



May Flaum

One of my favorite things to do with the ScanNCut is cutting out a shape from a tag and using everything *but* the shape I cut out. What do I mean? I will show you today in this full tutorial! I prefer to do this with my ScanNCut machine - it makes it so quick and easy!

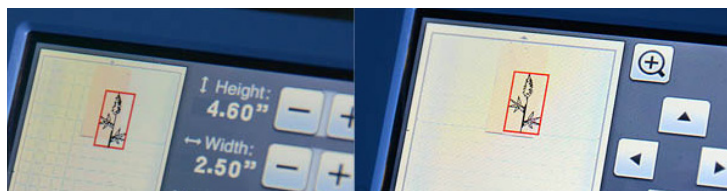
MATERIALS:

Brother ScanNCut machine; manila tags (2); dye ink; gold paint; gold and green mist; background stamps; ribbon; leaves and buttons (or other embellishments); word stickers (or handwrite or type your own)

step 1. The first step is to figure out what image you want to use. At first I thought an intricate doily image was a good idea. Ah, but there is a problem! The design would simply cut a semicircle out of my tag and leave a lovely border that looked more like someone bit the tag, and not see the beautiful image it was. So...that's *not* the image I want to use for this project.

One of my favorite features of this machine is that I can scan the cutting mat (with the paper on it) so that I can see exactly what I'm getting into. It is going to be light (my tag is a light color, after all) but clear enough so that I can view and place my image over the tag and get a feel for what it will look like. I love that!

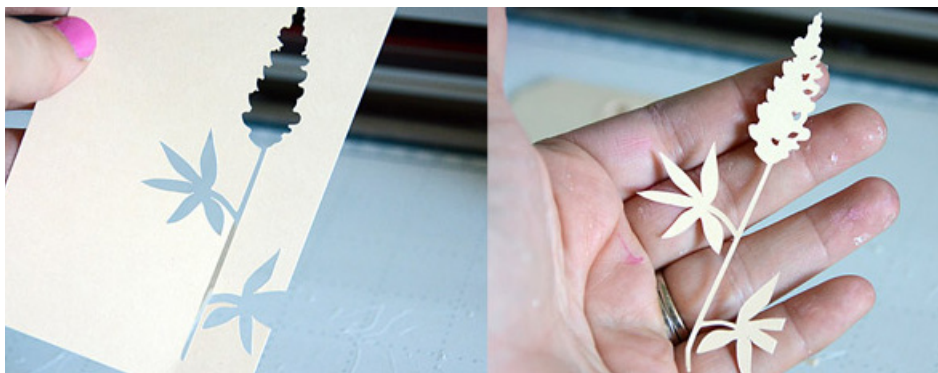
step 2. After selecting a botanical image, I adjusted the height and the position. What's great is that I can do both while viewing the image on top of my tag, so there's no guessing what it will look like. Once satisfied, there's only one thing to do: let the machine cut!



step 3. Now that the technical part is done, it's time for some "inky" fun!



step 4. Below, you can see the image and the tag that's "left behind." Today, we will be focusing on the tag. First, I placed the image down onto the tag and lightly inked it with pink ink. I love this shadow/masking effect!



step 5. I felt like going bolder though - and also switching to purple instead of pink. How to accomplish this? I first ran my pink ink pad over the image. Then, I took a foam tool and blended a rich blue over the top! The result is that all the pink ink turned to lovely shades of purple.



step 6. Next up - to add some texture, I applied gold paint to a background stamp.



step 7. For this kind of project, I like to leave the stamp on my table, and press the tag onto the stamp. This tag is pretty delicate around all those intricate cuts, so this allows me to press it down to get the best results.



step 8. I love the look of a nice dot stamp when combined with a few splatters of mist! I let the random nature of mist act as a way to add to the funky factor of my tag - and I'm loving it! Now that the background is rich and lovely, there are just a few more things to do.



step 9. First, back the tag with manila cardstock or a cardstock of your choice. I waited until now because I didn't want to ink up that clean paper. I love the contrast!

To add even more contrast, I added a few more touches listed below.

- Use black ink to stamp the script stamp
- Add black ink to edges of tag for contrast
- Add stitching along one side, and where phrase stickers are applied
- Add gold dimensional paint in dots along stitching
- Top tag with a few embellishments and trim



Above is my finished project.