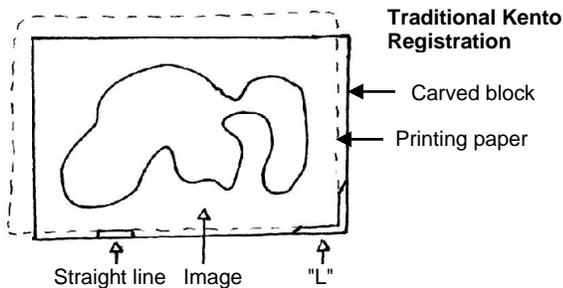


How to Use a Registration Board

Our Registration Board lets you use the Japanese method of registering paper onto a block accurately. Using our Registration Board allows for margins up to 1 3/4" wide, and the flexibility of changing the size of your margins around your printed image.

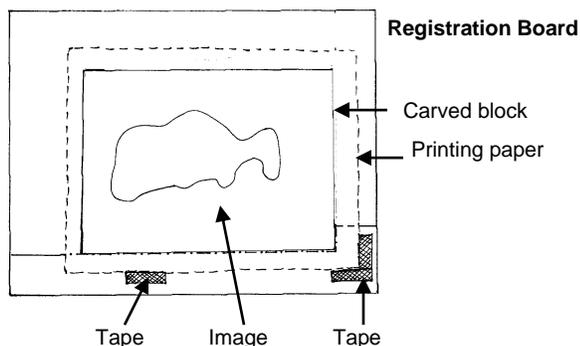
Traditionally, two registration marks, called *kento*, are carved into every block that will be used to create the print. One mark is a backwards "L" and the other a straight line.



The printing paper is carefully placed into the kento and dropped down onto the block. It is a very simple, easy and reliable way to register paper to the carved block.

A Registration Board is a block of wood with a large, wooden, backwards "L" attached to it.

You can carve kento into the "L" but most people use one or two layers of masking or artist's tape to form the marks so they can change the position of the marks as needed.



The inner edges of the "L" have been beveled so they will not touch the top of the block and pick up unwanted ink. You can also shellac or cover the "L" with tape to keep it clean.

Registration Boards are an advantage if you want to change the margins on your prints. You can move the artist's tape closer or further away from the block to get narrower or wider margins on the printing paper. Also if your registration marks are off a bit, one simple adjustment to the tape on the Registration Board solves the problem.

To transfer an image to multiple blocks, place the first block firmly into the "L." Place the drawing face-down in the kento marks: pick up the paper by holding it between the index and middle fingers with both hands and place the paper down into the kento marks, using your thumbs to hold it in place. Pull your index and middle fingers away so the paper drops down onto the block. Use artist's tape to tape the drawing down on two sides to the "L" on the Registration Board. Sandwich a piece of carbon paper between the drawing and the block, and trace the drawing onto the block. When it is complete, slide out the block, put a new one in its place, and trace the color areas you plan to print on this block. Repeat as many times as you need to, to make a block for each color in your print.

When you are ready to print, ink up the block. Place it firmly into the corner and against the long side of the "L," drop the printing paper into the kento and pull the print.

For Registration Boards to work well, the corner of the block going into the "L" needs to be a perfect 90° corner so you can place the block squarely into the "L" every time. The "L" is 3/8 inches high. If the block you are using is lower than the "L," use mat board or paper to shim it up so it is even with the top of the "L." If the block is higher than the "L," add mat board or paper to the "L" so the "L" and the block are even in height.



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