



Decoupage: A Practical Guide to the Art of Decorating Surfaces with Paper Cutouts

Dee Davis

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"Perfect for beginners as well as experienced decoupeurs."—*Victorian Home and Gardens*

Aptly called "painting with scissors," the art of decoupage (embellishing surfaces with decorative paper cutouts) is one that requires no formal training or special talent. It can be mastered readily, with simple and inexpensive materials, yet can produce objects of great attractiveness and sophistication. Dee Davis has practiced and taught decoupage since she was first introduced to its delights almost thirty years ago. She now shares her enthusiasm, her discoveries, and her accumulated skills in text and pictures that explain and illustrate every aspect of the craft. Paper-cutting and decoupage have been popular for centuries, practiced in ancient China and Japan, in seventeenth-century Italy, in the courts of Marie Antoinette and Queen Victoria, and in the studios of twentieth-century artists such as Matisse and Picasso. The author explores this fascinating history before concentrating on the practical approach to the craft. With straightforward step-by-step directions and useful drawings she explains how to select papers, prepare surfaces, choose the right tools, cut, glue, and varnish. Color photographs of finished pieces, both traditional and modern, demonstrate the effects that can be achieved. Using the easy-to-follow instructions, newcomers to the craft will discover an exciting and fulfilling activity, while experienced decoupeurs will find the book full of ideas to enhance their knowledge and their expertise. Illustrated throughout

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