

# COMPUTER/PRESS SKILLS & ABILITIES

## Adobe Illustrator Worksheet: Etched Mirror

For this project you will be etching your design onto a mirror. First you will need to bring in a mirror from home or purchase one from the store. If you forget, you can buy one from the instructor while supplies last. This technique demonstrates how etching works and to give the students an understanding about gravure printing and deep etch plates.

### Directions

1. Use a ruler and measure the inside dimensions for your mirror: \_\_\_\_\_ width and \_\_\_\_\_ height.
2. Create a rough draft on the computer. **Show the instructor your design before tracing it onto the mirror.**
3. Open up Adobe Illustrator CS4, use the dimensions from #2 for the size of your artboard. Make sure you create a new folder under your name called 'mirror' and save it there. **You will need to save it as <your name>mirror.ai.**
4. After your design is approved, print it out.
5. Clean your mirror with glass cleaner.
6. With help from a classmate, cover your mirror with contact paper. **Make sure to get all the air bubbles out.**
7. Tape down carbon paper first, then tape your print out on top of the carbon paper.
8. Using a ball point pen, trace your design. Make sure you use enough pressure when you trace your design, so it copies onto the contact paper. **Check your design before removing all the tape from the tracing paper/print out.**
9. Cut out your design using an exacto knife. If the blade is too dull, talk to the instructor about getting a new blade. Be very careful in using the exacto knife. **Make sure all your cut out pieces are thrown into the trash. Put back the exacto knife when you are done with it.**
10. Clean exposed glass with a Q-tip (spray glass cleaner on Q-tip and rub the sticky off the glass)
- 11. Before etching the glass, make sure you have safety glasses on!**
  - A. Using a brush, apply a thin even coating of armour etch. Make sure it is not too thick.
  - B. Let it set for 5 minutes (do not wash off).
  - C. Re-apply the armour etch.
  - D. Let it set for 5 more minutes.
  - E. Using a sponge at the sink, wash off the armour etch. Be very careful not to get the residue on the remainder of the glass.
12. Let the glass dry over night. Then check to make sure you didn't miss any spots. If you did, redo step 11.
13. Remove the contact paper, clean the mirror and frame using glass cleaner. Hand it in with your rubric.

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## Etched Mirror Project

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

	<b>Commendable 18-20</b>	<b>Acceptable 17-15</b>	<b>Not Acceptable 10-14</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b>Appearance</b>	Very professional appearance; great balance; eye catching.	Somewhat professional appearance; good balance; pleasant.	Not professional in appearance; balance not achieved; boring.	
<b>Design/Graphics</b>	Demonstrates superior knowledge of Typography, Composition, and the Elements and Principles of Design..	Demonstrates an understanding of Typography, Composition, and the Elements and Principles of Design.	Does not demonstrates an understanding of Typography, Composition, and the Elements and Principles of Design..	
<b>Cutting</b>	Correctly cut design out of the contact paper..	Some of the design wasn't cut out correctly	Most of the design wasn't cut out correctly..	
<b>Etching</b>	Correctly etched the design. Used just the right amount of etch..	Has some problems with etching, either used too much etch or not enough etch..	Has some major problems with etching. The etch looks uneven. Used too much etch in some areas and not enough in others.	
<b>Cleaning</b>	Mirror is totally clean. There is no sticky residue from the contact paper and all the etch residue is cleaned off the entire mirror including frame.	Mirror is somewhat clean. There is either sticky residue from the contact paper or some the etch residue is still on the mirror and/or frame.	Mirror is not very clean. There is sticky residue from the contact paper and some the etch residue is still on the mirror and/or frame.	

<b>Mastery</b>	<b>80-100</b>
<b>Acceptable</b>	<b>60-79</b>
<b>Not Acceptable</b>	<b>59 or less</b>