

Handprint Memories

Have you ever poured fresh concrete in your backyard, and then taken your child's hand and pressed it into the surface before it hardened? The imprints they make remain, frozen in time. We did this at our home back in 1980, and the names are still there. Thirty years later the grandchildren are fascinated by the little handprint, made by their mother so long ago.

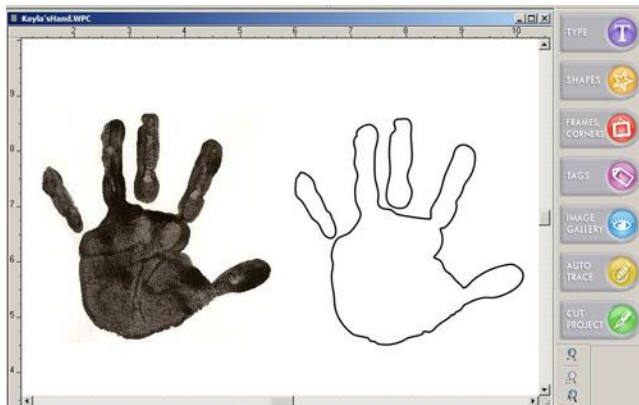
Pouring concrete is a great way to preserve a handprint, but concrete does not work well in scrapbooks. We have come up with a project that is almost as good as a concrete imprint. And the really great part; it fits right into your scrapbook.



1. Use black tempera paint and a foam brush to paint a thick coat on child's hand. Make a test print to make sure you get a good impression. Let dry.



2. Have child write her name on white paper with a black marker. Have her write really big.
3. Scan the handprint and name directly into the Puzzles software. Use the software to turn the handprint into a cutting line! The handprint will be the exact size of the original handprint.



Create the Top (Scalloped) Layer

4. Create a square 11.5" x 11.5" and use the Pazzles Scissors function to change the border to a scalloped edge. Accent your scalloped edge with stitch marking. Simply use the outline function and change the line to dashes.
5. Create photo frames to desired size and position hand print(s) and frames on the page.



Create the Bottom Layer

6. Create a square 11.8" x 11.8" This is the photo matting layer.
7. Select the palm portion of the handprint create an inner line for photo opening. Remove the thumb portion if necessary.
8. Create a mat for the photo frames by making an inner line for each one.
9. Cut both layers out of paper of your choice. Remember that the handprint and signatures are the focal point of the page. A paper with a busy print will compete with the design so choose solids or subtle prints.

Create the Titles, Journaling and Accent Pieces.

10. Create a rectangle for the Journal box. Add stitch marking to the inside border of the box.
11. Create the journal text and use the pen tool to write the text. Then cut out the Title box.
12. Choose any True Type font you desire and create the Title. Resize to fit space on page.

Finish and Assemble Page



13. Cut out the title, child's signature and flowers of your choosing.
14. Use chalk or ink to accent the edges of the page, letters, flowers and stitch marking.
15. Adhere photos behind matting layer. Attach top layer. Add Titles, signature, journal box and flowers.