

Leaf Rubbing

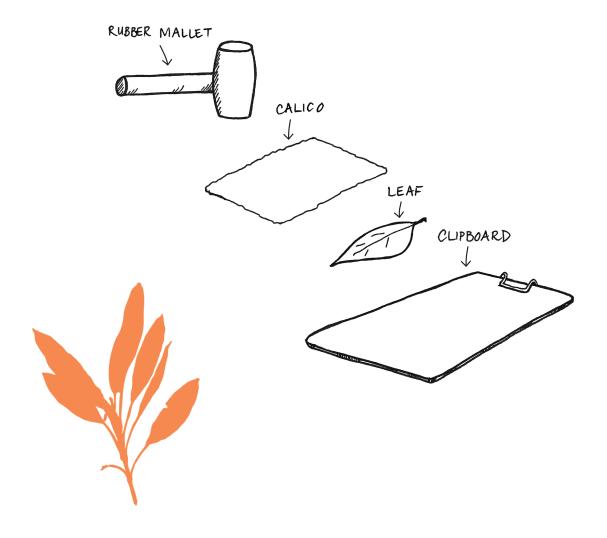
Making decorative leaf images on calico is a lovely activity for a rainy day. Choose leaves that have great ridges and vein markings, unusual shapes, and those with a good proportion of moisture in them. Really dry leaves don't work as well, nor do really fleshy leaves that tend to get squashed. If you have a flat surface such as an old garden table or a smooth piece of ground to work on, you can lay the leaf and calico directly on that and dispense with the clipboard.

Equipment:

- Pieces of calico, about the size of a card or small poster
- Clipboards (optional)
- A selection of leaves
- Small rubber mallets

What to do:

- 1. Attach a piece of calico to every clipboard.
- 2. Slide a leaf between the calico and the clipboard.
- 3. Gently hammer over the leaf, so that it releases its moisture and colours onto the calico, gradually recreating the shape of the leaf.
- 4. The images are beautiful mounted onto cards or into picture frames.







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