

Our Memories For Life

Laser Border Cuts

Tips & Tricks - Adding Color

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Use stamp inks to color your borders and elements.

Supplies:

You need makeup sponges/wedges, stamping ink pads, a binder clip and post it notes

Tips:

Make up sponges are **inexpensive**

Buy sponges that are **dense and latex free**

You can **cut or tear pieces** from the makeup sponges

Technique:

Place a scratch piece of paper under the Laser Border Cut to color them.

The key is to **ball up the sponge** so there are no **straight edges** showing, otherwise you will get lines on your borders and elements.

If you don't have a lot of strength in your hands, you can make your own sponge daubers. Ball up the sponge and place into 5/8" or 3/4" plastic tips that go on the ends of metal poles. You can get these at a hardware store. Be sure the balled up part of the sponge is sticking out in a domed shape so the working surface of the sponge is smooth.

Dab the rounded part of the sponge onto a stamp pad. Dab some of the ink off the sponge onto a piece of scratch paper first before applying to your project. **Dab and Bounce** (don't wipe) the inked sponge on the laser border or element. Start with light pressure and see how much ink is coming off the sponge. You can press harder to get more ink off the sponge.

Think of layering the ink. You can add more layers to get a darker shade or less layers to get a lighter shade. The blue border shows how parts of the border is lighter and has a faded look and other parts are darker by adding more layers or applying a bit more pressure. You can always add more ink to make the color darker, but you can't make it lighter.

Orange, yellow, and pink stamp inks were used on the butterfly. Using a soft touch and layering the colors gives a multi-color effect that is smooth and blended. Start with your lightest color first and your darkest color last..

Practice on scratch paper to learn the technique. Different types of inks, brands of stamp inks, and colors can interact with papers differently. OMFL Laser Borders take the ink nicely. Once you have the **technique down**, the process is **quick and easy**.

The laser borders can also act as a stencil. Place the Laser Border on the project you are working on. Hold the laser border down with post it notes. Sponge the stamp ink over the Laser Border making sure the sponge is getting down into the holes and onto your paper. After you are done using the Laser Border as a stencil, you now have a Laser Border with color to use on another project.