



<http://www.halloweenforum.com/album.php?albumid=824>

Tutorial: Tombstone Stencil Technique

I like using spray paint to eat away at my foam for the ancient look. To create patterns in the foam, you have to block the spray paint from getting to the bare foam. I love Herman Secret's technique using sticky-backed letters:

<http://www.halloweenforum.com/tutorials-step-step/68179-easy-tombstones.html>

This technique here I will show using latex paint put on by a stencil. This is good for a Celtic designs or other large designs.



Here's the effect you get after all the finish painting is done. I explain finish painting steps in another tutorial called Ancient Tombstones:

<http://www.halloweenforum.com/album.php?albumid=552>

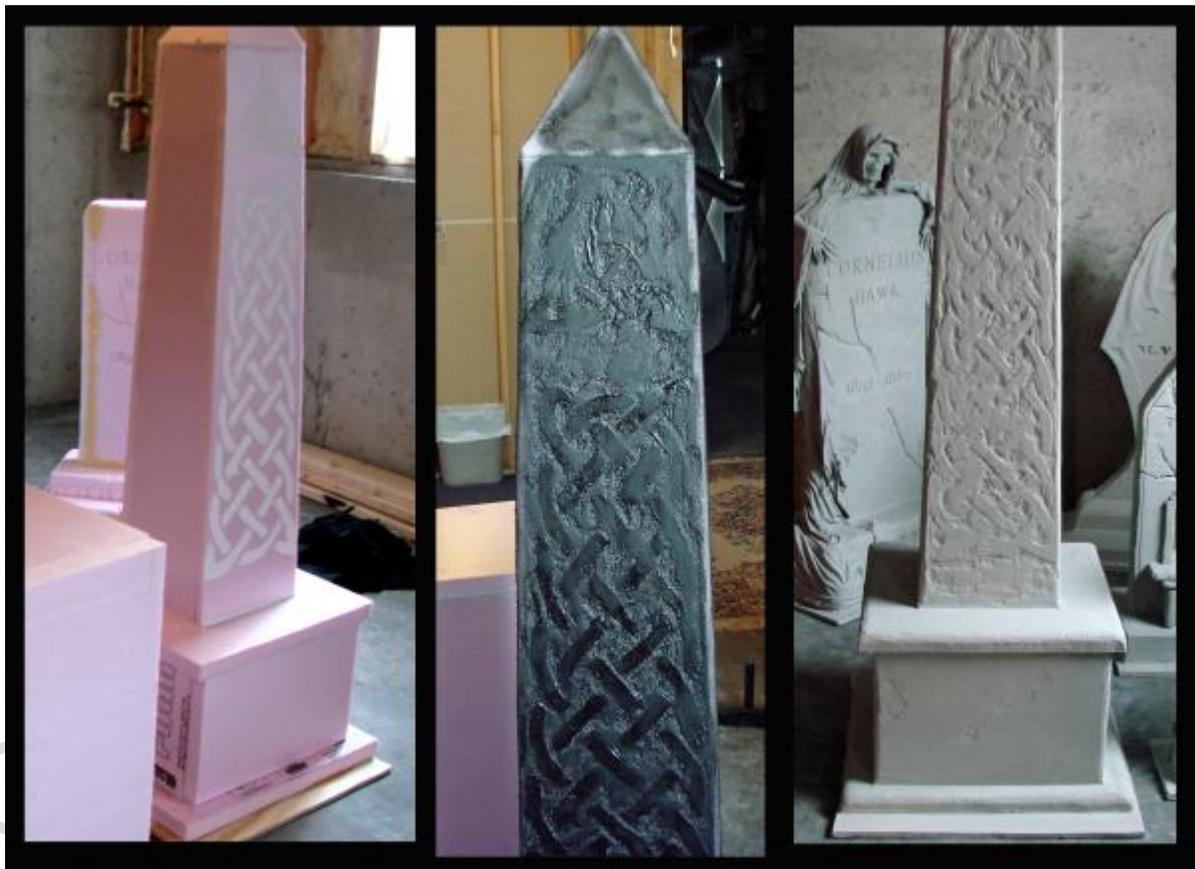


There are many ways to make a stencil. I like the fabric method but I'm sure there are better ways out there.

To get a stencil ready, prepare the backing: Layout interfacing material onto an ironing board. Then following directions on Heat N' Bond, iron-on the 'glue'. In the second picture you can see the 'glue' now on the interfacing (shiny part). The third picture shows you what to look for at the fabric store.



I had found a pattern I liked on the web. I printed it as large as I could using the 'poster' option for printing. I taped the printed pages together and then made the pattern darker with a Sharpie. The first picture shows the backside of the pattern I darkened. Put the inked side onto the glued interfacing. Following directions on the Heat N' Bond, iron it to the interfacing. You've now made your paper much stiffer and resilient to the painting you will do on it. In the second picture you will see the pattern showing through the interfacing.



I used pins to hold the stencil onto the tombstone. Then I dipped a rag into latex paint (any color) and ragged on the paint. You don't have to be perfect here. I did two coats. Let dry.

Now, take your tombstone outside and hit the pattern hard with spray paint. It will start to eat away at the foam and leave the latex painted foam generally alone. It does get in there a bit but I like that!

Now, paint the whole tombstone with two coats of gray Dry-lok. Let dry between coats.



After following my painting technique for making tombstones look ancient (see other tutorial) you will see it really makes the effect pop.

Obtained from
Omarshantedtrail.com



Here's the tombstone in the graveyard display.

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Omarshauntedtrail.com