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It's time for a quick how to on stenciling. I am stenciling the cupboard door front with the darker blue over the lighter blue. I have my stencil brush. I dip in and I work it around into the bristles. And then I do what you call offloading. Get rid of most of the paint. And then stencil. I've laid out the stencil,

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taped it down. I have one coat of poly on top of the cabinet door. So in case I want to do a quick wipe off if I make mistake, then it's easier to do that way. If I've had a coat of poly, just one thin coat of poly, and I just quickly pounce, I'm doing it light because I don't want it to be real dramatic.

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So I'm going to do a light stenciling, pick it up, make sure it's going right. It is. Get a little bit more paint, offload, and then do it again. When I first started stenciling, I do it very lightly. Light pouncing. Because you know, I have a lot of paint on there. Well, perhaps I shouldn't say a lot because I have offloaded a lot of it.

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But in my opinion, when you are stenciling, you should be using just a little bit of paint. So when you're starting out your stenciling, you have paint in your bristles. And as you stencil it and after some of the paint is gone out of your brush, then you can pounce a little bit harder. I don't like to do real thick stenciling.

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I like to do it light because I don't like bleeding underneath my stencil. So to me, it's better to continually have to go get more paint more often than to get the job done quickly. I take my time, continually checking to make sure I'm doing okay. Do light coats. Because I do tend to like the old world look, so lighter coats of stenciling

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to me, looks better rather than a thick and possibly bleeding underneath the stencil. Take your time and it will turn out better and keep turning as you, you know, start getting rid of some of the paint from your stenciling just turn, keep turning your brush to get the paint out. And then when you do need to just go get more offload and then lightly stencil to start with until the paint is being used up.

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And then as you have less and less paint in your brush, you can pounce harder to get the rest of the paint and then just keep checking. And I'm not going for a perfectly even look. I know I keep saying perfection is not your friend, but it really is true in the case of when you want something to look very authentically worn, perhaps worn a little bit or old world,

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like, which is my favorite look. You're not going to want perfectly even stenciling. I think it gives it more character. Just take your time. I like to hold it down with my hand because I don't tape it very much. So I like to hold down the stencil just to make sure that it's not moving on me. All this pouncing could cause it to move.

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So I like to hold it down. I do get paint in my hand, but that's fine. Right. We're painters. And then just take a really good look before you pull the stencil off. You can always repossession it, put it back on, but it's just so much easier to do it right the first time. Right. Many people do stencil, it's not as hard as some people think it is.

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It's just, once you learn the technique, it really is quite easy. Now later on, I'll be showing you reversed stenciling, which is something I've been doing off and on a lot more lately. I like the look. Okay. Let's take a look before we totally take the tape off and see there's a couple spots I missed. Go back over those.

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I do like the varied look, but I do want the pattern to be there. Like I missed some of the dots. We'll go back and get those dots. Yeah. And if you decide that you want it to look a little bit more worn, you can take sandpaper over a sanding sponge and lightly sand over top of your stencil, stenciled motif to get a more worn look,

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which I have done many, many times. It's super easy to do. Just make sure that you're sanding one way. Well, that's looking good to me. So we'll pull that off and then we will put a coat of poly over that. Now one thing I did think about doing was stenciling around the outside as well, but I decided not to.

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I like this. So we'll go with this.