



GLAZING TECHNIQUES

# **WATERCOLOR**

Flow Into Color

Effortless Effects for Any Surface





Scan for project directions and more inspiration using this technique.

The watercolor technique transforms glazes into soft, layered watercolor effects with no extra supplies needed. By simply adding water, artists can explore varying gradients to create beautiful painterly designs and seamless blending. Perfect for quick projects and adaptable to a variety of shapes, this technique sparks creativity and encourages personal expression.

# $^{igorplus}$ DESIGN TIPS

- This technique can be applied to both horizontal and vertical surfaces. You may achieve more flow by rotating your horizontal piece around to encourage additional movement.
- Experiment with both random designs and specific patterns.
- Color intensity may vary depending on the specific glaze color used, clay body and firing temperature.
- When diluting color, it is advisable to apply a non-flowing base glaze first to the surface of the ware or finish with a clear glaze for a smooth, non-porous, and dinnerware safe surface. A clear glaze may alter the fired color, so testing is recommended.
- Apply Designer Liner over dried watercolor designs to add definition or outlines.

# A



Stroke & Coat®, cone 06



Stroke & Coat® and Designer Liner, cone 06



Elements<sup>™</sup> and Designer Liner, cone 06



Stoneware Gloss, cone 6



# **COLOR MASKING**

Design in Layers

Masking with Everyday Materials





Scan for project directions and more inspiration using this technique.

**Color Masking** is a technique that involves using materials like feathers, string, lace, cheesecloth, paper, or doilies to cover specific areas of a surface. This prevents color from adhering to those areas, allowing for clean lines and the preservation of certain parts of the surface. The method is often used to create defined shapes and patterns.

# **DESIGN TIPS**

- Dampening your masking material or embedding it in wet color helps to prevent bleeding and ensure crisp lines and clean edges.
- When lifting the edge of masking materials, a toothpick works well. Be careful not to scrape off any underlying color while doing this.
- Always take off the masked object before firing.
- Some masking materials may repel the top coat of color. Test before use.

- If using tape as your masking material, avoid dampening it as tape can lose adhesion and allow color to seep underneath.
- Remove the masking material before the colors are completely dry. This will prevent any accidental chipping.
- Larger masking objects perform better on flat surfaces rather than curved ones.





Cheesecloth with Stroke & Coat®, cone 06



Doily with E-Z Strokes®, cone 06



Tape with Speckled Stroke & Coat®, cone 06



Paper cutouts with Stoneware Glazes, cone 6

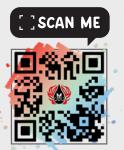


# **GLAZE CRUMBLES**

No Color Left Behind

Creative Ways to Re-Purpose Glaze





Scan for project directions and more inspiration using this technique.

**The glaze crumble technique** is a fantastic way to utilize excess or dried-up color from your palette, preventing waste. By applying small pieces of dried glaze to your surface, you can create a unique, dimensional aesthetic. This allows for creative experimentation with different colors and patterns, resulting in one-of-a-kind effects.

# **DESIGN TIPS**

- Spread glaze or underglaze onto a flexible surface like a foam plate or wax paper. Let it dry completely, then peel and break into chips for use.
- For a marbled effect, swirl multiple colors together before drying.
- Combine neutral tones for subtlety or bright colors for bold, playful effects.
- Scatter chips randomly or place chips in a controlled pattern or design.

- Outline where to sprinkle with a pencil or cut out paper shapes and cover the places you don't want to sprinkle.
- To prevent chips from falling off during handling or firing, lightly press the crumbles into a wet glaze with a soft brush. On vertical surfaces, roll the form to ensure adhesion.
- Incorporate glaze crumbles into the peacock technique for enhanced movement from cone 06-10 firings.





Stroke & Coat®, cone 06



Elements<sup>™</sup> and Pottery Cascade<sup>™</sup>, cone 06



Stroke & Coat®, cone 06



Stoneware Glazes, cone 6

# **SGRAFFITO**

Scratch the Surface Exploring Texture & Contrast



- SCAN ME
- Scan for project directions and more inspiration using this technique.

**The sgraffito technique** involves applying layers of color to a surface and then carving through these layers to create depth and contrast in your designs. This method can be applied to both greenware and bisque surfaces, allowing for a wide range of creative possibilities with unique textures and patterns.

# **DESIGN TIPS**

- Use this technique to create intricate designs or big, bold patterns.
- Adjust the size and pressure of your carving to develop a variety of texture and visual interest.
- Avoid blowing away the dust after carving. Instead, gently brush away any loose color with a soft brush once it's dry.
- Experiment with different colors for your background, whether using a single shade or layering multiple colors for added depth.
- The sgraffito technique can mimic the look of "Scratch Art," allowing for playful designs on a ceramic surface.
- Fundamentals® Underglazes can help you achieve sharp and clear lines in your designs. Applying a clear glaze ensures that it is dinnerware safe.



Stroke & Coat®, cone 06



Fundamentals® Underglaze, cone 6



Fundamentals® Underglaze, cone 06



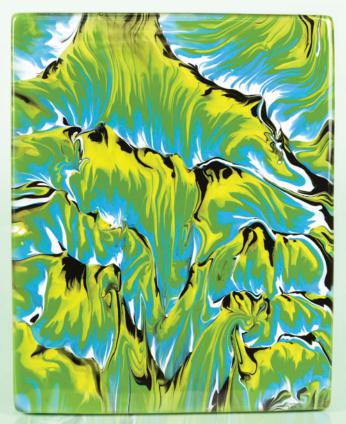
Stroke & Coat®, Stoneware Glazes and Engobes, cone 6



# **COLOR MANIPULATION**

Color in Motion

Discover Dynamic Glaze Effects



Marbling, Stroke & Coat®, cone 06



Scan for project directions and more inspiration using this technique.

**Glaze color manipulation** opens up a world of creative possibilities, particularly with techniques like marbling, shaving cream, raking, and spin art. These methods not only add vibrancy to your work, but also allow you to express your unique artistic vision in dynamic and innovative ways.

# **DESIGN TIPS**

- Work quickly or keep your piece slightly damp to allow for more time to blend and manipulate the colors effectively.
- A banding or pottery wheel can facilitate smoother applications and manipulation of colors, giving you more control over the design process.
- Consider using a pottery wheel for the spin art effect. Securely anchor your piece and utilize a high splash pan to contain the color and prevent spraying.

- Minimize the number of colors on a single piece to prevent a muddy look.
- To adjust the colors, use the bristle end of a liner brush. The plastic end may scrape and remove color, which can ruin your design.
- For color raking, use a writer tip on the glaze bottle to squeeze precise amounts.
- The shaving cream method makes color application easier on textured or curved surfaces.





Spin Art, Fundamentals® Underglaze, cone 06



Shaving Cream, Stroke & Coat®, cone 06



Poured, Stroke & Coat®, cone 06



Color Raking, Stroke & Coat®, cone 6

# **BUBBLES**

Pop of Color

Add Whimsical Texture and Vibrant Colors





Scan for project directions and more inspiration using this technique.

**Bubble glazing** is a playful technique that enables you to create fun and colorful bubbled designs on the surface of your work. By using one or multiple colors, you can achieve a dynamic and eye-catching finish that adds a whimsical touch to your creations.

# $\cap{\Box}$ DESIGN TIPS

- Combine 1 part color, 2 parts liquid soap, and 1 part water. If the bubbles aren't forming well or popping too quickly, increase the amount of soap. More soap improves surface tension, allowing the bubbles to last longer and deposit more color onto the surface before they burst.
- Try not to let the bubbles slide off the surface. This is easier to manage if your vases, bowls, or other pieces are lying flat during the glazing process.
- Tilt the container slightly and use the straw to pull bubbles and transfer them onto your piece. This gives you more control over bubble placement.
- Avoid sucking on the straw and inhaling any glaze or soap.
- Resist the urge to pop the bubbles to maintain texture.
- Use bubble glazing as a background effect or as an all-over design.
- Darker colors show better contrast, making the bubbles stand out.



## **INSPIRATION**



Fundamentals® Underglaze, cone 06



Stoneware Glazes, cone 6



Fundamentals® Underglaze, cone 6



Stoneware Gloss, cone 6

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# RUBBING ALCOHOL

Fluid Reactions

Unlock the Transformative Effects of Rubbing Alcohol & Glaze





Scan for project directions and more inspiration using this technique.

**Use rubbing alcohol** mixed with color to create stunning reactions on ceramic surfaces. When applied, the rubbing alcohol interacts with the glaze, causing it to separate and form unique patterns and cells that resemble intricate organic designs.

# **DESIGN TIPS**

- Use a paint brush, eyedropper, spray bottle, or pouring method to apply the alcohol. Each method will create different effects
- No two pieces will turn out the same due to the inherent variability of this technique, so embrace the uniqueness of each creation.
- Vertical surfaces will result in more movement and variability, creating dynamic patterns as the alcohol interacts with the glaze.
- For a more striking effect, try using contrasting colors. This will enhance the visibility of the patterns and make your piece more visually interesting.
- Avoid overdoing it with the alcohol. Apply it in small amounts at a time, as too much can dilute the pattern and compromise the desired effect.
- To create a stained glass effect, outline your design with French Dimensions™. This adds definition and enhances the overall aesthetic of your piece.



Elements<sup>™</sup> and Stroke & Coat<sup>®</sup>, cone 06



Elements™, cone 06



Jungle Gems<sup>™</sup> and Stroke & Coat<sup>®</sup>, cone 06



Stoneware Glazes, cone 6



Crackled by Design

Use a Hairdryer to Create Glaze Textures



Stroke & Coat®, cone 06

# SCAN ME

Scan for project directions and more inspiration using this technique.

The batik technique intentionally produces interesting cracked patterns between the layers of color by force-drying glazes with a hairdryer. While this practice is typically discouraged, this tension can lead to narrow cracks that break up the glaze layers to enhance the piece's visual texture.

# $\stackrel{ extstyle \square}{ extstyle \square}$ DESIGN TIPS

- Begin with applying two layers of glaze as a solid foundation for your design. Allow the glaze to dry without the use of the hairdryer.
  This ensures a solid base for the subsequent layers and prevents glaze pulling from the bisque.
- As soon as you apply the desired design with glaze, use a hair dryer on high heat to force-dry the layer. Be sure to keep the hairdryer at a distance to avoid moving the glaze while it's still wet. Dry until you start to see cracks in the glaze.
- To prevent the glaze from drying prematurely and causing unwanted cracks, work in sections. This allows you to maintain control over the glaze application and achieve the desired effects without rushing.
- Use AC302 Wax Resist to separate glaze areas in your design, creating clean lines and preventing colors from blending.

## W

## **INSPIRATION**



Elements™, cone 06



Stoneware Glazes, cone 6



Jungle Gems<sup>™</sup> and Stroke & Coat<sup>®</sup>, cone 06



Stoneware Gloss, cone 6

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# **BLENDING & SHADING**

**Smooth Transitions** 

Master the Art of Blending and Shading



Stroke & Coat®, cone 06

### The blending and shading technique

creates a gradual transition between two or more colors. This method produces a visually striking effect, where colors subtly shift from light to dark, or vice versa. This technique works well with a variety of Mayco product colors, allowing you to experiment and find the best combination for your project.

# **DESIGN TIPS**

- To achieve a smooth transition, blend wet colors into each other. This will help form a seamless gradient. Mayco Fan Brushes are recommended.
- The use of a banding or pottery wheel can help achieve even and consistent color application when blending.
- For Jungle Gems<sup>™</sup>, you may need to dab the colors together or disperse the crystals when wet to achieve a smooth transition.

- Always test your color combinations to understand how colors interact.
- When working on vertical surfaces, it is recommended to use a stable glaze to prevent movement during firing.
- When creating a lifelike portrait or landscape, be sure to utilize rendering and shading techniques. Effectively blending colors will contribute to achieving depth and a greater sense of realism in your work.





Jungle Gems™, cone 06



Stroke & Coat®, cone 06



Stroke & Coat® and Engobes, cone 6



Foundations<sup>™</sup>, cone 6



Scan for project directions and more inspiration using this technique.

# PEACOCK DESIGN

Dynamic Color in Motion

Mastering the Peacock Technique





Scan for project directions and more inspiration using this technique.

**The peacock glazing technique** creates vibrant pops of color that swirl and move, resulting in dramatic effects. By combining different Stroke & Coat®, Stoneware Glazes, and Flux for mid-range, or Elements™ and Pottery Cascades<sup>™</sup> for low-fire, artists achieve a dynamic reaction of captivating patterns with each firing.

# **DESIGN TIPS**

- Don't hesitate to experiment with a variety of glaze colors. Mixing and matching different hues can lead to beautiful and unexpected effects.
- For precise application, utilize a writer bottle to apply the Stroke & Coat® dots and Flux. This tool allows you to create detailed patterns with ease.
- The peacock technique is best suited for vertical surfaces such as vases, mugs, or bowls. The upright orientation helps the glaze flow and interact.

- You will achieve more dramatic effects when using flowing midrange glazes, to encourage colors to blend and swirl beautifully.
- This technique can also be utilized at low-fire temperatures by using Elements<sup>™</sup> and Pottery Cascades<sup>™</sup>. Be aware that some colors will move more than others.
- Low-fire glazes can be used with Stoneware Glazes at cone 6. These glazes will move more at higher temperatures, making them ideal for this technique.



## **INSPIRATION**



Stroke & Coat® glaze crumbles, Stoneware glazes, cone 6 Stroke & Coat®, Stoneware glazes, cone 6





Stroke & Coat®, Stoneware glazes, cone 6



Elements<sup>™</sup>, Pottery Cascades<sup>™</sup>, cone 06

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# **SILKSCREENING**

**Detailed Design** Made Easy

Reusable Silkscreens for **Every Craft Surface** 





Scan for project directions and more inspiration using this technique.

**Mayco Designer Silkscreens** offer artists a simple way to add intricate detail to their work. These reusable silkscreens can be applied to ceramic bisque, glass, wood, and more. They are perfect for outlining designs or filling them in with vibrant color. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned artist, Mayco silkscreens make it easy to achieve crisp, professional results with minimal effort.

# **DESIGN TIPS**

- To transfer designs, mix AC310 Silkscreen Medium with any highly pigmented color from Stroke & Coat®, Fundamentals® Underglaze, Designer Liner, E-Z Strokes®, or Stoneware Gloss. This mixture creates a paste that can be pushed through a silkscreen onto a surface.
- Works on ridged or curved surfaces.
- They can serve as outlines or be used to fill in images with color.
- Silkscreens can be reused. Clean the screens with water promptly after use to preserve their quality.

- Mayco offers a range of designs from holiday icons to natureinspired motif, or create your own custom silkscreen sheet.
- Use a Sharpie to outline each design with extra margin, then cut them apart from the full sheet. For easier visibility, color over the screen with a dry erase marker. The open areas will stain, making the design easy to see and position.
- Silkscreens can be used with nonfired acrylics and applied to craft paper, fabric, canvas, and more.





Designer Liner, E-Z Strokes®, cone 06



Bisq-Stain® Opaque Acrylics, non-fired



Stroke & Coat®, cone 06



Fundamentals® Underglaze, Stoneware Glaze, Washes, cone 6



Cone 06/999°C/1830°F

# Jungle Gems

Cone 06-10 Crystal Glazes (999-1305°C/1830-2381°F)



Cone 6/1222°C/2232°F





Cone 06-10 Gloss Glazes (999-1305°C/1830-2381°F)



Cone 6/1222°C/2232°F



Cone 6/1222°C/2232°F

# **STONEWARE**

Cone 5-10 Glazes (1196-1305°C/2185-2381°F)



Cone 10/1305°C/2381°F



MC513E 8/25 Mayco Colors Coloramics, LLC 4077 Weaver Court South Hilliard, OH 43026 Expand your palette with other products from Mayco at all firing temperatures (Cone 06-10 / 999-1305°C / 1830-2381°F).

