

# Art Activity

## Hanko Stamper



### Design a Signature Stamp

In Japan, a *Hanko* is used in place of a signature and every individual has one. A unique symbol, *Hanko* can also be used to sign a work of art you made or to simply stamp your name on a piece of paper. Create your own signature stamper using recycled materials.

1

#### SEARCH

Search your home for the suggested materials.

2

#### CREATE

Get creative with each step and think outside the box.

3

#### ENJOY

Enjoy your creation and share with others.



**McNay Connection**  
*Agnes Martin's Praise from Rubber Stamp Portfolio* 1976.



**McNay Connection**  
*Sol Lewitt's Lines in Four Directions, Rubber Stamp Portfolio* 1976.



**McNay Connection**  
*Robert Mangold's Curved Plane/ Figure III* 1995.

## Suggested materials:

- Cardboard tubes, all sizes
- Any recycled cardboard pieces
- Any fun objects in all shapes and sizes
- Styrofoam, like plates or cups (optional)
- Markers, paint, ink, or all of the above
- Paper
- Scissors
- Glue



## Instructions:

1. Begin by choosing the objects to create the handle of your stamper. Consider this part a mini sculpture that is uniquely you. I used some recycled cardboard tubes cut to different sizes and a ribbon spool.
2. Arrange the objects to plan out your handle in the order you want them to be stacked. Add some fun designs to each piece using markers, paint, or anything you may have. Make sure the bottom piece is flat; this is where your stamp will be placed.
3. Now you can assemble your handle with glue. Allow to dry for at least an hour.
4. Next, you must create your personalized stamp symbol. I used pieces of thick cardboard for my custom stamp, but you can also use styrofoam or any other soft materials that's easy to cut with scissors. Trace the bottom of your stamp handle onto the materials of choice so you know how big or small to make your symbol.
5. Take some time to design your symbol. I took some inspiration from my favorite coffee cup and made a leaf design. I also made a second stamper with a geometric design like Sol Lewitt from the McNay Collection. Cut out your finished design and glue it to the bottom of your stamper handle. Allow some more time to dry before using.
6. You can use ink or paint to stamp your signature. Either way your new *Hanko* is as unique as you!

