

An artistic assemblage in a wooden box. The background is a sheet of music paper with various notes and text. A large, dark metal key hangs vertically in the center. To the right, a smaller key is attached to a chain. Below the large key, a small figurine of a person stands on a pedestal. In the foreground, a glass bottle with a label that says 'APPR. THIAN' and 'CALEND' is visible. To the right of the bottle is a large, porous, light-colored sponge. The overall composition is a mix of found objects and musical elements.

Assemblage

Assemblage is art that is made by assembling different elements – often everyday objects – scavenged by the artist or bought specially.

Betye Saar

Betye Saar is an African-American artist known for her work in the *medium* of assemblage. Saar is a visual storyteller and an accomplished printmaker. Saar was a part of the Black Arts Movement in the 1970s, which engaged myths and stereotypes about race and femininity.

Betye Saar's "Legends in Blue" (2020)





In "The Palmist Window" from 1967, Betye Saar's found objects along with painted imagery are vivid and evocative.

Betye Saar, "Blackbird", 2002



Unity

Unity is created when there is a relationship between the different elements in a design or artwork. Unity adds order to a composition and helps us see it as one thing instead of separate parts.



A Parrot for Juan Gris (1953–53/57), Joseph Cornell



Betye Saar, "Blackbird", 2002



“The act of juxtaposing these beautiful and old found objects – which would be long forgotten if Cornell hadn’t found them and collected them – makes them come to life again.” – by Diana Oliveira

**Joseph Cornell, Untitled
(The Hotel Eden), 1945**



Ask yourself these questions.

- What is my focal point?
- Where do I want to lead the eye next?
- Where can I utilize repetition?
- How can I pull everything together?
- How can I control the media?



01

Diagram Your
Composition

02

Follow the
directions on the
handout. Plan
your composition.

03

Answer the
questions.

04

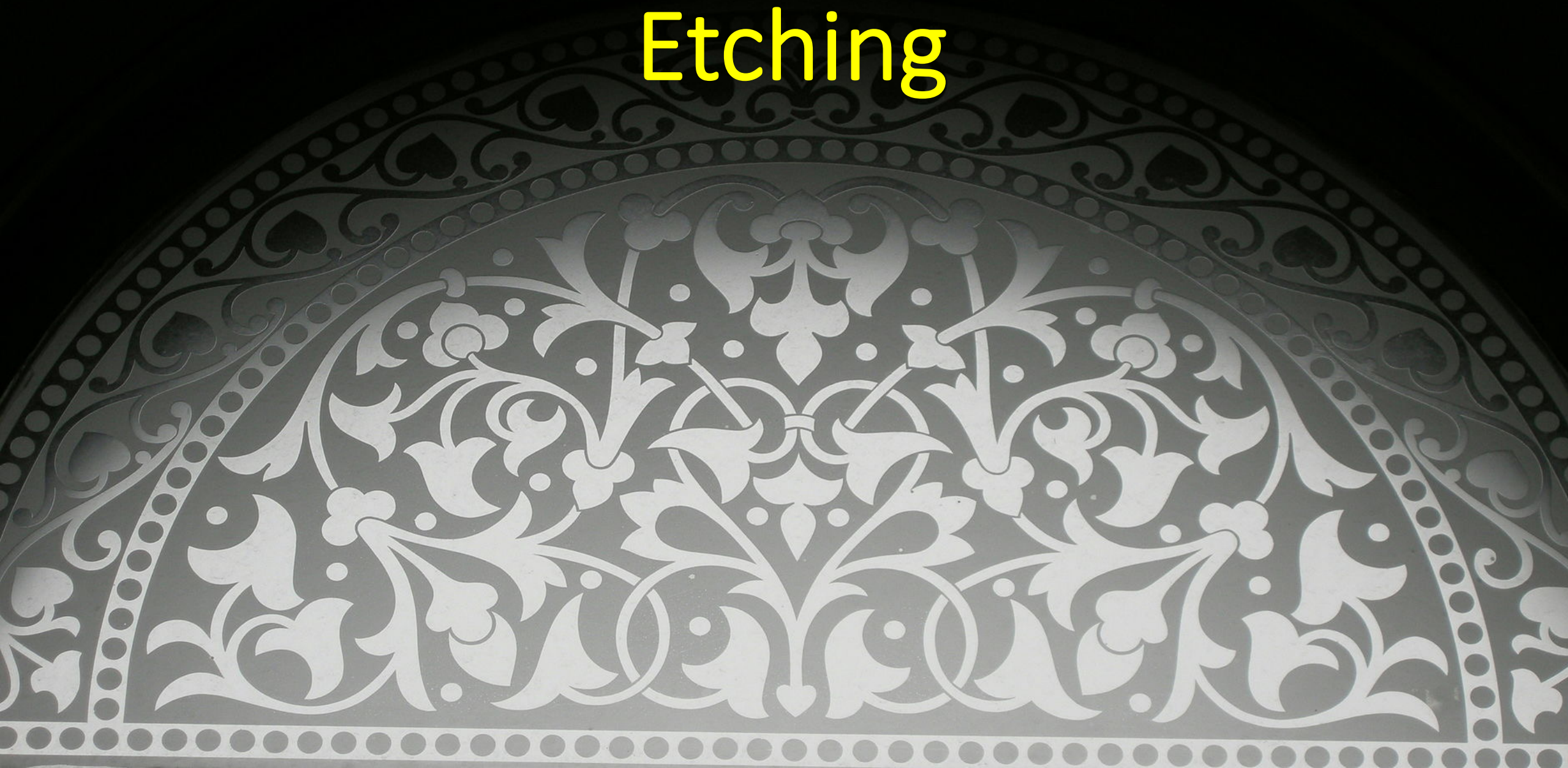
Look at work that
has been done by
former students



Questions to be asking yourself...

- Do you have a focal area?
- How are you “walking” the viewer through your composition?
- Where have you utilized repetition?
- Are the elements working together to create a unified composition?
- Is it well crafted? Are you attending to details and controlling the media?

Etching

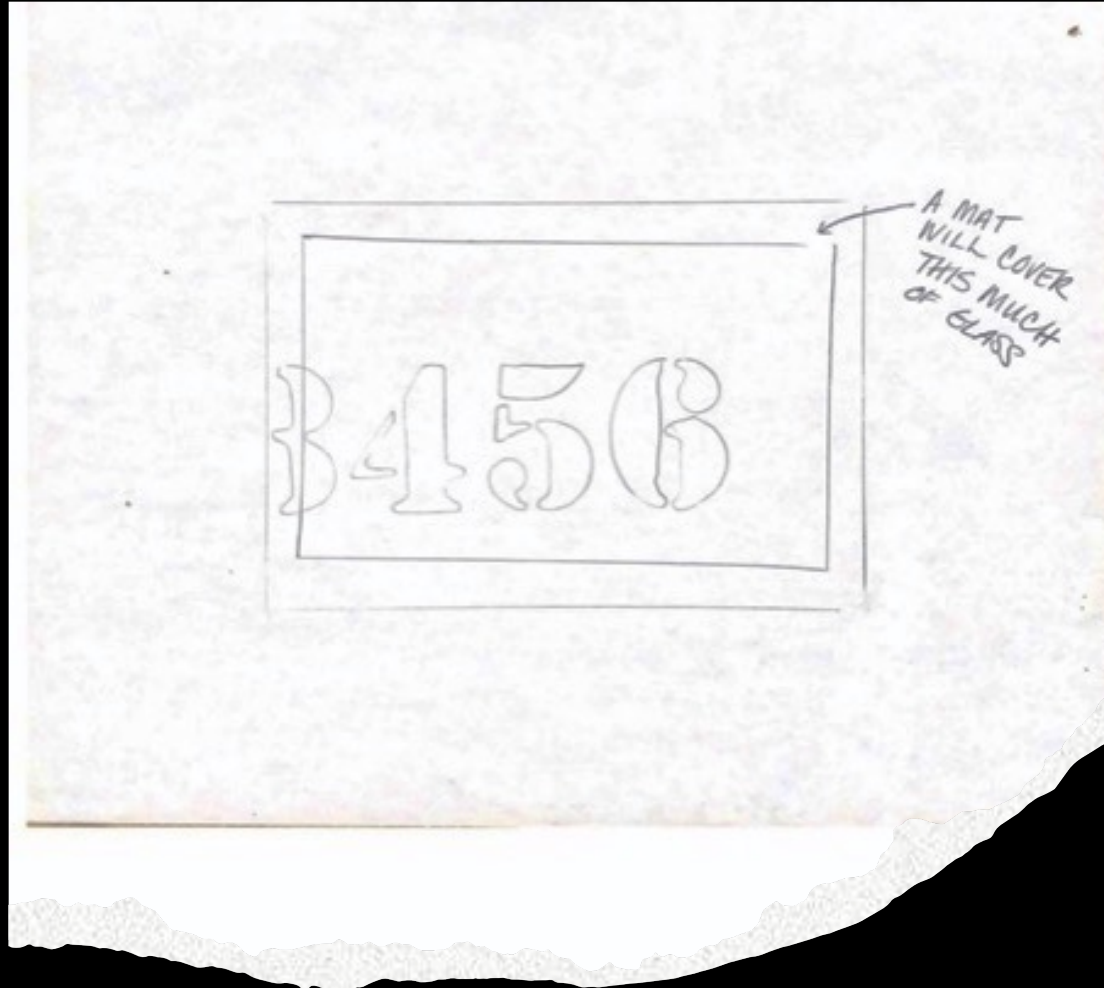




Armour Etch

Armour Etch is a fast acting specially formulated glass etching compound that lets you create permanently etched designs on windows, mirrors and household glassware.

It has many health warnings on the label!! It is an acid. You must wear gloves and safety glasses. It neutralizes with water.



Stencil

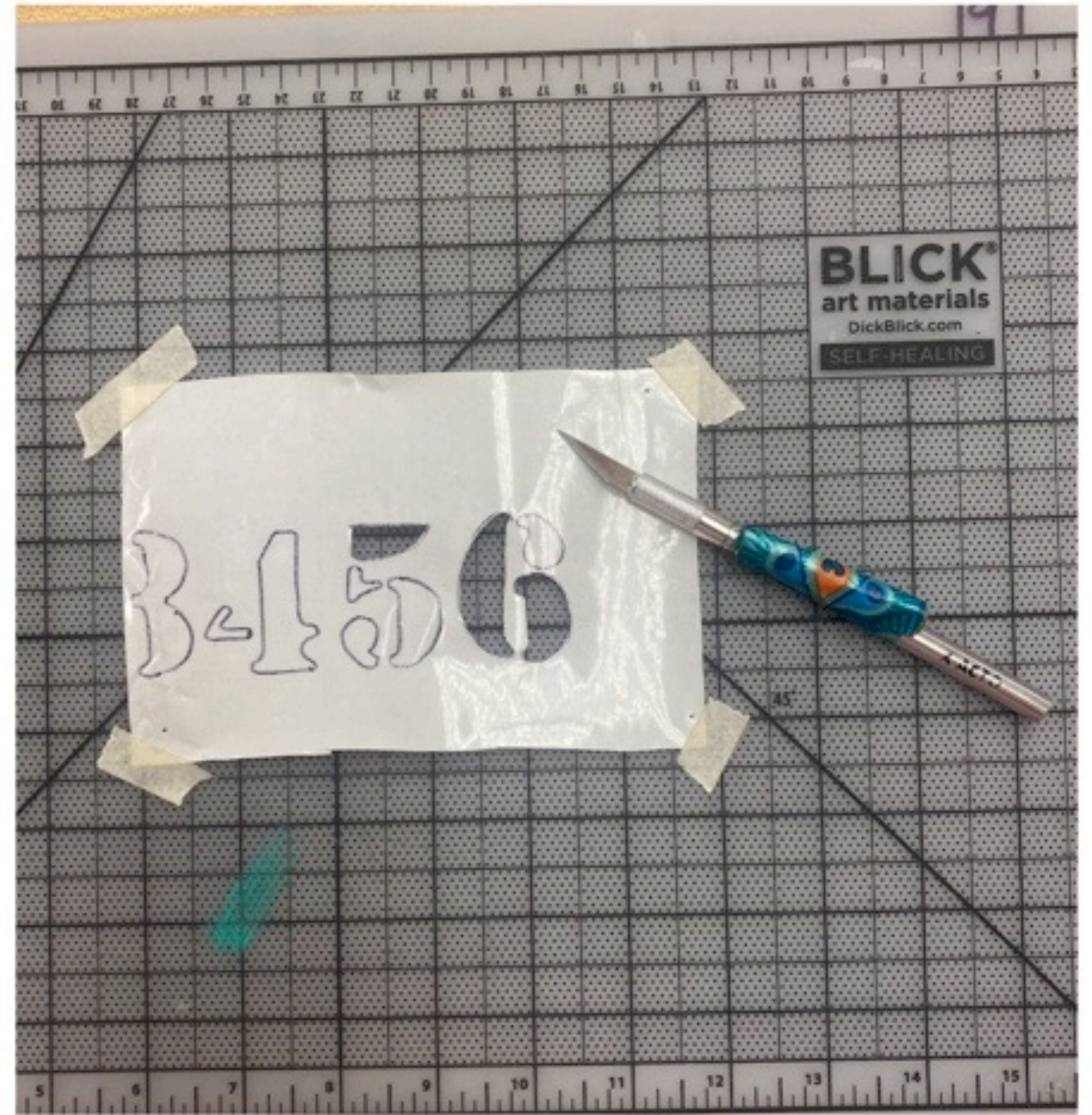
Create a stencil for the front panel of glass. It should relate to the design and theme of your piece. You may use premade stencils and templates for your design.

Creating the Stencil

1. Draw design on paper first.
2. Trace onto shiny side of contact paper with Sharpie.
3. Carefully use an x-acto to cut away the areas to be etched.
4. Clean glass and adhere stencil. Burnish around edges of design so etchant does not seep under.

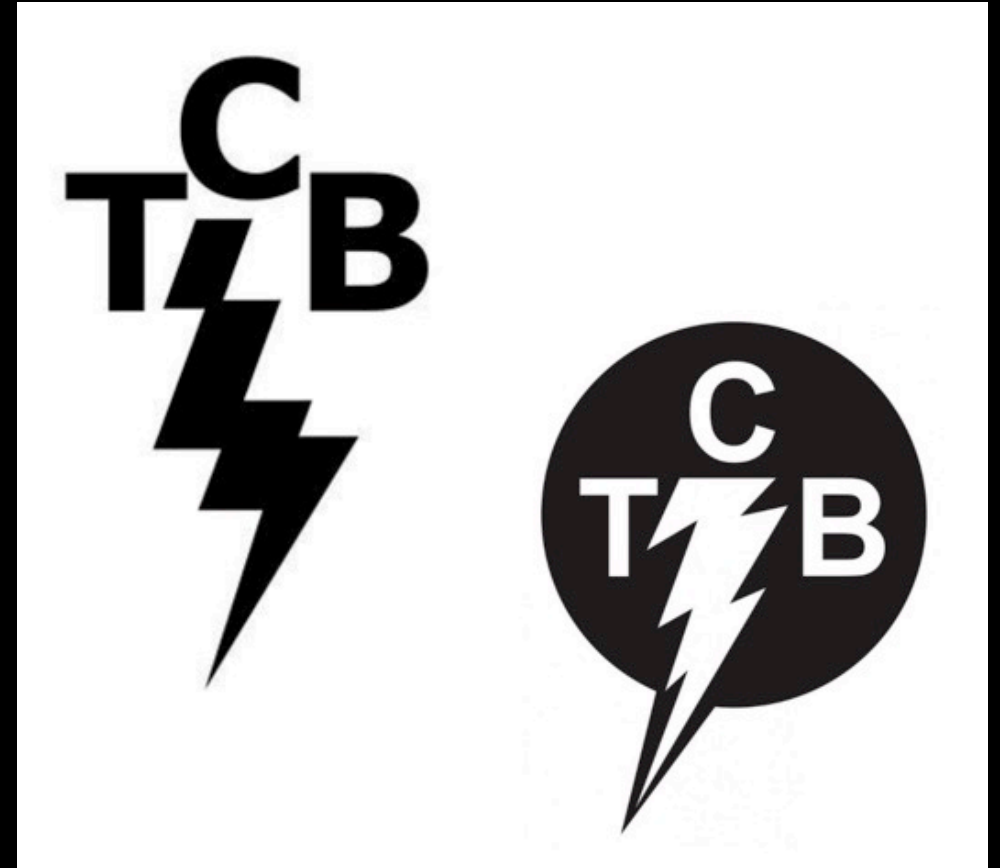
Cutting Stencil

- Use a cutting mat and x-acto knife.
- Make sure it is sharp.
- Glide through the material.
- Whatever is cut away will etch.



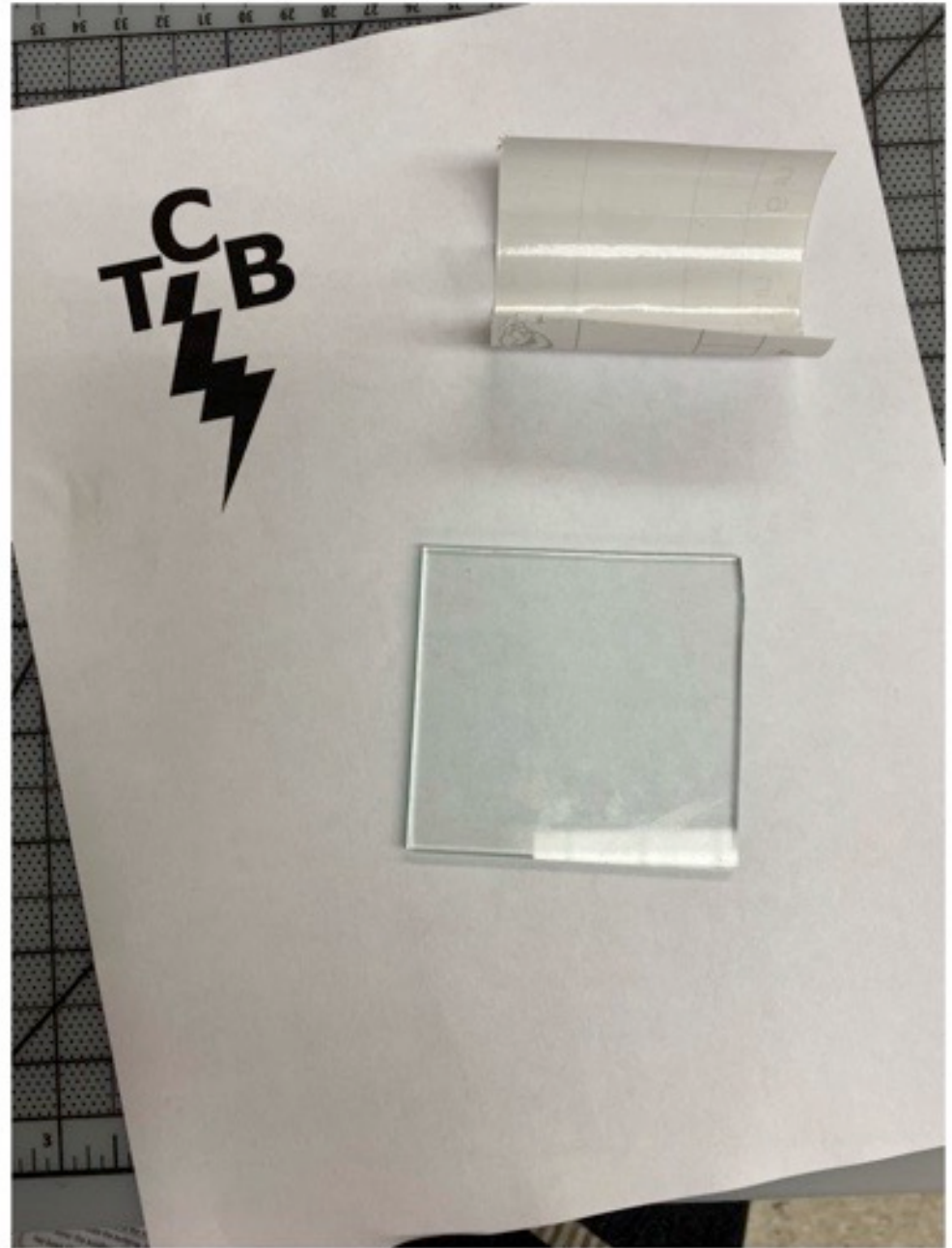
Same Design..Different Results.

- Think about how it will draw attention to, or obscure details.
- Think about how you would go about cutting the design.
- Consider difficulty.
- Consider how committed you are to the process

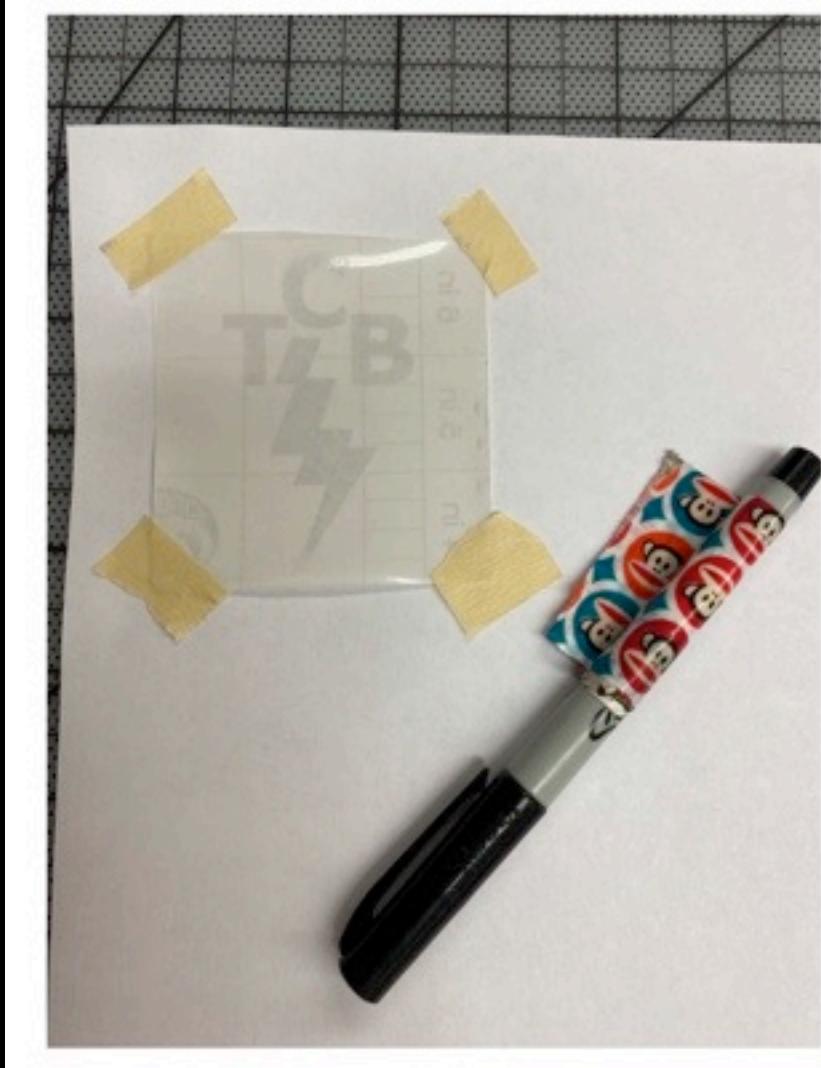


You will need:

- Image for Stencil
- Contact Paper
- Glass



Trace with THIN Sharpie on Shiny Side of Contact Paper



Carefully Cut Stencil Design.
Use Self Healing Mat and X-acto Knife

A white, torn paper-like border runs along the bottom edge of the page, starting from the left and extending towards the right, with a jagged, irregular edge.



Look carefully at the difference between the two:



Clean glass at sink with soap and water. Dry.
Apply and burnish stencil to glass.

Apply etchant at station at sink.
One person may apply etchant at a time.



After 5 minutes, rinse off etchant.

Last Day to Glue!

- Make final consideration about adding elements to the inside of your shadow box.
- Etching must be finished today.
- Self Critique your piece with sample black mat.
Have you answered all of your questions?
- Consider final touches to increase contrast.
- Consider breaking the space by running elements through the space.
- Take pic of piece without glass on top. Submit to Schoology.

Glue Glass Into Mat

- Name and Class Code on white side of mat.
- Clean inside of glass. Clean your table.
- Follow the directions as demonstrated.
- Make sure to LEAVE YOUR GLASS AND MAT YOUR TABLE at the end of class.
- DO NOT SLIDE OR MOVE IT!