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Hero Arts DC304

Hero Arts DC304 Winter Foliage Stamp and Cut XL Set User Manual

Comprehensive instructions for using your Winter Foliage Stamp and Cut XL Clear Stamp Set with Matching Steel Die Set.

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Hero Arts DC304 Winter Foliage Stamp and Cut XL set is designed for crafting enthusiasts to create intricate holiday-themed designs. This versatile set includes a 4" x 6" clear stamp set featuring various winter foliage and pinecone designs, along with fifteen festive holiday sentiments. Additionally, it comes with a matching steel die set containing seven dies, allowing for precise cutting of the stamped images. This combination enables the creation of layered and dimensional elements for cards, scrapbooks, and other paper crafts.



Image: The Hero Arts DC304 Winter Foliage Stamp and Cut XL Set, showing the clear stamps and matching steel dies in their packaging.

SETUP

1. **Unpack the Set:** Carefully remove the clear stamp sheet and steel dies from their packaging. The clear stamps are typically adhered to a clear acetate sheet.
2. **Prepare Stamps:** Gently peel the desired clear stamp from the acetate sheet. For first-time use, it is recommended to condition new stamps by rubbing them lightly with an eraser or stamping them several times on scrap paper to remove any manufacturing residue.
3. **Prepare Dies:** Separate the steel dies from their metal frame if they are still attached. Use wire cutters if necessary, and smooth any sharp edges with a metal file.
4. **Gather Supplies:** Ensure you have an acrylic block for stamping, ink pads, paper or cardstock, and a die-cutting machine with appropriate cutting plates.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Stamping Process

1. **Attach Stamp to Block:** Place the clear stamp onto a clean acrylic block. The stamp will naturally cling

to the block.

2. **Ink the Stamp:** Lightly tap the ink pad onto the raised surface of the stamp until it is evenly coated with ink. Ensure full coverage without over-inking.
3. **Stamp Image:** Position the inked stamp onto your paper or cardstock. Apply even pressure across the entire stamp for a clear impression. Lift the block straight up to avoid smudging.
4. **Clean Stamps:** After use, clean your clear stamps with a stamp cleaner or mild soap and water. Pat dry with a lint-free cloth or allow to air dry before returning them to the acetate sheet for storage.

Die-Cutting Process

1. **Prepare Die-Cutting Sandwich:** Refer to your die-cutting machine's manual for the specific plate combination required for thin metal dies. Typically, this involves a base plate, a cutting plate, your paper, the steel die (cutting edge down), and another cutting plate on top.
2. **Align Die:** Place the steel die over your stamped image (if cutting a stamped image) or directly onto your chosen paper. Secure it with low-tack tape to prevent shifting during cutting.
3. **Run Through Machine:** Pass the assembled "sandwich" through your die-cutting machine. You may need to pass it through multiple times for a clean cut, especially with thicker cardstock.
4. **Remove Cut-Out:** Carefully remove the cut-out shape from the die. Use a die pick or pokey tool to remove any small pieces from the die or the cut-out.



Image: A finished holiday card featuring a colorful wreath made with the Winter Foliage Stamp and Cut XL Set, demonstrating the creative possibilities.

- **Stamps:** Clean clear stamps immediately after each use to prevent ink from drying and staining. Store them on their original acetate sheets or in a stamp storage binder, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures, to maintain their cling properties.
- **Dies:** Keep steel dies clean and free of paper debris. Store them in magnetic storage sheets or their original packaging to prevent loss and damage. Avoid bending or forcing dies, as this can warp them.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem: Stamped image is blurry or incomplete.

Solution: Ensure the stamp is evenly inked. Apply firm, even pressure when stamping. Check if the stamp or paper surface is clean and free of debris. For new stamps, condition them as described in the Setup section.

Problem: Die-cut image is not cutting cleanly.

Solution: Verify that your die-cutting machine's "sandwich" is correct for thin metal dies and your paper thickness. Try rotating the die and passing it through the machine multiple times. If using older cutting plates, they may be warped and need replacement. Ensure the die's cutting edge is facing down.

Problem: Stamps are losing their cling.

Solution: Clean the back of the stamp and the acrylic block with mild soap and water to remove any oils or dust. Allow to air dry. If the cling is still weak, a temporary adhesive like repositionable tape can be used.

SPECIFICATIONS

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| Brand: | Hero Arts |
| Model Number: | DC304 |
| Product Dimensions: | 4 x 0.1 x 6 inches (packaging) / 6"L x 4"W (stamp set) |
| Material: | Clear Photopolymer (stamps), Steel (dies) |
| Set Contents: | 1 clear stamp set (4" x 6"), 1 matching steel die set (7 dies) |
| Date First Available: | August 9, 2023 |
| UPC: | 085700942447 |

WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For information regarding product warranty, returns, or customer support, please refer to the retailer's policy where the product was purchased or visit the official Hero Arts website. Keep your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.

Hero Arts Official Website: www.heroarts.com