

to mother with love

by Robin Mani

Show Mom how much you love her with a hand painted gift made especially for her. One that she'll be proud of every time she sends out a special note.

materials

Palette

- DecoArt Americana Acrylics: Bright Orange, Cadmium Red, Foliage Green, Forest Green, Indian Turquoise, Poodleskirt Pink, Saffron Yellow, Snow (Titanium) White

Brushes

- Loew-Cornell La Corneille Golden Taklon: Script Liner, Series 7050, #10/0; Liner, Series 7350, #2, #6; Shader, Series 7300, #10; Angular Shader, Series 7400, ¼", ⅜", ½"; Filbert, Series 7500, #6, #8; Wash/Glaze, Series, 7550, 1"

Supplies

- DecoArt DuraClear Varnish, Matte
- Watercolor paper, 140 lb., cold press, 8" square
- Clear adhesive dots, small
- Optional: plastic see-thru ruler

Surface

- Keepsake Photo Box (#1001082, 6"x6½"x4½") from The Craft Pedlars (1-877-733-5277; pedlarsretail.com)
- Strathmore Blank Cards and Envelopes, Fluorescent White with Deckle (#105-11) from Strathmore (strathmoreartist.com)

preparation

Artist's tips:

When painting on watercolor paper or cards, thin paint with water (2:1) to allow paint to move more freely. If desired, apply second coat for more coverage. For "push-hard dot" technique, use large end of stylus to tap a dot of color; let dry a little, then using small end of stylus, tap a second dot of a different color on top of first dot and push hard. This will produce a circle of the second color with a center circle of the first color and will also produce dimension.

Mix A = Snow White + Foliage Green (1:1)
Mix B = Poodleskirt Pink + Snow White (2:1)

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Use wash/glaze and Mix A to base sides, inside box lid, along top edges of inside box, and bottom of box. Sand lightly with 100-120 grit paper; wipe dust and base again. Base top of lid with two coats Mix B. Use #10 shader and Indian Turquoise to paint side edges of lid. Paint snap Saffron Yellow.

Trace patterns. Transfer flower, three leaves, and tag onto watercolor paper. Transfer basic details onto box and cards.

painting instructions

Refer to worksheet.

Box Bottom

Use script liner and thinned Forest Green to paint a zigzag stop-start line along entire bottom of box. Use large end of stylus to add Indian Turquoise dots above zigzag line.

Box Lid

Use Cadmium Red to paint zigzag line along edges and use Bright Orange to



pattern as guide, position leaves and tag on box top; use craft glue to glue in place. Let dry. Varnish entire box, inside and out, and over leaves and tags; apply three coats varnish to front and back of flower. Let dry thoroughly. Use adhesive dots to adhere flower over leaves.

Note Cards

Use ruler to very lightly draw a line $\frac{1}{8}$ " from deckled edge of card and $\frac{1}{4}$ " from envelope edge; draw zigzag guidelines on cards.

Orange Card

Use $\frac{1}{4}$ " angular and Cadmium Red to paint edge of card and envelope. Paint Bright Orange zigzag line and tap Indian Turquoise dots on card. Use filbert to paint petals Bright Orange. Paint center Saffron Yellow. Use script liner and Cadmium Red to outline petal edges and to paint gather lines; dot around center. Line Indian Turquoise swirl in flower center. Use #6 liner to paint leaves Foliage Green; use Forest Green to outline bottom edge and line center veins. Use stylus to tap Indian Turquoise descending dots on other side of leaf edges. Tap three Saffron Yellow dot groups around flower.

Pink Card

Paint deckled edges Indian Turquoise. Paint Cadmium Red and Saffron Yellow zigzag lines. Paint flower in same manner as flower on lid omitting shading and push-hard dots. Use Cadmium Red to dot around flower center. Paint leaves in same manner as "Orange Card" using end of paintbrush handle to dot leaves; line stem Forest Green.

Yellow Card

Paint deckled edges Saffron Yellow and zigzag line Cadmium Red. Add Indian Turquoise and Bright Orange dots. Paint petals Saffron Yellow and center Cadmium Red. Use Bright Orange to add descending dots down center and to outline petals. Use push-hard technique to first dot Cadmium Red then Saffron Yellow around flower center. Use same technique to dot flower center Indian Turquoise then Cadmium Red. Paint leaves in same manner as "Orange Card"; line stem Forest Green. 

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add dots. Line Indian Turquoise swirl on snap. Use script liner and Foliage Green to line fern stems; shade Forest Green along bottom edge and highlight with brush mix of Saffron Yellow and Foliage Green along top. Use end of brush handle to dip-dot Indian Turquoise along outer side of ferns in descending size. Allow to dry.

Paper Flower

Use #8 filbert to base petals Poodleskirt Pink. Use #6 liner and Bright Orange to paint outer petal edges. Use script liner and Cadmium Red to line along bottom of orange edges and to add gather lines. Base flower center Saffron Yellow. Line Indian Turquoise swirl in center. Use $\frac{3}{8}$ " angular and Bright Orange to shade around outside and inside edges of center; deepen with Cadmium Red. Use stylus to tap Saffron Yellow graduating dots on orange edges of petals. Use push-hard technique to first

dot Cadmium Red then Saffron Yellow around flower center and one in center of swirl.

Paper Leaves

Base each Foliage Green. Use Forest Green to line crosshatching and to add tiny vertical lines between crosshatching. Tap a small Foliage Green dot in center of each crosshatching. Use Forest Green and $\frac{1}{2}$ " angular to shade from bottom to about middle of leaves; outline leaf edges.

Paper Tag

Base Saffron Yellow; shade Cadmium Red. Outline with Indian Turquoise zigzag line. Use black permanent fine-line marker to add wording.

Finishing Box

Cut flower, leaves, and tag from watercolor paper. Paint edges of each in appropriate matching color. Using







