

Inspired by EYS: Make & Explore

Personalized Pencil Case: Back-to-School Art Project



Kick off the school year with a creative project that's easy, fun, and perfect for kids, teens, and families. This **Personalized Back-to-School Pencil Case** is a functional art project that lets you carry your creativity with you every day.

Materials (Amazon affiliate links can be inserted):

- [Canvas pencil case](#) – plain, unlined, zipper closure
- [Acrylic paint set](#) – variety of colors
- [Fabric markers](#) – fine tip for details
- [Small paintbrush set](#) – assorted sizes
- [Painter's palette](#) or paper plate for mixing
- [Cardstock or thin cardboard sheet](#) – to place inside the case
- Cup for water and paper towels for cleanup
- [Mod Podge for Fabric](#) – to seal and protect your design

Instructions:

- 1 **Set up your space** – Cover your work area with newspaper or an old tablecloth.
- 2 **Prepare your pencil case** – Slide a piece of cardstock or thin cardboard inside to prevent paint from bleeding through to the back.
- 3 **Sketch your design** – Lightly outline shapes, text, or patterns with a fabric marker. Ideas include your name, favorite quote, or colorful geometric patterns.
- 4 **Paint your design** – Use acrylic paint to fill in large areas. Work in thin layers for quicker drying.
- 5 **Add details** – Once the paint is dry, use fabric markers for outlines, patterns, and fine touches.
- 6 **Set your design** – Apply three thin coats of Mod Podge for Fabric, allowing each coat to dry completely before adding the next. This step will make your pencil case **permanent, washable, and long-lasting**.
- 7 **Let it cure overnight** – Give your case 24 hours to fully dry before using it.

Pro Tip: This project is great for classrooms, youth groups, and family art nights!