

Star Tracks



Kids of any age will go starry-eyed over this celestial room.

Luminescent shapes twinkle and gleam when the lights are dim, and fade away when the sun is shining. The stars are a snap to apply—just stamp them on with kitchen sponges dipped in Studio Finishes™ Glow in the Dark effect. For aspiring astronomers, the stars could be continued up and over the ceiling, to encourage bedtime gazing.

The bright expanse of blue on the walls makes an appealing daytime background, and plays neatly off the patch of night sky in the deep dormer. The cool color is warmed by the natural wood-tones of the furnishings and floor. The darker shade of the dormer serves to emphasize an interesting architectural feature, and further frame the view out the window.

The luminescent shapes could be varied according to taste: stars, comets, constellations...the sky's the limit. Just trace the shape onto cardboard, cut out, then use as a template to cut a stamp out of an ordinary kitchen sponge.

In the space of an afternoon, you've brought home the moon and stars.

What You'll Need

Supplies:

- Brushes
- Roller and tray
- Four to five kitchen sponges, various sizes
- Thin cardboard
- Scissors or craft knife
- Large plastic plate or clean, empty pizza box
- Newspaper

Paint:

- Walls: Tropicana Cabana (2048-50)
- Dormer: Paddington Blue (791)
- Trim: Simply White (2143-70)
- Stars: Studio Finishes™ Glow in the Dark effect

Step-by-Step Instructions

Step 1: Prime walls if necessary (always prime over new construction, old or damaged walls or a deep base color). Allow to dry.

Step 2: Roll on wall color (Tropicana Cabana, 2048-50).

Step 3: Roll on dormer color (Paddington Blue, 791).

Step 4: When walls are thoroughly dry, paint trim (Simply White, 2143-70).

Step 5: Make your star stamps. Trace four or five shapes of your choosing (stars, comets, etc.—try to vary the size) onto a piece of thin cardboard.

Step 6: Cut out the shapes with scissors or craft knife.

Step 7: Lay the shapes on a plain kitchen sponge (dampened, then thoroughly wrung out), and using the cardboard as a template, cut the sponge into the stamp shape.

Step 8: Pour a small amount of Studio Finishes™ Glow in the Dark effect into a plastic plate or clean, empty pizza box.

Step 9: Dip the sponge shapes into the glow-in-the-dark glaze, dabbing off any excess on a piece of newspaper, and press lightly against the wall, taking care not to smear. Continue stamping the wall in a random pattern, varying the size and direction of the stars.

Note: For more "glow," multiple coats may be required. Since Glow in the Dark effect is translucent, it may be difficult to see exact star placement, so try stamping the stars when the room is slightly dark.