

My First Acrylic Pour

by Sharon Chinn

Supplies I Used

JoSonja Products

Flow Medium

DecoArt Products

Americana Premium Heavy Gel

Medium Gloss

Americana Premium Carbon Black

Americana Premium Titan Buff

Traditions True Gold

Other Materials

3 in 1 Silicone Oil

Small plastic condiment cups

Plastic Palette Knife

(or use popsicle sticks)

Water

5"x5" Master's Touch Canvas Board

Drinking straw

Plastic container to catch the dripping paint. My canvas was small so I used the lid to a plastic shoe box, and rested my canvas on 4 upside down

condiment cups to allow room for the paint to drip off the edges. You could also use plastic sheeting.



Pouring Medium

Mix Flow Medium and Gel Medium (1:1). Stir until smooth.

Mixing Your Paints to Pour

Mix Paint + Pouring Medium (approx. 1:1) first, stirring slowly until smooth to try to avoid adding air bubbles. Then begin stirring in small amounts of water until paint streams from palette knife or popsicle stick in a steady stream.

Add 3-4 drops of 3 in 1 Silicone oil to each paint mix and stir the oil in. I stirred mine maybe 6-10 stirs. The purpose of the oil is that oil and water don't mix, so when the paints are layered, the oil pushes to the surface and pulls some of the paint with it creating the circular shaped cells. Some theories are the less you stir the silicone into the paint bigger the cells created, the more you stir the smaller the cells.

Dirty Pour Cup Preparation

Using a clean condiment cup and I poured the 3 paint colors into it in layers, starting with the Titan Buff, then Gold, then Black, and repeated the layers until I had the cup almost half full. (You'll need about 3/4 oz. of paint to cover each 4"x4" section of canvas.) Once you have the layers poured, you can

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use your stirrer to give it a little swirl. I put the palette knife in to touch the bottom of the cup and did a slow “s” stroke through the paint and one circle around the edge.

How to Do the Dirty Flip Pour

Hold the pour cup in one hand, with the old hand lay your canvas face down centered on top of the paint cup. Carefully holding them firmly together, flip them over so the canvas is on the bottom and cup is resting upside down on top of the canvas. I sat my canvas down on 4 upside down condiment cups in the middle of the plastic shoe box lid. Let the paint settle for a few seconds before slightly twisting and lifting the cup off allowing the paint to fully spill out onto the center of the canvas. Let any excess paint in the cup drip out onto the corners of the canvas. Your canvas needs to be sitting level to prevent the paint from running off all on one side. At this point I had a lot of cell activity.

Carefully lift the canvas by the edges and slightly tilt it in different directions to allow the paint to run and fully cover the surface and run over the edges. If you have any spots that don't easily cover, using the palette knife to gently tap the edges of the paint to fill in the hole. I scooped up paint that had dripped onto the lid and patted it on the edges of the canvas. It's much easier to get the paint to run over smoothly if there is a little wet paint on the edges to help it along.

How to Do a Dirty Pour

Layer the paint in the cup as stated in the Preparation step above, and holding the cup over the canvas, pour the paint out as desired. You can pour the paint out in a pattern.

Since my canvas settled and had a lot of white in the middle, I wanted to add some of the black and gold back in, so I layered some black and gold in a cup and poured in on my canvas in a swirl pattern.

Blowing with a Drink Straw

To integrate the black and gold poured paint into the flip pour, I used a drinking straw to silently blow the poured paint in different directions until I had a pattern I liked.

Final

I've set my canvas in the lid on a shelf to allow it to dry. The consensus seems to be to allow it to dry 3-4 days before applying a high-gloss varnish like MinWax Polycrylic.

Happy pouring!
Sharon Chinn

For comments or questions, contact me at:

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