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Bead Basics - Masking

Get out those liners cause we're gonna PLAY! You will also need a sheet of O'So Sticky Tape, some cardstock and a few different colors of beads.

This project comes from the book "Stuck On Beads" Volume 1 which is available on our website here: <http://www.pennywisearts.com/books.html> For only \$5.50 – it's an excellent book for beginners and experienced beaders alike! It may only have 19 pages, but they are packed FULL of beadie ideas for picture frames, jewelry, pens, notebooks, candles, ornaments and more!

If you have a copy of the book, you can follow along on page 9. They are covering books and journals but for the sake of this class, I will be showing you the same technique on a card front. If you don't have the book handy, just follow the link above and look at the cover of the book, on the bottom right side and you'll see what we are going to do!

On the cover of the book it purports to be a 5 minute project, but the way that they explain definitely takes longer than 5 minutes! Why? Because they have you layering tape over tape in a crisscross pattern and then you have to go back and cut all the tape at the crossings to get the liners out! That's just crazy! I did it once their way and it took over an HOUR to do and was very frustrating!!

If you use recycled liners – there is no cutting involved and no struggle to get the little pieces out from under one another! NOW we're talking 5 minute projects!!

I have chosen to use a dark piece of cardstock to contrast and set off the bead design on my card.

Step 1:

Cut a piece of O'So Sticky Tape (from a sheet) into card front size 5.5" by 4.25"

If you don't have a sheet of tape, you can use a wide tape, such as 1" to lay in strips over your card front and achieve the same results – it's just a little more tedious – but you can do it!

Using the PWA method, we are going to carefully adhere the O'So to the front of our card.

"When using O'So Sticky tape peel back JUST A CORNER of the liner."

This is especially important in this project, since you are working with a large piece of tape! Peel away too much liner, and you can lose control (and waste tape) fast! :0) It is much better to just expose a small portion of the tape, get it exactly where you want it, press it down, and THEN slowly peel away the rest of the liner.

For this project, it really doesn't matter which liner you remove first, the mustard paper or the red plastic. (Please note that our paper liners changed from a mustard color kraft paper to white paper in 2004)

I usually choose to peel the PAPER side first, so that I can "see through" the red liner to line up my tape.

When you are finished with Step 1, the front of your card should be completely covered with O'So Sticky Tape – like this:

I am showing you two examples – in the one on the left, I peeled the red liner first. In the one on the right I peeled the paper liner first – it doesn't matter which way you do it!



Now you are ready to get out those liners! Use whatever you have! I'll be using the 1/4" size but it really can be any size! If all you have is 1" liners, and you want a 1/4" line, then just trim the liners! If you have a lot of paper liners left over from other projects, you can cut those up to use! In fact, you could even get fancy and cut the paper with decorative scissors if you want to! Remember though that the red liners are made of plastic and have a "rubbery" texture to them – so I wouldn't recommend that you try to cut them decorative scissors.



Step 2:

Remove the liner from the tape you placed onto the card front, exposing the adhesive. Try not to touch it or bump it – cause you'll get stuck!

Now, lay the liners onto the exposed adhesive in any pattern that suits you. It is okay to cross over with this method – it'll come back up easily and without a lot of cutting like you would have to do if you followed the instructions in the book!

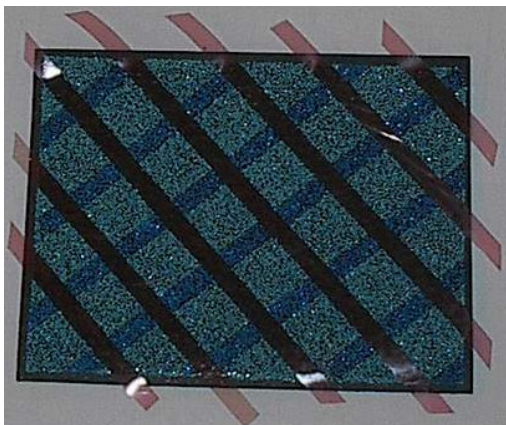
You'll want to press the liners down onto the adhesive – I used a pencil eraser to rub along each piece to make sure it was stuck down good! You may also want to trim any long ends – to keep them from catching and pulling off before you want them to!

Step 3a:

The adhesive from the sheet I placed onto the cardstock is showing through the design I made with the liners. This is what will be beaded first.

Press the card front into whatever color you would like!

Step 3b, Masking:



Next, remove the top layer of liners from your card and press your card into another color of beads.

So far, I used the Light Blue Opaque in step 3a and then Royal Blue Opaque.

Step 3c



And then remove the last layer of liners and press into a third color of beads.

I chose silver, and am now thinking that I would have liked it much better had I used the silver FIRST, so that all my "diamonds" were silver rather than light blue. That's okay – I'll try it again another time.

And don't forget that you can SAVE THESE LINERS TOO!!! Yep – you can just keep on using them over and over and over – they don't wear out!



Masking Notes

My husband, Brian really gets credit for coming up with the whole "Save Your Liner" campaign. This is what he created with recycled liners last year! WOW!

And our son Jordan created a very cool beaded pen using the masking technique! He also made me a neat vase with just ONE sheet of O'So Sticky Tape and LOTS of recycled liners! Imagine what I would have spent on tape had he NOT been using the liners! Yikes!

