DIY Marbled Stationary
Today, we are going to create Marbled Stationary for your very own letters.

Letters don’t need to be fancy but decorating the paper can be fun to do and adds to the recipient’s delight!

Letter writing is a way of sharing the details of your day, your favorite things, and any thoughts on your mind.

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU GOT A LETTER? HOW DID IT MAKE YOU FEEL?
Libraries, archives, and museums collect letters written by people, both famous and ordinary. Their thoughts help us understand the era in which they lived. Letters by artists are one way to learn about their life, influences, and creative process.

Did you know?
Vincent van Gogh wrote over 820 letters during his lifetime! Read them on http://vangoghletters.org/vg/.

From: Vincent van Gogh
To: Theo van Gogh
Date: Arles, between Tuesday, 17 and Friday, 20 July 1888
Source: http://vangoghletters.org/vg/letters/let446letter.html
Associated with the American Regionalism movement, Benton was interested in portraying everyday life like industrialization, agriculture, and technology.


In the midst of World War II, letters were an important form of communication for loved ones overseas.

"Letters to and from the front lines were a lifeline for service men and women fighting in World War II. Few things mattered more to those serving abroad than getting letters from home."

Source: https://www.pbs.org/thewar/at_home_communication_letters_diaries.htm
What is marbling?

The marbling technique is named after the stone, marble.

Marble is a metamorphic rock that forms when limestone is exposed to heat and pressure. It comes from mines like these.

Marble is found in households and public buildings as tiles and countertops. Throughout history, it has even been a sculptural medium.

The lines you see are called VEINS. These are mineral deposits within the stone.
Supplies

- Paper
- Scrap or construction paper
- Cereal box, shoe box lid, or any shallow container
- Scissors
- Painter’s tape
- A handful or two of dried chickpeas (or marbles)
- Ink or craft paint
- At least one jar
- Mixing stick or plastic knife

Cover your workspace! This can get messy!
STEP 1
Create a tray by cutting out one side of a cereal box, leaving the sides. Tape the ends shut.

STEP 2
Using scrap paper, cut out a large shape to cover where you want to write. See examples above for planning your shapes.
STEP 3

Once you have your cutouts, roll some tape on the back and attach to the main sheet.

STEP 4

Tape the main sheet down in the cereal box.
STEP 5

Mix the chickpeas in a jar with a few dashes of ink or paint. Less is more and you can always add more.

*shake*

STEP 6

Mix with plastic knife. Roll chickpeas onto paper and keep rolling until you like what you see. Let the ink dry before removing tape.

To add another color, mix a dash of paint/ink with a handful of chickpeas in a new jar and repeat.
Now all that’s missing are your thoughts!

Write them out for another person, family, or group of friends to read. You can also write one without sending it.

When you’re done, stick it in an addressed envelope, add a stamp, and put it in the mailbox!