

Project Ideas & How to Paint Glass



Our Paints Vary: Identify Type Before Use

As you may know, we currently provide two different types of glass paint which is manufactured by Pebeo:

- **Vitreia 160 Glass Paint:** this is a water based paint which is even more permanent than the Vitrail because it can be baked on.

- Order more on Amazon here: <https://amzn.to/2KgRKJU>
- **QUALITY:** water-based colors for glass. Excellent lightfastness. The colors are ready to use and mixed together.
- **COLOR DRYING FOR DECORATIVE USE:** After 72 hours dry time, paint can be lightly washed, without soaking.
- **COOKING OF ALL THE COLORS IN ORDER TO BE DISHWASHER-SAFE:** after paint dries a minimum of 24 hours, heat items for 40 minutes at 320° F (160° C) with a stabilized temperature in domestic oven.
- **SURFACES:** Glass, crystal ... Media such as Pyrex®, Arcopal® or equivalents must not be used.
- **THINNER/ DILUTION:** Vitrea 160 thinner on Amazon here <https://amzn.to/2pkXPOQ>
- **OPACITY:** Transparent colors. Dilute for a more transparent look.
- **FINISH:** Glossy.
- **CARING (decorated surfaces):** After cooking, the colors are dishwasher-safe, resistant to alcohol, solvents and common detergents. For better strength/durability, machine wash cycle ECO, and ideally, position in the top basket.
- **PAINT BRUSHES:** Cobra deco or Iris Pébéo brushes
- **CLEANING PAINTBRUSHES:** with soap and water.



- **Vitrail Glass Paint:** this is a mild solvent based paint which is great for decorative use.

- Order more on Amazon here: <https://amzn.to/2pbFFOO>
- **QUALITY:** Transparent, intense and very bright colors. Solvent based, ready to use. Can be mixed together. Good lightfastness.
- **DRYING:** 2 hours to the touch, completely dry after 10 hours. Drying times can vary depending on the thickness of the application, and the temperature and humidity of the room.
- **SURFACES:** Glass, polyester, acetate...
- **THINNER/ DILUTION:** Odorless mineral spirits or white spirits. Can be found at any home improvement store or on Amazon: <https://amzn.to/2O5BOLI>
- **CARING (decorated surfaces):** After drying, the color bear a light wash without soaking.
- **Resistant to glass cleaner.** The objects decorated with Vitrail colors should not be considered for practical usage, but only intended for decorative purposes.
- **TOOLS:** Pébéo Cobra deco or Iris brushes.
- **BRUSH CLEANING:** Odorless mineral spirit or white spirit then rinse with soap and water.



Faux Stained Glass Lead

Many folks enjoy creating faux stained glass with our transparent paints. We also provide a permanent faux leading product in Black or Gold. This can be baked just like our Vitrea 160 Glass Paint, but it can be used with projects using either the Vitrea 160 or Vitrail glass paint sets.

They are found on Amazon here: <https://amzn.to/2Xjbp1i>



Vitrea 160 & Painting Tutorial

The only negative thing about the Vitrea 160 paint is the paint brush strokes are very easy to notice and it's hard to keep a consistent solid color. So you may want to airbrush it on when painting larger areas.

Documented below is a step by step tutorial of painting the glass with the Vitrea 160 paint using a stencil. Please note: I actually sandblast etched the design into the glass first which prevents the paint from getting under the stencil or sticking to it when pulling it up. Learn more about sandblast etching on our other site: <https://www.glassetchingsecrets.com/>

Step 1: I cut out my stencil from adhesive backed vinyl with a stencil cutter (some are shown on Amazon here: <https://amzn.to/2Kk0e2U>). You can cut it out with a hobby knife after tracing a design also.



Step 2: I etched the stencil (not necessarily required but prevent paint from pulling with stencil). With the stencil in place, clean the area with rubbing alcohol and begin painting. Use a small art brush for smaller etching area. Apply paint evenly with smooth strokes. View the glass in light at times to make sure it looks even. Also, make sure to dab the paint in all the nooks & crannies.



Step 3: You can see what it looks like after painting below.



Step 4: I have found that it is best to wait for the paint to dry for at least a day or two before removing the stencil because the paint on the stencil might pull the rest of it while it is still tacky.



Step 5: To make the paint permanent you have to bake it on at 325 degrees Fahrenheit for 40 minutes. I simply use an oven. Before you do this though, you have to let the paint dry for 24 hours. Also, glass can shatter when it is rapidly heated or cooled.

To prevent rapid heating, do not preheat the oven. Place the item in an oven before you turn it on so it progressively rises to the temperature.

To prevent rapid cooling after being heated, let it sit in the oven after turning it off and don't handle the glass until it naturally becomes cool. This may take up to an hour for the oven to cool.

Step 6: Now observe the painted glass with the 2 different views below. You may touch it up a second time.



Airbrushing Pebeo Vitrea 160 Glass Paint

As I have discussed in the other tutorial, it really is hard to get professional looking results when manually brushing paint on. Brushing them on reveals brush marks and inconsistencies.

As an alternative route, you can **airbrush Vitrea on but it requires it to be thinned first**. This will apply the glass paint smoothly.

Small airbrushes are great for using on projects that are typically smaller in size, but it will even work fairly well for large paintings. Airbrushes are basically similar to auto body spray guns, except they are many times smaller in size. They are often used for detailing cars and artistic spray painting because the spray line is smaller for easier control. These are perfect for spraying glass paint on your projects.

There are many different airbrushes sold. I bought one which seems to be fairly good quality with a great price as shown. You can find it here: <http://amzn.to/15Tmedu>



Bad Side of Using Airbrushes for Glass Paint

The bad thing about using airbrushes to spray Vitrea 160 glass paint is that often times the paint will be too thick for it to flow correctly down the nozzle chamber. In order to combat this problem, you have to thin the paint.

Process of Air Brush Painting

Part 1: Getting the Thinner for Vitrea 160

Luckily, Pebeo makes an additive called **160 Thinner** which dilutes it without altering the technical characteristics. In other words, this product won't destroy the chemical composition and effect the durability of the paint after it's baked on the glass.

Another bad thing is this stuff is expensive for a small bottle. You can buy this Thinner here: <https://amzn.to/2pkXPOQ> (remember, if you use the Vitrail type paint, it must be thinned with odorless mineral spirits or white spirits.)

As an alternative, I have heard through various places that an acetone based **nail polish remover** or acetone can be used. I have yet to test this and ensure the quality is as good, but feel free to try it out.



Part 2: The Thinning Process

Once you have your thinner, I recommend mixing it with the paint in a very small quantity first (in separate container) and do a test spraying it out of airbrush. Do this until you get the mixture to effectively spray out of the airbrush. Then make a mental note about how much thinner to add per paint amount. I suggest this because every ones paint may vary in thickness because it can dry a little throughout the year. I believe my mixture worked well with about 35% thinner.

Part 3: Preparing Paints for Airbrush

With a mental note of how much thinner to add, you can begin mixing it with a larger quantity of paint, but don't use too much. A little bit can go far on smaller projects. Making multiple small batches if you run out is a good thing also, because it allows the first few coats to dry a little bit while you're mixing more which will prevent paint runs.

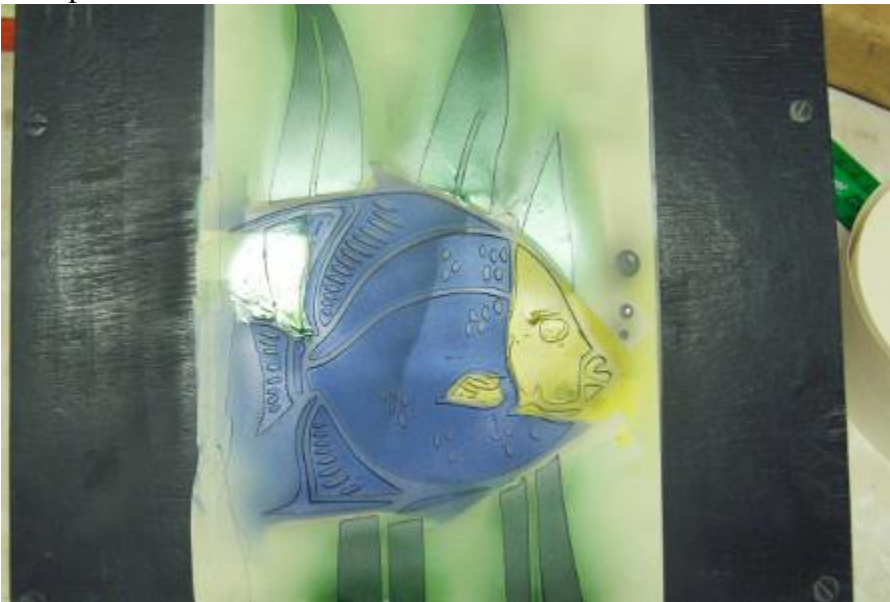
To mix the paint with the thinner, you can use the outside of the top paint cap or a small disposable paper cup for mixing. I like to place a small amount of the paint in the cup and use a pipette (also known as an eye dropper) to drop the thinner in while mixing. Drop thinner into the paint until it gets to be the right thickness for the airbrush.

When that is mixed, immediately pour it into the container on the airbrush and place the cap on to prevent it from drying.

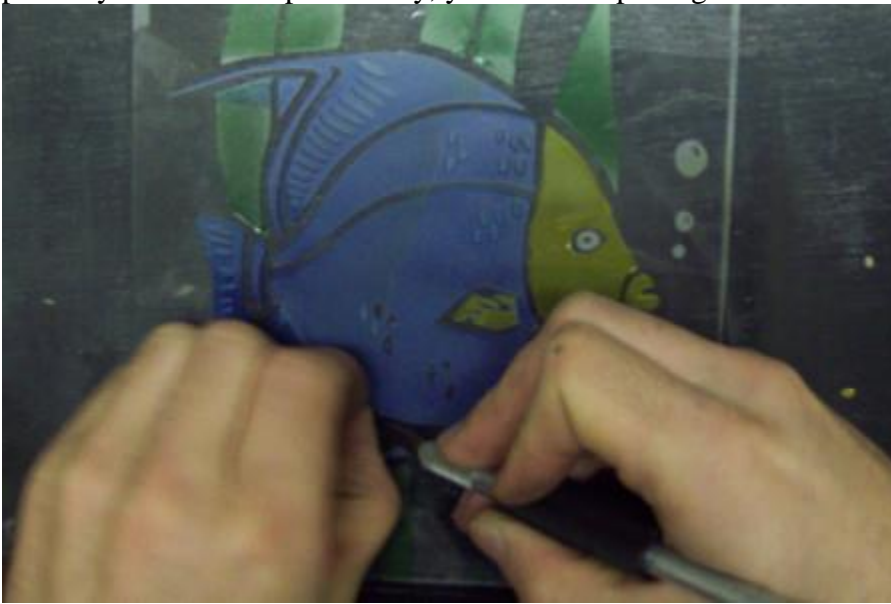
Part 4: Spraying the Etching

Sometimes this thinner will evaporate quickly if it's not used within 5-15 minutes so I suggest you to mix it when the glass is ready and then immediately spray it.

Hook up the air compressor line to the airbrush with a light pressure. In a back and forth motion, simply spray the paint over the etchings with overlapping sprays. I like to coat a section with 2-3 light coats, then go to another section to let it dry a little. You can tape off or hold a piece of card stock over sections when painting multiple colors as I have done below.



Before taking off the stencil, I find that it is best to wait for the paint to dry fully so that it doesn't rip off the paint layer. When the paint is dry, you can start pulling off the stencil with an Exacto knife as shown below.



You can see the finished example below.



Transparent Paint on Etched Mirrors Idea

This is another tutorial idea but this time I wanted to express and show you how cool it looks on etched mirrors.

I documented the steps below with the Vitrea 160 paints. For this mirror, I etched it into a diamond shape.

Step 1: I cut out a stencil and added text to the back of the mirror. Of course I had to flip the text so that it isn't reversed when viewing from the opposite side.



Step 2: Etch it with the sandblasting method so that it abrades away the silvering & paint. Then begin painting the backside where the etching is. Since we are painting a mirror, you can remove the stencil first or leave it on. I didn't care so I removed it first. Use a small brush and paint on. You can also mix colors. I mixed purple with the dark blue color in my set for the dolphin to give it sort of an off-blue color.



Step 3: Similar to before, wait 24 hours for the paint to dry and then bake at 325 degrees Fahrenheit.

Step 4: Flip over the glass and observe. Using this paint looks awesome on reversed etched mirrors also.



Another Painting Tutorial on Etched Cups

This is just another tutorial that I documented using the Vitrea 160 paint. This is different because it's on a usable glass cup and I thought it would give you some more ideas. These glass cups were very inexpensive at about \$1 each. Would make a great personalized gift for someone.

Below are the steps to make one of these glasses.

Part 1: I found this pumpkin design on the internet and of course measured the glass. And sized the pattern to those dimensions.



Part 2: I place the stencil on the glass and masked the outside edges.



Part 3: Apply paint.

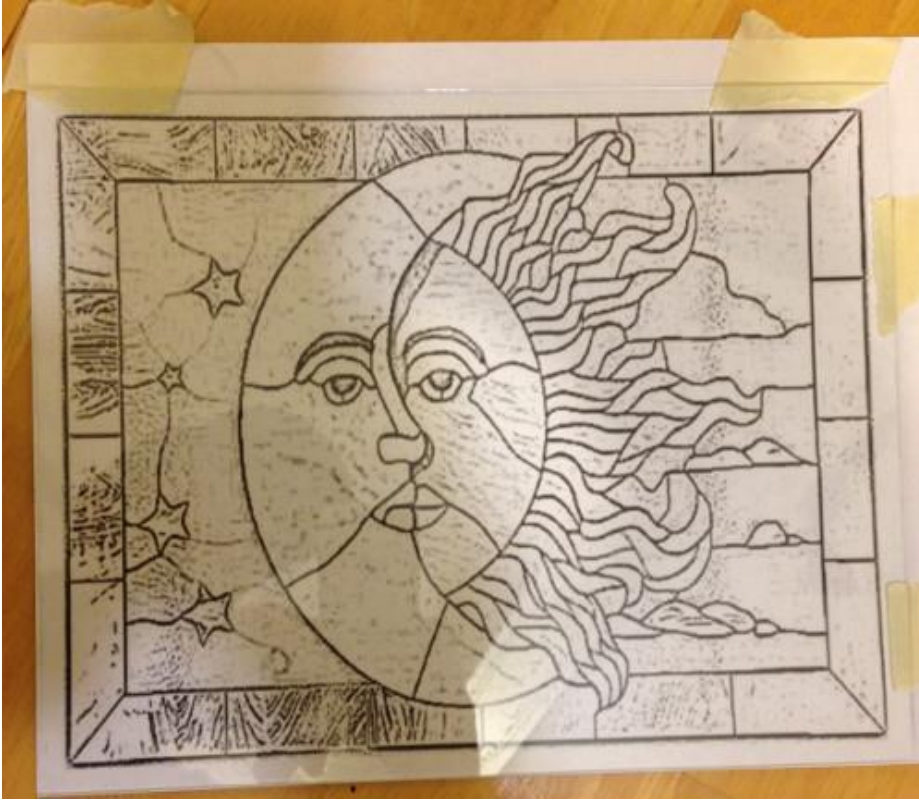


Part 4: Wait 24 hours and remove the stencil. Then bake as advised.

Part 5: That its it!



Painting on Glass Picture Frames Tutorial



Step 1: Place printed glass stain pattern behind your glass and tape together.

I found a stained glass pattern online (can't remember where), scaled it down to size of the glass, and printed it out.



Step 2: Trace the leading edges of the pattern with any type of faux leading such as this <https://amzn.to/2Xjbp1i> . Let that dry before painting.



Step 3: Apply your paint in sections with either Vitrail or Vitrea 160 and allow to dry.



Step 4: Place back in picture frame and hang where needed.

Other Video Examples & Techniques

Please also see the page where you downloaded this for a variety of video tutorials and examples here:
<https://www.divgateway.com/glasspainting/>

Thank you!!!!

Thank you for ordering our glass stain paints and I like you for it! It means a lot to have you as a customer.

If you are happy with this product, please leave us a product review. Even better, it would be great to see photos of your projects in the review.