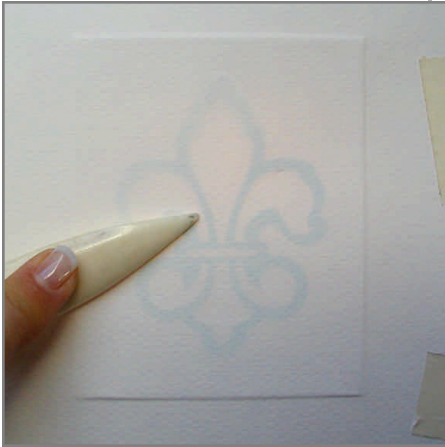
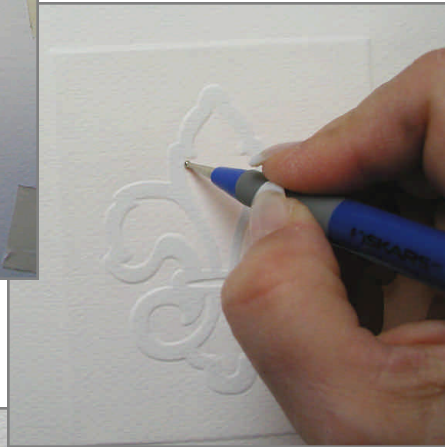


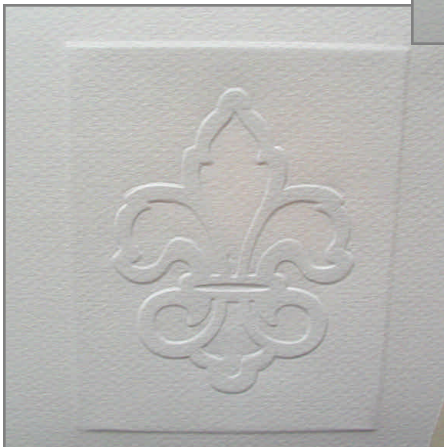
Tips For Embossing Paper



(fig.1)



(fig.2)



(fig.3)

Hand embossing can add subtle elegance to any project. First choose the paper. Softer, higher cotton or rag content will work the best. Secure your embossing template over a light source. A window will work fine if you don't have a lightbox. Place the paper over your embossing template. This can be aluminum brass or cut your own from cardboard.

Begin by rubbing the paper lightly all over with a bone folder. This warms up the paper and begins the process of encouraging the fibers to relax and conform to the design (fig.1).

NOTE: This is especially helpful when working on darker paper, it helps you to "feel" out the design since you won't be able to see it.

Use a double ball tipped embossing tool to gently work your way around the design pressing only lightly at first (fig.2) with the larger of the tips. It's better to go over it several times gently. Pressing too hard will tear the paper. After the paper has sunk into the design area, switch to the smaller tip and go over it again giving the design a nice crisp edge (fig.3).

Try combining embossing motifs. The square outline was cut from cardboard. (fig.3).

Try embossing one design and debossing another.

Paper suggestions:

Canson Mi-Teintes
Canson Effects
Arch text wove

Vellums will work but you must go very carefully as the paper is more brittle and subject to piercing or tearing.

Lightbox, stencils and double ended embossing tool from American Traditional.
www.americantraditional.com