



A collage is an assemblage of different materials stuck together on a surface. You can use printed matter such as magazines, cardboard, sections of fabric or anything else relatively flat that can be stuck down.

Materials needed: a sheet of strong paper or card to stick everything onto, materials to cut or tear up, scissors and glue (pritt stick or PV will both work fine).

Subject: decide what you want to depict in your collage. It could be abstract or recognisable imagery.

Abstract collage

To make an abstract collage, tear or cut up your paper, fabric etc to create the shapes that you want. Consider how they will work together in terms of colour, tone and shape. If you want to layer the materials, a hole in a top layer could reveal a partial image from a layer below. Place all ripped and cut sections out on the table before sticking to the backing paper. Glue the back of the piece that you want at the bottom and attach to the backing paper. Add the next piece and so on until you have everything stuck together. Check it as you go in case you want to change or add anything.

Non abstract collage

To make a collage using recognisable images such as the ones below, you should start by selecting the main subject and background. By choosing images which don't quite go together, you can create very inventive composite images. Again, cut out everything that you plan to use, lay out before attaching, and then stick to the backing paper. Your addition to a background image could be very simple, even a giant apple floating on a sea can appear very arresting. Have fun with it - anything goes in collage!



Identification IV, Terry Bernstein, montage, CCO1.0



Collage, Lisa and Kathleen, made at Art in Hospital's Women's Health Project, 2015