

Directions for bleaching designs using **Stencil 1** stencils



Materials needed:

Clothing to bleach, Clorox Bleach Pen, goggles, rubber gloves, foam brushes, painting dish or bowl, masking tape, cardboard boxes, and paper towels.

Always wear safety goggles and gloves when working with bleach.

The Clorox Bleach Pen is filled with a bleach paste. The paste as opposed to liquid bleach allows control of the bleach from bleeding to far out of the design areas. For greater control over the bleach, we recommend using a small foam brush.



1. Choose your clothing.

Stencil1 stencils can be used to bleach t-shirts, sweatshirts and more. Clothing should be 100% cotton for best results. Darker items will show best results. Start by inserting a cardboard box inside the clothing item. This flattens the area you want to stencil and also prevents the bleach from going through to the next layer. The shirt or clothing item should NOT be too stretched over the cardboard, it should just fit. If you overstretch your fabric, your design will get distorted.

2. Carefully position your stencil on the clothing item where you would like it to appear. Next, tape down two or three sides of the stencil with masking tape to hold your stencil in place.

4. Squeeze a few ounces of bleach paste out of the pen onto a plate or bowl.

5. Dip the foam brush in the bleach and dab it onto the clothing in the open areas of the stencil, starting with your larger areas. Try not to get any paste under the stencil for a clearer design. Apply to all areas of the design evenly.

6. You may start to see the bleach lifting the color out of the shirt immediately. You can leave the paste on for 5 minutes or 4 hours, depending on the effect you are seeking. The longer you leave the bleach on, the more it will lift out the original color of the clothing so results will vary. Too long will result in the bleach eating holes in the shirt.

7. Once you are satisfied with the bleaching level, rinse the garment in water and then plunge it into a bath of Anti-Chlor, Bleach Stop, or another bleach neutralizer. It's best to have this bath prepared and ready. Then launder the garment as usual.

If you choose to paint an additional layer on top of your bleached design, see our paint instructions on our How-To page.

8. Clean up.

Careful cleaning and drying of your stencils will enable them to be used again and again.

Our stencils are cut from mylar (polyethylene). They are extremely durable and with proper care and handling they will last years. I recommend using soap and water, with a gently scrubbing if necessary.

VISIT www.stencil1.com for more information.