




PROJECT

2

LINED *Envelopes*

Lined envelopes are a simple way to add elegance to wedding invitations or any personal correspondence. Creating your own pattern on the lining paper gives an extra special touch. Any leftover stamped paper can be used to embellish the card or wrapped around a stack of cards to give as a gift. Experiment with the pattern stamp further by making your own gift wrap or scrapbook pages. The repeated pattern makes a striking design that is both modern and versatile.





LINED ENVELOPES

Skill level

2

Materials

Basic carving materials
(see page 10)

Lining paper (lightweight paper
such as handmade paper, rice
paper or text-weight stock)

Archival dye-based ink pad

Pack of blank cards and
envelopes

Card stock (one piece at least
as tall and wide as your chosen
envelopes with the flap open)

Double-sided tape



1 Photocopy the template on page 42, to a larger or smaller scale if you prefer, and carve your stamp as instructed on page 20.

2 Take your lining paper (any lightweight paper you have chosen) and visualize how you will stamp your repeated pattern. The stamp can be printed in a row or it could be printed in a checkerboard pattern with alternating colours.

3 Apply ink to your stamp and begin stamping on the paper. Repeat by stamping as straight and close to the last print as possible. Don't worry if you can't get each print to line up perfectly - any imperfections will add character. Set the stamped paper aside to leave it to dry.

4 While the stamped paper is drying, create a template for the envelope lining sheets. Have the piece of card stock, a ruler and pencil to hand. You'll want to make sure that the height of the card stock is at least the height of the open envelope. Measure the width of the envelope. Make your template about 6 mm ($\frac{1}{4}$ in) narrower than the width of the envelope. Cut the card stock to its determined width.

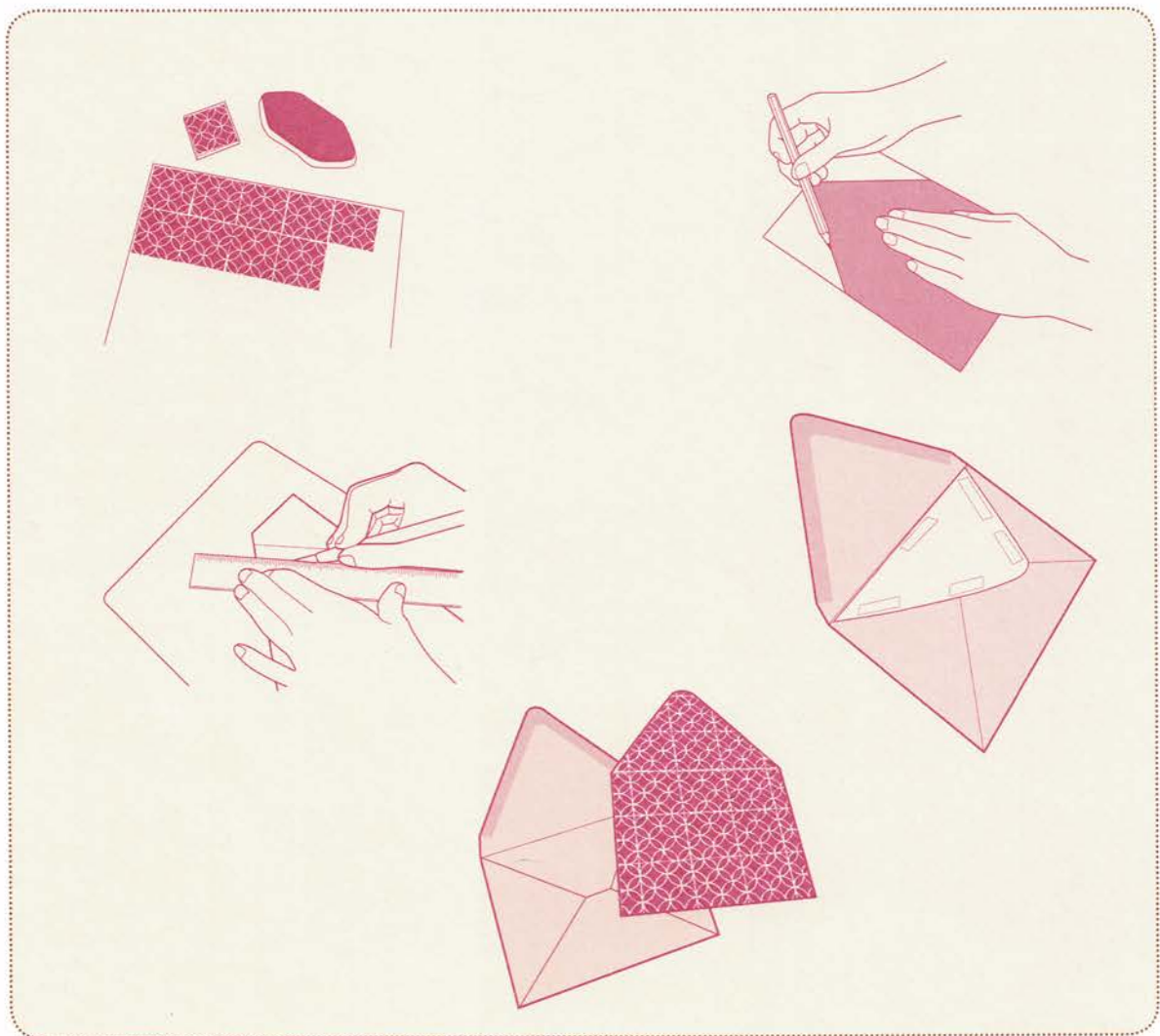
5 Slide the cut card stock into an envelope and flip it over. With a pencil, lightly trace the edge of the flap of the envelope. Pull out the card stock and put it on a cutting mat. Take the ruler and slide it about 12 mm ($\frac{1}{2}$ in) back from the line you have just made. Cut a parallel line approximately 12 mm ($\frac{1}{2}$ in) in from the traced line so that when the lining is attached to the envelope, the envelope's adhesive strip is still exposed. Cut both angles. If the tip of the envelope is rounded, use a pair of scissors to round the corner. Slide your finished template back into the envelope to make sure that it fits.



6 To make the lining sheets, first determine the direction of the grain of the lining paper (see the 'Extra Hints' box on page 42) and align your card stock template so that the envelope fold will be parallel with the grain. Using your template as a guide, cut out all the lining pieces.

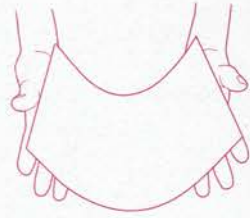
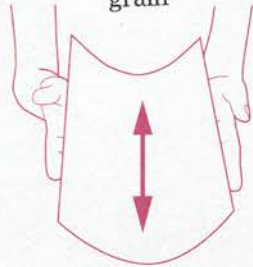
7 Take a cut lining sheet and insert it into an envelope. Using a ruler and a bone folder, create a fold on the lining piece that matches the fold in the envelope (where the flap meets the pocket).

8 Fasten the lining to the inside of the envelope with a few pieces of double-stick tape. Close the envelope and run the bone folder along the edge to reinforce the fold and give it a crisp edge. Repeat for each envelope.



**Extra
Hints****Establishing Your
Paper's Grain**

Before you cut the lining pieces out, you will want to establish your paper's 'grain'. All paper has a grain, and when creating a fold, you want to go *with* the grain, not against it or you won't get a crisp fold. To find the direction of the paper's grain, take the paper in the palms of your hands and gently attempt to fold it. Then turn the paper and repeat. Whichever way feels easier to bring together (has less resistance) is the direction of the grain.

Against the
grainDirection of
the grain**Template**