



# Pink Heart Digest

Modern Farmhouse Wreath Edition

*Fill Your Life With Art - Amarie Lange Studio*

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## Modern Farmhouse Wreath Edition

I hope you enjoy learning a little about how I do my artistic process. And I hope you enjoy your free Wreath Printables!

The free printables are found towards the end of this digest. On the last page you'll also find important links to the full-sized Wreath Printables at my Etsy Shop and a link to a page on [AmarieLangeStudio.com](http://AmarieLangeStudio.com) where you can also download these 3.75 x 3.75 inch printables for free, if that's more convenient for you. (If printed and cut at the designed size, these cards will fit nicely into a 4 x 4 inch envelope.)

My best to you.

*Amarie*

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# Wreath Printables - a look at design and decor

As an artist, I focus on creating art that can:

- \* encourage
- \* strengthen
- \* comfort
- \* be beautiful, of course!

From the beginnings of my design process I'm thinking about **how** my clients will use this art.



# Research and the Process of Creation



I start my research by checking what's trending in décor, and arts and crafts.

Modern Farmhouse Wreaths are very popular in home decor. The look is clean and often minimalist, with pops of natural color.

A wreath's circular shape can symbolize eternity; never-ending life. Such symbolism & a wreath's traditional beauty evokes feelings of comfort and home.

A front door wreath has a “wow” quality about it and I loved the idea of bringing that feeling inside, where it can be enjoyed season after season.

Some of the most popular farmhouse wreaths are made from Magnolia leaves, Eucalyptus leaves and Cotton Bolls. So that’s where I started.



These plants are gorgeous and it was sheer fun to gather reference photos and drill in for a closeup study of leaves, twigs and blossoms.



I wanted to focus on the natural beauty of these plants, so I knew there would be no bows, ribbons, or other wreath accessories in my paintings.



One question I ask myself as I'm doing research is "do I have all the necessary art skills to make this project?"

That's a fun question, actually.

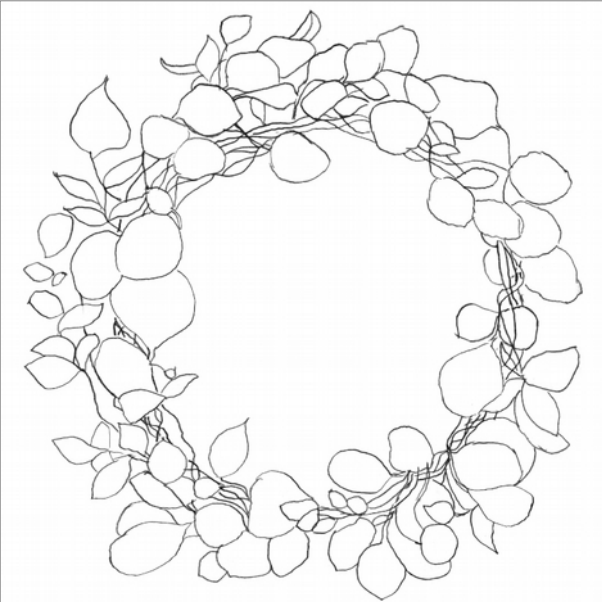
It gives me permission to take another art class. There are a lot of places to do that online, and my favorite is Skillshare, because of the bite-sized way they do their classes.

I also use Youtube to learn new skills. If you, too, find yourself with creative ideas in your head and want to learn how to get them out through your hands, I encourage you to invest in yourself and take some classes, either online or offline.

Love on yourself by learning a new creative skill each week. Doing so will truly up your game.



## Sketching the artwork



Now it's time for me to put pencil to sketch book. Sometimes I trace parts of my sketch, often I freehand portions, and always at this point I'm looking at reference photos and ideas.

This is prime erasing time. I sketch a little, step back and get a different perspective, erase a bit and re-work. I put enough detail in my sketches that I know where everything is going in the final design. I can “see” my project build.

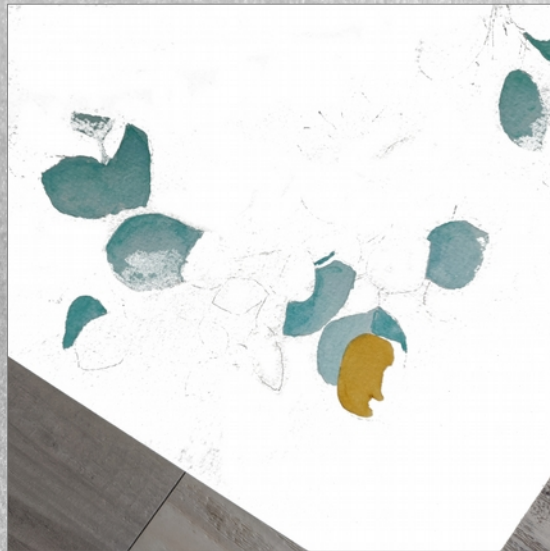
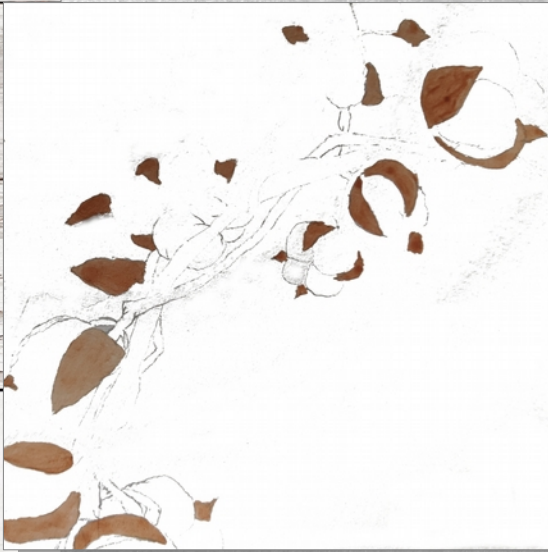
I don't usually put in *all* the tiny details at this point. Those details are in my mind and are developing themselves as the project continues.

I **am** thinking about how this artwork will get used. Will it need to bring smiles as someone sees it each morning? Will it coordinate perfectly with the other décor in a lovingly decorated room? Will it be the perfect gift for a special friend?

## *Time to Paint*

I'll be honest with you: the painting portion of this process can be intimidating. I love seeing the watercolor flow from the brush to the paper. However, there's no erasing at this point (although there are techniques to use when a problem occurs).

All artists' have their own painting process developed through hours (years!) of painting. My own process sometimes changes depending on the work I'm doing. Mostly I lay down layers of watercolor starting with background washes and moving to detailed foregrounds.



That first background layer is crucial as it will become the base for all other layers. What colors will need to peek through? What is the light doing? Where do I want the eyes to look first?



If I'm using a wet-on-wet technique at this point (the paper is wet with a bit of water first, then color is applied and allowed to bleed) I need to have my colors planned out so I can add them in the order I want while the paper is still wet. That's how the watercolor does its magic.

After that first layer is dry, I go back in and paint details, often with hard edges this time. The watercolor is translucent, up to a point, and by taking advantage of those qualities I can make my project sing.

## Details

This is the time to let the artwork dry completely. Once dry, I go over it all with an eraser.

Any pencil lines under the watercolor won't erase so good planning before I paint includes keeping my sketch light. The pencil lines not covered by paint will erase easily at this point.

Inking my work is genuinely one of the favorite parts of my process. Inking is how I make my artwork pop.



I often practice inking on a scrap piece of watercolor paper to make sure I'm happy with the effect because once I ink, it's there forever. (I can and do **clean up** mistakes digitally, but removing ink from watercolor is not something I enjoy so laying down ink is generally a permanent part of my design process and requires careful application.)

Then I let the work set for awhile. When I come back the question is, "am I satisfied with the final product?" If so, then it's off to the scanner so I can prep this design to become a printable.

# Using Printables



One of the main reasons I like to create utilizing a digital process is that printables are extremely versatile when it comes to using the finished artwork.

For example, if I buy a print at a size of 10 x 8 inches, I'm pretty much stuck using that artwork at 10 x 8 inches. But if I use a printable I know I can print it out at any size I want **up to** the size the artist recommends. And adjusting the size of the printed artwork is just the beginning.

I can crop down to a section of the artwork. I can remove the background - or add a different one - and use the digital file on a physical item, such as a mug or a pillow. *This does require more digital prep work before printing.*



I can create a focal point using a printable.

For example, this printable, whether hung on the wall or sitting on a shelf, would be gorgeous surrounded by family photos.



**I love this printable decorating idea!**

Using the printable of your choice, add a sentiment that has meaning for you.

This can mean thinking outside-of-the-box a bit. For instance, this printable is a representation of a wreath, but that doesn't mean it needs to be used that way.

Here I have cropped and offset the digital file to give it a bold look. Then I've added my sentiment in 3 complementary fonts.

An easy rule-of-thumb is to use no more than 3 fonts per project. Additionally, always check for readability.



Sometimes the simplest ideas work the best.

Taking a collection of printables, printing them at different frame sizes and arranging them to perfectly fit your wall space is extremely inviting.

Coordinated? ✓ Flexible? ✓  
Custom look? ***Definitely!***

Keep this look more formal by using the *same frame* in *different sizes*. Make the look casual by using *different frames* but still *one grouping*.

Beautiful.





Add your own sentiments to your cards.  
Note that I changed the size of the Cotton  
Boll wreath to fit the card and envelope.

Personalize to suit your needs.

I learned many of these art and digital techniques through a handful of Skillshare classes and Youtube videos.

One thing to keep in mind when doing these types of projects: do you have the permission of the artist to re-use their digital files in this fashion?

I allow my clients to utilize my art files in these ways. The only restriction I impose is that *Amarie Lange Studio* artwork and files cannot be used for any commercial purposes or resold in any form. But for personal or gift use? Sure, get creative.

So one printable file can be used in scrapbooking, decorating, or on a t-shirt, *and* make perfect greeting cards to give to a friend.

I love that mix of beauty and value!

What do you think? Do you enjoy getting deep value and amazing versatility from the products you buy?

In the next 4 pages, you'll find the free **Farmhouse Wreath Printables** I've made for you.

Each page will print out a 3.75 x 3.75 inch card (fits into a 4 x 4 in. envelope) on a standard 8.5 x 11 inch piece of white cardstock; then trim using the cut guides. (I recommend doing test prints to check card size and using a paper cutter for sharp edges.)

After the Wreath Printables pages, there is a page that contains helpful links, including a link to these same printables on AmarieLangeStudio.com. That way you'll have two copies of these files to enable you to print your artwork in the way most convenient for you.

If you need a larger size of these beautiful wreaths for a bigger project, I recommend purchasing the full-sized files in 300 dpi high resolution .jpgs from my Etsy shop.

(<https://www.etsy.com/shop/amarielangestudio>)





Family  
IS A CIRCLE  
OF LOVE





## Helpful Links

These same Modern Farmhouse Wreath Printables are on AmarieLangeStudio.com. Print them out from my website, if you prefer.

<https://amarielangestudio.com/wreath-printables/>

Want the full-sized, high resolution .jpg files for these printable wreaths? The full-sized wreaths can be printed out in a square format up to 12 x 12 inches, 300 dpi for a high quality print. They are bundled together for your convenience. (If the link doesn't work, cut & paste.) Take a look here:

Printable Wreaths:

[https://www.etsy.com/listing/801919324/printable-modern-farmhouse-wreath?ref=shop\\_home\\_active\\_3](https://www.etsy.com/listing/801919324/printable-modern-farmhouse-wreath?ref=shop_home_active_3)

My full Etsy Shop where you'll find more beautiful, premium printables you can use to decorate your way:

<https://www.etsy.com/shop/amarielangestudio>