



## MAKING PAW, HAND, FOOT OR LIP PRINTS TO PRESS INTO METAL CLAY

### 1/ Take the impression

You can use the following methods:

**A. Inkless wipes or card applicators** - The way the image appears undoubtedly has wow factor and there's no risk of inky marks where they shouldn't be. You should be aware that some contain phthalates. Check before use. Wipes will take fine impressions if done correctly, however you can over expose the paper from over-wetting or pressing too long. The card applicator has a flat piece of sensitized material that is revealed by peeling back the protective foil. It is much cleaner to touch the finger pad onto the flat solution pad then to the paper. Using this flat card also minimizes the problem of getting too much solution on the finger and it is good for numerous prints and can even be stored in a small zip bag to preserve it for several days.

**B. Lipstick** - Crème based lipstick can take nice prints. It is readily available in most households. You do need to obtain non-streaky, even coverage. This is obviously the safest way to take lip prints.

**C. Ink pads** - This is the traditional way for police forces across the world to take prints and is cheap and effective. The second impression is often clearer as the first can over-ink and lose detail.



### 2/ Scan the drawing

You can choose a high resolution, but it won't be noticeable when the image is reduced. Scanning software usually has the option of adjusting the Brightness and Contrast, and you can do it now or later in an artwork program.

**3/ Adjust the brightness & contrast** to make the lines strongly dark and the background a bright white.

**4/ Convert** to a 1 bit Black and White file

**5/ Resize** the design to the right size for your piece of jewelry.

**6/ Make the stamp** according to Stampmaker instructions. Pay particular attention to the following points when making stamps for jewelry:

- Make sure your printer is printing dark black
- Cover the entire area of the base of the clamp with a negative, the black mask in your kit, black card or similar light-stopping material. This will stop extra light reflection over exposing your stamp.

