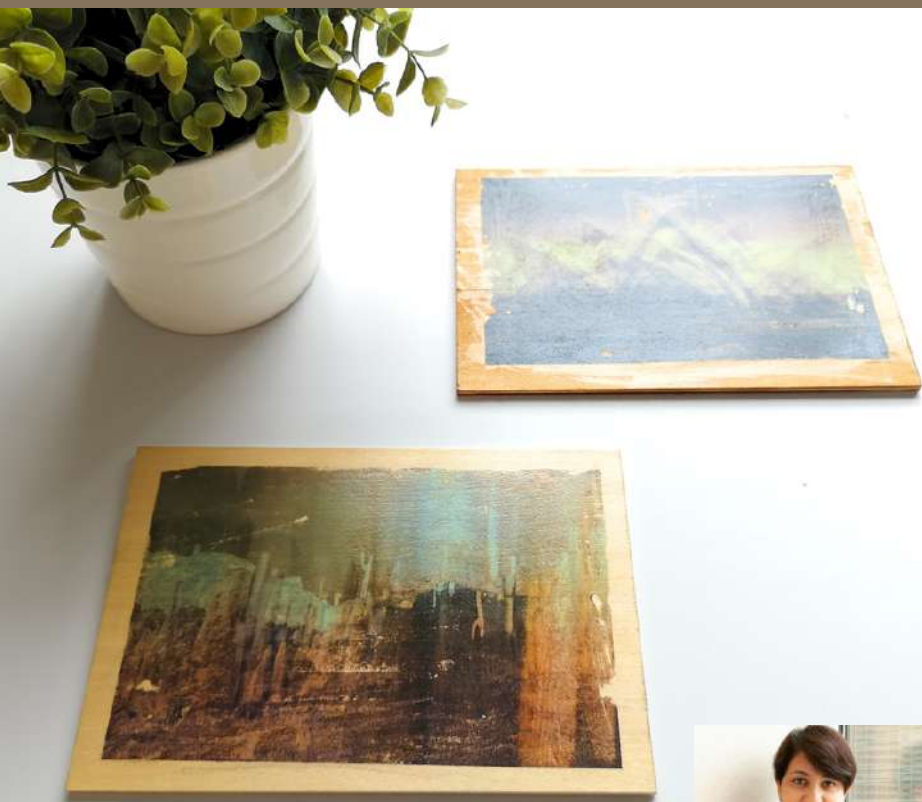


A HOW-TO GUIDE

Photo Transfer on Wood



Madhvee Deb
@madhveedeb



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Essential requisites for this project

- Photo/image of your choice
- [Wood piece](#)
- [Matt gel medium](#) or [Mod Podge](#)
- [Foam brushes](#)
- Washcloth or Sponge
- [Sealer \(Mod Podge\)](#) or [Varnish](#)

If you want to save money and the hassle of putting separate items into your Amazon cart, [here is your easy solution](#) you can just buy this bundle. Remember to buy the wood separately or use what you have at home.

Organization enhances artistic efficiency

Before you start, make sure to gather all your materials. Print your photos using a laser printer for the best results – avoid inkjet printers as the inks may run, leading to imprecise results. If you don't have a laser printer at home, simply visit a photocopier to get the job done.

This project is simple, and even those with an Advanced Beginner skill level can successfully complete it. Turning photos into wood can be a enjoyable holiday activity to share with your family or friends. Although the photo transfer process is relatively easy, it does require a basic understanding of applying mediums and a bit of practice.

PROCESS GUIDE

Transform Your Memories

**STEP ONE**

Choose and edit your desired photo for the transfer project, resizing it to fit the wood. In the final editing step, horizontally flip the image to prevent reversal during the transfer. If you Don't have photo editing software eg. Photoshop or Lightroom, consider using the web application [Pixlr Express](#). you can, watch [this tutorial video](#) on how to use Pixlr Express.

**STEP TWO**

Now print the photo using the laser printer. Do not use the Ink-Jet printer for this purpose. If you do not have a laser printer at home just go to any photocopier and ask them to print the photo for you. Most photocopiers use the laser printer.

For a successful photo transfer, you must use regular photocopier paper. I prefer using 70 or 80 gsm paper.

**STEP THREE**

Prepare the wood by sanding any rough edges.



NOTE: Avoid selecting the wood that has too many grains or wood marks, they will show through the image and might not give the desired look.

STEP FOUR

Apply a generous quote of Liquitex matt gel medium on the wood piece using a sponge brush. Make sure to smooth it out all over the wood.



STEP FIVE

Apply a thin layer of gel medium to the picture side of the image. Gently position the image face down on the wood, DO NOT attempts to reposition it. Smooth out the photo using an old plastic card or ruler to eliminate air bubbles.

Afterward, clean the sponge brush with tap water and allow it to dry.

STEP SIX

Use the back of a spoon and rub it over the entire image while keeping a gentle pressure. This process releases the image from the paper and transfers it to the wood.

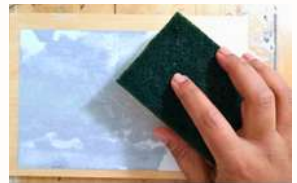


STEP SEVEN

The best practice is to leave it overnight or at least for 8 hours to dry. I have a confession to make, I always tend to be impatient at this step. Honestly, giving it a shorter time to dry has worked at times and sometimes it has failed miserably. If you are giving it a shorter duration to dry, be prepared to have a more edgy look. If you are after such a finish then please feel free to experiment. Remember to have fun with the process and leave your own mark.

STEP EIGHT

In the morning use a wet sponge or washcloth to make the paper damp. Do not apply too much water. The idea is to dampen the paper just enough so it comes off easily. Using too much water at this stage will also wet the glue and weaken the bonded image transfer.



NOTE: If you are using a kitchen sponge then make sure you are using the smoother side of the sponge.

STEP NINE

Now start massaging the paper in a circular motion to scrape off the paper. Be gentle in this process. You will see the image has been transferred to the wood. If there is a bit of paper left behind, wipe it off again with the sponge. Once done, let the picture dry.



STEP TEN

These steps are optional, allowing you to add varied effects to your wood transfer. Feel free to choose any or all to add your personal touch. If you prefer a classic look, skip this step and move to the next.

1. Create a slightly grungy look using sandpaper.
2. Enhance by using gold, bronze, or silver gilding paper to fill untransferred spaces.
3. Tint the wood with instant coffee liquid (2 tsp coffee mixed with 5 tbsp water). Apply multiple coats for the desired effect. Note: Ensure the coffee coat is fully dry before proceeding.

STEP ELEVEN

Apply 2-3 coats of Liquitex matt gel medium or Mod Podge on the picture for protection and a glossy effect. Let it dry.

STEP TWELVE

Spray a thin layer of sealer/varnish to fully protect the image and eliminate the tackiness of the gel medium.

STEP THIRTEEN

Allow the final varnish coat to dry thoroughly.

Once acquainted with the technique, your creativity knows no bounds. Personalise gift boxes, engage in a bonding activity with your kids during holidays, preserve vacation memories uniquely for wall displays, or craft Christmas tree charms with [Small Basswood Coasters](#). If my method and ideas helped, follow and tag me on Instagram [@madhveedeb](#) when sharing your creations.



INTRODUCTION

I'm a photographer & a visual artist.

My artwork is a product of an interdisciplinary collaboration between photography, video, audio, and mixed media. I often explore how people see, remember, and define themselves in my art. This usually leads to creating metaphoric artworks inspired by various topics like gender identity, daily life, and elements of impermanence.

While I use a variety of materials and processes, in each project my methodology is consistent, leading to coherently resolved works. My choice of material, shape, and format are always guided by the subject matter of a particular body of work. Each project often consists of multiple pieces, usually in a range of different media grouped around specific themes and meanings. During the research and production, new areas of interest arise and lead me to the next body of work.



I truly believe that in a world saturated with photographers and AI as competition, infusing your photography with personality is the key to distinguishing your craft.

- Madhvee Deb