



Color Burst Pottery & Glass

By Artist Michael Harbridge

See this technique in action! Video recording of the live webinar available at www.ceramicarts.com.

Materials List

For Pottery

Bisque Shapes of Choice

Brushes & Tools by Royal & Langnickel

- R2845-6 Aqualon Glaze
- RD411 Foam Roller
- Palette Knife
- R2855-3/4 Aqualon Wisp Fan

Colors of choice

- Concepts
- Clear Glaze of choice
- Silkscreen Medium

Stencils from Bisque Imports

For Glass

Glass (any COE will work)

- Powder glass colors from Colors for Earth,
- Unique Glass CJ011 Layering Mix
- R2845-6 Aqualon Glaze
- Palette Knife
- R2855-3/4 Aqualon Wisp Fan
- Silkscreen Medium

Stencils from Bisque Imports

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Pottery Method

Objectives

- This method can be completed on traditional pottery and glass
- Use different color application methods with stencils
- Adapt to stencils and color seeping
- Discover color blending methods

Basic process

Step 1 Determine your surface and shape. Work with round, square or any shape desired. Flat surfaces work best, but rounded bowls and vases will also work.

Step 2 Select stencil design and place on surface to see how it conforms. Some stencils are more flexible than others when used on rounded surfaces.

Step 3 Pick color choice and selection for background shading.

Step 4 Apply background color. This can be done in a variety of methods.

Pottery Method



On pottery:

A) Use the fan brush to randomly apply colors to the background, wet into wet, slightly overlapping colors.

B) Use sponges to dab colors, wet into wet in the same manner.

C) On round shapes, utilize a banding or potters wheel to center the shape

and band rings of color, wet into wet so the colors blend into one another.



On glass using glass colors:

There are a couple ways this can be done. The first method is to apply the background colors using Unique Glass Layering Mix which will make the base color permanent enough to apply the stencil color later and complete in one firing. The other method is to mix and apply background colors in traditional mixing methods, dry and fire, then add stencil color and fire a second time.

A) Use a soft brush to puddle colors, wet into wet and manipulate and marleize colors with the use if a smaller brush or by tipping and turning shape.

B) Create rings of colors and leave as is, or manipulate to create color burst effect or tie dye look.

C) Create strips of color, wet into wet and manipulate with brush tip to create the look of raked or combed class.

Step 5 Allow the background colors to dry.

Stencil colors can be applied in a couple different methods. The quickest way is using foam rollers. The second way is to thicken the color and apply with finger or palette knife. Foam roller works great with pottery, but not well with glass because colors tend to seep under stencil. Thickening method is best for glass.



Pottery Method



Pottery Method



Step 6 Position the stencil over the background. Use the foam rollers and black paint (or color of choice, raku glaze for raku methods) to roll color over the stencil pattern. Try to apply two coats. If thickening top color, thicken to paste and apply layer with finger or knife. Remove stencil and allow to dry. Don't wait for color to



Pottery to Go Makes Money!

Adults and children are working with coloring books during leisure time, while watching television, or when relaxing. They may not come into your studio to paint like they may at home or on vacation. Create pottery to go kits for adult pottery coloring with ceramic tiles and other shapes. Use stencil designs to create the patterns and pre-fire the black outlines so customers can just fill in the blanks. Have staff members create these fired shapes during slow times. Tiles are easiest because they are flat, and the stencil designs used often come in 6 inch or 12 inch sizes, perfect 6 inch tiles. Create individual tiles with the smaller stencil, or 4 tiles grouped with the larger. Plates, vases and other flat shapes also work well. And by firing the outline on the shape before the customer works with it, there is no fear of them rubbing the design away if they goof and need to wash color off.

Another option is to purchase glazed tiles from a hardware or tile supplier. Those tiles are inexpensive and will work with products like Stroke & Coat, Concepts and Fun Strokes. Simply apply the color and fire to cone 06. The advantage is the consumer can apply color, and easily remove, and it requires no dipping!

Kit Contents

Each kit should contain a stenciled and fired shape, color tray with paint cups shown below where the customer can select and fill their own colors, and a small detail brush, and instruction sheet. A canister of inexpensive round brushes purchased at convention comes out to .18 per brush. Paint trays are \$3 and glazed tiles are usually less than \$1 each. So for about \$5, you can put together kits. Allow them to bring back the tiles to be fired, and allow them to keep the paint tray and brush. They can purchase more tiles or shapes (sell them separately as well, not just in the kit) so they continue to make new designs. Put together family packs or party packs with multiple brushes and shapes.

What do the kits sell for?

Figure in your costs and determine what they need to sell for to make it profitable.



The paint rollers shown above work better than pouncing with a sponge or sponge dabber when using stencils because there is less bleeding of color. Stencils are reusable and can be used in the studio as well.