



# Koala Linocut Reduction Print

By Billy Nye (@billynye\_art)

Create a two-colour linocut print of Australia's favourite marsupial, the koala!

Please note, a reduction print is a multicolour print in which the separate colours are printed from the same lino block at different stages.

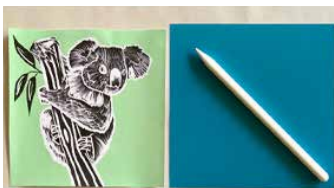
## You will need:

- Micador Easy Cut Lino Squares
- Micador Lino Carving Tools
- Micador for Artists Lino Block Printing Inks
- Micador Hard Rubber Rollers
- Glass or acetate sheet (for rolling ink)
- Graphite Pencil
- Permanent Marker
- Palette knife (for mixing inks)
- Paper towel (optional)



## Tips:

- Plan your piece before you start. It always helps to have a clear idea of what you want your finished piece to look like.
- Take your time when placing your paper onto an inked lino square.



## Step 1: Draw lines

Using a graphite pencil, draw or trace your koala design onto the lino.



## Step 2: Marker

Once you're happy with your design, use a permanent marker to draw over your pencil lines.  
NOTE: We use a Micador Stay Anywhere Permanent Pen so that the lines don't wash away after inking the lino in the first stage of printing.



## Step 3: Cut

Begin by cutting out all the parts that are to remain white. For example; nose, around the eyes, fur and tree highlights. Use the small 'V' shaped tool for this precision cutting.

NOTE: Our first print will be the background with our white areas reversed out.



## Step 4: Mix Ink

Mix your ink colour. We made several colours including pink, green and mustard. Feel free to experiment with mixing unique colours.



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## Step 5: Roll Ink

Using your roller on a smooth surface, roll your ink. Ensure your roller is evenly covered. Then roll your ink onto your cut lino. Note: We used a glass panel, but a sheet of acetate on a flat surface will work just as well.



## Step 6: Print 1st Colour

Take time to ensure your paper is positioned to print precisely where you want it. Carefully place your paper onto your inked lino. Use a rubber roller and firmly roll over the paper to transfer the ink onto the paper. Carefully lift your paper from the lino and you will see your print! Repeat this step for the amount of prints you would like. We made 10 magpie prints. Allow to dry for at least 3 hours. NOTE: if you don't have a rubber roller use a spoon, your hand or something smooth and flat to rub the paper.



## Step 7: Wash Up

Wash your roller and glass or acetate in preparation for the second colour. Notice the black lines of the permanent marker remain on the lino as a guide for further cutting.



## Step 8: Cut

Now it's time cut away the areas you want to remain pink. In this piece we want a large portion of the background to stay pink. We use the wide 'U' shaped tool for cutting out this large area.



## Step 9: Roll Black Ink

Using your roller on a smooth surface, roll with black ink. Roll your black ink onto your cut lino.



## Step 10: Print 2nd Colour

Line up your print and carefully place your paper onto your black inked lino. Again, use a rubber roller and firmly roll over the paper to transfer the ink onto the paper. Carefully lift your paper from the lino and you will see your finished print! Repeat this step for the amount of prints you have made. Allow to dry for at least 3 hours.



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