

# FABRIC PAINT

## INSTRUCTIONS

**PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

### Supplies you will need:

- Clothes or items to be fabric painted
- Stiff bristle brushes
- Paper towel
- Card, waxed or parchment paper or corrugated cardboard
- Containers for fabric paint and clean water
- Place to allow fabric painted projects to sit and dry
- Iron for heat setting



Prewash fabric to remove sizing. Do not use fabric softeners or dryer sheets. Cotton and linen work best, but fabric paint will remain permanent on most synthetics, rayon and silk. (See reverse side for fabric tip)



Cover entire work area with paper. Have paper towel on hand to wipe excess water and fabric paint from brush, clean hands and wipe up spills.



Smooth or iron out any wrinkles in fabric. Place card, waxed or parchment paper or corrugated cardboard between surfaces when fabric painting items such as a t-shirt or tote bag to prevent color transfer. Fabric may be pinned to the corrugated layer to secure fabric in place.



Pour a small amount of fabric paint colors to be used into containers. Fill a container with water to wash brush between colors. (See reverse side for paint mixing tips)



Apply fabric paint with a stiff bristle brush to push paint into fabric. Be sure to keep hands clean to prevent unwanted color transfer. (See reverse side for design tips)



Allow fabric paint to dry for 24 hours or longer before heat setting. The fabric paint will not be permanent until it is heat set.



To heat set, iron reverse side one square foot at a time with a medium to hot iron on dry setting for 3 to 5 minutes, moving iron to avoid scorching. Use a cooler temperature if fabric is delicate and iron longer. If ironing on reverse side is not possible, a thin cloth should be placed over the area to be ironed. A cloth may also be put down on the ironing board to protect cover from color transfer. If fabric was not prewashed to remove sizing there may be a strong odor when ironing. (See reverse side for alternate heat setting method and laundering tip)



# FABRIC PAINT

**Fabric Tip:**

Tighter, more finely woven fabrics may be easier to paint details on and will allow less fabric paint to seep through than fabrics with a looser weave. Designs will also be brighter and more intensely colored with less seepage.

**Mixing Tips:**

Mix fabric paint with water to obtain a thinner consistency.

Mix fabric paint with fabric paint base to obtain a transparent shade. (Base included in 12 pint kit)

Mix fabric paint with fabric paint binder to improve washability. Add three tablespoons of binder per pint of color. The addition of binder may stiffen fabric. If fabric contains wool or silk, add 1 part fabric paint binder to 7 parts fabric paint. (Binder included in 12 pint kit)

## Design Tips:

**Stenciling:**

Stencils may be taped to item to guide design. Apply the paint with a gentle pounding motion, holding the brush straight up and down. Avoid overloading the brush to prevent seepage under the stencil.

**Stamping:**

Stamps and other items may be used to create stamped designs. Apply paint evenly over entire stamping surface with brush, sponge or roller. Avoid overloading. Press painted surface firmly, being sure to press entire surface against fabric to ensure complete design transfer, lift straight up.

**Sponging:**

Use sea sponges or cut compressed sponges into shapes. Soak sponge in water and wring out until damp. Put sponge in paint and cover entire design surface. Do not completely soak sponge in paint, blot sponge on paper towel to remove excess paint. Press painted surface onto fabric using even pressure, lift straight up.

**Watercoloring:**

Lightly dampen fabric before painting to encourage colors to blend into each other for a watercolor-like effect. Use a spray bottle to add water as needed to maintain dampness or to add new areas of dampness.

**Drawing:**

Squeeze fabric paint directly from bottle to draw a design free handed or using drawn guiding fabric or chalk pencil lines. Holding bottle tip against fabric, squeeze and drag tip along fabric surface. Change angle of bottle to increase or decrease depth of paint. (Fabric paint in 4 ounce size comes in bottles with tips)

**Printing:**

Apply fabric paint with block or screen printing methods. For block printing follow stamping directions above. For screen printing secure printing frame to item and apply paint with squeegee. Avoid overloading screen.

**Alternate Heat Setting Method:**

Heat set in oven at 275° for five minutes or 350° for three minutes in a covered pan to avoid scorching.

**Laundering Tip:**

For regularly laundered clothing or fabric, wash on gentle cycle inside out with mild detergent and line dry for best results.