

# Take part in Surfaces of the Shire!

*WE NEED YOU! To record the textural heritage features of the county*



## What is Frottage?

FROTTAGE IS THE  
TECHNIQUE OR  
PROCESS OF TAKING A  
RUBBING FROM AN  
UNEVEN SURFACE TO  
FORM THE BASIS OF A  
WORK OF ART.

## 'How To' - a step by step guide

WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO REPRODUCE THE TEXTURE OF  
A SURFACE BY TAKING A DIRECT RUBBING USING  
GRAPHITE

You will need:

- White paper
- Graphite stick
- Records form
- Returns envelope



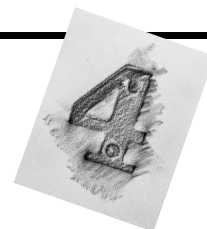
By combining your artwork, gathered from across the county, we aim to create a tonal picture from the surfaces of Nottinghamshire. We'd like to know more about the objects you've chosen, to help us discover links to the county's heritage. Tell us about where they were found and what was/is their purpose. Your rubbings will be photographed and uploaded to the Inspire Picture Archive and join over 5 million documents in Nottinghamshire Archives!

Please turn over for further instructions  
**WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THE ACTIVITY!**



# How To Frottage

## A STEP BY STEP GUIDE



**Step 1:** Place a piece of paper over the textured surface.

**Step 2:** Rub the paper with the graphite stick to deposit marks, continue until the image is revealed on the surface of the paper.

**Step 3:** That's it, you've successfully recorded a surface! All you need to do now is complete the records form, to let us know the location of your surface.

**Step 4:** Please return your artwork and the completed records form to an Inspire Library as soon as you have finished but no later than **Tues 25 May**.

Visit: [inspireculture.org.uk](http://inspireculture.org.uk) for library opening information.

### Top Tips:

- Street signs, benches and litter bins – surfaces with patterns, letters or numbers are great fun to capture
- Metalwork – drain covers, old door hinges and brass plates can be very decorative
- Post boxes – how many Royal Cyphers can you spot?
- Stonework – look for foundation stones or the marks of the mason
- Locally made bricks and ceramic tiles might tell a tale
- We've found that a low relief works best, where the design stands out from the surface and is slightly accentuated
- Remember to work safely and respect the surface you are capturing

Just like you, professional artist Chris Lewis-Jones has also been busy collecting heritage surfaces across Nottinghamshire and a tonal picture of the county will be on display in the Surfaces of the Shire Exhibition.

## THANK YOU FOR TAKING PART!

The **Inspire Picture Archive** is an online collection of thousands of historical images of Nottinghamshire. This online service makes it easy to browse and download over 22,000 fascinating images from the past. To find out more visit: [inspirepicturearchive.org.uk](http://inspirepicturearchive.org.uk)

### Returns Information

Please return your artwork to your nearest Inspire Library or post to:

**Kirkby-in-Ashfield Library**  
Ashfield Precinct  
Kirkby-in-Ashfield  
Nottinghamshire  
NG17 7BQ

Please share with us on Facebook how you've collected your artwork  
**@InspireArtsCulture**

### Surfaces of the Shire Exhibition

Online: [inspireculture.org.uk/surfaces](http://inspireculture.org.uk/surfaces)  
From Tues 25 May

Workshop Library Gallery:  
Tues 25 May to Tues 29 June

Mansfield Central Library Gallery:  
Fri 2 July to Sun 5 September

West Bridgford Library Gallery:  
Tues 2 November to Thurs 16 December



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County Council**

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