

Let's make your own tag!

Did you know that William Morris had a lifelong interest in the art of book printing and design?



William Morris on his essays on book design emphasized the importance of form and quality, well-proportioned margins, fine paper, and a balance between text and ornamentation. For Morris a book is a work of art, which is produced through the individual efforts of multiple craftsmen.



Morris and the Kelmscott Press applied a model of printing small quantities of beautiful books using traditional techniques and Morris's distinctive neo-gothic, arts and crafts style.

On the left we have a **colophon**, which is a brief statement, containing information about the publication of a book. It usually includes the place of publication, the publisher, and the date of publication.

Let's make our own colophon and use it as a tag anywhere you want!

We need:

- A print out of the image
- Hard pencil (HB)
- Pencil sharpener
- Fine liner
- Eraser



Let's start:

1. Print the below image



2. The first step is to decide what you want to write. Choose letters from *Original design for initials* by Morris.



ORIGINAL DESIGN FOR INITIALS, DRAWN BY WILLIAM MORRIS, CIRCA 1891, INK ON PAPER

3. Sketch out your design letters with pencil (use the HB pencil) on the printed paper.



4. When you are happy with your sketch, carefully outline your design with a fine liner or brush and erase any pencil marks that are left.



5. Cut the paper and glue your tag in your notebook or anywhere you like!

Note (especially) for very young kids: Instead of drawing the letters, you can print the alphabet, cut it and glue the letters.

Produced for the William Morris Society by one of our student placement volunteers.

