

First off... what is a zine?

A zine is a bit like a little magazine or booklet that is often made as an independent or 'unofficial' publication. They can be made by one person or a group of people. They were popularly made a lot by punks. Now most zines tend to represent artists, designers and oppressed or marginalised communities. Zines are commonly given away or sold; online, directly through artists, at zine fairs and in radical book shops. The main characteristic is that zines are traditionally immediate, DIY style and not about looking 'nice' and 'neat' and 'good' - so whatever you make will always be good enough! Due to this nature, zines are the perfect way to spread information quickly, cheaply and without interference from any authority.

What Will we do?

We'll kick off with a brief introduction to zines with plenty of examples to get you inspired. Then we'll have a quick warm up activity we can all do together to get started and help you explore whatever materials you've chosen (paint, typing, pasta drawing?.. get creative!) Finally, the majority of the workshop will be time to spend on one of three activities. These will give options for people of all abilities and will ensure there is the opportunity to cater the workshop to what YOU want to do! Perhaps it will be therapeutic to explore yourself and your identity? Maybe you have a political statement you want to make? Or why not just have fun?! With zines - anything goes!

Make stuff. Send it to me. I will compile it into a zine.

Photograph or scan your masterpieces and send to me via email at gunkillustration@gmail.com

(Remember to credit yourselves - sign things and add any social media links etc.) Your work will appear in the zine and be available to the public so please bare this in mind when submitting. You do not have to submit anything and you are welcome to submit previous work rather than what you make in the session.

Warm up Excercise

Pick an object, any object from around your living space.

Draw it in one of the following ways in 5 minutes in your material of choice.

This is to help you ease into your materials and loosen up without any need to be 'perfect'.

- Draw in continuous line
- Draw using a repeated word as a mark
- Draw in one repetitive mark
- Draw holding your (pen, brush, etc) with two hands like a lightsaber
- Draw with your non-dominant hand
- Draw with your eyes closed
- Describe to someone else and get them to draw for you
- Draw then turn it upside down to finish

Main Activity Prompts

- 1. Make your own mini zine. Using the template, fold and create your own zine with the aim to experiment and have fun. think about how it flows, what story does it tell from start to finish? possibly explore different ways of being creative based on a single theme.
- 2. That thing you said you'd do someday, what about now? This one is for people like me who have lots of ideas and not a lot of time... or perhaps just procrastinate! use this time to take one of those ideas and make a start.
- 3. Pick a song, an image, a memory or anything else and let it inspire you! Take something you really love or something you are curious about and explore it. or maybe something you are angry about that has happened? find an external inspiration and create a response



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