

Coffee Painting Directions

This project demonstrates the process of creating a painting using coffee as paint. Have fun and relax with the process of painting. If you would prefer to doodle with the colors and just play around with them instead of creating a recognizable object, do that!!

Supplies:

- Paper
 - Thicker paper works better with paint
 - You can cut up old cereal boxes or other discarded paper items to use as the base to paint on
- Brushes
 - If you don't have standard paint brushes, look around your home and yard for optional supplies
 - Cotton swabs
 - Sponges
 - Twigs
 - Leaves
 - Flowers
- Coffee
 - Instant coffee works best but dark brewed coffee (without sugar or cream) works too.
- Water

Process:

- Create your paint colors (guidelines are approximate, experiment with these to get the colors you like. Brewed coffee will need less water)
 - Light Paint
 - Ratio of water to coffee 2 : 1 (twice as much water as coffee)
 - Dark Paint
 - Ratio of water to coffee 1:1 (equal amounts of water to coffee)
 - In-Between Colors
 - Add water to the darker and lighter colors to create different values to paint with.
- Find a Subject to Paint
 - Practice by copying our tree if you'd like or
 - Find a simple object around your home to use as a subject
 - Apple
 - Plant
 - Lamp

- Dog :) or Cat :)
 - Window
 - Scene outside of your window
 - Create a simple line drawing of your object if you would like
 - Keep in mind placement of object on your paper
 - Or
 - Just start painting without a drawing...that works too!!
- Create the painting
 - First, play around with the colors and the brushes on a separate piece of paper
 - Then begin by using your lighter colors to get a basic outline of the object you are painting
 - Hint: Use a narrow brush or a stick to get the outlines
 - Layer the darker colors over the lighter ones to build up the image.
 - Hint: Add details last.
example : leaves painted on the tree are added last over the branches
 - Think about the background while you are working and include details if you like.
 - Hint: do you want a solid dark background with your object being lighter in the front?
 - Hint: can an imaginary pattern be painted in the background to add visual interest to your work?
 - If you want to create an abstract artwork, draw different shapes and lines on the paper, allowing them to overlap.
 - Enjoy seeing how the layers of paint build the color and images (abstract or from life) you are making.
 - Allow to dry, then go over again to create the finished work.

You decide when you are done.