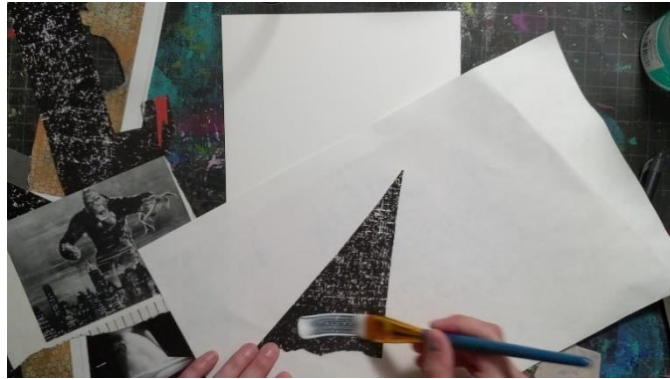
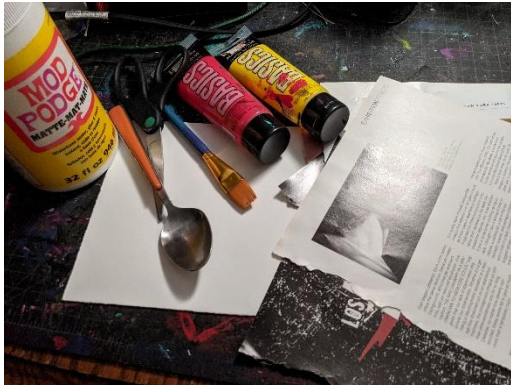
- Place your image onto your paper with the medium side down. Use a spoon or brayer to rub the back and remove any bubbles or wrinkles. Don't be so aggressive that you rip your image.
  - Acrylic paint, you will do the same process as with the gel medium. Keep in mind that this will change the background of the image itself to the color you use, i.e. If you paint over your image with red the whites from the magazine image will be red.
- Wait for the gel medium and/or acrylic paint to dry **FULLY**. If the paint or gel medium is still wet, it will rub the image off as well as the paper.
  - Use the spray bottle (on mist) to lightly spray over the image you've put down.
  - Next gently rub along the image with your finger to remove just the paper of the magazine.
  - Keep adding water and rubbing to remove the whole piece of magazine leaving behind your image on the paper you are transferring image to. If you rub too hard you will start to rub away the actual image you want to leave behind.
  - Layer images to create a collage using a combination of these techniques.
  - When you are finished, add a layer of gel medium over the entire surface of the paint to protect all your transfers.

**Tips:**

- Think about color when you are pulling your magazine images. Will things be monochromatic, black and white, or contrasting colors, etc.?
- Have fun and don't be afraid to experiment with transparency of layered images.
- When you are finished with your piece you can use markers or colored pencils to add accents and depth.
- You can speed up the process by using a hair dryer.

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