Tricia leads the way into our new season with some artistic exercises that will chase away the chill in the air and keep your creative juices happy! Free your mind—start thinking outside the boxes...of oil pastels, watercolor pencils and all those goodies in your craft stash!

**FEATURED PRODUCTS**

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**SUPPLIES**

- Blue Painter’s or Artist’s Tape
- Bone Folder
- Odorless Mineral Oil
- Cotton Balls
- Craft Knife
- Black Inkpad

**TOOLS**

- 2½" paintbrush
- Spritzer Bottle of Water

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**Position one 16" x 20" sheet of Cream Colossal Paper from Club Scrap vertically on your work surface and fold in half. Burnish fold with bone folder.**

**Fold one open end back to the fold. Burnish new fold with bone folder. Turn paper over and fold other open end back to the original fold. Burnish new fold with bone folder. Open paper back to 16" x 20" size.**
Turn 16" x 20" sheet of Colossal Paper horizontally on work surface and fold in half. Burnish fold with bone folder.

Fold one open end back to the fold. Burnish new fold with bone folder. Turn paper over and fold other open end back to the original fold. Burnish new fold with bone folder. Open paper back to 16" x 20" size.

Position blue painter's tape on folds in grid pattern. Tear a piece of tape just longer than the 20" length of Colossal Paper. De-tack the tape by pressing on your clothes a couple of times. Position de-tacked painter’s tape along the bottom edge of the Colossal Paper. Try to place the tape so that half the width of the tape is on the Paper and the other half secures the Paper to the work surface.

Continue adding de-tacked painter’s tape to the horizontal folds made in the Colossal Paper. Try to place the width of the tape centered on each fold line.

When all the horizontal folds are taped, position de-tacked painter’s tape along the vertical edges and fold lines of the Colossal Paper to complete the grid.

At this time cut two 6" x 7" covers from a separate piece of Cream Colossal Paper. Secure these to a cutting mat with de-tacked painter’s tape. Decorate these covers with the same techniques as you decorate the 16" x 20" sheet of Colossal Paper. That way your book covers will coordinate with your Paper Trail book.
Choose 2 or 3 colors from Faber-Castell’s Creative Studio Oil Pastels. Tricia chose earth tone colors for her piece, but you choose colors that work best for you.

Using the full arm motion that Tricia demonstrated in this episode add big swirls of color to the entire sheet of Colossal Paper. Be sure to start off the painter’s tape and sweep your arm through to the other side of the Colossal Paper. Start with the lightest color first, graduating to the darker colors as you work.

Move the color from the Oil Pastels. Saturate a cotton ball with odorless mineral oil—available at your local pharmacy or discount store. Go over each line of color with the cotton ball—starting with the lightest color first. The mineral oil spreads the pigment from the Oil Pastels to create beautiful shades and tints. Use a clean cotton ball saturated in mineral oil for each color.

Turn the 3" x 14" Grid Ruler from Club Scrap over to the gridded side. Spritz the ruler with a generous amount of water. Scribble a coordinating Aquarelle Watercolor Pencil from Faber-Castell onto the wet Grid Ruler to cover with pigment. Spritz with water again.
Spritz a 2½” paintbrush with water to saturate. Pick up color from the Grid Ruler and shake randomly over the entire sheet of Colossal Paper.

Continue to add different colors of Aquarelle Water Color Pencil and water to the Grid Ruler, cleaning the Grid Ruler with paper towel between colors. Pick up the color with the wet paintbrush and shake randomly over the Colossal Paper until you are satisfied with the color.

Create a different type of splatter using the same technique as in Step 8 above. When the paintbrush is filled with color, instead of randomly shaking color onto the Colossal Paper, run your thumbnail along the ends of the bristles for smaller “mists” of color.

Note: Tricia used a 2½” paintbrush for this technique in the show, but you can get good results with an old toothbrush too!

Ink the sweet flourish stamp from the Cyprus Collection from Club Scrap with black dye-based inkpad and stamp randomly in each grid. Try to stamp without too much of a pattern, being sure that each grid has a portion of the stamp in it.

NOTE: Don’t worry if you don’t like the art you are creating at this point. The magic happens when the painter’s tape is removed. Try to stay loose and not think about what you’re doing too much as you add each layer of color to your artwork.
Choose one or two colors from Faber-Castell’s Pitt Artist Pen Brush Set. Again, Tricia used earth tones throughout her entire piece. Starting off the painter’s tape, draw several lines and squiggles across the Colossal Paper.

Carefully remove the blue painter’s tape from the Colossal Paper and discard. Take a look at the work of art you’ve created—Enjoy!

For these directions all rotations are counter-clockwise.

a) Cut the snail maze book. Position the 16" x 20" Colossal Paper horizontally on the work surface. Place the 3" x 14" Grid Ruler on the right vertical fold line. Use a craft knife to cut from the bottom up to the third fold line—do not cut all the way to the top.

b) Rotate the Paper ¼ turn and place the Grid Ruler on the left vertical fold line. With the craft knife make a cut starting at the first fold line—cut to the third fold line and stop.

c) Rotate the Paper ¼ turn and place the Grid Ruler on the right vertical fold line. With the craft knife make a cut starting at the first fold line—cut to the third fold line and stop.

d) Rotate the Paper ¼ turn and place the Grid Ruler on the left vertical fold line. With the craft knife make a cut starting at the first fold line—cut only to the second fold line and stop.

e) Rotate the Paper ¼ turn and place the Grid Ruler on the middle vertical fold line. Cut from the second fold line to the third fold line.
Fold the book. Accordion-fold the book, starting in the bottom right corner. Continue folding until you have spiraled all the way to the 16th and final panel.

Wrap the mat board covers. Decide which 6" x 7" piece of decorated Paper will be the front cover. Place that on the work surface—decorated side down. Spread a thin layer of Bookbinding Adhesive from Club Scrap on one of the mat boards. Position the Adhesive side of the mat board in the center of the plain side of the decorated Paper and press firmly.

Mitre the corners. Place the 3" x 14" Grid Ruler perpendicular to the work surface, diagonally at each corner of the mat board. Draw a cut line with a pencil. Cut each corner off with scissors.

Run a bone folder against all four edges of the mat board to score the cover. Apply a thin bead line of Bookbinding Adhesive to the long sides of the Paper. Spread with a foam brush. Fold the glued sides over onto the mat board.

Repeat with the short sides of the Paper, making sure you tuck in the edges before securing the glued sides to the mat board.

Apply Bookbinding Adhesive to the outside of the first page of the book and glue the cover on. Smooth with a bone folder.

Repeat this step for the back cover and glue to the back page of the book.

NOTE: For step by step photos please download the Design Guide from Tricia’s “Make the Grade” episode.

Add journaling and a title in your own handwriting with the Pitt Artist Pen Brush. Tricia filled her Paper Trail book with some of her favorite quotes and sayings.
Stunning Salutations

Tricia used black Colossal Paper and the beautifully pigmented Oil Pastels from Faber-Castell to create a stunning set of note cards—a perfect gift for yourself or someone special.

Serendipitous Sayings

Instead of making a 16-square grid pattern on the 16" x 20" Colossal Paper Tricia created a 4-square grid pattern. Using the same techniques with bright blues and greens from Faber-Castell’s line of Creative Studio Oil Pastels and Aquarelle Watercolor Pencils, she simply cut the grids apart and ended up with four 8" x 8" pieces of artwork suitable for framing.

How to hang those frames on the wall, easily and professionally? That’s where the Wall Hanging System from PicSure It comes in handy. Place the grid on your work surface and position your framed artwork where you want it. Mark the corners of each piece with a Pitt Artist Pen Brush. Place the framed artwork underneath the PicSure It grid, using the markings made earlier as a guide. Be sure to place the frames upside down. This time you’ll mark where the picture hangers are with the permanent marker.

Follow the directions included with the PicSure grid to hang the grid on the wall—you can either use the static cling feature or the adhesive tabs. Once the grid is in the position you want the framed artwork to be on the wall, use the markings to hang your picture nails. If you want to reuse the grid, take the nails out, remove the grid and then hammer the nails back into the wall.

Hang your pictures, then stand back and admire your perfectly placed artwork.

Congratulations!

You’ve just completed your Paper Trail Book project, but the fun doesn’t stop there! Be sure to stop back by The Scrapbook Lounge every week for more exciting new twists on scrapbooking!