

Chemigrams

This is a way of capturing positive or negative images straight onto light sensitive paper by using various objects.

Find the history here: <http://www.pierrecoardier.com/>

What you need:

- Light sensitive paper
- Three trays
- Developer, Stop and Fixer chemicals.
- No darkroom needed
- Paper towels / kitchen towels would be handy.

Setting up

As you're not making an actual replica of a picture it doesn't matter if your paper gets exposed to light, just be sure not to expose the whole box so take out one piece at a time in a safelight area.

You will need four trays, one for each chemical and one for water. Set them up as usual for paper development.

To avoid mistakes, label each tray.

How to create positive images

Select your chosen object; usually more absorbent objects work best such as flowers, leaves and plants. Dip your object into the developer. This is just a dip, shake off any excess liquid. Carefully place onto your light sensitive paper cover with a paper towel. Evenly press down and hold for 40-60 seconds.

Remove, and magic! A black detailed print of your chosen object! Now to keep it there place the paper into the stop for 30 seconds then remove and place into the fixer for 5-10 minutes with regular agitation. Wash off in another clean water tray or a sink for 5 minutes to rid it of any chemicals. Complete!

How to create negative images

The process is the same as above only the order of the chemicals changes. This time you want to fix your chosen object so it remains white. Dip your object into the fixative first and repeat as above.

Place into the developer to give you the black background. This takes roughly 2 minutes or until you are happy with the darkness. Continue to stop and fix then wash as above! Complete!

