

## USING GLASS PAINT ON EGGS

Hi Everyone,

I won't be using the two way sound features of the web cam, instead I will use the following format for the class so that you can follow along. I will do each section slowly, but please feel free to ask questions, particularly if you need me to re-do any steps.

I will take a question and answer break after each section in case anyone has queries. If you do have questions please wait until the end of the section.

### COLOURING FINDINGS

***During this section we will be using gold findings, Micropore or other flexible tape. Watch while I show you what to do.***

- Highlight flowers or other accent features on a finding or egg stand. The gold finish will still show through the glass paint giving it a wonderful effect.
- Apply glass paint to highlight a leaf finding to make a stand for a small egg.

When colouring open findings cover the back with Micropore or a similar type of flexible, non-stick tape. Once the glass paint is dry, peel off the back of the finding before positioning in or on the shell.

- Use an oval filigree finding to make a simple stained glass window. When you fill in the openings with glass paint, make sure you leave adjacent spaces free so the paints do not run into each other. Allow the initial spaces to dry thoroughly before filling the remainder.

### CLASS A PEEL STICKERS

***During this section we will be using Class a Peel or other stickers. Watch while I show you what to do.***

*Note: In Australia Hotspotz Crafty Stickers are available from places like Lincraft, Spotlight and some newsagents.*

*These can be attached to an egg or stuck onto a waxed label backing or the plastic sleeve to use later.*

- Stickers can be used to create quick and simple designs – fill with either glass paint or imitation enamel. The sticker acts in the same manner as leading or gold cord to contain the medium.
- Also creating reverse images from the stickers.

### STAINED GLASS

***During this section we will be using gold mesh, plastic drink bottle. Watch while I show you what to do.***

- Gold mesh can be glued to a plastic dome or piece of a Coke bottle and then coloured in any desired way to create a stained glass window.
- Use one of the liquid leading colours to create a stylised stained glass window, coloured with either the transparent or Window colour glass paints. Do not apply paint in adjacent spaces.

### COLOURING B & W IMAGES

***During this section we will be using the supplied shaded rose. Watch while I show you what to do.***

- One of my favourite uses for glass paints is to colour black & white prints. These can be photocopies or images printed from the computer — the transparent quality of the paint allows the shading from the original print to show through, achieving a very realistic effect with minimal effort. The paint is applied with a small brush, blending colours directly onto the print if desired. Any blending should be done while the paints are wet to achieve a more natural appearance.

## USING A PRINT

***During this section we will be using the supplied butterfly image, a plastic sheet protector (available from stationery store/newsagent) and a fine needle tip bottle. Watch while I show you what to do.***

Many appealing designs can be located in stained glass books or from the Internet. Select a suitable outline and slip the page into a plastic sheet protector (if it's too large for the egg you are using you can reduce it by photocopying or resize on the computer). The sheet protectors should be the slightly dimpled type rather than slick plastic otherwise you won't be able to peel the appliqué off the plastic.

*Note: if you can't find the dimpled type plastic sheet protector, wax paper can be used for this technique but you may need to use a small amount of glue to attach the image to an egg.*

- Select a liquid leading compatible with the design. As mentioned above these are available in a number of colours. A glue bottle or very fine-tip bottle filled with the leading is the easiest way to outline the print. Alternatively the little Calidad ink bottles that you use to re-ink your printer cartridges are also suitable.

Applying the leading takes a little practice and it is wise to practice drawing lines on the plastic sleeve until you get the feel of the leading. To apply the leading hold the tip slightly off the surface and allow the paint to flow down onto the plastic sleeve. As you squeeze the bottle move your hand and draw out the leading, thus making straight lines on the plastic. Once you have mastered the art of making straight lines you are then ready to outline the stained glass print.

Ensure you don't allow the tip of the applicator bottle to touch the plastic, as this will spoil the rounded appearance of the leading. It is important that all lines touch so that the glass paint will be contained within each division. Allow the leading to dry thoroughly before applying the glass paint.

**Note:** On smaller designs it may not be practical to use liquid leading to outline the design. In these cases, fill each of the areas according to the design inside the plastic sleeve. Fill alternate areas and allow to dry. Then add the adjoining colours. When all the glass paint is dry, outline the sections with a fine permanent marker. This will give the same effect as the leading as it appears on the larger designs.

- Apply a small blob of the desired colour of glass paint in each space, use a toothpick to push the paint out to the leading. Make sure there are no gaps along the leading. It is important to have enough paint to come up to the top of the leading without spilling over into the next space. Continue until all spaces are filled and then allow to dry thoroughly, preferably overnight.
- The next step requires extreme care to ensure the painted image does not flip and stick together. Once the paint is dry, carefully peel your prepared glass appliqué off the plastic sleeve. Position the appliqué on the egg and gently press down all over the glass paint, smoothing out any air bubbles. Take care not to stretch the print out of shape. I haven't found it necessary to apply any glue in this step as the glass paint sticks to the egg. However, if necessary apply a thin bead of glue just under the edge of the print

The same principle can be used to make windows by sticking a picture under a piece of plastic (from a 2-litre Pet bottle) with sticky tape and applying the leading and glass paint straight on the topside of the plastic. When the paint is dry remove the paper.

*Note: The butterfly is supplied in 3 different sizes – 3", 2 1/2" and 2" – feel free to choose the most appropriate size for your needs, although the largest one might be the easiest to practice the leading technique.*

## **MAKING SCROLLS**

***During this section we will be using the supplied scrolls, a plastic sheet protector and gold cord. Optional – Vilene or Tearaway. Watch while I show you what to do.***

Beautiful coloured scrolls can be easily achieved in a number of ways by using the thicker, Gallery Glass Window Color. For pastel scrolls mix some of the normal, transparent glass paint with the White Pearl Window Color.

- Scrolls can be made directly onto the egg. After the shell has been cut, apply the paint to alternating areas, so the paint doesn't run together.
- Alternatively, outline your scrolls with gold cord on an uncut shell and then fill by flooding the areas with paint and pushing it up to the cord.
- For removable scrolls slip a page with scroll outlines into a plastic sheet protector. If using adjoining scrolls fill alternate scrolls and allow to dry before filling the adjacent scrolls, otherwise the colours will mix together.

Allow to dry thoroughly and then peel off the plastic sleeve. Apply to the egg in the desired pattern. For added effect, outline with fine gold cord.

## **HINTS FOR SCROLL MAKING**

These patterns can be used to make removable scrolls. Alternatively, you can make up templates by tracing the scrolls onto Vilene and then applying Post-It glue to the back of the Vilene.

**Note:** Vilene is a stiffening agent used in sewing and can be purchased from any haberdashery store. Post-It glue is a re-positionable glue that allows you to peel and stick your outline over & over again. Other brand names available include Aleene's Tack-It Over & Over and Craft Smart Off 'N On glue.

Scrolls made in this manner can be used many times over to mark your egg. Position your templates on the egg and then mark around them with a pencil. If necessary, you can remove the scrolls and re-position them as required.

Have fun with this fabulous medium. Experiment with all the different effects available until you find your favourite.

## IMITATION ENAMELLING

*During this section we will be using the supplied flower image, fine gold cord, Petal Dust (a powdered food dye available from cake decorating suppliers) or Pearl Ex and 5-minute Epoxy. Watch while I show you what to do.*

A similar effect to glass paint can be achieved by mixing Petal Dust or Pearl Ex with ordinary epoxy. One of the advantages of using the imitation enamelling technique is the quick drying time.

## BASIC INSTRUCTIONS

*Note: an egg is not required for this section – I have included this info for future practice.*

Mark and cut the egg in any desired style.

Apply hinge if required and then paint and seal the outside. A pale colour is best for this or at least on the portion where you are doing the enamel decoration.

## DECORATING THE EGG

- Lightly trace off the desired motif onto paper or use a computer print-out. Try to keep the outlines fairly simple. This may mean making slight modifications to leaves etc.
- Cut out the motif and glue onto the centre of the oval.
- Using tacky glue and a fine gold cord, outline the entire design.

## ENAMEL PROCESS

This effect is achieved by mixing cake decorating powder, available from cake decorating shops, with epoxy. There are 20 colours in the Petal Dust range, 9 Lustre Colours (for a pearly shimmer) and silver & gold metallic.

## POINTS TO REMEMBER

- **The powders are very concentrated** and require only the tiniest amount on a toothpick to achieve a nice pale colour.
- **Mix only a small amount of epoxy at a time** so you are able to use it all before it goes stringy. Due to the curvature of the shell, if you try to do too large an area at once, the epoxy will run.

On a piece of waxed paper mix a small amount of epoxy and add a very small amount of the powder. Mix well and then use a toothpick to push the coloured epoxy into the outlined areas. Do not use too much or the epoxy will run over the cording.

*Note: The backing paper from labels makes a good surface to mix the enamel on.*

For shaded areas, apply the lighter colour first, feathering out up to the shading line. When dry, apply the darker colour, extending over the edge of the lighter colour. This will then give a three colour effect in your design.

## Hints for doing enameling

- When applying the enamel work quickly and don't try to use the mixture once it starts to go stringy. Mix up a new batch.
- As you can only fill a small area at a time, don't mix too much epoxy as you will only waste it. Small and often is a better way.

## **GETTING THE RIGHT COLOUR.**

As the Petal Dust is very concentrated only the tiniest amount is required for most applications in egg artistry. I use what clings to a wet toothpick (as a measure of how much to add to whatever I am doing).

The easiest way to determine how much powder to add to achieve the same colour for each petal or scroll etc, is to work with a certain number of dips of a wet toothpick.

- 1 dip gives a pastel colour
- 2 dips a medium shade
- 3 or more for a really strong colour

Experiment on a scrap of shell to determine how many dips you need to achieve the intensity you require.

## **TIME IS IMPORTANT**

As we are talking about 5-minute epoxy, every second counts. Measure out the two equal parts of epoxy (resin and hardener) on a piece of wax paper. The waxy backing sheet from computer labels is excellent for mixing epoxy on.

### ***DO NOT MIX THE TWO TOGETHER AT THIS TIME!***

Instead dip the toothpick into one part of the epoxy to wet the end, dip into the powder and then mix the powder into the first part of the epoxy. Repeat with the number of dips to achieve the colour you require THEN mix the two parts together. This is not as silly as it sounds as it gives you a bit longer working time.

This ends what I have to show you about glass paint and imitation enamel. I hope you have found this class interesting and informative.

Cheers  
Maureen