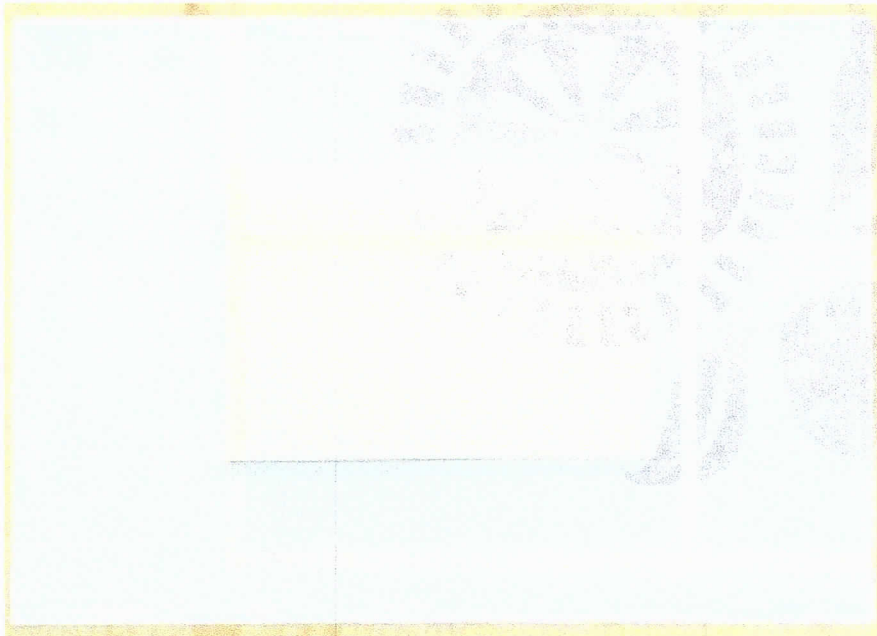


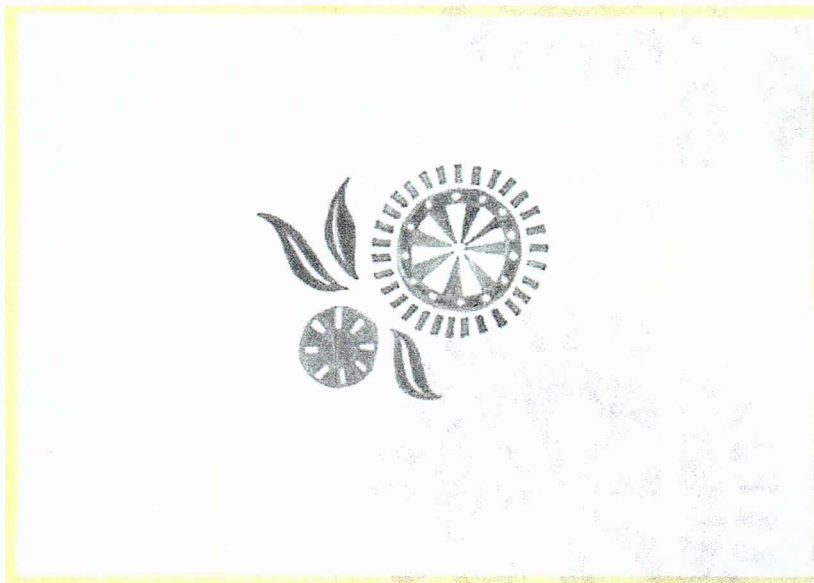
# How to Design and Print a Straight Repeating Pattern

Here's an easy way to design a repeat pattern (without using a computer) and to block print it on to fabric or paper.

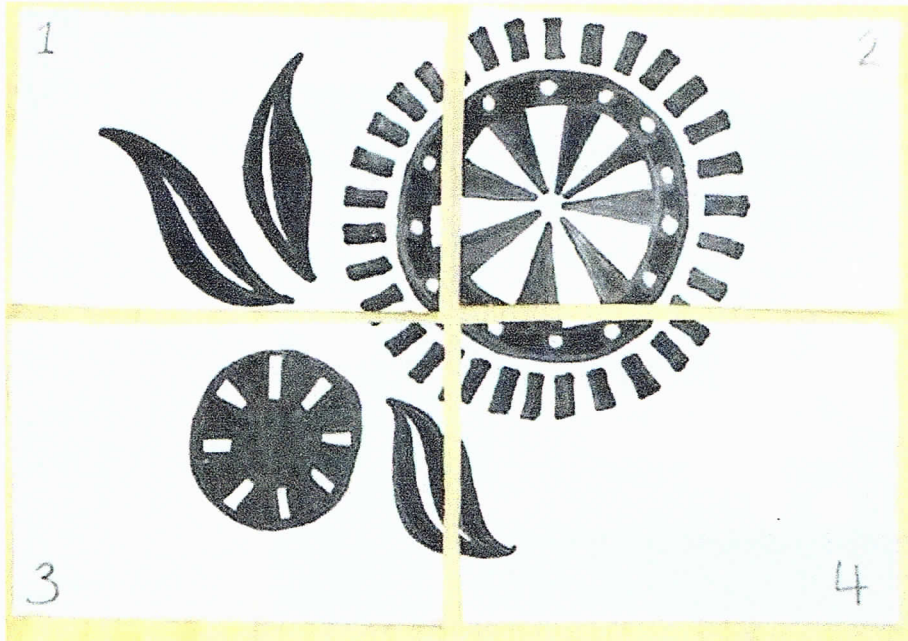
1. Make your template by drawing around your piece of polystyrene onto a piece of paper.



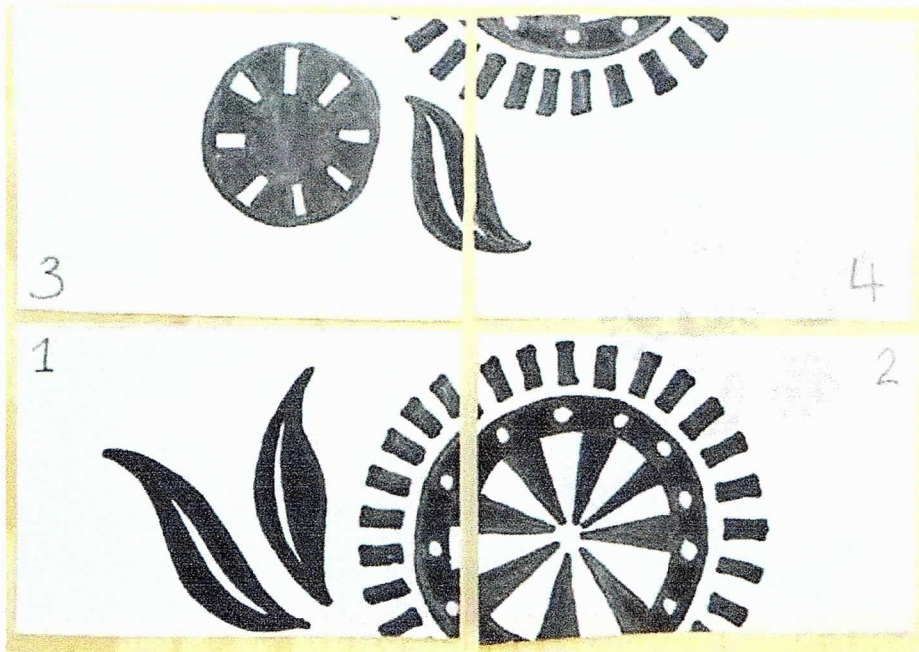
2. Draw part of your design in the centre of your template.



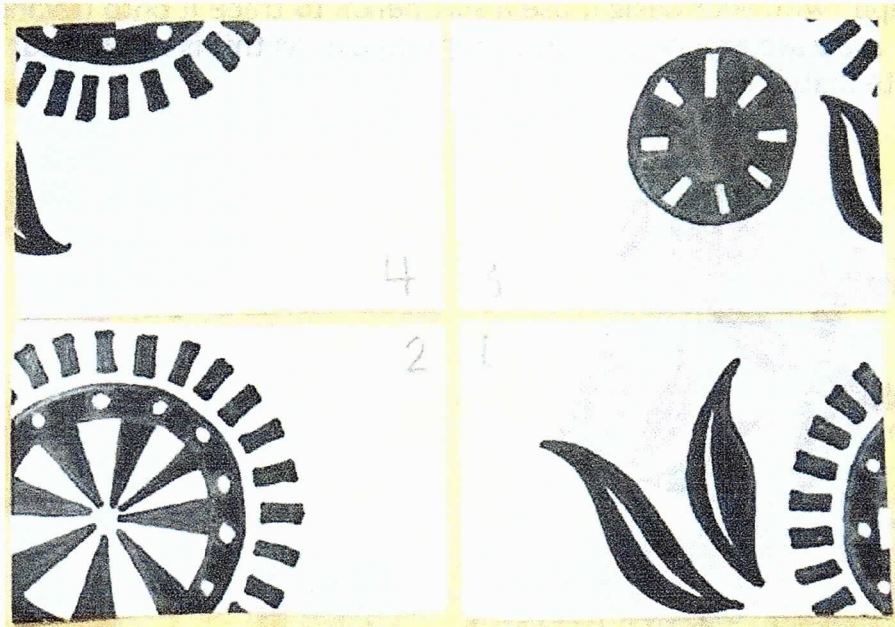
3. Cut out your template and cut it into 4 equal pieces. Number your pieces 1 - 4 as seen below:



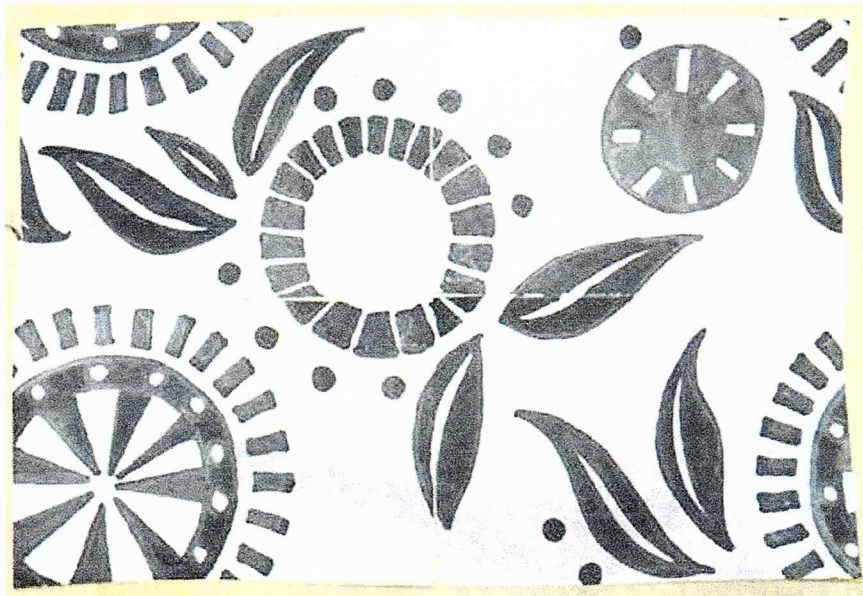
4. Switch pieces 1 and 2 with 3 and 4 so that the top half is swapped with the bottom. Your design should look like this:



5. Now switch 1 and 3 with 4 and 2 so that the left side is swapped with the right side. Your design should look like this: (check your numbers to make sure the pieces are in the right order)



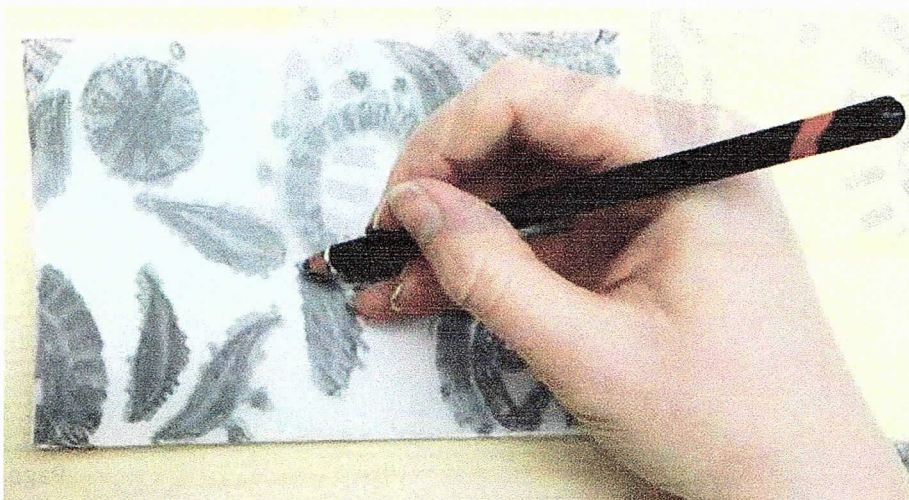
6. Hold (or tape on the back) your pieces together. Draw the rest of your design over the middle to fill the space.



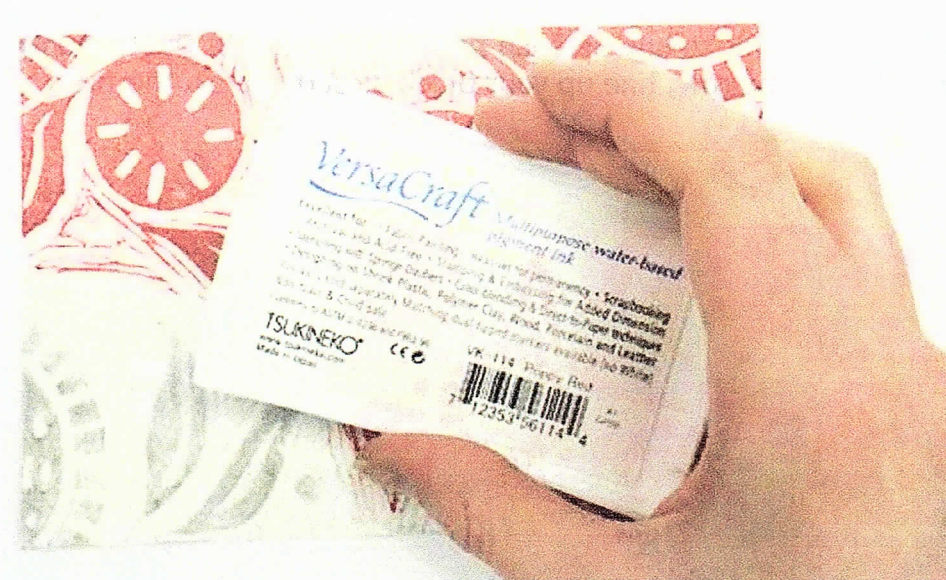
7. When you are happy with your design, use a soft pencil to trace it onto tracing paper. Try to be accurate around the edges in particular as this is where your prints will need to match up.



8. Transfer your tracing onto your block by turning it over and drawing around the design pushing into the polystyrene.



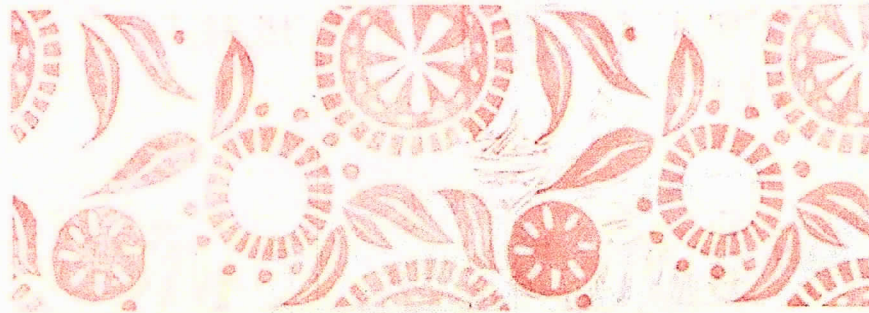
9. Ink up your block using an ink pad or roller.



10. Place your block in the top left corner of your fabric and press down all over with the flat of your hand.



11. This is a straight repeat pattern, so line up each print to the right of the last until you have a row. For the second row, line up your block directly below the first.



12. Repeat this until you have covered your fabric or paper. If you are using fabric iron it to set the ink so it is washable.

