MAKING A STAMP USING A CUT-OUT NEGATIVE

You can make a stamp using any image that is clear and dark. A very easy way of making a negative is to cut a shape out of dark paper or thin card. You can fold it over and cut through both sides to make a symmetrical cut out shape. When you open it up you will have a clear cut out surrounded by dark card. When making a stamp, the light will go through the clear, open part to harden the gel and make your stamp, while the dark part will stop light and the gel will stay liquid to be later washed away.

In the example above a leaf shape has been created with a cutting machine. The part that became the "negative" to make the stamp, was the part left behind when the shape was cut out – if you use a cutting machine, you can get two useful shapes – one to use in a project immediately and one to make a stamp with!

Card die cut negative

Stamp

Stamped jewelry

HOW TO USE A CUT-OUT
TO MAKE A STAMP

1. Lay the cut-out in your clamp as you would any printed negative.
2. Lay a piece of clear acetate on top of the cut out* Don't make the card and acetate too thick otherwise the clamp will not close properly.
3. Lay the imagepac sachet on top of the acetate so that you can read the word "imagepac"
4. Close clamp and press in the middle to level gel.
5. Follow stamp making instructions as normal.

*It is important that you use a piece of acetate here otherwise the gel will push through the cut out and your stamp will have rounded edges

Why not experiment with patterns on your acetate for added interest. For the stamp below, black dots were printed on the clear acetate and you can see that this stopped gel hardening in those areas, to make a dotty stamp.