

## Technique 8

### Ceilings



Planning is the most important thing. Map out how you want things to appear, whether you are doing a ceiling mural or just running a border around the edge, you must plan it out so that it will come out correctly. And remember that when you are drawing plans, it is best to use graph paper and be precise with your measurements. Also, your ceiling is a **MIRROR IMAGE OF YOUR FLOOR**. It is the **OPPOSITE FLOOR PLAN**. Kind of hard to visualize unless you hold the paper above you, then it all makes sense

When you have your plans laid out, and are ready to stencil, get the equipment that will make it a little less painful. If you have access to scaffolding, it is by far the most comfortable way to do it, but most times that isn't practical. So, have a good sturdy ladder. I find that one of the articulating ladders, the aluminum ones that fold in all different directions, is ideal for all types of stencil projects. You can climb up both sides, you can tape a portable work box to the top, and it won't go anywhere.

Next get one of those foam neck braces. It provides some support for your neck which really gets a workout when working on ceilings. It does help.

Another must is spray adhesive for the stencils. I normally use masking tape to attach my stencil to the wall, but for ceilings, I use the spray. You may have to spray it two or more times to get enough tack, and I understand that it doesn't do well in areas with high humidity, but for those who can use it, it is well worth the effort. Take the stencil outside to spray it, you don't want that sticky stuff all over your carpets.

If you can't use the spray, get really sticky masking tape like this green tape sold in paint stores. It is a bit pricey, but you need something that is strong without taking off the paint on your ceiling.

Then of course you need Dressler Stencils to be sure that your project is the best!

Stenciling technique is the same as for any stenciling project, just don't overload your brush with paint, dip it into the craft acrylic and wipe it off on paper towels, so that you won't have any run-unders. Good Luck!