

cyanotype flower art

WITH JENNI YOLO

TIME: *About 30 minutes for one print, 1 hour for multiple prints*

YOU WILL NEED:

- 1 package of cyanotype or "sun print" paper
- 1 sheet of acrylic the size of your prints (often comes in cyanotype kit)
- 1-3 flowers of your choice (delicate flowers work best, like Queen Anne's lace or baby's breath)
- 1 large basin of water (big enough to fit your prints)
- 1 frame for print
- 1 package of mounting squares for framing
- 1 sheet of cardboard or cutting board

ARRANGE FLOWERS ON PAPER

1. Lay out your first sheet of cyanotype paper on your piece of cardboard or cutting board (blue side up) and start arranging the flowers. Make sure you're doing this in an area you won't have any direct sunlight or harsh light that could start the cyanotype process prematurely.
2. Start with one flower and gently pull out leaves and petals so they show up in the final print. If you're creating a small print (such as a 4"x4" sheet), stick with one flower. If you're creating a larger print, you could creatively arrange several flowers together. Once you're happy with your design, place acrylic on top and firmly press it down on top of your flower(s).

TIP: *Get extra paper and make more prints than you're planning to hang. This way you can experiment and ultimately select your favorite prints to frame.*

SET YOUR PRINT IN THE SUN

3. Set in direct sunlight for 3 to 5 minutes, or if it is overcast for 10 to 15 minutes.

TIP: *Doing this on a sunny day is best practice. Direct sunlight will help boost the contrast of the final print.*

SUBMERGE YOUR PRINT IN WATER

4. Move the print into a basin of water and gently wave it around underwater for 1 to 3 minutes. As your print is exposed, the white areas will go back to blue, and the blue areas will turn white.

ALLOW TO DRY AND FRAME YOUR PRINT

5. Set your print back in the sun to dry completely for about 10 minutes. Place the print into your frame right away to avoid the paper curling.

TIP: *When framing, we suggest using double-sided tape, mounting squares, or spray adhesive to adhere the print to the frame mat.*