



## Love You | Tina Aszmus

Today I'm going to show you how to quickly color in a brush stamp for a fun project. I'm using the cute little boy from the Sugar Rush digital card stamp set. I only need the top portion of the image and I need it to be larger than the rubber stamp. This is where having the digital stamp comes in handy.

### SUPPLY LIST :

Studio Calico Sugar Rush card kit digital stamps, watercolor digital stamps found online, Photoshop, box lid, chalkboard paint, chalkboard pen, chalk, foam dots

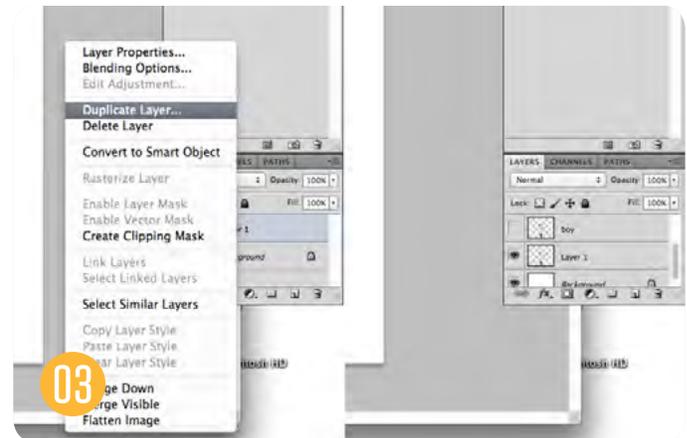


**Step 01 :** Start by opening up a blank document in PS.



**Step 02 :** Before we start digital stamping, we're going to create a few layers that will keep our elements separated. Your first layer will be the image of the boy. Go ahead and stamp him in black.

**Step 03 :** Next, you want to duplicate that layer. This layer will go over our watercolor stamping so that we have a nice crisp black line to cut out once it's printed.



**Step 04 :** I Googled "free Photoshop watercolor brush" and downloaded 2 different sets for some variety.

Because I'm taking a "messy" approach to this, I'm not going to worry about staying in the lines of the image. The silhouette of the image will be cut out after it's printed so I'm not too worried about getting the color perfect.



Start by finding a watercolor brush that is shaped like a round circle. This will fill in the boy's face. Click on a new layer and name it "face". Choose your desired skin color and stamp over the boy's face.

**Step 05 :** Next, we'll color in his hair. Choose a new layer and name it "hair". Pick your hair color and brush in his hair. Now you'll see that I've chosen a different brush shape for this. It's one that will fill in his hair better than the round brush stamp we used for his face.





**Step 06 :** You can turn the brush around to get a better angle too. Just click on the “brush” icon and turn the wheel around.



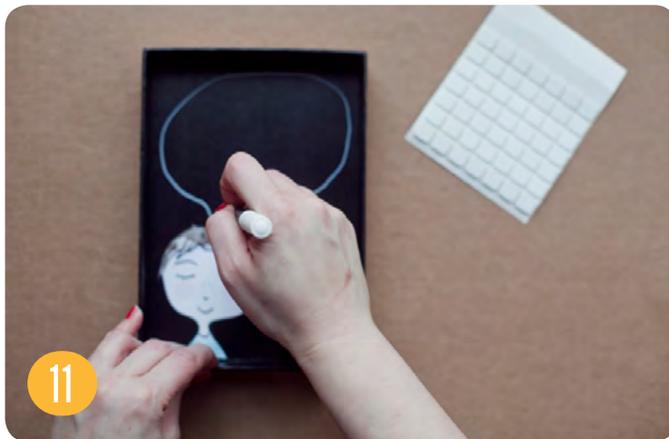
**Step 07 :** Now I’m going to finish this off by coloring in the top part of the boy’s shirt. Again, choose a new layer, name it shirt and find a brush that will fill it in nicely. Now it’s time to put that duplicate layer we did of the original stamp on top of all the layers we created.

Why do I keep the layers separate? Because it’s much easier to go in and correct a misplaced stamp or make changes to a particular spot. If you put all of these stamped elements onto one layer, it groups all the stamps together so you have to work backwards to make corrections. I also chose to use watercolor brushes rather than just standard brushes because I love the look of watercolor. Unfortunately inkjet ink runs when water is applied. This is reason I chose to do it digitally.



**Step 08 :** Go ahead and crop the boys face tightly so you don’t print off the excess color. I went ahead and did a few of these and dragged them to an 8 ½ x 11” canvas since that is the size I’m printing. I plan on making a few of these for Tyler’s Grandma and friends. These will act as his Valentine’s Day gift.

Flatten the image and save it as a jpeg to be printed.



**Step 09 :** Now we're ready to assemble our shadow box. I'm using a lid to a box that housed a set of thank you note cards. The box was really nice and sturdy and had a great kraft texture. You can also purchase kraft boxes at your local craft store.

**Step 10 :** I'm using Martha Stewarts chalkboard paint to color in the inside of the box. I'm going to keep the outside kraft because it's a nice color and there aren't any blemishes on it.

I applied 3 coats. In hindsight, I probably would go at least another 2 coats because I can see a little bit of the kraft still coming through.

**Step 11 :** Cut out your little boy (or girl) and figure out where you'd like to place it. I'm going to use an American Crafts chalkboard pen to draw in a speech bubble.

This pen is permanent...it won't wipe off. That's going to be a part of the design. The receiver of this gift will be able to wipe down the inside message if they choose and right something else with regular chalk that I will give as part of the gift.

**Step 12 :** Grab some foam dots and layer them on. I stacked them 3 high behind the cut image of the boy and adhered him to the bottom.

This is a fun alternative to a card and would make an excellent Mother's Day gift!