

64 X 64 BLOCK REPEAT

Here are instructions for creating a 64cm x 64cm Block Repeat design, commonly a repeat dimension used for furnishing repeats. In this instance we will be using the fashion sized repeat screens from the print room, maximum printable area 70cm x 110cm, because this is a simpler size to work on for your first repeat.

You will need the following items ready before you begin:

- 2 x A1 Sheets of cartridge paper
- Masking tape
- A meter ruler (preferably metal)
- A large set square
- A sharp pencil
- Drawing materials (black & white)

Join 2 pieces of A1 paper along the long edge with masking tape. Make sure that the join is flat and straight and the sheets do not overlap or have a gap between. Once you have done this you can turn it over.

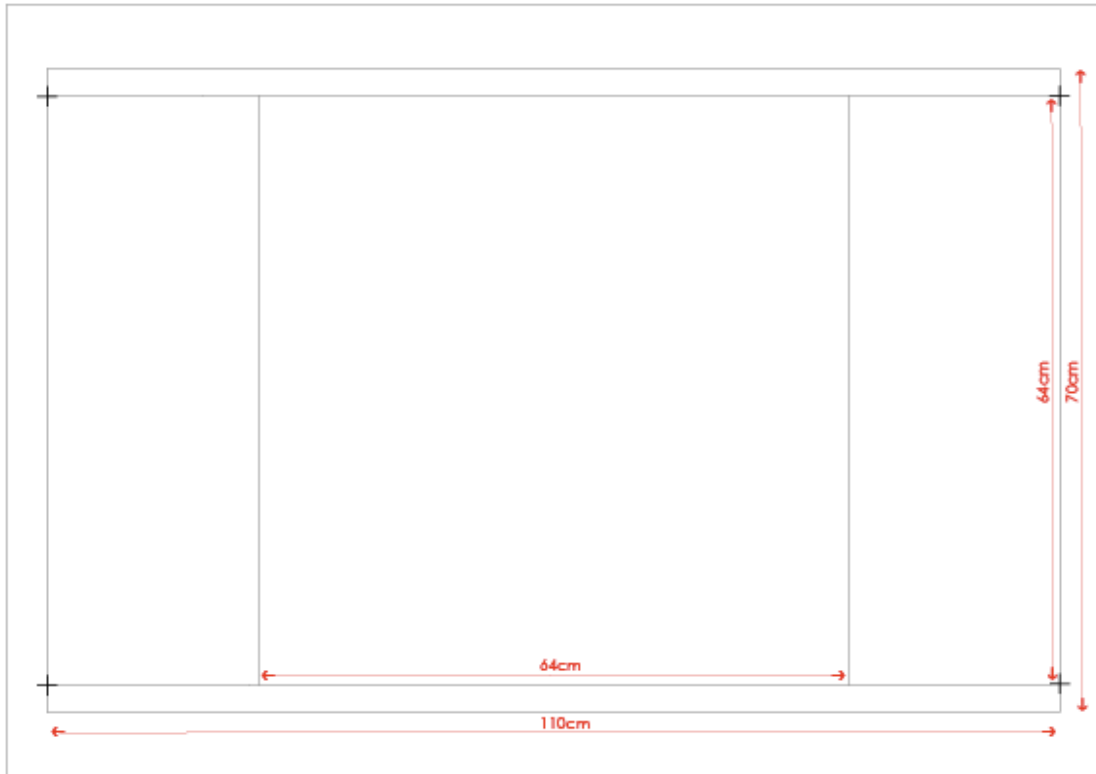
Find the middle of your sheet and draw a line across your paper length ways.

Draw out a box 70cm x 110cm on the sheet. The easiest way to do this is to measure out from the middle. Use a meter rule and a set-square to make the box as accurate as possible.

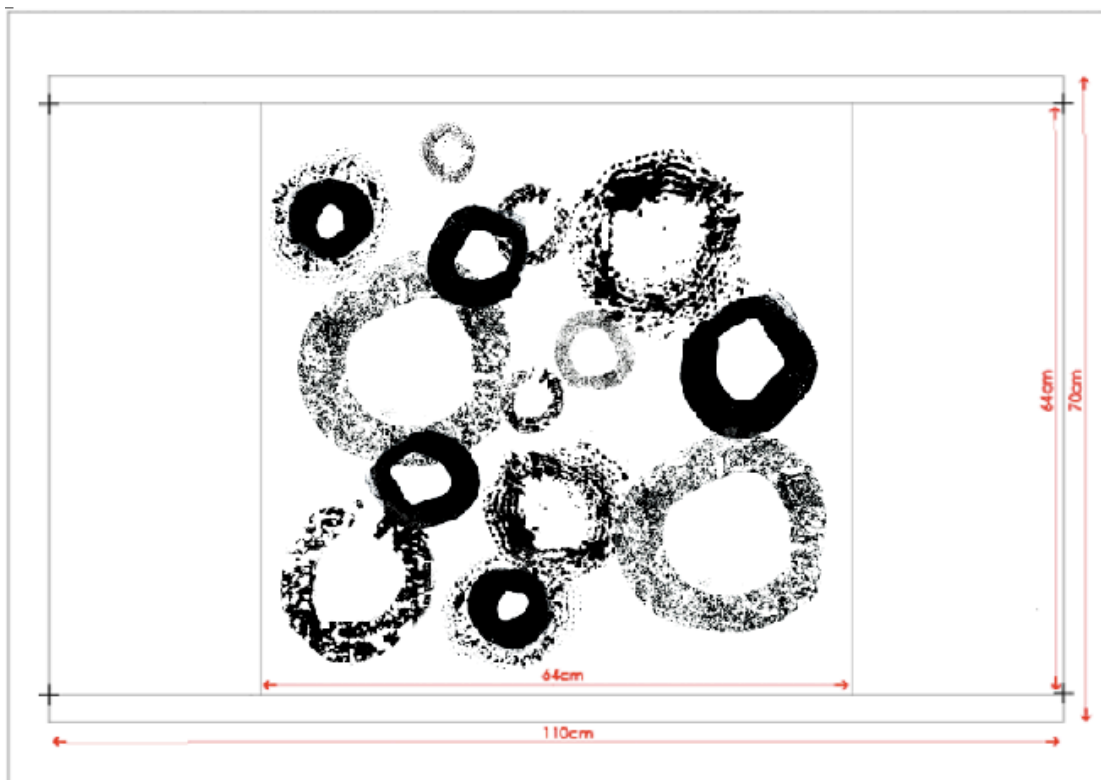
Check all of your measurements- you cannot afford to get this wrong!

In the very middle of your 70 x 110 box you will need to draw out a 64cm x 64cm box- this is the area that you will fill with design work- and extend your horizontal lines towards the boarder at the edge of your sheet.

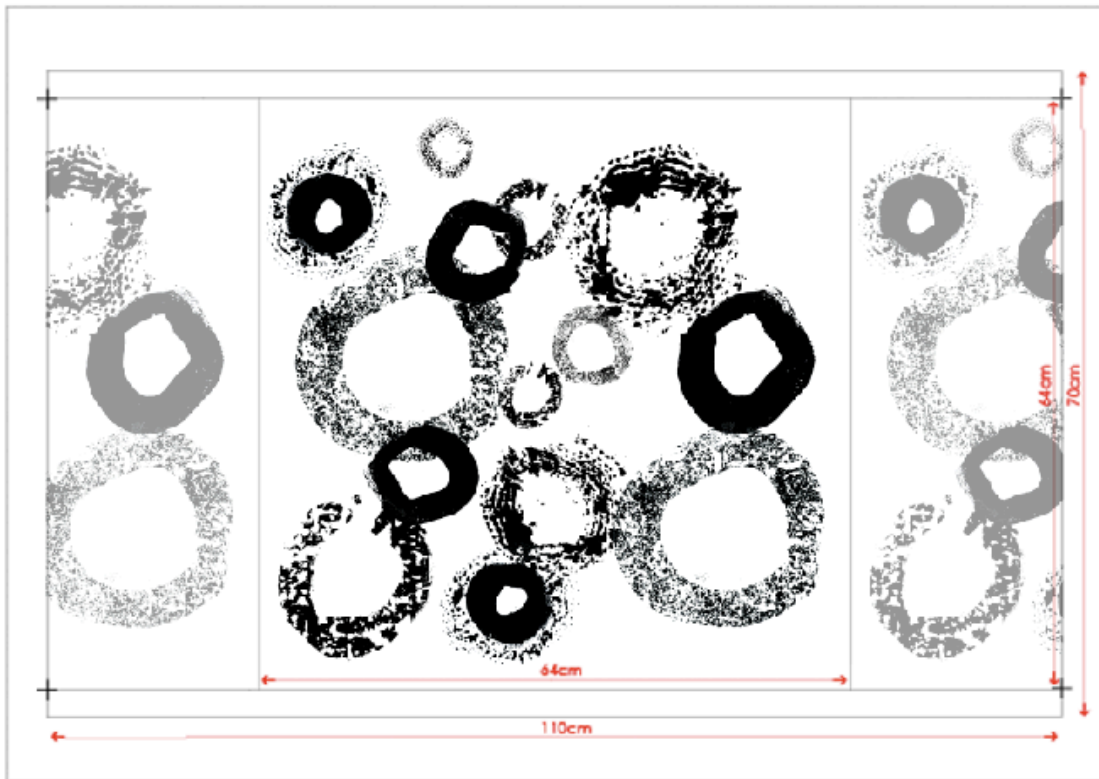
Draw your cross points where the horizontal line meets the boarder.



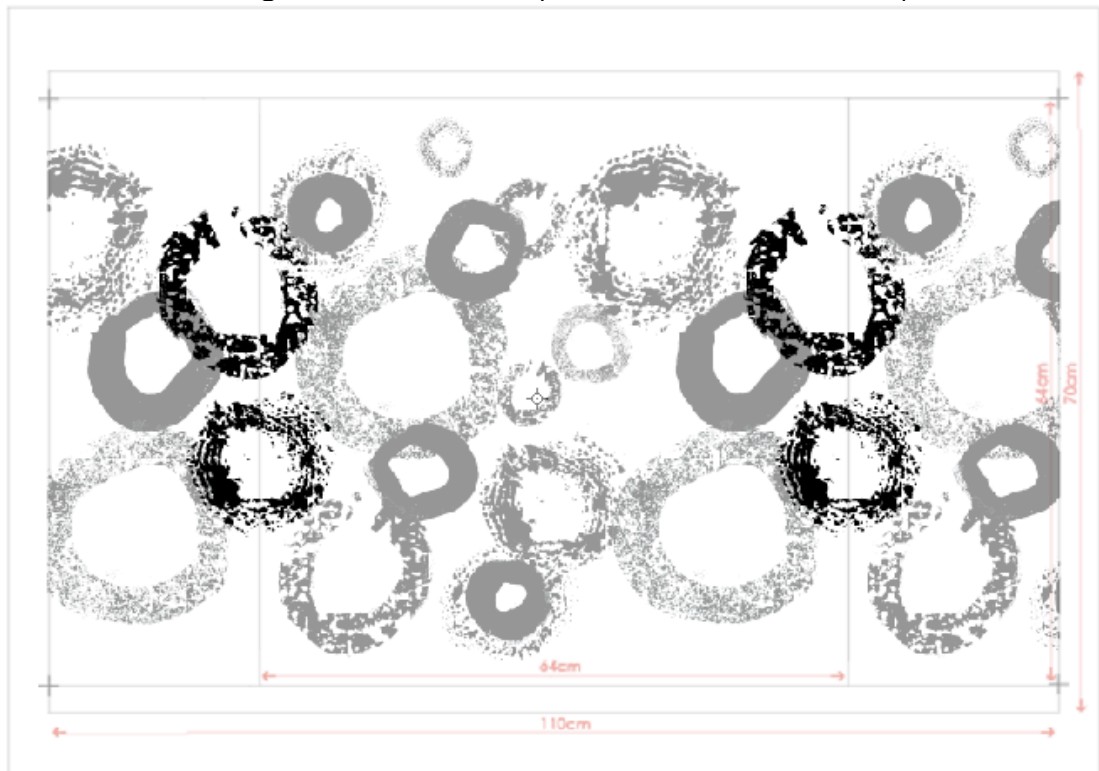
Start to draw out your design in the 64 x 64 box in the middle of your sheet of paper. Remember to consider the composition, the balance of marks/texture, line and block imagery- this is especially important, as you will be working with only 1 layer (1 colour) on screen.

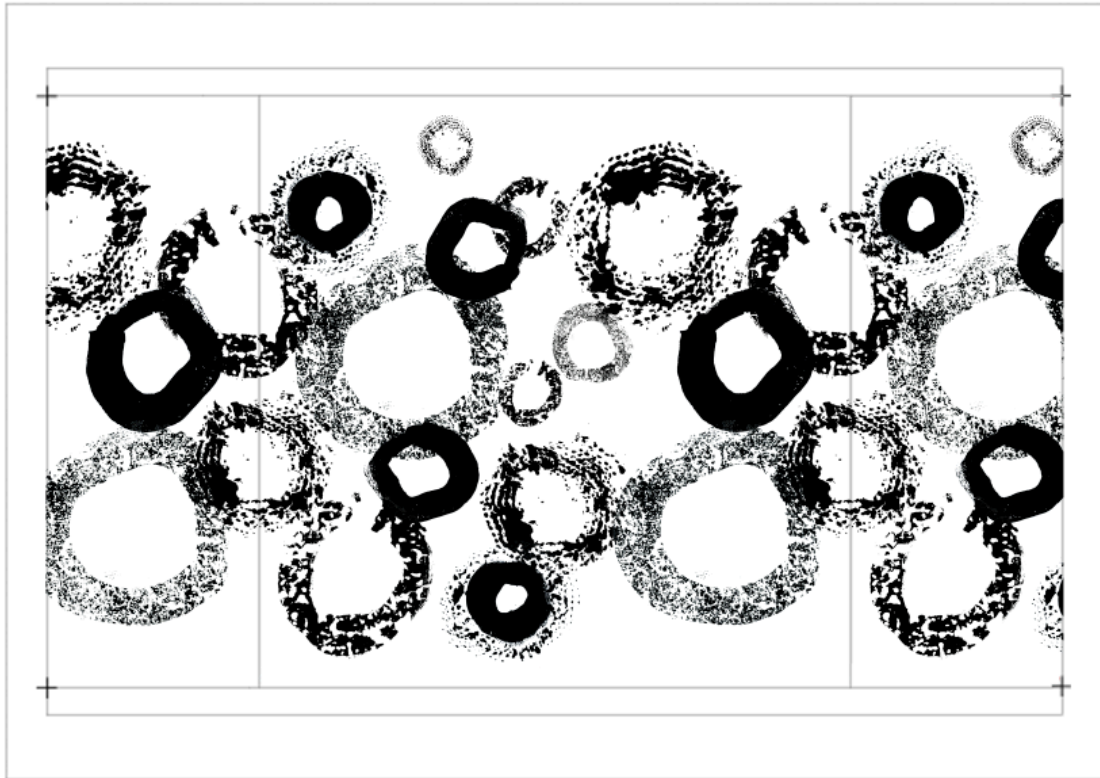


Once you have completed the design work in the central box, you can begin to copy it out into the boxes either side of this. You can do this easily and accurately by using photocopies.



Fill in the gap between the drawn design and the photocopies in order to make the design flow horizontally. Make sure that this repeats also!





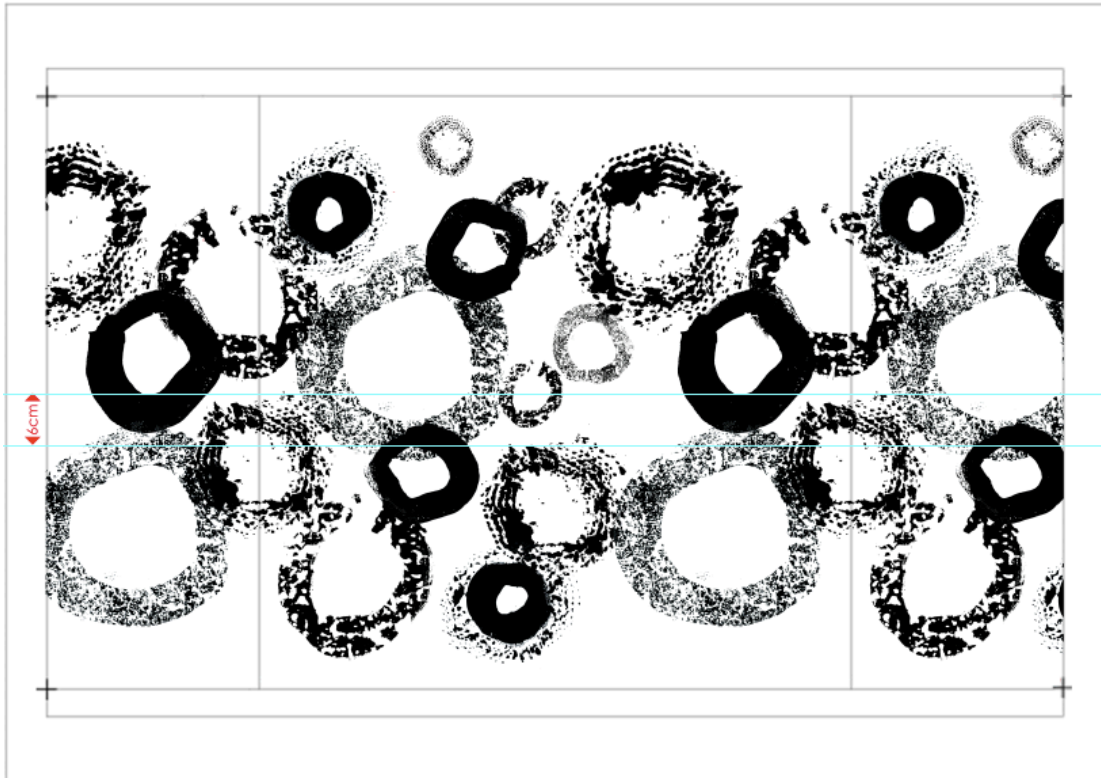
THE CUT-THROUGH

Now you can begin to draw out your cut-through. The aim of the cut-through is to hide the join in your repeat design when you print it. Start by creating a 6cm deep margin in which to draw your cut-through line. The margin is important because it allows you to limit the wiggle of the line. If your cut-through line becomes wider than this your imagery may not fit onto the screen.

Remember to choose an area to cut through that avoids areas of solid colour. Also, try to avoid cutting through the middle of lines- go around them or slice through where lines join.

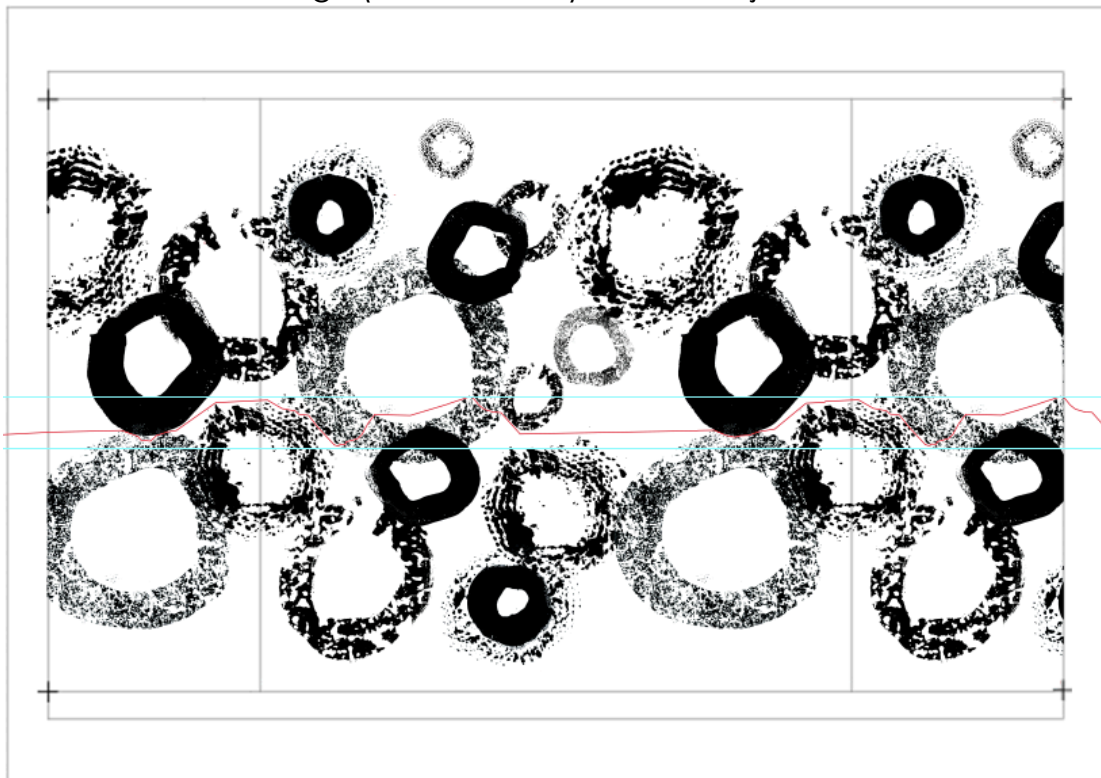
There must be imagery either side of the cut-through, but it does not necessarily need to be in the centre of your design.

Use a sharp pencil or pen in a contrast colour to your black and white drawing so that you can see it when you trace over it with a scalpel.

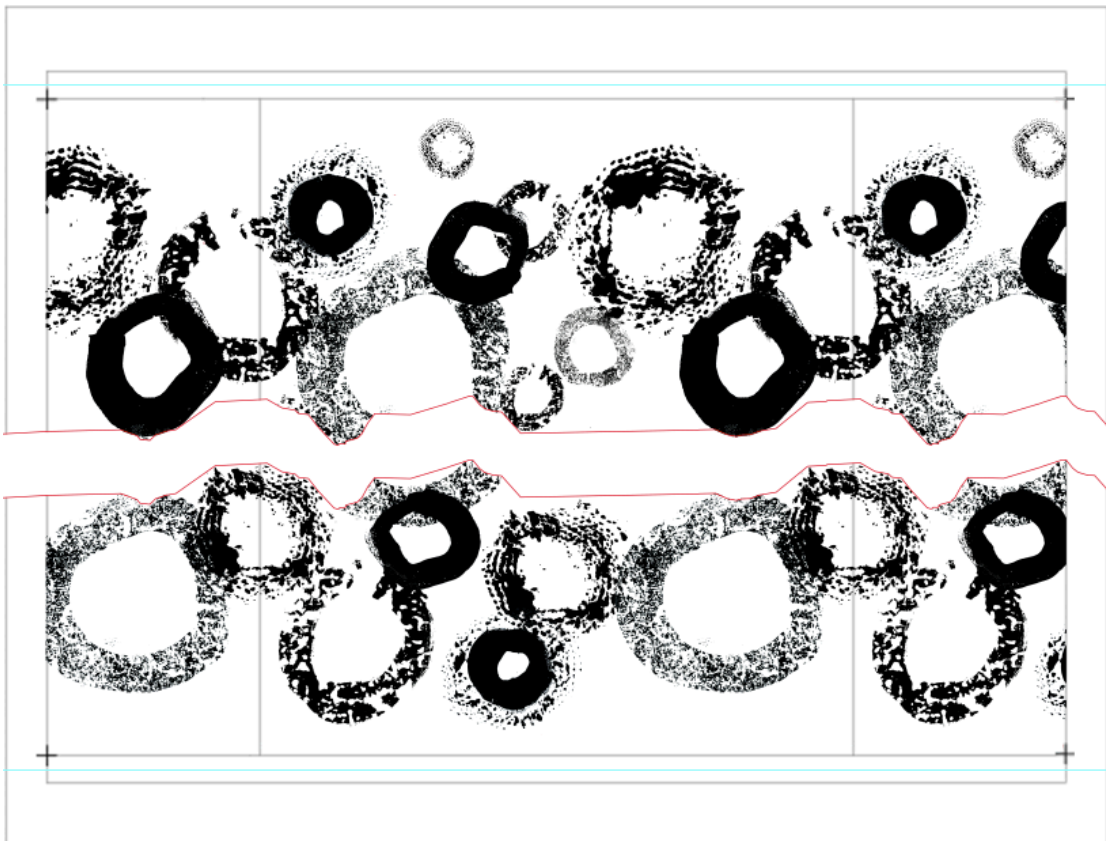
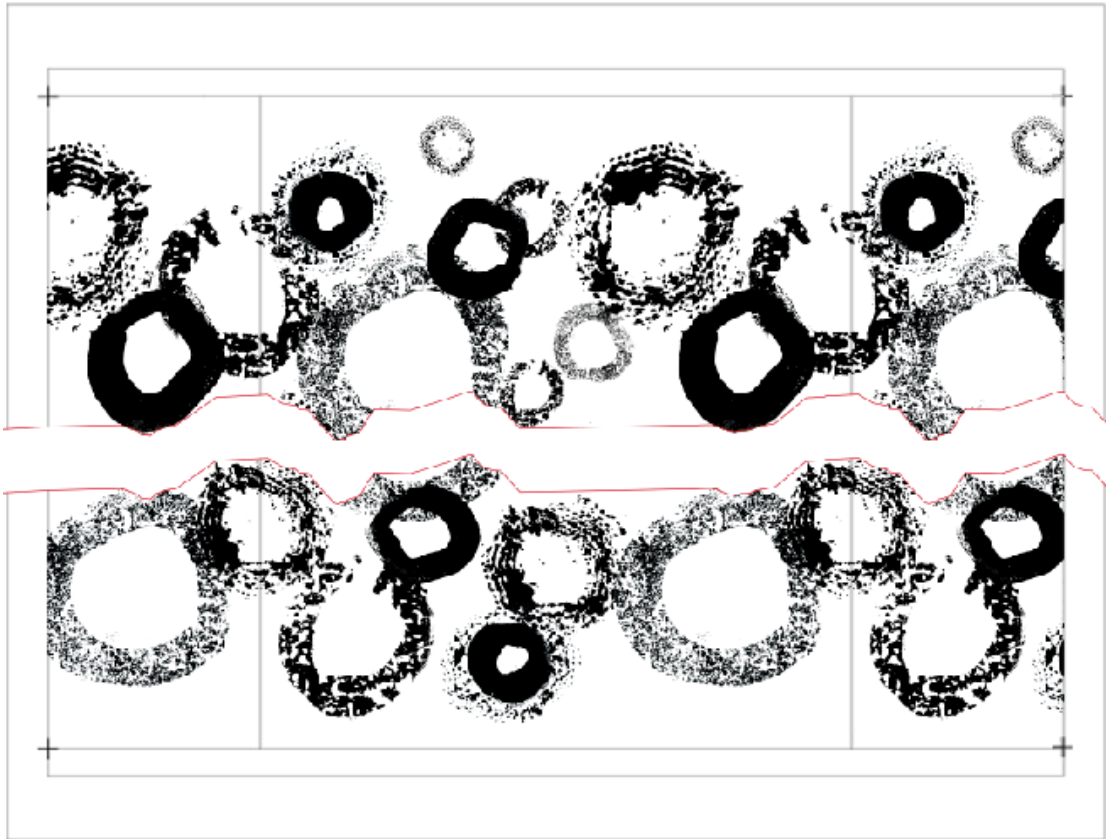


Above: the 6cm margin created to hold the cut-through.

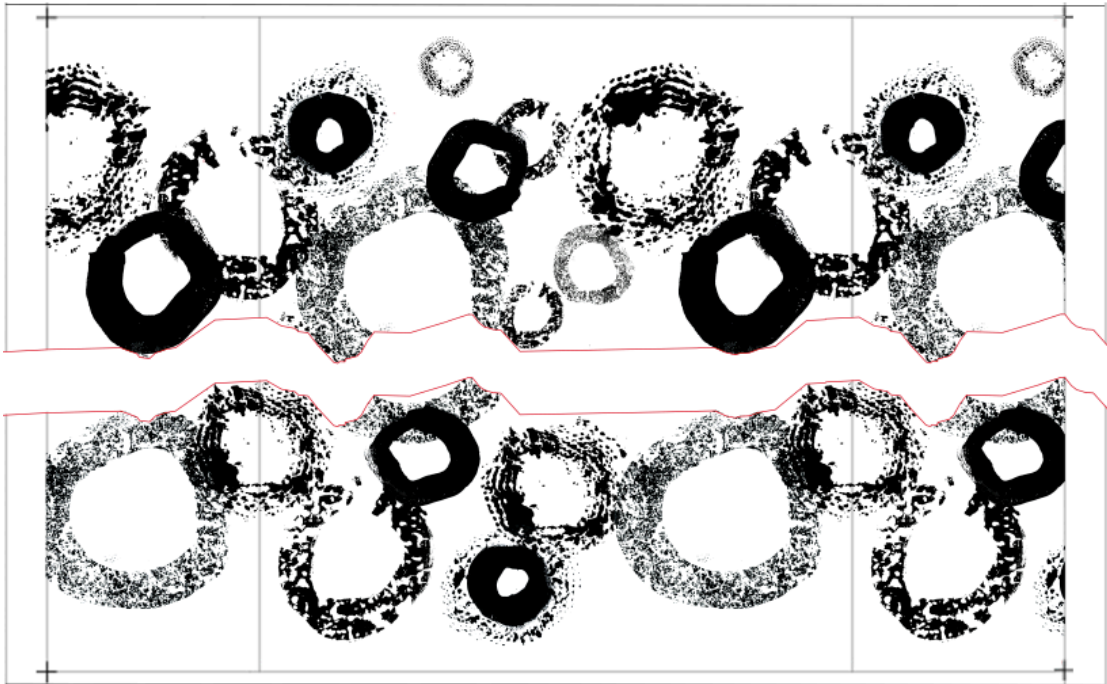
Below: the cut-through (drawn in red) avoids major block colour.



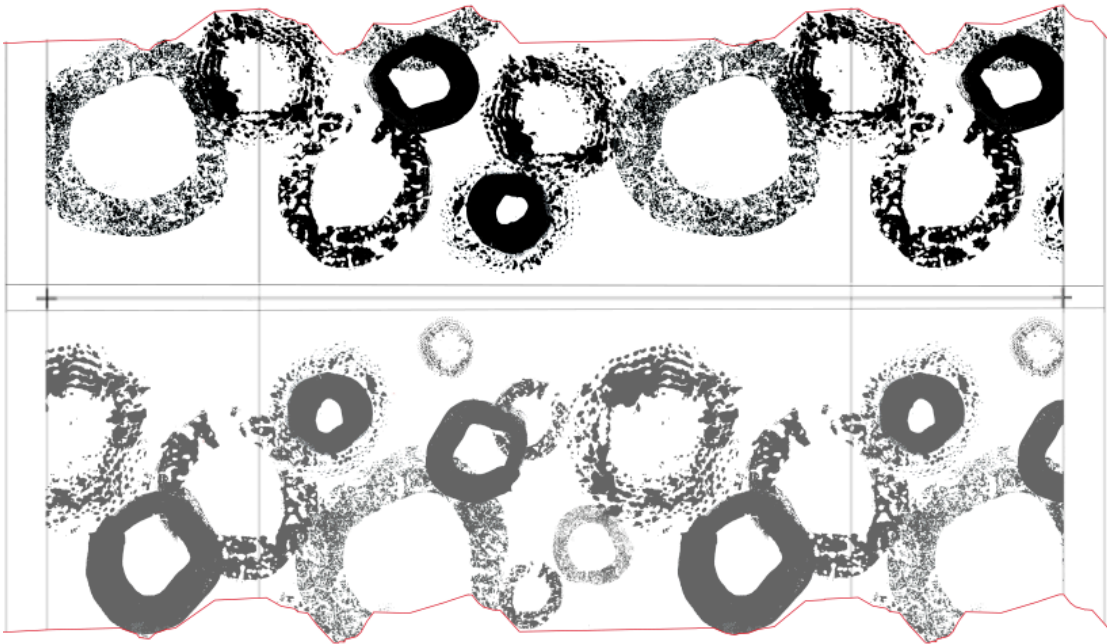
Use a scalpel and cutting matt to slice through the design, being careful to stick to your drawn line. Concentrate! Do not slice your fingers please!



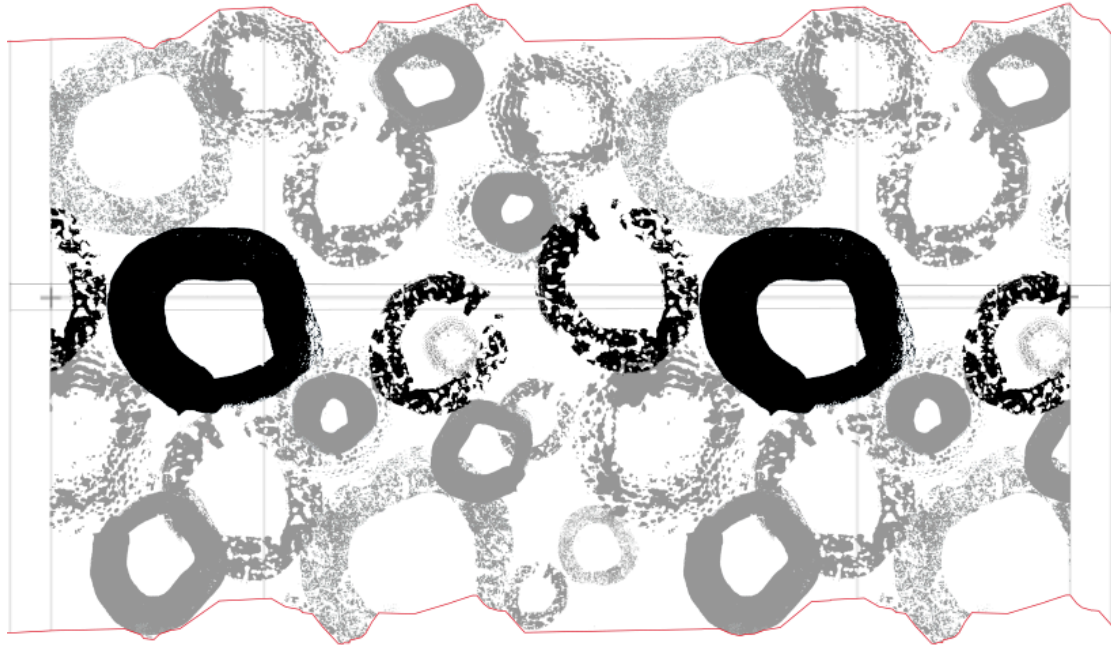
Remove the excess paper top and bottom of your design as this will get in the way further down the line.



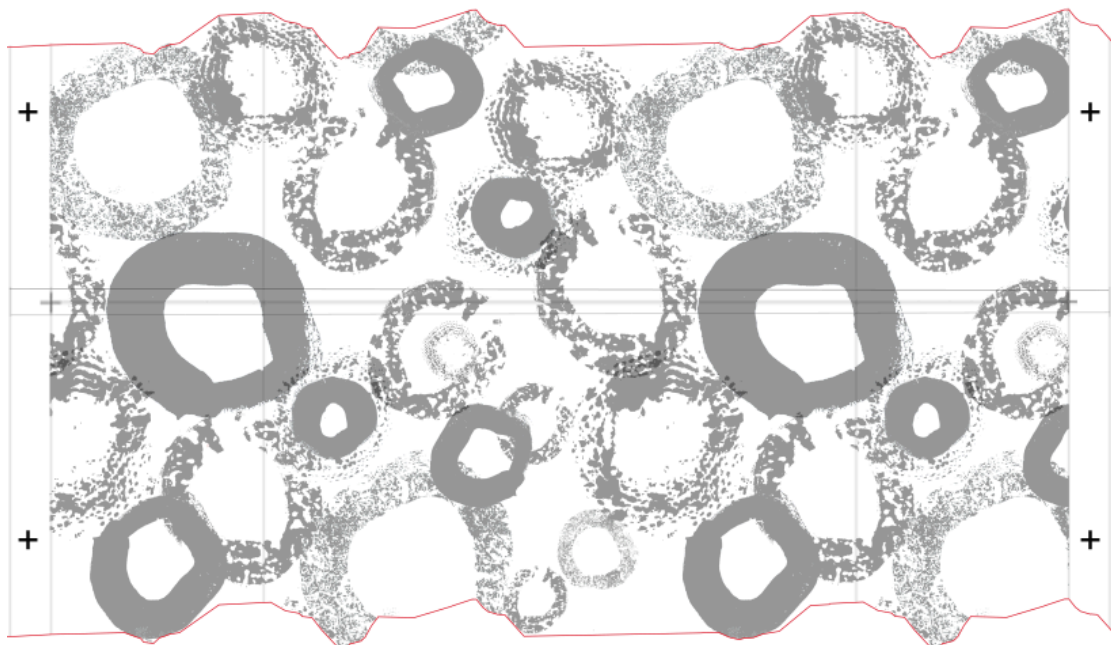
Align your cross-points on the light box by taking the top and bottom sections and swapping them over. Make sure you are accurate and that you stick the 2 pieces together on the reverse flatly. If the points come out of alignment your repeat will not work!

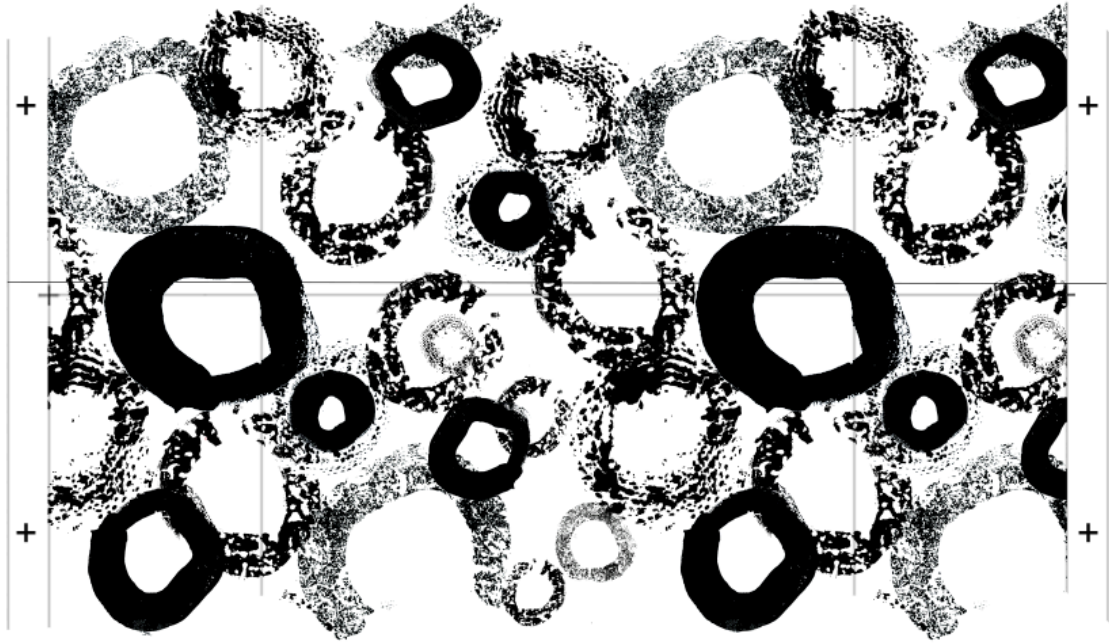


Once your 2 sections are fixed together you will see that there is a gap in the middle of your design. Fill this gap with imagery, but make sure this is in repeat also! You can do this accurately by using photocopies.



Remember to draw out your cross points either side of the design- these will be important when you come to tracing out the imagery onto transparent/matt film.





Make sure you tape the design down to a large flat surface that you can easily work on and will be safe from food and drink spillage. Once it is stuck, roll out your layer of film and tape this down over the top. Begin tracing the design starting with the cross points either side of the design- that way, if anyone moves it, you can easily line it up again. Remember to use a full range of marks and techniques when tracing your imagery so that you translate accurately and do not simplify the design.