**Icon-Making Instructions**

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SUPPLIES

* Source photographs or images
* Ultra-fine black permanent marker
* Tracing paper
* Gesso panels: recommended panels include Ampersand Gessobord (<https://www.dickblick.com/products/ampersand-gessobord/>) and Speedball hardboard panels (<https://www.dickblick.com/products/speedball-gessoed-hardboard-panels/>)
* Archival paste: a recommended brand is Yes! (<https://www.dickblick.com/products/yes-stikflat-glue/>)
* Paint brush: recommended types by Simply Simmons (<https://www.dickblick.com/products/simply-simmons-synthetic-brushes/>)
* Bone folder
* Alcohol markers: recommended sources include Prismacolor (<https://www.prismacolor.com/markers>) and Chameleon (<https://www.chameleonart.com>)
* Collaging papers/materials: recommended sources include Blick (<https://www.dickblick.com>) and Paper Source (<https://www.papersource.com>)

STEPS

*Deviate as much as you’d like from what follows*

1. Begin with a source photo. If you’re looking to use public domain sources, try Wikimedia Commons (<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main_Page>) or Public Domain Review ([publicdomainreview.org](http://publicdomainreview.org)).
2. Using a piece of tracing paper, trace the outline of the photograph with a fine tip black marker. Make it simple! You’re creating a sketch to start with, not the final piece.
3. When you’re happy with the outline that you’ve created, apply the tracing paper to the panel. First, brush the glue on the panel, then place the tracing paper over the glued surface and press down lightly. Use the bone folder to flatten the tracing paper. Try to eliminate as many air bubbles as possible.
4. Start transforming the sketch into your own!
5. Use tracing paper to trace out sections that you’d like to fill in. Take the tracing paper outline and place it on top of the paper or collage material you’d like to apply to your work and cut out the shape. Think about this step like this: you’re creating and putting together your own puzzle. Each piece you’re tracing with tracing paper is a puzzle piece that you’re making. Trace a piece, lay it on top of the material you’d like to collage with, cut it out, then glue it to the panel.
6. Once you have the new piece that you’d like to place, brush the back of it with paste, then place it.
7. Repeat steps 5 and 6 until you’ve filled in your piece as much as you’d like with papers.
8. Now you can take your markers and fill in what’s left. Alcohol markers take to the tracing paper especially well. The ink will take a few seconds to absorb into the paper which means that it’s very easy to blend colors together. Be creative!