



## Nina-Marie Trapani

This month, we are featuring [Nina-Marie Trapani](#)! Her projects are always fun and colorful, featuring lots of texture and dimension. Let's learn more about her...

### **1. What motivated you to start making cards and begin stamping?**

Since I was young, I've always been interested in creating just about anything; from beading to cross-stitch; origami and paper flowers; sketching and everything in between. You name it, I enjoyed it all. I stumbled across card making in 2007 when I was given a die cutting machine (with dies), a set of alphabet rubber stamps and a Paper Crafts magazine. I was hooked ever since! Until 2014, card making and stamping was just a hobby; but that year I started my blog, with my YouTube channel following shortly thereafter.

### **2. How did you fall in love with Altenew?**

A dear friend of mine, Maria Sabina, gave me a gift certificate to Altenew. My first stamp set was the Vintage Roses stamp set; Altenew's layering sets are so amazing and easy to use. After getting that set, I quickly started building a collection of Altenew stamps, dies, and inks. I feature Altenew products on my cards quite frequently now, as I love working with them.

### **3. Your coloring is amazing! Do you have a favorite medium? Please share some tips on using them!**

I have two favorite mediums; tube watercolors and alcohol markers.

Watercolors were my first medium to work with after I started card making in 2007. I enjoy how unpredictable the paints can be. My favorite tip for watercolors is to not attempt to control them; let the water move the pigment wherever it wants to go. Also be conservative with how much water you use when coloring “in the lines”; too much water will result in color going where you do not want it to. I got into alcohol markers in 2015; these are completely different from the watercolors I had been so used to working with.

The ability to control this medium makes for a fun alternative to watercoloring when you want to do something different. One thing I find with alcohol markers is that allowing for some dry-time in between shading layers can make a big difference with your coloring results. Alcohol markers have a tendency to be very saturating and will bleed when you layer multiple colors too quickly. When you are adding multiple shades to a subject you are blending, try giving each layer of color a chance to dry for 30 seconds or so. You’ll find that more often than not, there will be less bleeding and more crisp results on your finished project!

**4. Do you have a specific style that you are comfortable with or like to stick to?**

Not particularly. I enjoy trying new things and stretching myself outside the box! I believe that expanding your style outside of your “comfort zone” helps you to discover new ideas and create fresh designs!

**5. Can you share a favorite card you made previously using Altenew products?**

One of my most-favorite cards using Altenew products is this one which features the lovely Rose Filament die set, Script Words die set, More Than Words stamp set and Altenew inks. The card was inspired by an apron I had seen inside one of my town’s local shops. I really love how the Altenew products I used worked so well in replicating the design of the apron!



**6. This is just for fun! If you can choose only three crafting supplies for the rest of your life, what would you choose?**

Wow, only three??? That's tough! I would probably have to choose my watercolors, my MISTI and Spectrum Noir glitter pen! Those are a few of my most-used supplies; but like most of you, I am sure I could make a list a mile-long of crafty-goodness that I love to use!