Seniorgiri

Counter the Loneliness Yourself.

Seniorgiri Series: Hobbies
Glass Paintings

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THIS IS HOBBY HELP SERIES FOR SENIORS.

I am compiling a series of things to do - what to do to counter loneliness, in addition, how to go about it.

The book about painting became BOOKS about visual arts. As it is inconvenient to upload and download big files, I have arranged the info in different files.

Learn to Paint Part 1 Covers Supplies, General Techniques, Oil and Acrylic Paintings. Part two is now split in several parts.

- Digital Arts
- Drawing and Sketching
- Glass Painting
- Water Based Painting

This one is about Glass Painting.

I have tested all the links mentioned. As on May 2010, all links are secure, correct and working.

You should look for more as you surf. You may find many that will suit to your needs. This is just a first step.

Please feel free to share this with anyone you like.
Glass painting

Introduction

Glass is an everyday object used in many shapes and categories. The word itself can mean

- Clear glass sheet used in windows and pictures
- A container for liquids
- A mirror
- A device for eyes

Basically it is a clear object and can be painted using different techniques.

The most famous and complicated paintings are stained glass ones. Traditionally they required a lot of precision cutting and soldering to join the pieces.

Another technique is when the glass is painted and fired (Baked) in an oven or kiln to set the color permanently.

Today we have acrylic colors and special glass colors which can be used directly on the glass and do not need any other treatment.

As a hobby subject, I will only cover the last. In India Camlin has a range of products for glass painting.
History

Natural Glass has existed since the beginning of the world! It is formed when certain kinds of rocks melt due to
- Volcanic eruptions
- Lightning strikes
- Impact of meteorites

Prehistoric men used this natural glass as a tip for their spears.
Glass beads have been found from the Middle East which are about 3500 years old. The components (Sand and silica) and method (Heating) were recognized and experiments were going on for improvement.

Initially it was very expensive to produce and was considered a luxury item. By the time of Roman Empire, manufacturing was well-run and the produce grew. Its use spread from Italy to all over Roman Empire. It became an everyday object.

Venice became an important hub for glass manufacturing. They used soda lime to produce Crystal. Even now Venetian glass is a class apart.

The science and engineering of glass started developing during the Industrial Revolution of the 19th Century.

In the late 1950's Sir Alastair Pilkington introduced a new innovative production method (float glass production), by which 90% of flat glass is still manufactured today.
What is Glass

Glass is a combination of sand and other minerals that are melted together at very high temperatures to form a material that is ideal for a wide range of uses from packaging and construction to fiber optics.

At room temperature Glass looks and feels like a solid. At higher temperatures it melts into a liquid.

In this liquid state glass can be poured, colored, blown, pressed and molded into a diversity of shapes.

Glass is made by melting together several minerals at very high temperatures.

Silica in the form of sand is the main ingredient and this is combined with soda ash and limestone and melted in a furnace at temperatures of 1700°C.

Other materials can be added to produce different colors or properties. Glass can be coated, heat-treated, engraved or decorated.

Main properties of glass

Glass is

- Solid and hard
- Fragile and easily breakable into sharp pieces
- Transparent to visible light
- 100% recyclable and one of the safest packaging materials due to its composition and properties
- It does not deteriorate, corrode, stain or fade and therefore is one of the safest packaging materials.
- Glass is used for architecture application, illumination, electrical transmission, instruments for scientific
research, optical instruments, domestic tools and even textiles.

These properties can be modified and changed by adding other compounds or heat treatment.

**Types of Glass**

There are many different types of glass with different chemical and physical properties.

Each type is made by adjusting chemical compositions and heat. There are more than 40 different kinds for all kinds of applications.

The main ingredient of practically all glass is sand. It is fused to produce glass at the temperature of about 1700°C. Other ingredients can be added to make different types.

Here I have mentioned only the types which can be decorated and painted:

- Commercial Glass
- Lead Glass
- Borosilicate Glass
- Ceramic glass
- Mirror

**Commercial Glass**

Almost all glass we see around us in the shape of bottles and jars, flat glass for windows or for drinking glasses are known as commercial glass.
Lead Glass

Also known as lead crystal, lead glass is used to make a wide variety of decorative glass objects.

Lead glass sparkles brightly and has a relatively soft surface. So it can be decorated by grinding, cutting and engraving.

Borosilicate Glass

This type of glass is used for cooking as ovenware and other heat-resisting ware. Pyrex, Borosil, Corel are some brand names making such dishes.
**Ceramic Glass**

These are extremely resistant to thermal shock. They are used in cooker hobs, cooking ware, Tiles, and missile nose cones.

**Mirror**

Is a flat glass coated with some material so one side reflects the objects in front of it.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mirror

**Decorating techniques**

A glass can be Stained, Etched or Air dry painted.

Etching is done by sharp tools.

To Know more about this, Please visit About.com

http://familycrafts.about.com/od/glassetching/Glass_Etching.htm
Staining means you paint the surface and then fire it in a kiln. This is most durable. There are different colors and methods for this.

To know more about these, Please visit Warm Glass.com

http://www.warmglass.com/glass_painting.htm

Here I have only covered Air drying Painting.

This is of two types

- Transparent
- Opaque mostly done by reverse painting method. It means that the painting is done on one side, but viewed from the other. It is again two types

**Glass Painting Equipment**

**Surface** – any kind of glass – float, mirror, ceramic, Plexiglass. I like to buy empty frames. They are ideal for small paintings as the glass goes back into the frame after painting.

**Paints** – there are special Glass paints. Camlin India has two varieties water based and solvent based. But even normal acrylic colors can be used. You can use metallic colors to enhance the design.

I have successfully painted with Enamel paints used for walls and oil paints. Only they take longer to dry, but for reverse opaque painting they are really great.
There are tubes of glass liners from Camlin, which can be used to trace the main outlined of the drawing.

Camlin also have kits with everything needed. Maybe you can first experiment with that.

**Brushes** – depending on your medium, and complexity of design choose the brush.

**Sponges** - sponges of various types and thickness can be used to apply paint. When sponging paint on to glass, gently press the sponge against the glass rather than brushing it on.

**Stencils** - Stencils are used to transfer patterns to the glass. To create an original design you can draw on a piece of tracing paper. Children’s drawing books are ideal for glass painting templates.

**Tape** - Masking tape is used to cover some areas of the glass to keep the paint off it. Two or more pieces of tape placed in parallel create perfectly
straight lines. They can be used for tartan effect. Peel off after painting to reveal clear glass.

Newspapers - Plenty of old newspapers to lay on all surfaces before starting to paint. It is easy to clean later.

Rags and solvents – keep rags or paper towels ready for any mistakes or spillage. They will also be used to clean your brushes and hands.

Silver or other Bright paper and Favicol or other glue– These are optional for a kind of reverse painting.

**Glass Painting Basics**

1. Clean the glass. Wash in warm, soapy water and rinse well. Wipe with a lint free rag. Dry completely.
2. Condition the glass. Wipe with cotton dipped in alcohol. Or you can use the glass cleaner liquids. Again, let it dry thoroughly.
3. Get the drawing or stencil ready to put under the glass. The paper should be clean and should not stain.
4. Keep the paints, brushes and any medium ready.
5. Keep the drawing under the glass. Paint following the lines.
6. First use the liner tube for outlines and let it dry. Then fill the area inside with colors. If there are more than one color, wait for the first to dry.

[Image of stained glass window]

http://cadwellartgallery.com/images/KitchenStainedGlass.jpg
How to do the painting?

The process of painting glass is quite easy. The image to be painted is put under the glass and the reverse side is painted following the image. The painting process is also done in reverse. You first paint the eyes, and other details that are usually done last in normal paintings. The background color is painted last. It is because the painting will be seen from the other side.

Today there are paints available from which you can make faux (fake) stain glass paintings. You make Thick outlines with black or other color, let it dry and fill the sections with transparent colors to get the stained glass effect minus the trouble. This is ideal for windows or other places which need partial camouflage.

The fake is now getting faker! There are now sticky transparent sheets available either in plain colors or even in full designs that you simply peel and stick!

Remember there are many methods of glass painting, like screen painting, or paints which need firing or baking in a kiln. Those are complicated methods and need many other resources.

For this hobby book I am only covering the methods that are easy and do not need many expensive and time consuming tools.
Reverse Painting Two methods

1. Paint and Paper

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drawing under glass</th>
<th>Outline and background</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stick the paper on the back with glue</td>
<td>Painting from front</td>
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### 2. Paint only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drawing under glass</th>
<th>Outline and Color</th>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Diagram" /></td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Diagram" /></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cover the Paint completely on the back</th>
<th>Painting from front</th>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Diagram" /></td>
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This method can be as simple or as elaborate as you wish.

In south India this is getting popular for painting the deities. Their gems are painted first with metallic colors, and over all acrylic paints are used. With intricate brush work they can rival traditional Tanjor paintings.
Some ideas for paintings

You can use all kinds of glass surfaces to paint. Plates, Cups, Glasses, Tiles, Mirrors, Windows indeed anything that takes your fancy is fine. These make good gifts.

You can do these projects with your grand children as I have done. I bought empty table photo frames, and got my grand kids to paint on the glass. When it dried, the glass went back in the frame, and the masterpiece was ready!

You can paint tiles in the kitchen or bathroom. Paint one pane of window with transparent colors. Paint cups, plates or glasses for gifts.

Remember that unfired paint is not suitable for keeping food.

Bottles and Glasses Painted on the outside can be used, but do not use the paint near the rim. Painted plates should not be used at all for serving food.

Follow the basic rules. Clean and dry the piece thoroughly. Remember to paint outermost objects first. Once the paint is dry you won’t have chance to repair the mistakes.

For design you can use old greeting cards, Children’s drawing books or any picture that takes your fancy. I have also given a link for free patterns.

Following are some interesting ideas to inspire you!
Some Ideas for painting

http://www.lildreys.com/images/Party_form/activity-ceramic_glass_painting.jpg

http://www.artgallery-mzpile.com/images/Painted_Mirror_Frame.jpg

Some Ideas for painting

http://www.seniorark.com/faux%20stained%20glass%20hummingbird.jpg

http://redecoration.files.wordpress.com/2009/10/glass-painting.jpg

http://www.artontiles.com/Resources/M48b.jpg
Some Ideas for painting

http://mal-glasspainting.blogspot.com/

http://www.michaels.com/art/online/displayArticle?articleNum=ae0034

http://1.bp.blogspot.com/
Glass painting links

All these free links are working, correct and secure as on May 2010.

Glass Painting Hints

There are a number of things you should consider and plan for before starting so that your glass painting turns out just how you want it. Please read these hints before beginning.

Read More About Glass


All kinds of glasses

http://www.glassviewnews.com/manuals/manuals.php

Glass Painting

Shows how to paint your window!

http://www.diynetwork.com/diypglass/article/0,,DIY_14199_2272579,00.html

Glass Painting Department

Thanks to stained glass paint and stained glass patterns, it’s easier than ever to create the traditional look of stained glass in your own home at a fraction of the cost and effort. No cutting, no grinding, no soldering! But there’s more to glass painting than stained glass. Window clings and etched glass turn any glass surface into a decorative expression of your personality! You’ll find all of the project ideas and supplies you need right here. Enjoy!

http://www.plaidonline.com/GlassPainting.asp
Glass Painting Techniques: Video Series
Glass painting is both beautiful and easy to learn. In this free online series of instructional art lessons, learn how to paint on glass and everything you need from supplies to techniques, all taught by expert Jason Painter.

There are 18 videos in this series:

Free Stained Glass Patterns
Use free stained glass patterns and design ideas for crafting your own stained glass suncatchers, lampshades, panels, windows and candle holders. It can be both artistically rewarding or even profitable, depending on your inclinations.

http://chantalstainedglass.50megs.com/

Painting Glass
Online lesson
http://painting.about.com/od/paintingforbeginners/ss/PaintingGlass.htm

Glass painting
Free Glass Painting Designs, Tutorials, Reviews and "How Tos".
http://www.glasspainting.co.uk/
Acknowledgement

The filler Flower graphics used here are from Hellas Multimedia
The beautiful graphics are free.

Graphics from the net are acknowledged at the point.

Other clipart are from WP Clipart Free Collection.
http://www.wpclipart.com/index.html

Some graphics are from me.

This e book is by Ms.Shobha Mathur  shobham@yahoo.com