

About Sten Cilit

We are focusing on people who create things for their homes. That's why we want to share our skills and tricks with you through your DIY project.

Our company produces modern Scandinavian-inspired stencils. We are fond of decorating and reusing and being creative with the things we love around us. Through stencilling we give new life to a sad wall or a boring table, a quiet chair or tired pillows, and suddenly they start to talk. There is a story behind every Do-It-Yourself project, which makes it memorable.

DIY means making our homes lovely and cosy, while gaining back the fulfilment from it. Being creative means experimenting, inventing, having fun and living life fully.

"Creativity takes courage."

- Henri Matisse

And you have it!

1. PRACTICE FIRST



Before you start the decoration, try it out on cardboard. Look, if the logo is on the top edge then the stencil is the right way.

Pour out the paint. Use a paint roller to roll over the paint a couple of times but don't overload the roller with paint.

Roll off the excess paint on a newspaper. It's important that you use a quite thin layer of paint so it won't seep under the stencil.

Roll over your sample surface. No need for excess pressure when rolling.

2. LET'S STENCIL



Use painter's tape to attach the stencil on the wall. If you start from the corner, position your stencil against the ceiling and side against the corner and attach it. Check if you see the logo on top of the stencil.

Work from top to bottom. Take paint and roll off the excess paint, like you did with the sample. When you have stenciled the first full stencil, move it downwards. When repositioning the stencil, it will lock in with itself (see illustration). Don't paint over the previous parts.

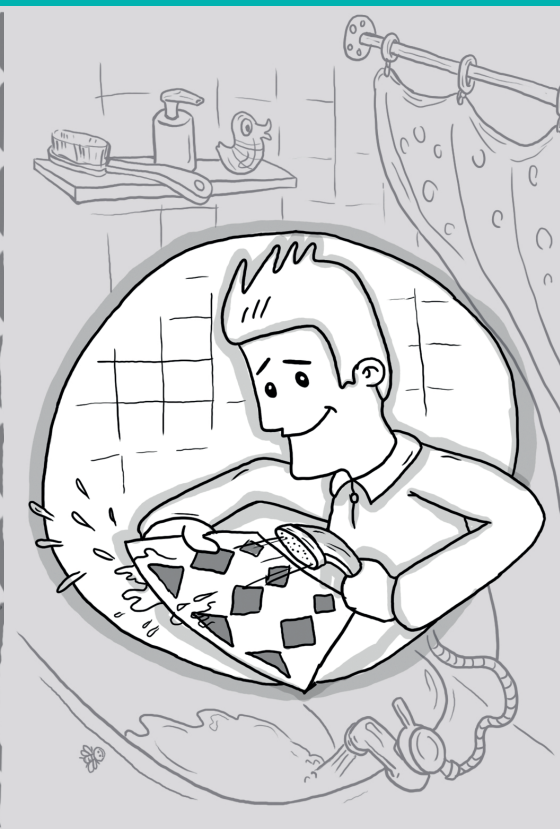
3. ALL DONE



Almost finished! With some stencils you will have missing parts of the pattern (e.g. bottom side). You can do the following:

- Fit the geometric stencil's pattern by the suitable height,
- Turn the stencil around if necessary.
- Use extras

4. CLEANING



If you have finished, the easiest way to clean the stencil is under warm, running water using the dish brush. For easier cleaning of dry paint, use a cleaning detergent for greasy or hard surfaces (e.g. Cif, Krud Kutter).



Sten
Cilit



Merili & Petri

HOW TO STENCIL?

Here's what you need:



Sten Cilit stencil;



a dense foam roller;



acrylic or latex interior paint;



painter's tape;




paint tray or foam plates;



old newspapers or household paper.

GETTING STARTED


The easiest way to do stencilling is to use water-based paint, as it has little odour, it dries fast and the tools can be cleaned with water. Before starting with your project, look for any uneven surface or holes and fill them. The smoother the surface is, the better the result. When the wall is dry (at least 24 hours after preparation), it is ready for stencilling.

 **Mask off the working area:** the edge of the ceiling, baseboard and wall corners.

The width of the upper edge of the stencil is 3 cm, which leaves you a nice frame for the pattern. A spirit level can be used but is not necessary as Sten Cilit stencils are designed to lock in with itself when repositioning. It helps to keep the pattern straight on the wall. Even though small shifts appear, they are eventually unnoticeable to the eye.


CHOOSE COLOURS


If you paint a wall, choose the colours for the wall and the stencil. You can find paint samples at your local hardware store that will help you to decide which colour is best for your wall.


 **A tip:** choose two shades of one colour, as they will always work (for example different shades of blue). For example, if you have a yellowish wall, choose similar colour but a different shade for the stencil.

PRACTICE FIRST

Before you start the decoration, try it out on cardboard (Illustration 1). Get the stencil ready: the stencil is the right way, if the logo is on the top edge.

 **Pour out the paint.** Use a paint roller to roll over the paint a couple of times but don't overload the roller with paint (do not dunk the roller in the paint).


 **Roll off the excess paint on a newspaper** (Illustration 1). Less paint is more in stencilling. It's very important that you use a thin layer of paint so it won't seep under the stencil, the edges come clear and the surface will dry more quickly (within minutes).


 **Roll over your sample surface.** No need for excess pressure when rolling.

Stencilling is really easy and fun to do and when practicing you will learn how much paint to leave on the roller or how hard to press. You will also gain some more confidence before you start with the real wall.

LET'S STENCIL!

It's suggested to start from one of the upper corners of the wall (e.g. the left one). Then it is done with one of the corners. Position your stencil against the ceiling and side against the corner and attach it. Check if you see the logo on top of the stencil. Then it is the right way.

 **Use painter's tape or spray adhesive** to attach the stencil on the wall. No matter which one you choose, they are both reusable, easily removable and will not damage your wall.


 **Work from top to bottom** and left to right (right to left, if you started from the right).


Take paint and roll off the excess paint, like you did with the sample. When you have stencilled the first full stencil, move it downwards. When repositioning the stencil, it will lock in with itself (Illustration 2). The same rule applies when repositioning right or left. Don't paint over the previous parts. Continue the same way with the entire wall.

There is no need to clean the stencil after every stencilling. You need to clean it, if the paint starts to build up too much and the edges are not so crisp anymore. If any paint should go over the stencil on the wall, clean it with a moist tissue before it dries. It will come off easily.


ALMOST READY! EDGES AND CORNERS

When you have stencilled the entire wall, you are almost finished! With some stencils you will have missing parts of the pattern (e.g. bottom side). You can do the following:

 **Fit the geometric stencil's pattern** by the suitable height to finish the bottom side.

 **Turn around.** The stencil can be turned around, if you can see the sign above on stencil.


Sten Cilit stencils are designed in a way that when turning them around, the locking with itself will remain the same. Only geometric patterns can be turned around. Turning around means that you can turn the stencil either clockwise or counter-clockwise. If the stencil can be turned around, the horizontal edges of the decoration can be painted straight (upper and lower edge of the wall).

 **Use extras** If the stencil cannot be turned around (damask or organic pattern), you can finish the horizontal upper and lower edges with extras enclosed with the stencil.

Corners


If you want to continue the pattern over the corner, you need to bend the stencil in a manner that you can paint the corner.

Tape only one edge of the stencil from the top and bottom and paint the corner. Then attach the other edge and paint the corner. Taping only one or the other edge will let you bend the stencil better. It's easier to paint the corners, if you use a piece of sponge or a special stencil brush (available in hardware stores).

 **Tip** If any detail of the stencil should break, which is very uncommon, it is very easy to tape it back with painter's tape from both sides of the stencil.

CLEANING

If you have finished, the easiest way to clean the stencil is under warm, running water using the dish brush.

 **Tip** For easier cleaning of dry paint, use a cleaning detergent for greasy or hard surfaces (e.g. Cif, Krud Kutter). After cleaning, it is ready to be used again. Store the stencil in a flat position.