

# mixed media made easy

Terrific techniques to try using reactive tissue paper.

BY VICKI BOUTIN

*i* **It's time to channel your inner preschooler and play** with a technique that I first dabbled with in my early school years. Let's explore the magic of reactive or bleeding tissue paper! This cheap and cheerful craft medium is a tissue paper full of pigment that reacts with water.

## ABOUT REACTIVE TISSUE PAPER

**Don't use this tissue paper in your kids' birthday gifts!**

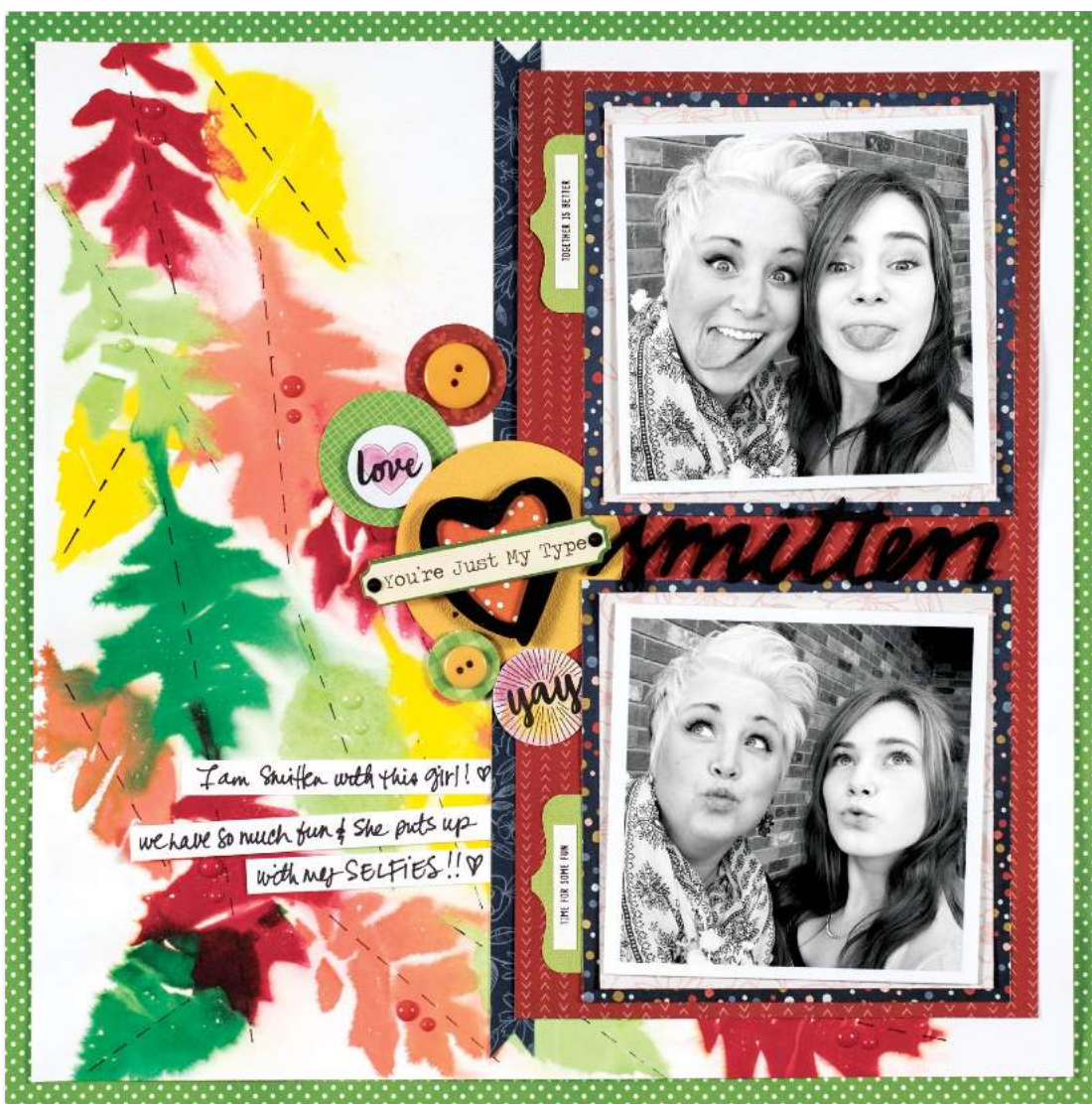
Reactive Tissue Paper is highly pigmented for mixed media projects with serious moxie. Crumple it, mist it, pounce with it, let it sit, and watch the colour transfer create a unique pattern. Things may get a little messy, but messy is fun!

### DESIGN TIP:

**Handwritten journaling adds the perfect touch** to the artsy background created with reactive tissue paper.

### TECHNIQUE TIP:

**Re-misting the tissue shapes** once they are on the moistened paper causes the ink to "bleed."



## smitten

**supplies** CARDSTOCK: Bazzill Basics, Doodlebug Design; PATTERNED PAPER: American Crafts, Doodlebug Design, Simple Stories; ENAMEL DOTS: PinkFresh Studio, Richard Garay; PEN, REACTIVE TISSUE PAPER, STICKERS: American Crafts; PAINT: BoBunny; PUNCH: We R Memory Keepers.; DIE: Sizzix; ADHESIVE: Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L; OTHER: Buttons

**TECHNIQUE TIP:** The longer the shapes are left in water, the more pigment will release resulting in richer colours.

STEP-BY-STEP



1 Die cut leaves from tissue.



2 Mist paper with water, place tissue leaves on paper, and mist again. Allow leaves to sit for a while.



3 Use a heat gun to remove the tissue leaves and reveal the pattern. Set aside tissue leaves for later use.

**TECHNIQUE TIP:** Layer tissue and spritz with water to create colourful patterns on your leaves giving them a more mottled and natural look. Use a heat gun to prevent tearing the tissue when removing them from one another.



**TECHNIQUE TIP:** The leaves on this card are the same ones I used on the layout. I laid them on top of one another, transferred a little color with the help of water, and BAM! It's a total two-in-one kind of technique!

### thinking of you

**supplies** CARDSTOCK: Bazzill Basics, Doodlebug Design; PATTERNED PAPER: American Crafts, Simple Stories; STAMPS: Hero Arts; INK: Ranger Industries; REACTIVE TISSUE PAPER: American Crafts; DIE: Sizzix; ADHESIVE: Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L; OTHER: Brads, embroidery floss

For more colourful ideas from Vicki, check out her blog at [vickiboutin.typepad.com](http://vickiboutin.typepad.com)