



# INK BLENDING TOOL TUTORIAL

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*If you are looking at purchasing this tool, my comments for you are GO FOR IT! I know there are a lot of tools and gadgets in the scrapping world but I assure you this one is fantastic.*

*You will use over and over, especially if you love distressing edges and adding colour to elements or embellishments.*

*The best part too is that you can easily layer colours to make your project unique and completely colour coordinated with your theme or patterned paper.*

*Even if just using one colour, you can add as little or as much colour as you desire simply by layering the colour on.*

*Let me show you.....*

First you will need the ink blending tool, foam pads and your selected ink pads.

You will also need a craft sheet or scrap piece of paper to work on that will protect your work surface.



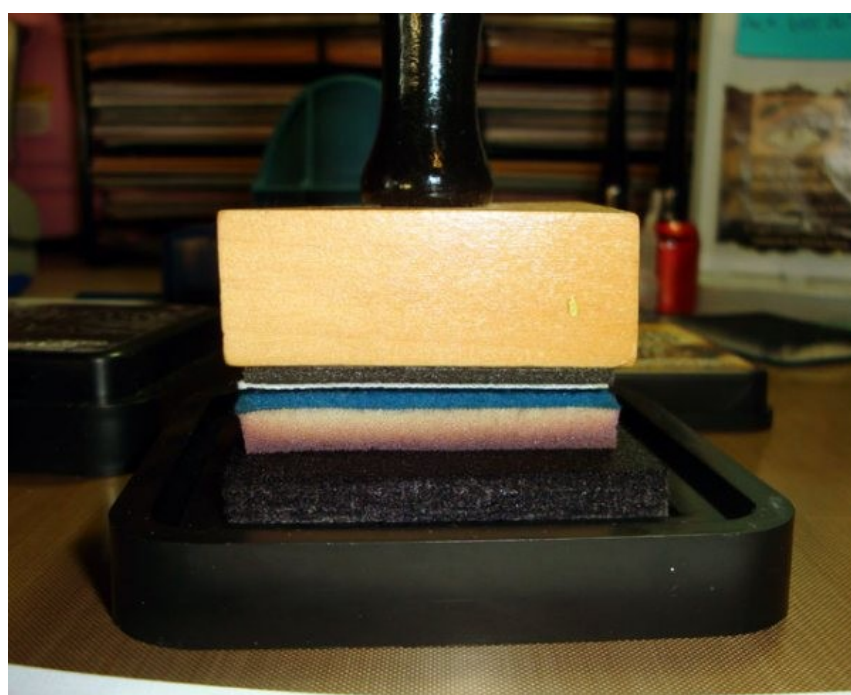
Now I say foam pads because if you are using more than one colour it is a good idea to change pads for different colours.

This is particularly important for light and dark colours and colours from different colour families.

Even though you will be blending colours you do not want to mix them on your foam pads and infect a light colour with the previous darker one.

Phew...hope that made sense!

OK, make sure your foam pad is firmly pressed onto the blending tool.



The surfaces of both are Velcro so the attachment should be pretty secure.

Have your project, photo, embellishment or whatever right in front of you in the centre of your scrap paper.

Tap the ink blending tool onto the ink pad to load it with colour.

Hold your project in place with your other hand and using a gentle circular motion start to apply colour to your project.

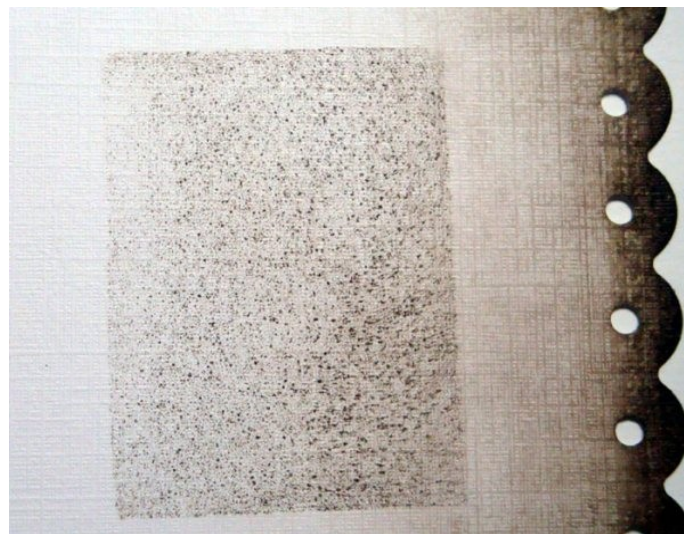


It is really important that you DO NOT start directly on your project. Start slightly away from it on your scrap piece of paper, and gradually move across your project.

This will make sure you avoid delivering too much colour too quickly.

When you have run out of colour simply reload more by tapping the foam pad again on your ink pad. Also, by doing the circular motion you will avoid getting a rectangular blob of ink on your project.

I have done this deliberately here in this photo to show what I mean.



If this does occur, don't panic! Simply tap off all the ink on your foam pad onto your scrap paper then return to your project and lightly rub over the patch of ink.

You should find that the blending tool will redistribute some of the ink so that the rectangle outline from the foam pad will fade.

The reason you start on the scrap piece of paper and away from your project is so that you get a gradual delivery of colour.

If you are just doing the edges of a card or whatever, part of the foam pad will always remain on the scrap paper/craft sheet underneath.

This is what will give you that subtle distressing look of dark round the edges moving into lighter.

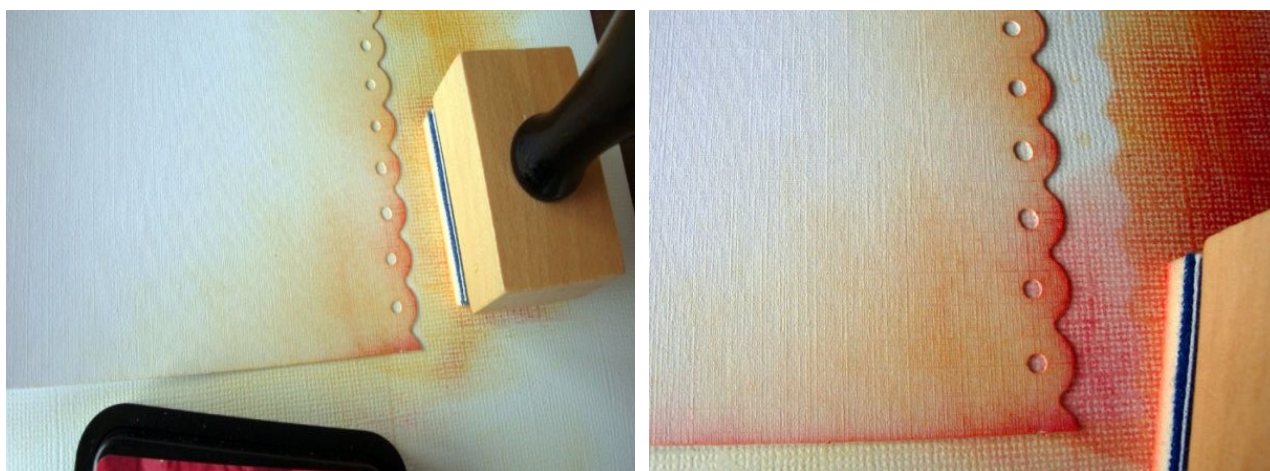
If you are distressing or colouring your entire embellishment, photo, journaling card etc keep working in that circular motion right towards the centre.

By starting off on the scrap paper it is kind of like “sweeping” colour onto your project.



In this way, blending different colours or layering the same colour happens very smoothly and you will very quickly create gorgeous edges for cards, tags and even whole scrapbook pages.

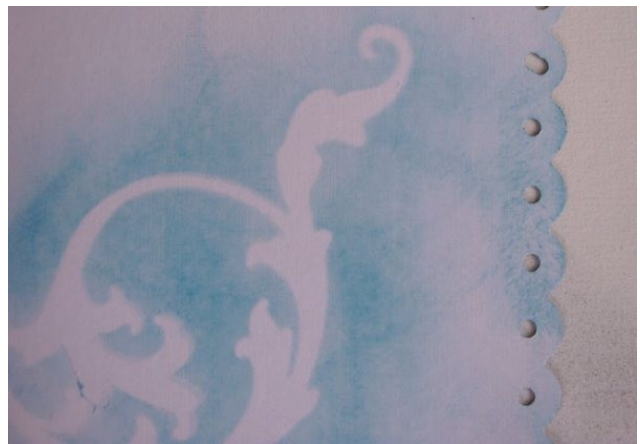
You can make the effect as subtle or striking as you wish  
Here I have started with light orange and blended with red.



**\*\*REMEMBER** - When using multiple colours, always use the light colours first and do change your foam pads especially when using dark colours such as black and dark brown

Ink blending tool also works really well with masks and negative images.

By using the same circular sweeping motion across the mask you can create some pretty cool effects.



If you want to really lash out, once you have applied all your colour(s) onto your project you can lightly spritz with water and either leave to dry, or move the water around to create a really arty look.

Obviously this would not be recommended for photos but can be really effective for backgrounds on cards, journal cards etc.

You can change or alter the colour, or distress pretty much anything from flowers, chipboard and ribbon.



As with most things in scrapbooking you are only limited by your imagination.

