

# Paint & Pencil



## Palette

### DecoArt Acrylic Paints

- DA010 Cadmium Yellow
- DA017 Georgia Clay
- DA131 Hauser Lt. Green
- DA093 Raw Sienna
- DA040 Williamsburg Blue

### Prismacolor Premier Pencils

- PC935 Black
- PC908 Dark Green
- PC901 Indigo Blue
- PC918 Orange
- PC922 Ponnv Red

## Brushes

### Dynasty FM Brush - Black Gold

- 206FW-Size ¾" Flat Wash
- 206R-Size 3 Round
- 206SL-Size 0 Script Liner
- 206FIL-Size 4 Filbert

## Supplies

- Watercolor Paper -  
Cold Pressed 140 lb 8 x 10"  
(available from EJ Designs)
- Basic Painting Supplies
- Grey Graphite Paper
- Round Sponge
- Pencil Sharpener
- Krylon 1306 Workable Fixative
- Krylon 1311 Matte Finish
- Soft White Eraser
- Stylus
- Ultra Fine Sandpaper
- 2" or 3" Flat Bristle Brush  
(for sweeping pencil crumbs)

## Intro

Inspired by the old, this modern-day folk art Fraktur of my own design was created on watercolor paper using my Paint & Pencil technique. An enjoyable time can be had exploring the use of these two mediums together where a series of acrylic washes develop the background and colored pencils complete the details into one lovely piece. Enjoy!

## Surface

To purchase Watercolor Paper & Colored Pencil Supplies contact:

*Erika Joanne Designs*

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## A Little History...

A unique and lively expression of early American folk art can be found inside the covers of old bibles, songbooks, and books. Introduced to the new world by the Pennsylvania Dutch, this art form took on the name of Fraktur. It can be simply described as religious and cultural decorative manuscript illustration. Hand-painted Fraktur with its elaborate lettering and decorative artwork was used as a way to record and preserve history. Whimsical Birds, flowers, hearts, and tulips (popular for the day) were painted in bold colors and used to decorate birth, baptism, marriage, and house blessing records etc. Fraktur's were mostly created between the years of 1740 and 1860, but continued on into the 1930's. Today, the old Fraktur's are highly sought after as an interesting look into the essence of early American religious culture.

The DecoArt Acrylic Paints listed in the instructions are **UPPER CASE, BOLD, UNDERLINED, & ITALICIZED.**

The Prismacolors are **UPPER CASE & BOLD.**

## Acrylic Painting ~ Vintage Paper Background

1. Follow the painting prep instructions carefully. It is very important to have a smooth surface when using colored pencils to achieve the detail needed.
2. To create the vintage looking paper for the background, slightly wet the watercolor paper with clear water and a damp, round sponge.
3. While the paper is damp, use a 3/4" flat to apply a light wash of Raw Sienna. Add more color here and there randomly to darken the color.
4. Once this is applied, dip your fingers in clear water and flick large droplets all over the paper. Hold the paper vertically and let the droplets run down. Wait for a bit, then use a clean, round sponge to pat the paper, removing some of the color to uncover lighter streaks and spots. Let the paper dry completely.
5. While the paper dries, the edges may curl a bit. Once dry, the paper can be turned over and flattened between heavy books if needed.
6. Lightly transfer all the pattern lines using a new piece of gray graphite; I have found that using a new piece of waxy graphite paper results in the best visibility over the rough texture of watercolor paper. Check the transfer as you go so your lines don't become too dark. The vertical pattern lines found in the bird tails and planter etc. don't have to be transferred but rather added by freehand.
7. Go back and carefully erase the pattern swirls on the birds leaving just a hint of graphite. This will be helpful when penciling the swirls with red which is somewhat transparent. Also lightly erase any lines that are too dark.

## Acrylic Painting ~ Washes of Color

1. Each base color is applied in the form of a very light wash with the exception of Yellow that is applied as a basecoat. Generously water down your paint to create a watercolor effect. Each color has a good amount of pigment so it is important to water down the paint quite a bit. The pencils will show up better against a light wash of paint. Load your brush and test the color on a paper towel first before working on the watercolor paper. Patting the brush on a paper towel also help remove some of the excess water.
2. It is important to refer to step-by-step worksheet and photos to guide you in placement of each color. Lines can easily be mistaken and the wrong color placed. Make sure to check the lines carefully before painting.
3. Staying within the design lines, use a no. 3 round and no. 0 liner to apply the wash in various colors (the filbert can be used for the larger areas on the birds). If you happen to go outside the lines, quickly remove the color as best as you can with a damp cotton swab and pat dry.
4. Wash the red areas with **GEORGIA CLAY** (berries, birds, tulips, and various flowers etc.)
5. Wash the green areas with **HAUSER LT. GREEN** (various leaves).
6. Wash the blue areas of the design with **WILLIAMSBURG BLUE** (hearts, bird tails, flowers, etc.).
7. Wash the brown areas with **RAW SIENNA** (small leaves and planter).
8. Basecoat the yellow areas with **CADMIUM YELLOW** (beaks, wings, flowers etc).

## Colored Pencil Helpful Hints

1. You must let the acrylic painting dry completely before using colored pencils in the same area.
2. Handle your pencils with care. These wax-based pencils have lead that can easily be broken when dropped. Place the pencils on a soft washcloth next to your project so that they won't roll off the table when not in use.
3. If the lead is broken inside your pencil, place the pencil on a sunny window ledge or in a warm car to heat the waxy lead together again.
4. It's so important to always keep your pencils sharp! Otherwise your details will suffer. When working on watercolor paper, the surface texture dulls your pencils quickly. Sharpening your pencil often, will help fill the hills and valleys of the paper surface. Be careful not to sharpen off the imprinted color name on your pencil. Use an electric or hand-held sharpener with a new blade, and condition the blade often with the quick sharpening of a regular graphite pencil. Changing a dull blade out can be a great fix for a nice sharpener.
5. Some of the colored pencil terms I use are similar to painting terms. A wash is a penciled light coat, a line is a solid penciled line. Shading is not unlike floating acrylic paint in that the shaded areas are darker on one side and fade out completely on the other. To achieve a darker value, apply more pressure; for a lighter value, use less. Highlighting with a pencil is similar to flip-floating or drybrushing a highlight.
6. As you work in each area, refer to the close-up photos, step-by-step worksheet, and highlighting and shading guides to help you in placement of the detail. Place the visual helps close to your work so you can continually refer to them.
7. You can lightly trace dashed guidelines to help in placement of the shading and highlighting.
8. Place a scrap of tracing paper under your hand as you draw to protect the painting from oils, especially if you use hand lotion.
9. Use a 2" or 3" inch flat bristle brush to periodically brush away pencil crumbs.
10. If the color doesn't take and the pencil just slides on the surface or a foggy haze appears (wax bloom), spray the area with a VERY thin coat of Workable Fixative. This will remove the haze and set the surface, allowing you to continue working. You'll need to take a break and wait for the fixative to dry well before resuming.

## Colored Pencil Details

1. Refer to step-by-step worksheet and photos for help in placement of colors.
2. Use the **ORANGE** pencil to shade all the yellow areas (flowers, beaks, and wings).
3. Randomly line several of the swirls on each bird with **POPPY RED**. Also shade the red areas with **POPPY RED** (flowers, birds, berries, etc).
4. Very lightly shade the tips of all the green leaves with **DARK GREEN**.
5. Very lightly shade the blue areas with **INDIGO BLUE** (hearts, tails, flowers).
6. Very lightly shade the brown areas and around the middle flower with **BLACK**.
7. Once all the shading has been done, you'll need to carefully line around the different elements of the design. It's really, really important to have a sharp pencil for this. First line the stems and around the green leaves with **DARK GREEN**. continued....

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# Fraktur Fancy

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Colored Pencil Details continued....

Also, line the circles and add the dots to the green leaves on the large flower in the center with **DARK GREEN**.

8. Line around the hearts, bird tails, and blue areas of the flowers with **INDIGO BLUE**. Also line the vertical lines and circles found in the hearts, bird tails, and blue flowers with **INDIGO BLUE**.

9. Since Black contains a good amount of pigment you'll need to be careful with this step. Line the red, brown, and yellow areas of the design, and add the dots to the blue circles found on the corner flowers with **BLACK**. Lastly, use a ruler to add the straight, broken text lines at the bottom of the design also with **BLACK**.

## Fraktur Lettering

1. The lines at the bottom of the design are to record such special dates as the birth of a grandchild, the marriage of a loved one, the baptism of a child etc.
2. There are many choices in lettering that you can use. Included in this packet is a sample of my own style of Fraktur alphabet and numbers that you can use. You can also investigate the fonts on your computer as a resource.
3. Once you find a lettering style that suites you, transfer the dates and words using grey graphite. Then line carefully with a **BLACK** pencil or the color of your choice.

## Finishing

1. Look closely at your piece and carefully erase any stray graphite lines. Then make sure the surface is brushed clean.
2. Take the paper outside and prop it up vertically. Spray the paper with four light coats of Krylon Workable Fixatif, changing direction with each coat and allowing them to dry in between. The fixative not only protects your work but also prevents and removes "wax bloom", which is wax rising to the surface, creating foggy spots in your artwork.
3. When the fixative is completely dry, you can apply a few coats of Krylon Matte Finish.
4. Let everything dry, and then mat and frame to taste. Fabulous!

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