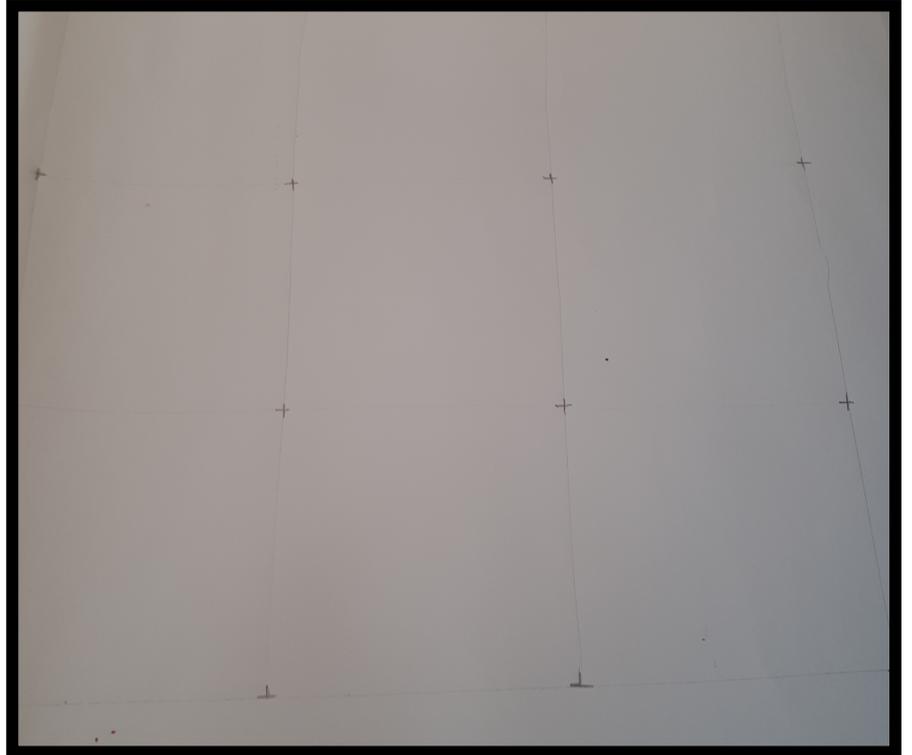**Block printing guidance**

Prepping the paper

1. Draw pencil grid lines to create squares of 8cm by 8cm. Mark each 'junction' with a cross. If you are doing a diamond formation then you will need to create a diamond grid.
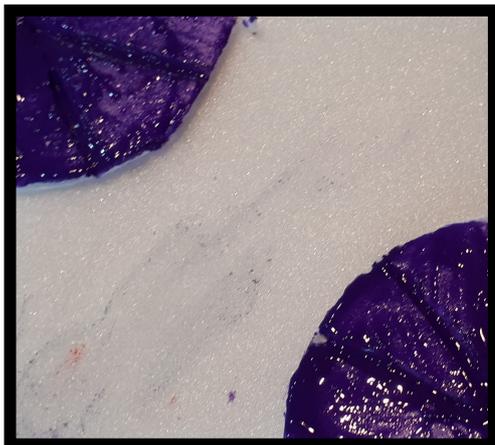
2. Create a 'wash' background by mixing your chosen colour with a little water. You can paint this on with a paint brush, roller or alternatively you can use a sponge to create texture. You should still be able to see the pencil crossed through the paint.

Making your printing block tiles

1. Cut out Styrofoam squares of 8cm by 8cm to make your tiles, then decide which parts of your motif will be the same colour. Cut each part of your motif out and stick on your tiles to create colour-specific printing tiles
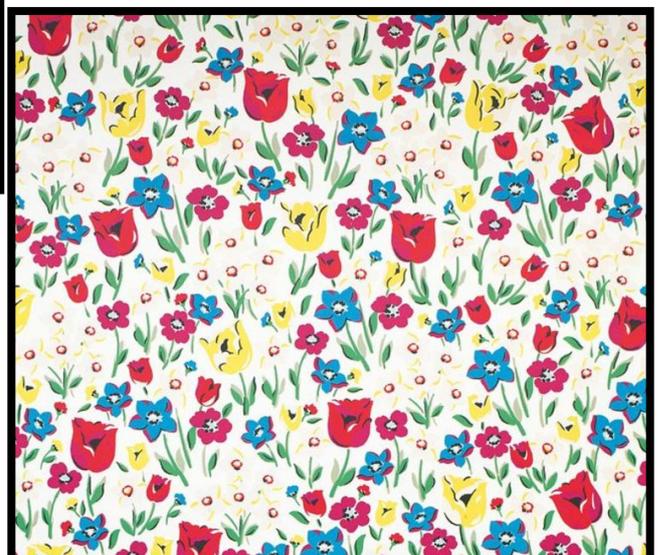

2. Use paint to cover each section you wish to print and print one part of your pattern all over your background, using the grid lines to line up your tiles. Repeat with the other tile(s) until your pattern is complete. Remember to rotate your tiles if you wish to create whole motifs using the corner parts of your tile.

Kath Kidston designs

Orla Kiely designs