

Ceramic Tile Painting

The anticipation of using paper, brush and paint starts blood flowing and hearts pounding in children. Choosing to paint with new materials and using new techniques adds to their excitement. Principles and elements of design adapt to the way the new materials are used.

Oven baked water-based acrylic paint on glazed tile looks like kiln fired glazed tile. The paint is available in a wide range of colors and can be layered and blended to make other colors.

Glazed tiles are easily purchased in a variety of sizes and colors. Young children design simple decorative tiles in K-4. Older students need large tiles to allow for abstract and more detailed designs.



Grade Levels K-12

Note: instructions and materials based on a class of 25 students. Adjust as needed.

Preparation

1. Wash tiles with soap and water, allow to dry. If using unglazed tiles, scrub with a stiff brush to remove excess dust.

Process

1. Draw design with pencil. To remove drawn lines, use soap and water. Cover errors with paint.
2. Choose colors and squeeze sparingly onto palette. Note, the paint goes a long way and dries quickly in the palette. Brush paint onto tile. Colors can be mixed and layered. Paint will dry with a slightly raised surface.

NOTE: brushes recommended in the materials list clean easily with soap and water and hold up well on a multitude of surfaces. They are soft enough not to pick up paint or leave streaks.

3. Arrange tiles on a cookie sheet without touching one other. Preheat oven and bake according to instructions on the paint label. Instructions vary slightly between Pebeo Porcelain and Liquitex Glossies. When baking time is complete, turn off oven but do not remove the tiles. Allow the tiles to cool in the oven with the door closed.
4. Suggestions for finishing and displaying:
 - Using [Weldbond® Adhesive](#), (23819-1105) mount to a 6"x 8" [Wood Block](#) (42902-1001), leaving a 1" to 2" border. Wood may be painted, stained or left as is. Use [Sawtooth Hangers](#) (18959-1002) or [Screw Eyes](#) (18916-9316) and [Braided Picture Wire](#) (18916-9315) to hang.

Materials

Assorted glazed or unglazed ceramic tiles in a variety of colors and sizes, available at home centers. Need one per student.

[Pebeo® Porcelaine 150](#), assorted colors, (02908-), share ten 1.5-oz bottles across classroom OR [Liquitex® Glossies®](#) (00615-1003), 2-oz bottles, share 6-color set across classroom

[Blick Scholastic Golden Taklon Round](#), size 2/0 (05858-7020), size 1 (05858-1001), size 2 (05858-1002), share six of each size across classroom

[Blick Scholastic Golden Taklon Flat Wash](#), size 1/4" (05859-4014), share six across classroom

[Round 10-Well Trays](#) (03041-1010), need one per student

Cookie sheet

Oven

Process, continued

- Use four 3M® Self-Adhesive Rubber Bumper Pads (18900-1024) on each corner of the back to make a spoon rest or trivet (do not place items over 100°F on painted surface or it may scorch).
- Smaller tiles may be glued to a piece of Crescent® Mat Board (13007-).

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National Standards

Content Standard #1 — Understanding and applying media, techniques and processes

- **K-4** Students describe how different materials, techniques and processes cause different responses
- **5-8** Students intentionally take advantage of the qualities and characteristics of art media, techniques and processes to enhance communication of their experiences and ideas
- **9-12** Students apply media, techniques, and processes with sufficient skill, confidence, and sensitivity that their intentions are carried out in their artworks

Content Standard #3 — Choosing and evaluating a range of subject matter, symbols, and ideas

- **K-4** Students explore and understand prospective content for works of art
- **5-8** Students use subjects, themes, and symbols that demonstrate knowledge of contexts, values, and aesthetics that communicate intended meaning in artworks
- **9-12** Students reflect on how artworks differ visually, spatially, temporally, and functionally, and describe how these are related to history and culture