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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Catherine Cartwright-Jones
The Henna Page "HowTo" Patterns Volume 1

Henna Art: patterns



The Henna Page "HowTo" Patterns Volume 1

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Always use safe, natural red-brown henna in your henna work. Never use any "black henna" product containing para-phenylenediamine to stain skin. Para-phenylenediamine may cause severe injuries to both artist and client.



The Henna Page "HowTo" Patterns Volume 1 Teach Yourself to Henna: Elements of Henna Patterns

This series of free ebooks from The Henna Page will have pattern exercises designed to help beginners become proficient henna artists, and to help experienced henna artists increase speed and accuracy.

Once, when you were very young, you had difficulty writing. You practiced on lined paper until you could write easily, legibly, and quickly. Henna patterns can be created of simple elements just as words are created of letters. If you learn the elements, you can put them together to make complex patterns. Practice these exercises with lined paper and a pen until you can draw the figures quickly and smoothly, just as you practiced elementary school penmanship exercises. Then practice them with a henna cone. In time, you'll be able to build up complex henna patterns quickly and easily

Indian Bridal henna work is most easily done with well-sifted, strained henna, a mylar cone, and paste mixed with dextrose. For instructions on mixing the perfect henna paste, read The Henna Page "HowTo" Mixes book, another free ebook from www.hennapage.com!



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This looptyloop is similar to the cursive letter "f".

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2: The Hump:

This hump is the most frequently used element in contemporary Indian bridal henna. Learn to love your Hump, and practice humping for speed and accuracy!

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3: The WibbleLeaf

This leaf is created with a wibble and a flick. Henna that is naturally stringy or which has had dextrose added makes these WibbleLeaves go smooth and fast. Wibble up, Wibble down, Wibble around a spiral

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4: The ZiggyZoggy

The ZiggyZoggy is most easily done with naturally stringy henna, or henna with added dextrose. If you have stringy paste, you only need to touch down at the apex and nadir of each angle and drape between. North African patterns use lots of ZiggyZoggies! In India, repeating ZiggyZoggies symbolize the rainy season, water, fertility, and abundance. Learn your ZiggyZoggy!

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The Fishbone is most easily done with naturally stringy henna, or henna with added dextrose, so you can drape fine and straight fishbones . Fishbones are great "filler" patterns between longer lines.

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6: The Mummy

The Mummy, the letter M, is versatile and beautiful! Have fun with your Mummy!

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7: The Sprout

The Sprout looks like a sprouting seed or a comma with a long tail. Sprouts are a tasty addition to henna patterns!

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8) The Game

The Game is a depiction of a game board, symbol of merriment, leisure time, and games of strategy and chance. This pattern has been a favorite in Indian henna for over 100 years, and continues to be popular in contemporary bridal henna

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9) The ?S?S?

This pattern is variously interpreted as a vine, meander, pothook, or a scorpion. As a scorpion, it may have either passionate or deadly associations ... or both!

Page 45:



10) The Bud

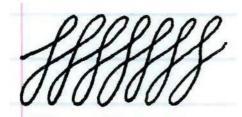
This tiny leaf or flower bud appears in henna designs all over the world as a metaphor for youth, fertility and new life



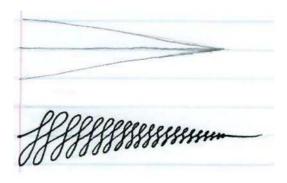
The Fooffy



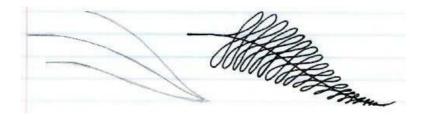
1) The Fooffy is similar to the cursive letter F.



2) Make repeating Fooffies, and make them as even and perfect as you can.

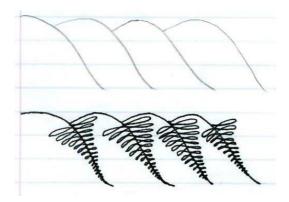


3) Make diminishing Foofies:

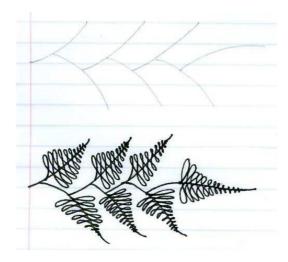




4) Draw a drooping line, and drape a diminishing Fooffy down it.



5) Make a series of drooping lines, and drape diminishing Foofies down them. Practice for speed and accuracy.



6) Make alternating flinging lines. Fling flying Fooffies along the lines. Practice until you can make them very quickly!

Ready to do some whole patterns?



Practice making Fooffies until you can do these hands in one minute flat!



The Hump



The hump is the most frequently used element in Indian Bridal henna patterns. Practice perfect humps, multihumps, parallelohumps, humptybumps, daisyhumps, poseyhumps, filler humps and borderhumps. Happy Humping!



1) The Hump



2) Practice making rows of humps.

Try to make multihumps perfectly even and very fast.



3) Make parallel rows of humps.

Parallelohumps are bracelet basics.



4) Do a double row of humps to make humptibumps.

Humptibumps are great for edging larger patterns.



5) Pile up rows of humps like bubble froth for bubblehumps.

Bubblehumps are great for filling up blank spaces. It takes practice to get these perfectly even. Try filling whole lines of notebook paper with fast, even bubblehumps.





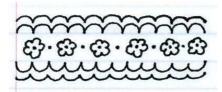
6) Wind humps around a dot to make daisyhumps.

Practice daisyhumps until you can make a row of them quickly, with all the petals even.

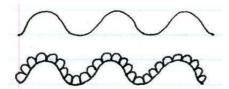


7) Wind humps around a circle to make poseyhumps.

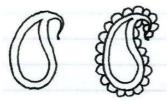
Again, practice poseyhumps until you can make them perfectly even every time.



8) Try combining daisyhumps with paralellohumps.



9) Practice humping along the edge of a wavy line with perfectly even humps.



10) Humping on the edge of a figure is a great cover-up for a less-than-perfect borderline.

Ready to do some whole humping patterns?





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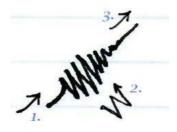
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The WibbleLeaf



1) This is the WibbleLeaf.

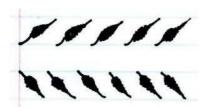


2) You make the WibbleLeaf by wiggling (wibbling) the tip of the henna cone back and forth and then pulling it away quickly, leaving a little tail.

If you have stringy henna paste, or add monosaccharides to your henna mix, you will be able to pull little tails off your WibbleLeaves. More information on monosaccharides and henna is available at www.hennapage.com and in The Henna Page "HowTo" Mixes free ebook.

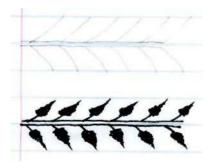


3) Make parallel slanting lines, and see if you can make WibbleLeaves with perfect wibbles and little tails.



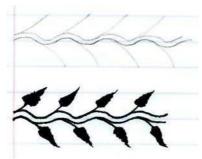
4) Practice upward and downward WibbleLeaves over and over until they all have perfect fat wibbles, and neat little tails.



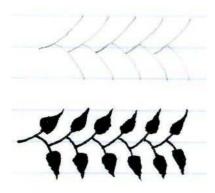


5) Make pairs of WibbleLeaves from a straight stem.

Practice wibbling for speed and accuracy.

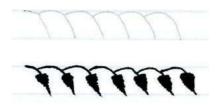


6) Alternate WibbleLeaves from a winding stem. Make them fit neatly on the curves.



7) Fling WibbleLeaves. Practice for speed and accuracy.





8) Drape WibbleLeaves.

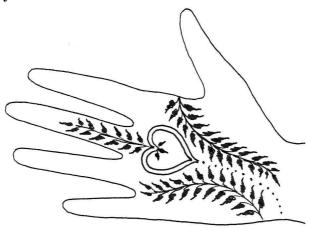


9) Increase and decrease WibbleLeaves.



10) Decrease wibbles around a spiral for ferny WibbleLeaves.

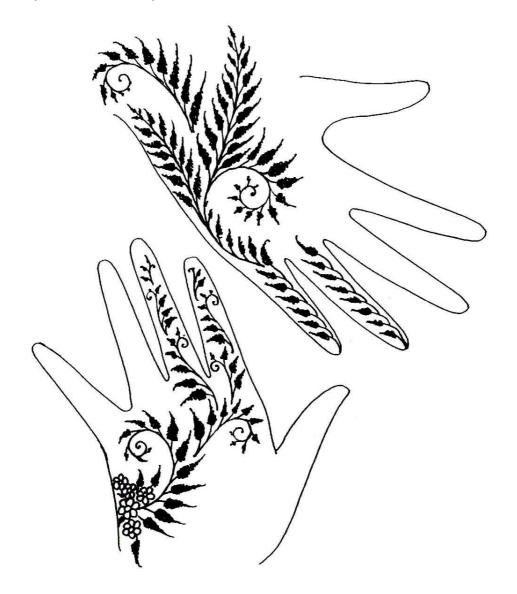
Put your heart into your Wibbleleaves!





The WibbleLeaf

Practice your wibbles until you can knock out either of these hands in 1 minute flat!









The ZiggyZoggy

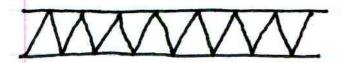


1) This is the ZiggyZoggy



2) This is a repeating ZiggyZoggy.

Make a nice, even ziggyzoggy on lined paper. When you do a ziggyzoggy with naturally stringy or dextrose henna, you can touch down the cone at the top and bottom of each ziggy, and drape the zoggy between the points.



3) This is a repeating ZiggyZoggy between two lines.

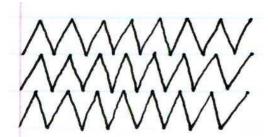
When you're working with henna, make the two straight lines first. When they have dried slightly, henna the ZiggyZoggy. It's easy to touch the henna to a partly dried lines, then zoggy it to the next line. Don't try to ZiggyZoggy between two wet henna lines, or you'll MessyMooshy your ZiggyZoggy.



4) This is a Repeating ZiggyZoggy across a line.

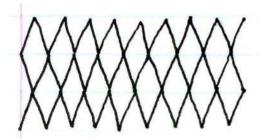
When you're working with henna, make the t straight line first. When it has dried slightly, henna the ZiggyZoggy. Don't try to ZiggyZoggy over the wet henna line, or you'll MessyMooshy your KrissyKrossy ZiggyZoggy. This pattern is the basis of many North African henna patterns.





5) Try making a ParalelloZiggyZoggy.

Practice for speed and accuracy. In Indian henna work, this is a "lahariya" pattern, and is a symbol of ripping water, the rainy season, fertility and abundance.



6) Make a Fishnet ZiggyZoggy

Lay in your ZiggyZoggy point to point to make a net pattern. This is the basis of GREAT filler henna work.

Practice your ZiggyZoggies! Mess around with your ZiggyZoggies! Fill up a whole sheet of notebook paper!

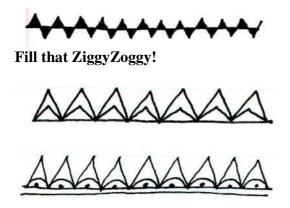


Dot that Fishnet ZiggyZoggy!



Wave that ZiggyZoggy!

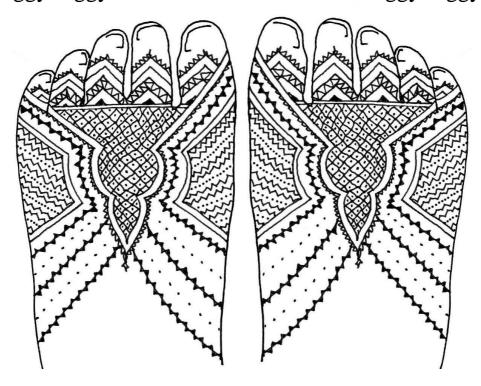




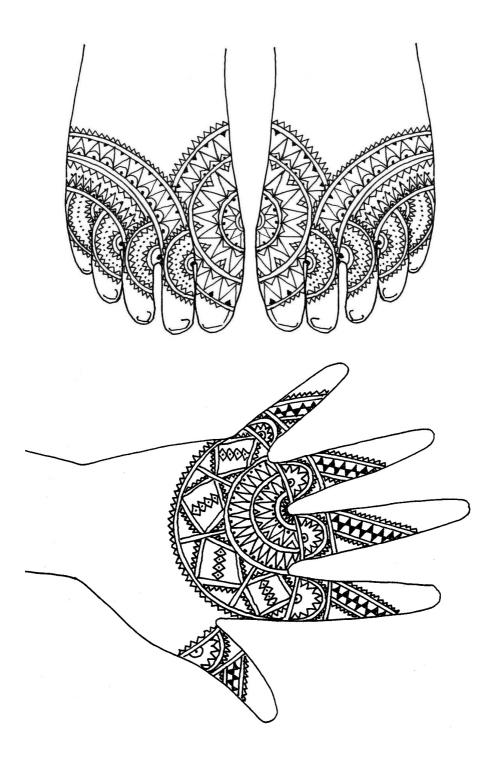
Combine the ZiggyZoggy with humps and smaller ZiggyZoggies!

Want some ZiggyZoggy Patterns?

ZiggyZoggy Feet! Can You Dance the ZiggyZoggy?







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Fishbones



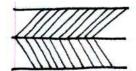
1) This is a Fishbone.

Touch down the point of your henna cone to begin, and drape a line ... then touch down the cone to end the fishbone. You can make fine, sleek, straight fishbones by draping naturally stringy henna or henna paste with added dextrose.



2) Fishbones are space fillers.

Draw your long henna lines first, and let them dry a little. Drape your fishbones between the partly dried henna lines. That will make it easier to have a clean start and stop to your fishbones. If you try to draw fishbones between wet henna lines, you'll get blips and smears. Make fishbones evenly and quickly, with light, fast, draping strokes.



3) Make Fishbones from a centerline.

Make them as neat and even as you possibly can. Make them fine and tight.



4) Braid Fishbones in a ZiggyZoggy.

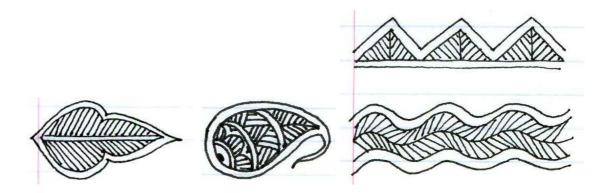
Draw your boundary lines and ZiggyZoggy first and let it dry a bit. Then braid Fishbones.



5) Weave Fishbones.

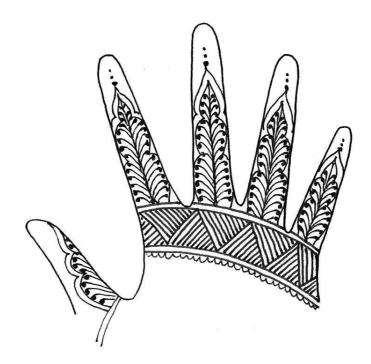
Draw your boundary lines, and divide squares within the boundaries. Weave Fishbones into these squares.



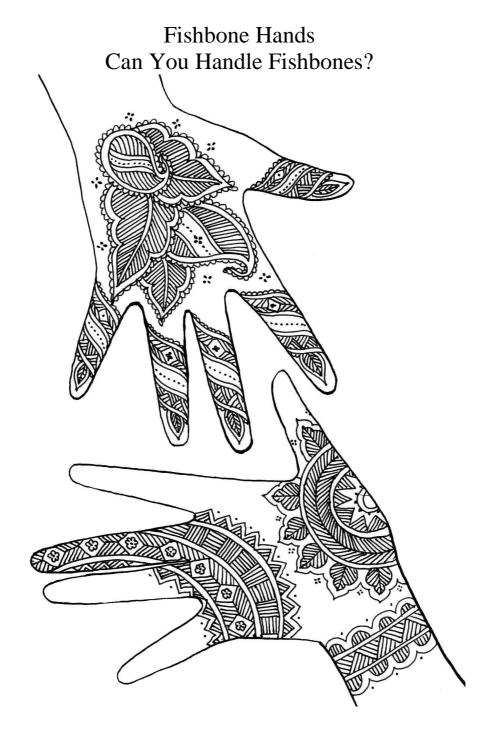


6) Practice filling different shapes with Fishbones.

Draw the outlines first and let the henna dry slightly, then put in the fishbones. Tiny, neat Fishbones look best. Practice makes perfect!





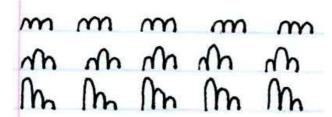




Mummy



1) This is the Mummy. The Mummy is the letter M or three humps in a row. Do you love your Mummy? There's so many ways to love your Mummy!

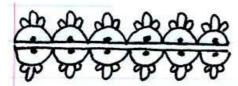


2) Practice your Mummies straight up.

Vary your Mummies with even humps, a big hump in the middle, and diminishing humps.



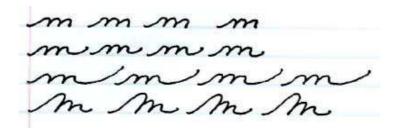
3) Put Mummies on a wavy line.



4) Put Mummies on bumps.

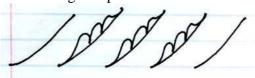
NOW! You're Ready for "The Curse of the Mummy!" Well... cursive Mummies, anyway...



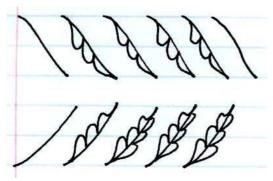


5) Practice "The Curse of the Mummy": cursive handwriting mummies.

Make Mummies with no tails, short tails, and long tails. Make Mummies with diminishing humps.



6) Put "The Curse of the Mummy" onto a line to make a graceful half leaf. Practice this until you can do it smoothly every time.

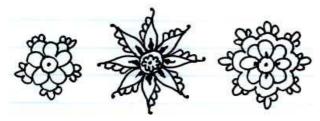


7) Practice downward lines, and double Mummifications.



8) Mummify Swirls



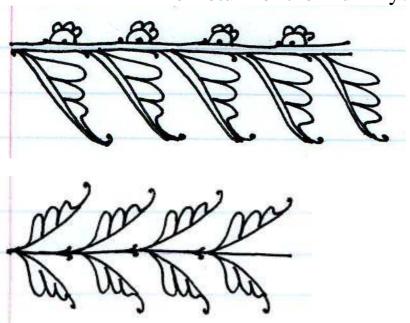


9) Mummify Flowers

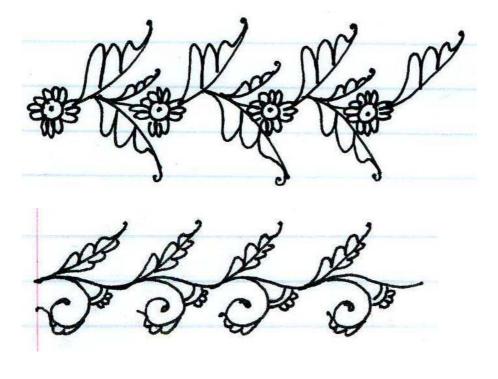


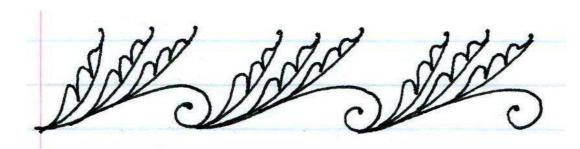
10) Mummify Paisley and a Leaf.

Mummy Patterns The Return of the Mummy!

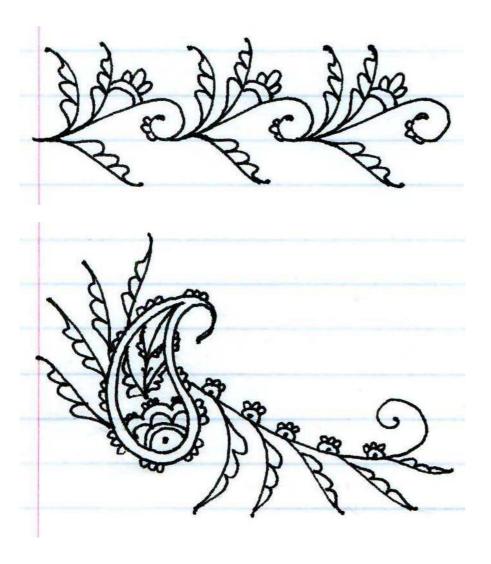


















The Sprout



1) This is the Sprout.



2) Make a Sprout by swirling a bead of henna, then continuing the swirl out in a long comma.

Sprouts can be clockwise or counterclockwise.



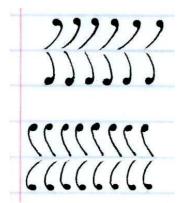
3) Practice your Sprouts!

Practice forward Sprouts, backwards Sprouts, out Sprouts, in Sprouts, alternating Sprouts, mirrored sprouts ... until you can do them smoothly and evenly every time! This looks like it should be easy, but it really does take concentration!

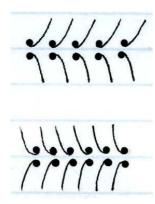
It takes work to become a SproutMaster!



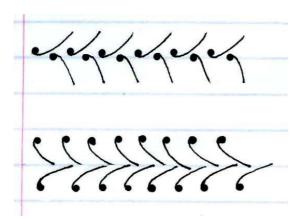




Mirror your inward Sprouts. Make them as even parallel and even as you can.

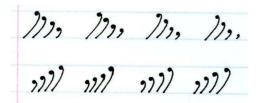


Mirror your outward Sprouts. Make them as parallel and even as you can. Try to increase your speed.

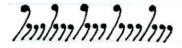


Alternate Sprouts!





Diminish and Increase Sprouts!



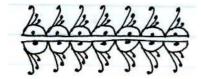
Alternate short and long sprouts. Now, try Sprouting some patterns.



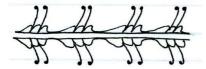
4) Sprout from a ZiggyZoggy.



5) Sprout from a wavy vine.



6) Sprout from bumps.



7) Sprout from Mummies





8) Sprout from curls.



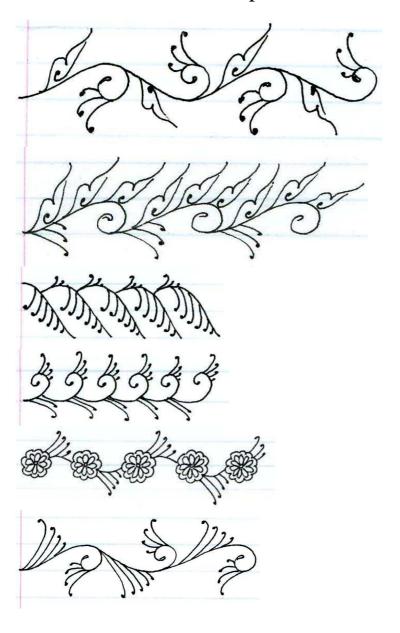
9) Sprout from a wavy line, then put an R over the Sprout to make a leaf.



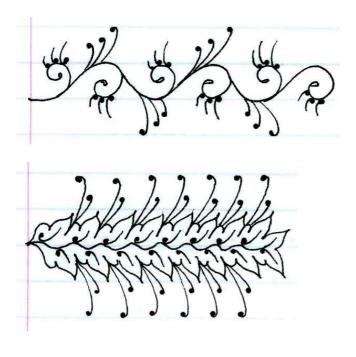
10) Sprout inside and outside an irregular figure.

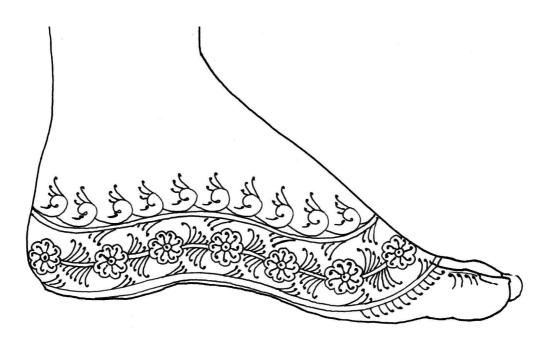


Sprout Salad











The Game

"The Game is The Game" Brother Mouzone: "The Wire"



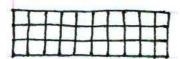
1) This is the Game.

In India, board games of chance and strategy have always been popular, especially as a pastime of the upper classes. In the epic Mahabarata, Shakuni invited Yudhisthara to a game of dice, wherein the Pandavas lost their kingdom to the Kauravas. This simple representation of a game board is a traditional Indian henna pattern dating at least to the late 19th century, and continues to be included in contemporary patterns. Artists may include this pattern as a metaphor for the "game of chance" that is a marriage, or as an expression of games as an enjoyable holiday activity.



2) Start the Game by draping parallel lines, and allow them to dry slightly.

Naturally stringy paste, or paste mixed with dextrose will make these lines much easier!



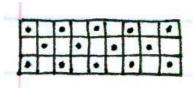
3) Drape crossing lines. If the first lines are too wet, the squares may smear.



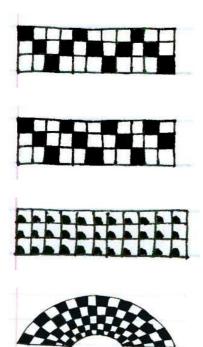
4) Fill the squares.

It's much easier to get a clean fill when the lines are nearly dry.





5) Try different Games!



6) Do you need to stop and fan yourself?



7) Put your heart into the game!

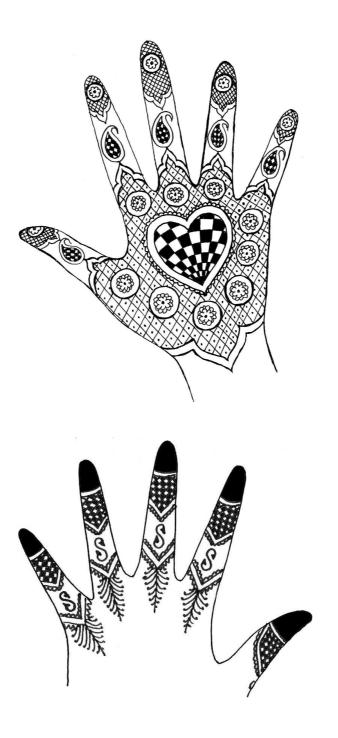


The Game

"The Game is The Game" Brother Mouzone: "The Wire"









?S?S?



1) This is a ?S?S?

Some people call this pattern a scorpion, some call it a pot hook, others call it a meander, some see it as a growing vine, while others speculate that it was used as an ancient symbol of reincarnation or life force. As a simple image of a scorpion, it is a symbol dating to the Middle Eastern late neolithic and early Bronze age and was associated with women. The scorpion was a symbol of the goddess Inanna. Henna patterns from Rajasthan from before 1950 often have little scorpions on the fingers. Old henna and love songs use the metaphor of the scorpion for love: love, like a scorpion sting, makes one breathless, causes a massive hot hard swelling, and the inflamed part feels better when dunked into something moist and soothing. The scorpion is also used in henna as a protective amulet, to "sting" the Evil Eye.



2) This is how you make the ?S?S?

It can go either direction. It can either be an S on its side, or a ? on its side.



3) You can make a repeating series of SSSSSS or you can alternate S?S?S?S?S? Many people have a difficult time keeping track of the spiral's direction. Just repeat to yourself ?S?S ... and there you are. Try drawing series of SSSSSS and ??????????? and S?S?S?S?S?S?S?S?S along lined paper. The more you practice, the better you'll get!







4) Make S?'s facing each other.

Practice pairs of those and try to get them absolutely even.



5) Make SSSS's over an arch or around an irregular shape.

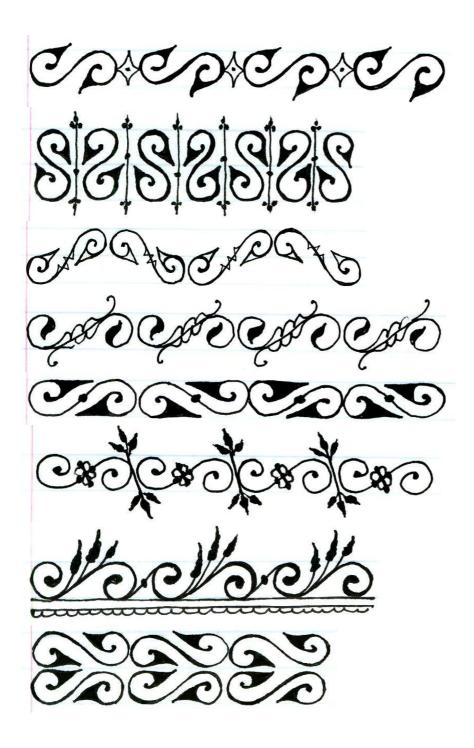


6) Add Scorpion Stings

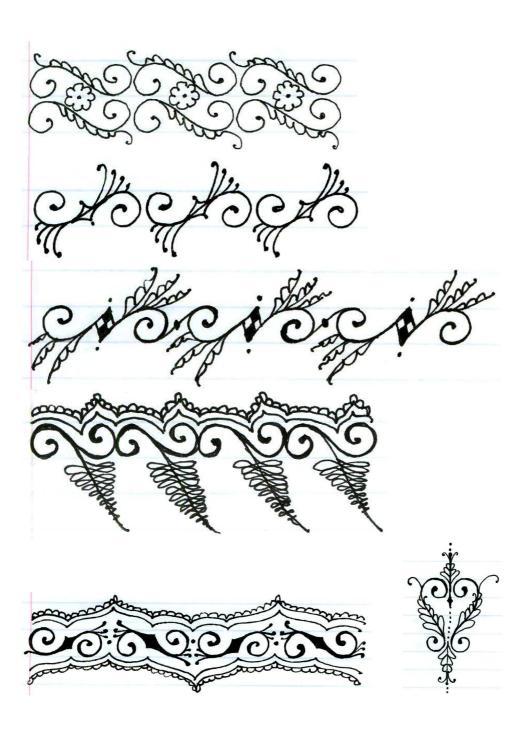
Combine S's with Humps, Wibbles, Sprouts, Games, ZiggyZoggies, Foofies and Mummies for infinite variations. These patterns go quickly up a finger, around a wrist or an ankle. Practice them until they only take a minute or two!













The Bud



1) These are Buds.

The Bud is a very small leaf. The Bud is one of the most common elements in henna patterning, India and elsewhere. Leaves and flowers bud at the end of a drought, at the onset of life-giving rain. The bud is used as a metaphor for new love and new life, fertility and joy. A bud is a thing of joy!



2) To make the Bud, roll the henna around in a tight little dot, then pull a tail out of the whirl.

You can pull the tail out from the center of the whirl, or out to the side. A bit of the henna is dragged out of the whirl, so it makes a nice smooth Bud shape.



3) Practice your Buds.

Whirl and roll the little spirals tight and neat, and try to make consistent little buds. Perfectly rolled Buds are a thing of beauty!



4) Pair up your Buds along a line.



5) Make a wavy vine of Buds.

A budding vine is often a metaphor for a growing family. Many a young man has become enraptured with a lady who had a handful of Buds, and soon after found they had a growing family.





6) Make fine stems of Buds!

Practice rolling Buds for speed, consistency and accuracy.



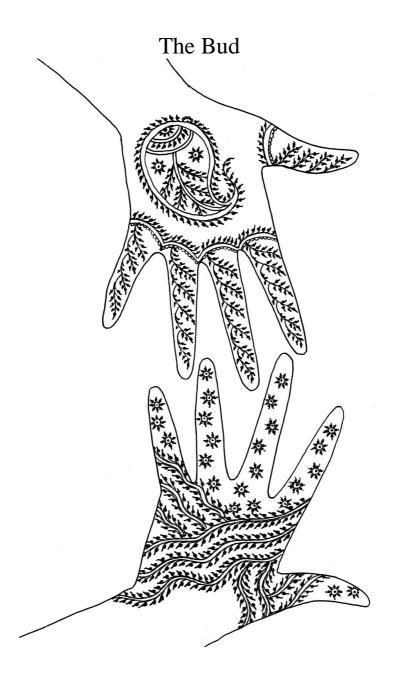
7) Bud some flowers!



8) Bud a paisley.

Ready to score some Buds?









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