

'Pouncing': A Simple Technique to Transfer Patterns onto Plaster Tablets

Sheila Ceccarelli

Following on from [How to Make a Tessellated Design](#), teenagers, at AccessArt's Experimental Drawing Class, demonstrate how to transfer their designs onto a plaster tablet, using the very Victorian method of 'pouncing'.



Libby transferrs her design from paper to plaster using 'pouncing'

Pouncing is a method where by little holes are pierced into paper, following a pattern or design, and then a pouncing pad or pouch is used to 'pounce' powder through the pattern to transfer the image onto a firm surface.

Students transferred their images onto plaster tablets - in Victorian times they would have pounced onto walls to create ornate and decorative murals.

Pouncing is still used today in mural work and embroidery.

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Students, from the DesignLab at the V&A, London, worked with artist Phoebe Cummings over a three month period to create a site-specific, group piece, from unfired clay which was inspired by the historical 2D designs found on 19th century British tableware in the collection.

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