

# Technique Tuesday™

## Clear Stamps and Accessories

At Technique Tuesday, we believe it should be fun and easy to highlight the photos in your scrapbook, create handmade greeting cards and gifts that will touch the hearts of the people you love, and make unique, one-of-a-kind items to decorate your home. Using our products, you can choose the color combinations that are right for your project and create unique design elements that reflect your unique style. Once you have mastered basic stamping techniques, you will find that there are an unlimited number of ways to use Technique Tuesday Clear Stamps and accessories.

We're sure you will find the Technique Tuesday stamp system an ideal solution for scrapbookers, stampers, paper crafters, decorators, or whatever type of artist you are!



### Introducing Technique Tuesday Clear Stamps!

The projects described here will introduce you to Technique Tuesday Clear Stamps, Clear Blocks, and Inkpads while making a beautiful card or tag. These instructions use our "F is for Family" stamp set that you can buy separately or as part of our Winter 2006 project kit (Code: DK05). With these stamps you can create other fun, easy projects such as the layout, the round Technique Tile accent, and the cards shown above. For more tips and techniques, visit [www.TechniqueTuesday.com](http://www.TechniqueTuesday.com).

#### Making the "Family" greeting card:

1. Before you begin stamping, choose a work surface that is sturdy and level. If your work surface is textured, uneven, or gives when you press down, your stamped images may be incomplete or blurry. Place a piece of plain paper on your work surface to protect it and to use as scratch paper.
2. Use half a sheet of 8.5x11-inch white cardstock, scored and folded to achieve a 4.25x5.5-inch card. It is hard to get a good stamped image when stamping through

- several layers of cardstock so we suggest that you unfold the cardstock before stamping onto it. We also prepared a 1.25x5.5-inch piece of light-green cardstock; for this project we used Bazzil Green Tea cardstock.
3. Using a rolling motion, remove the "Family" word stamp from the storage sheet. Although our clear stamps are strong, if you use too much force, you might tear the stamp. Place the stamp on a clear block with the slightly larger, smooth side of the stamps against the clear block.

When choosing a clear block, use a block that is a little bit bigger than the stamps that you will be using. By choosing an appropriately sized block and placing the stamps in the center of the block you will have more control and be less likely to rock the stamps (which produces a blurry image), and it reduces the chance of getting stray ink on your project.

When placing stamps on a block, things will appear as though they are spelled backwards. For this project, the word will look like “vllimsT.” Turn the block over and look through the clear block and through the stamps to see the word normally: “Family”.

People often ask if they can use other blocks with our stamps. The answer is yes. However, if you don't already have blocks, you may want to consider purchasing Technique Tuesday Clear Blocks. Our blocks are thicker than most and have no sharp corners or rough edges so they are easy to handle. They are smooth and clear on all 6 sides so stamps may be placed on whatever side they fit best.

4. Ink up the stamps with Technique Tuesday Brown ink. An easy way to apply ink is to place the clear block on a flat surface with the stamp side up. Then tap the inepad down onto the stamps. Tap first in one direction and then the other to get a uniform coating of ink on the stamps. If necessary, remove stray ink from the block with a cotton swab before stamping.
5. Now for the fun part—you're ready to stamp! Technique Tuesday Clear Stamps are, well... clear! You can see straight through to your project. If you are new to stamping or aren't sure whether the stamps are lined up correctly, you may want to stamp on scratch paper first. Using firm, even pressure, stamp “Family” on the piece of green cardstock. If your stamped image is blurry it probably means that you are rocking or twisting the block or that you are pressing too hard. By making some minor adjustments, you'll soon be making crisp stamped images.
6. For the most thorough cleaning, spritz Technique Tuesday Clear Stamp Cleaner on one side of a Technique Tuesday Clear Stamp Scrubber. With the stamp still on the block, rub the stamp against the scrubber pad. Dry your stamp on the other side of the scrubber. In a pinch use a damp sponge or mild soap and water to clean your stamps, and then dry them with a lint-free cloth. Return the dry stamp to the storage sheet.
7. Choose a flourish stamp (we used the curly image) to embellish the word by repeating the stamping steps above. You might also add a row or two of dots using a dot stamp and Technique Tuesday Leaf ink.

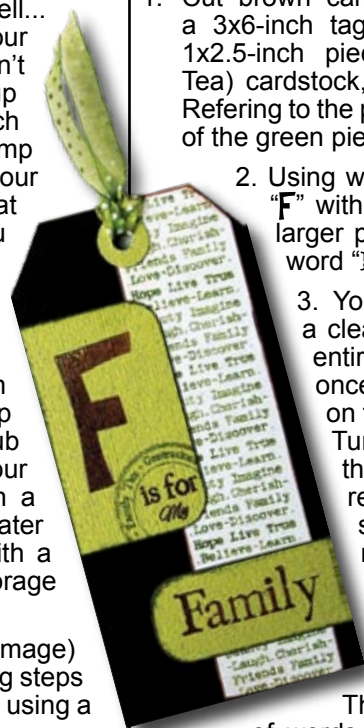
Many people ask whether other brands of ink work with Technique Tuesday Clear Stamps. Technique Tuesday Clear Stamps work well with many brands of ink and with markers, paints, and dye. If you are planning to purchase inkpads, consider our inkpads. Technique Tuesday Inkpads come in 36 luscious colors that are acid-free

and archival. Every color produces crisp, colorfast, waterproof stamped images. Technique Tuesday ink will dry instantly on paper, twill tape, fabric, and other porous surfaces. It also will adhere to practically any non-porous surface including transparencies, buttons, and metal when it is heat set. You'll enjoy having one set of inkpads that work for all your projects!

8. Finish the edge of the green cardstock by running the brown ink pad around the edge of the paper.
9. Next we will create our own patterned background. Place the stamp that consists of several rows of words on the block and load it with Leaf ink. Start at the top-left of what will be the front of the card and stamp the first rectangle of words. Re-ink and look through the block to line up and stamp the words again to the right of the previously stamped words. Continue re-inking and stamping across the top of the card. It's ok if you go off the edge of the card onto your scratch paper at the right edge. Continue stamping rows until you fill the front of the card. If you don't want the words to line up in vertical columns, start some rows by stamping the first image part-way off the edge of the cardstock. Uneven inking may actually look good here. Clean the stamps and return them to the storage sheet.
10. Finally, mount the green cardstock to the card front, and refold the card. Admire your handiwork!

### Making the “F is for Family” tag:

1. Cut brown cardstock (e.g. Bazzill Espresso) to form a 3x6-inch tag shape, a 2.5x1.75-inch piece and a 1x2.5-inch piece of light-green (e.g. Bazzill Green Tea) cardstock, and a 1.25x6-inch of white cardstock. Referring to the package front, round two corners on each of the green pieces of cardstock using corner rounders.
2. Using what you learned above, stamp the large “F” with brown ink in the upper-left area of the larger piece of green cardstock. Next stamp the word “Family” on the smaller piece.
3. You can line up more than one stamp on a clear block to make words and phrases or entire scenes that you can then stamp all at once. Place the “is” and the “for” backwards on the block so that it looks like this: “iōɹ ɹi.” Turn the block over and look through it to see the phrase “is for” as you would expect to read it. Ink the stamps with brown ink and stamp “is for,” as usual, below and to the right of the “F” you stamped previously.
4. Using the stamp with the rectangular group of words, stamp a patterned background on the white card stock as described in the previous project. Then, using the round stamp with the ring of words, stamp around the previously stamped “is for”. As always, clean all your stamps and return them to the storage sheet.
5. Finish the cardstock by swiping ink around the edges and mount all the pieces on your tag. Punch a hole and add a ribbon. Voilà!



Whether you are a beginning scrapbooker, a seasoned stamper, or enjoy making artistic gifts or items for home décor, you will find that the Technique Tuesday Clear Stamp system is an ideal tool for every paper crafter! To learn more about Technique Tuesday products, visit your local scrapbook, stamping, or craft store, or come to our website at: