



10 Fun & Fabulous Mod Podge Projects

Volume 5: Back-to-School





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Mod Podge Projects

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Dear Reader,

Whether you are a beginning decoupageur or have used Mod Podge for years, it's always great to have some new ideas and inspiration. One of the best things about Mod Podge is that it can be used on a wide variety of surfaces, from wood to tin to paper to glass. Decoupage is such an inexpensive way to "get your craft on," and you are almost guaranteed great results because the process is so simple!

I'm thrilled to be working with Plaid to bring you a monthly e-book featuring a different decoupage topic each time. We hope each one will get your crafting juices flowing! We'd love to hear which ideas you try and see the finished projects online – visit either www.plaidonline.com or my blog, modpodgerocksblog.com, to learn where to find us on social media or to get even more inspiration.

Thank you and Happy Decoupageing!

Amy Anderson
Mod Podge Rocks





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The Basics

Get a Perfect Decoupage Project Every time!

Wrinkles are a common problem for many Mod Podge beginners. Please read these instructions thoroughly for hassle-free Mod Podging. We promise that if you follow these instructions, you will have success and be a very happy Mod Podger!

You will ALWAYS need the items listed below on hand for any project. It is assumed with all of the instructions in this book that you have the following items at your disposal:

Supplies Needed:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Mod Podge | Craft Glue |
| Foam Plates or Palette | Ruler |
| Scissors | Tape Measure |
| Craft Knife | Pencil or Pen |
| Mat | Sandpaper |
| Water Basin | |

1. Prepare Surface

Almost any surface can be used to create a decoupage project. Appropriate surfaces include wood, papier-mâché, terra cotta, tin, cardboard, glass, and craft foam. Only SOME plastics are suitable for decoupage. We recommend testing a small area before completing your entire project to make sure that the Mod Podge will adhere.



Here are some surfaces that may need some extra attention in their preparation. All other surfaces can be decoupage without any preparation, although you should always make sure that the surface you are working with is clean and dirt free.

- **Glass** – Wash and dry with a lint free cloth to remove surface oils.
- **Tin** – If it is an older tin surface, clean with a 50/50 vinegar and water solution. A wire brush can be used on stubborn rust spots.
- **Wood** – Sand unfinished wood surfaces with fine grit sandpaper until smooth. Fill any holes with wood putty and sand again. Wipe clean with a damp paper towel.



You don't have to, but you will want to paint many items before decoupage if your surface is unfinished. We recommend Folk Art® or Apple Barrel® Acrylic Paints for base-coating.

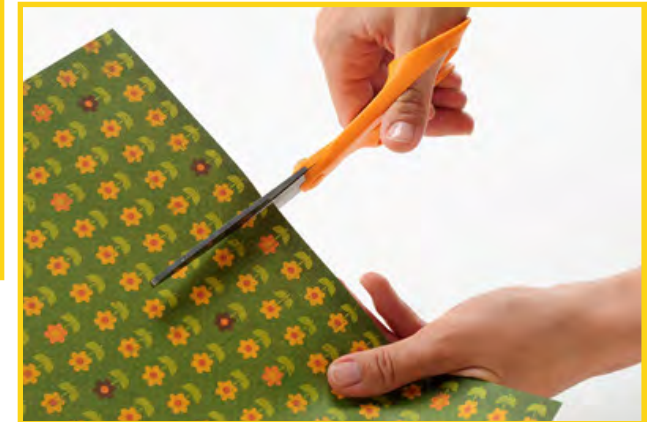
2. Prepare Items to be Mod Podged

Most items, especially thicker papers, are ready to be Mod Podged as is. Here are a few tips you should know before beginning.

- **Fabric** – Wash and dry the fabric (do not use fabric softener). Iron and then lay out on a covered work surface. Wax paper is preferable for covering your table. Using a brush, paint a light coat of Fabric Mod Podge onto your fabric.



Allow to dry. This will allow you to cut the fabric like paper without frayed edges.



3. Plan Your Design

Cut out your paper or whatever it is that you are planning to decoupage. Experiment with design elements to determine the layout of your piece. Add interest to your design by using large and small pieces, layering and overlapping elements and coordinating colors.

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4. Adhere Your Design

Adhere each element with the Mod Podge finish of your choice. Always start with the underlying design elements and work your way upward. Apply a medium coat of Mod Podge to the surface. Too little Mod Podge and you will get wrinkles – you can always wipe away excess Mod Podge. Place your item(s) to be decouped on top of the Mod Podge and smooth thoroughly.



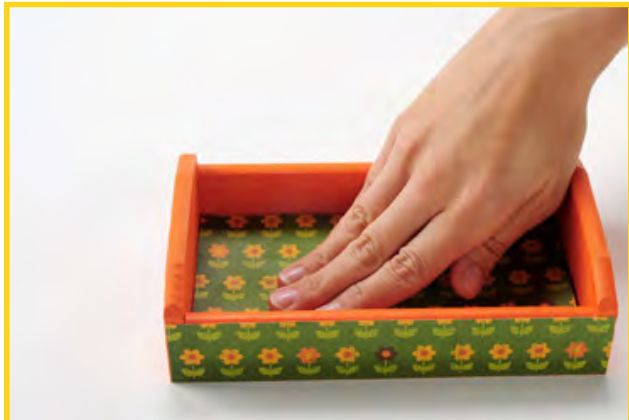
Use the brayer for larger items such as furniture.

Wipe away excess Mod Podge with your brush. For very small elements, brush adhesive onto the project surface and apply each element with tweezers.

Note: Once you have adhered all your elements to your surface, allow the design to dry for NO LESS than 15 minutes before moving to step 4.



For a very smooth finish, wet a piece of #400 grit sandpaper with water and sand lightly between coats. Wipe dry and polish with #0000 steel wool on the final coat. To avoid tackiness, use a clear acrylic spray.



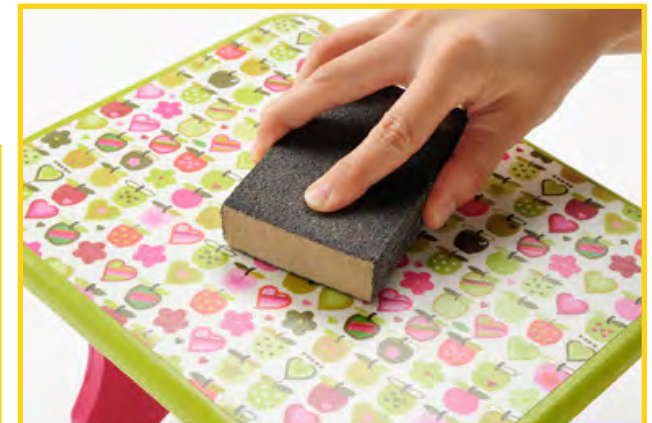
Keep smoothing until all of the bubbles are removed.

When working with large pieces, smooth from the center outward. Air bubbles can be removed with the Mod Podge Tool Set. Use the squeegee with smaller items such as trays – it was developed specifically for getting into corners.



5. Seal your Project

Add a protective coat of Mod Podge to your project using a sponge or flat brush. Allow to dry and then repeat. The number of coats you finish with is up to you, but we recommend at least two.



6. Add embellishments

Once your project is dry, add embellishments as desired. Adhere them with a suitable adhesive such as hot glue, craft glue, or epoxy.

Mod Podge Dimensional Magic can also be used as an embellishment. Dimensional Magic creates a raised surface similar to an epoxy sticker. It can be used on top of a Mod Podged surface, on top of a painted surface, and works especially well with jewelry.

Your project is now complete! Allow it to dry for 24 – 48 hours before using.

FABRIC COVERED SNEAKERS

Materials:

- Plain Sneakers
- Fabric Mod Podge
- Fabric
- Foam Brush
- Scissors
- Sequin Trim

Instructions:

1. Wrap the fabric around shoe to determine the size needed. Do this on the bias so you get a little stretch and it helps with the fabric smoothing over the rounded sections.
2. Apply Fabric Mod Podge to the shoes. For this design we just added fabric to the toe and heel area.
3. Place the fabric onto the shoe. Smooth the fabric. Run your finger nail along the edges of the shoe and toe area. Allow the Mod Podge to dry.
4. Trim away the excess fabric from the toe area.
5. Trim a piece of fabric that is larger than the heel area. Apply the same way as above and trim away the excess. Use Fabric Mod Podge to attach sequin trim around the edges of the fabric. Use holiday themed fabrics to create custom kicks for different seasons.



DECORATE A CLIPBOARD



Materials:

- Clipboard
- Mod Podge Gloss
- FolkArt Acrylic Colors – Sky Blue
- Spray Paint
- Scrapbook Paper
- Ribbon and Embellishments
- Craft Glue
- Paintbrush
- Ruler
- Pen
- Craft Knife
- Scissors – for trimming
- Brayer (optional)

Instructions:

1. Remove the hardware from the clipboard (there are screws on the back) and spray paint it.
2. Paint the wood portion of the clipboard with acrylic paint. Give both sides of the board several coats and let dry.
3. While the clipboard is drying, measure and cut the paper. You'll use two sheets with the intention of creating a seam in the middle.
4. Add a medium layer of decoupage to the clipboard.
5. Use a brayer or your hands to completely smooth the paper down – wipe away any Mod Podge that squeezes out the side. Let the paper dry for 15 minutes at the least, then coat the entire board with two coats of Mod Podge.
6. Re-attach the clip and add embellishments (such as letters and ribbon) with craft glue. Let everything dry.

TEACHER GIFT BOX

Materials:

- Star Box
- Mod Podge Matte
- Mod Podge Mod Melter
- Mod Podge Spouncers
- Mod Podge Foam Brush Set
- Mod Podge Mod Melts – colors
- Mod Podge Mod Molds – Alphabets
- FolkArt Acrylic Colors – Engine Red, Turquoise
- Scissors
- Yellow Scrapbook Paper
- Jewel Glue
- Rhinestones
- Candy

Instructions:

1. Trim the scrapbook paper to fit the top of the star box. Position the paper on top of the box. Smooth the paper with your fingers to remove any air bubbles. Allow to dry for 10 minutes. Top-coat with a layer of Mod Podge. Add more paper cut-outs to the design if desired. Attach with Mod Podge.
2. Create a Mod Melt embellishment letters by heating a Mod Melt stick in a Mod Melter or high temp glue gun, fill a mold with the Mod Melt, allow to cool, remove from the mold. Use detail scissors to trim away an excess melt from around the design. For this design we spelled “star teacher” and used a red Mod Melt stick.
3. Paint the bottom of the box with turquoise paint. Paint the edge of the box Engine Red. Pool a small amount of Turquoise paint onto a paint pallet. Tap the spouncer into the paint, tap off the excess. Press the spouncer around the edge of the top of the box to create a scalloped edge.
4. Using jewel glue, attach the letters to the center of the box and gems to the edges of the box.

PROJECT TIP: Personalize it! Spell your favorite teacher’s name or school year with handmade Mod Melt embellishments.



DECORATE A WOOD CRATE

Materials:

- Small Wood Crate
- Mod Podge Rocks! Peel & Stick Stencils – Tangier
- Mod Podge Gloss
- Mod Podge Spouncers
- FolkArt Acrylic Colors – Parchment
- Orange Sand
- Small Wood Scrabble Letters Spelling the Saying of Your Choice
- Scrapbook Paper – One Piece
- Paper Cutter or Craft Knife and Mat
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Paintbrush

Instructions:

1. Paint your crate with the paint. Give your crate several coats and let dry. Don't forget the inside and bottom of the crate as well.
2. Measure the wood slats on the side of your crate using a ruler. Use the paper cutter to cut the scrapbook paper to fit the slats. Alternatively, you can use a pencil with a ruler to measure and then scissors to cut the paper.
3. Working one at a time, add Mod Podge to the wood slats. Paint a medium layer of Mod Podge over the entire slat and smooth your scrapbook paper down. Repeat. Let dry for 15 – 20 minutes.
4. Apply a top coat over each wood slat and let dry.
5. Decorate the ends with the peel n' stick stencil. Starting from the middle where the handle of the crate is, peel the stencil from the backer sheet (carefully) and smooth down flat on the surface.
6. Use the spouncer to add Mod Podge to the stencil. Use a medium layer of Mod Podge and work quickly, since Mod Podge dries quickly. Completely cover the area you would like the design in.
7. Peel up the stencil and pour the sand on top right away. Tip: pour the sand on top of the crate over a piece of paper so that you can pour the excess back into the original container.
8. Let your design dry before repeating with the stencil again. You'll do this three times on each side to cover (possibly more depending on the size of your crate), then let dry.
9. Sweep off the excess sand using a paintbrush. Tip: if you need to touch up some areas of your design, you can use a small paintbrush with Mod Podge and sprinkle sand just in those areas. Let dry and then brush again.
10. To finish your crate, use Mod Podge to glue the wood letters down on one side.



WISE OWL ASSIGNMENT NOTEBOOK

Materials:

- Hardcover Spiral Notebook
- Mod Podge Sparkle or Extreme Glitter
- 1 Sheet Owl Themed Scrapbook Paper
- Foam Brush
- Velvet Ribbon Scrap
- Chipboard Letter
- Paper Clamp
- Ruler
- Scissors
- White Craft Glue

Instructions:

1. Base-coat the shelf and the candlesticks with Pink Melon. Allow to dry.
2. Cover the back of the fabric with Mod Podge. Allow to dry. This will keep your fabric from fraying with cutting.
3. Cut the fabric to fit the insides of the shelf and mod podge. Allow to dry.
4. Glue the candlesticks to the bottom of the shelf with the wood glue. Allow glue to dry before using.



DIMENSIONAL MAGIC SCISSORS



Materials:

- Scissors
- Mod Podge Dimensional Magic
- Washi Tape in Your Choice of Colors/Patterns
- Craft Knife

Instructions:

1. Open the scissors about 2 inches giving the scissors stability when laying on a flat surface. Note: work with care as the blades of your scissors are sharp!
2. Run the washi tape down one side of the blades and trim at the top with a craft knife.
3. Turn the blade over onto a flat, cut-friendly surface and run the craft knife down either side.
4. Add Dimensional Magic to the top of the tape and let dry for several hours. Then flip over and repeat on the other side.
5. Let your scissors dry for 24 hours before using.

DECOUPAGE PHOTO TOTE

Materials:

- Mod Podge Gloss
- Mod Podge Photo Transfer Medium
- FolkArt Metallic Acrylic Colors - Rose
- Canvas Tote Bag
- Wood Heart
- Wood Letter/Initial
- Small Key
- Silver Ball Chain
- Dry Toner Copy of Images (Picture)
- Scrapbook Paper
- Mucic Sheet
- Pink Fiber/Yarn (for tag)
- Pink Glitter
- Plastic Wrap/Bag
- Cardboard
- Wax Paper
- Sponge Brush
- Sponge
- Sandpaper
- Drill

Instructions:

1. Paint back and edges of heart and front and edges of letter with Metallic Rose.
2. Create a matted picture with scrapbook papers making sure the size will fit front of tote bag.
3. Make a color dry toner copy of image and a mirror image of reversed copy (if it has words) of music sheet. Trim copy to size and place face up on wax paper.
4. Cut cardboard to fit inside of tote and line with plastic and insert into bag.
5. Follow directions on bottle of Mod Podge Photo Transfer Medium to transfer images to bag and wood heart.
6. Sand off any excess paper around heart.
7. Drill hole in top side of heart.
8. Paint Mod Podge onto top of letter. Pour on glitter shaking off excess. Allow to dry.
9. Use Mod Podge to attach letter to center of heart. Allow to dry.
10. Assemble heart and key on chain and tie with fiber. Hang from tote bag.



SOLAR SYSTEM BULLETIN BOARD



Materials:

- 2' X 3' Bulletin Board with Frame
- Mod Podge Glow-in-the-Dark
- FolkArt Stencil Tape
- FolkArt Acrylic Colors – Midnight, Pure Orange, Neon Yellow, Yellow Lemon
- Color Printout of the Solar System at Desired Size
- FolkArt Spouncers, Small
- Goop Glue (or E-6000)
- Small Wood Stars
- Flat Head Thumb Tacks
- Natural Ocean Sponge
- #1 Script Liner
- Pencil
- Foam Brush

Instructions:

1. Paint cork surface with 2 smooth coats of Midnight using sponge brush to apply – let dry between coats.
2. Use the stencil tape to tape around inside of frame. Paint frame Yellow Lemon. Let dry. Sponge over yellow frame with Pure Orange, letting some yellow show through. Remove and discard tape. Let frame dry.
3. Paint wood stars Yellow Lemon. Let dry. Paint with 3 coats of Mod Podge, letting dry between coats.
4. Glue each star onto a flat head thumb tack using Goop Glue.
5. Paint over planet printouts with Mod Podge. When dry, cut out carefully and set aside. Glue the ½ sun onto the left side of bulletin board as shown. With the spouncer, pounce a Yellow Lemon ring around the sun. Pounce a Pure Orange ring around the yellow one.
6. With a pencil, draw the largest arc around sun starting lines approximately 1” inside top and bottom edge of frame.
7. Continue drawing smaller arcs until you have a total of 8 orbital paths.
8. Use script liner to apply Neon Yellow paint over pencil lines. Let dry.
9. Using Spouncer and Mod Podge, glue each planet onto its proper orbital path position. Paint Mod Podge over top of all planets. Use several coats, drying in between to increase the time planets’ glow in dark. Attach names for each if desired.

SILK SCREENED SCHOOL FASHION

Materials:

- Mod Podge Gloss
- Fabric Creations Soft Fabric Inks
 - Aqua, Blood Orange, Crimson, Marigold, Metallic Silver, White
- Mod Podge Spouncers
- Mod Podge Silicone Craft Mat
- Mod Podge 7-Piece Tool Kit
- Silk Screen Fabric (or a sheer curtain panel)
- Embroidery Hoop
- Paintbrush
- Rainbow Template
- Iron
- Tee Shirt

Instructions:

1. Making the screens: Place a piece of silk screen fabric into an embroidery hoop. Pull tight. Place the rainbow template under a clear Mod Podge craft mat. Place the screen over the template. Paint Mod Podge everywhere you don't want to have paint. Allow to dry and paint a second coat. Make a rainbow and a cloud silk screen.
2. Place the silkscreen down on a washed tee shirt. Dip a spouncer into the Crimson paint and paint the top portion of the rainbow. Move the brush in a sweeping motion. Continue with the Blood Orange and Gold paints. Lift the screen and allow to dry.
3. Place the cloud silk screen down on the end of the rainbow. Pour a small amount of Aqua on the screen just above the cloud. Pull the paint over the cloud using the squeegee tool. Using a spouncer, add a top-coat of white paint to create a distressed look.
4. Air dry for 24 hours and heat set with an iron.



MAP MAGNETS

Materials:

- Map Design Scrapbook Paper
- Mod Podge Gloss
- Mod Podge Glass Domes
- Mod Podge Foam Brush Set
- Scissors
- Magnets
- Heavy-Duty Glue
- Box

Instructions:

1. Cut the map paper to fit the back of the glass dome shapes. Apply Mod Podge to the bottom of the glass dome and the top of the paper. Position the paper onto the bottom of the glass dome. Smooth the paper with your fingers to remove any air bubbles. Allow to dry for 10 minutes then top coat with a layer (or two) of Mod Podge.
2. Using heavy-duty glue, attach magnets to the back. Allow to dry.
3. Decorate a gift box with map papers and ribbon.





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Plaid's goal is to inspire crafters and makers of all ages and skill levels to explore their inner creativity through innovative products, beautiful inspiration, and how-to education. 2016 marks our 40th anniversary and we look forward to carrying on our rich crafting tradition with you for many years to come.



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Amy Anderson is a passionate craft and DIYer - she enjoys showing others how to find their creative side through unique, simple, and budget friendly projects that delight and inspire.



Mod Podge Rocks is a premier online destination for original craft, DIY, and home decor inspiration. I truly believe that anyone can learn to be creative, and I can show them how to get started. Readers depend on my blog for the best in creative project ideas and tutorials, with a little bit of humor and some fun stories in between. Mod Podge Rocks won the Bloggie in 2014 for Best Art/Craft/Design weblog.

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