



Hi | Emily Branch

I am so craftionately in love with Studio Calico's new Color Theory Ink. I knew that I wanted to experiment with them. When I saw the little transparency sheet included with the main kit, I thought it would be an awesome idea to "paint" a stamped image with die ink. Needing a few colors of ink, the transparency sheet, a brush and some water, this "painting with ink" technique worked great with the Studio Calico inks making them even more versatile.

SUPPLY LIST :

kits - Office Hours Card Kit, Watercooler Add-on;
patterned paper & gold stickers - LemonLush; enamel dots - Color Theory; ink - Color Theory Sunny Day, Yes Peas, Emerald City & Coral Bay; other - cardstock, brush, water spray bottle, stapler



Step 1 : Gather your supplies together: You'll need a transparency sheet from the Office Hours Card kit, small spray bottle, Color Theory dye inks, a round 3 paint brush or similar detail brush and a stamp set (I used the Water Cooler add on kit stamp set).

Step 2 : Starting with the lightest color first, ink transparency sheet by pressing ink pad to sheet several times until you have all the colors you desire on the transparency sheet.

Step 3 : Spray the inked transparency sheet with water. Don't spray to close to the sheet; just a gentle mist of one or two spritzes should be enough. When the ink runs like in the picture shown, you've sprayed enough water.

Step 4 : Use the transparency sheet as a "palette" to load up your brush with ink and "paint" onto your stamp after you've applied it to an acrylic block. I started by applying Sunny Day to the top of the stem, and then paint some Yes Peas and Emerald City onto the stamp to create a gradient. Once you're pleased with the ink coverage, stamp your card base.





Step 5 : As the ink dries, you can “shade” your stem by applying more ink with your brush to create darker values and shadows.

Step 6 : Stamp a circle with Coral Bay ink. Repeat steps 2-4 to “paint” the flower.

Step 7 : I struggle with machine-stitching straight lines. To fix my crooked ways, I lightly traced a rectangle using a wafer thin die as a template. Then, I stitched the rectangle with my sewing machine, and erased any the drawn line that may have still been showing.

Step 8 : trimmed a 4.5” x 11” to create a cardstock base. I dry embossed half of it with raised dots and folded it in half. Add patterned paper strips to the card base and adhere flower cardstock panel to card base with foam tape. Embellish flower with thread and enamel dots as shown. Adhere die cut and affix stickers to card to spell hi.

