

POURED ACRYLICS - FLOW ART

by Kat Morris

This class is for any students 8 - up. There is no special training required - almost every student enjoys poured acrylics because there is really no "right" or "wrong".

Poured acrylics is an abstract painting technique that uses artistic acrylic paints, and an additive (pouring medium) that thins the paint to make it flow or pour. This technique is so easy to try that even elementary school students will enjoy it and have success, while older students will also be challenged to create pleasing color combinations on different surfaces like wood, stone, etc.

Students will look at successful flow artists work and get ideas about what they might want to try. Students will learn about the color wheel and how to select colors that work well together; they will learn about metallic paints, paint density and why that matters; weighing their paint and pouring mediums and about the types of oil that can be applied to the technique to create "cells". Students will also learn about the option of using non-paint elements like glitter and crystals.

Students will have a chance to make poured acrylic paintings using several techniques, onto canvas, and other surfaces like wooden letters, boards/shelves, stone, and even make a little jewelry, suitable for both boys and girls.

This is a really fun class. Even students who have never tried art will have fun and create something they can be proud of! Depending on the number of students in this class and their ages, this class might require some additional staff to assist with the prep work for making these kinds of paintings and for clean up.

MATERIALS LIST for class

- 12 tubes of acrylic paints: Artist Loft (Michaels) or Masters Touch (Hobby Lobby)
white, black, gold, silver, copper, deep blue, purple, orange, yellow, pink, aqua, green, turquoise
- 1 gallon of Floetrol Flood 6 (Home Depot or online)
- Plastic tablecloths
- min. 200 popsicle sticks
- 3 sizes of plastic cups (Dixie Cup size, hotel size, and party drink size)
- food scale
- pre-formed glass and settings (blanks, bezels) for 18x38mm rectangle (Amazon)
- wooden initials (Hobby Lobby)
- canvas packs - 1 per student (8x10, 11x14, or 16x20 for later lessons) / scrap plywood in canvas sizes
- Large wooden initials (Hobby Lobby)
- river rocks for painting onto (at least 4")
- long, straight, stiff surface like a trowel for swiping (12" min.)
- 1 bottle of treadmill oil (Amazon)

Lesson 1: Presentation of class contents, Kat's background/
what is poured acrylics?
Discussion
Materials used/ review materials list / where to buy
Handout about what to search for on YouTube and/
or Google to look up the method and get ideas
for Lesson 2

Lesson 2: Presentation of color wheel and it's application
to poured acrylics
> inspiration for various color combinations
Prep for painting
Weigh and mix paints and pouring medium; cell
activator
First painting day: method 1 - Dirty Pour

Lesson 3: Review and critique dried paintings
Discuss possible improvements
Mix paints for 2nd painting day: method 2: Direct
Pour/Clean Pour
method 3: swipe
discuss alternate surfaces for next lesson

Lesson 4: Review and critique dried paintings
Discuss possible improvements
Mix paints for 3rd painting day: alternate surfaces

Lesson 5: Review and critique dried surfaces and paintings
Discuss possible improvements
Mix paints for 3rd painting day: jewelry

Lesson 6: Review and critique dried paintings
Discuss possible improvements
Pick up all dried projects