



Artists' Materials

Recommended products to create your vision

Paints- All professional-grade artist acrylic or oil paints will work. We recommend Liquitex Soft Body (medium-viscosity) Acrylics for ease of application, good color stability, and national availability in art stores. High-viscosity paints may be too "gluey" to manipulate with ease. Latex house paints are not recommended. You can also use oils but be prepared for much longer drying times. Do not varnish over oils.

Lascaux UV-1 Gloss Varnish - This is the best varnish we've found for protecting your artwork before the auto body clear coat is applied. You will need a 250 ml. bottle for forms up to the size of a large dog or cat, and a 500 ml. bottle for larger forms such as a horse or a moose. Available to order from Dick Blick (we recommend ordering early- as soon as you receive your assignment- as this product is often out of stock at art supply stores). THERE IS NO GOOD SUBSTITUTE FOR LASCAUX. To use, dilute 4 parts varnish to 1 part water and filter through gauze. Use a nylon brush and have a large jar of water handy to immerse your brush if you have to pause while varnishing. It sets quickly, so if you do pause, don't begin again until the varnish is dry (about 15 minutes or so.) This product goes on slightly cloudy but dries crystal clear. Immediately remove any air bubbles by touching lightly with a brush. Lascaux UV-1 Matte Varnish can also be used if the Gloss is not available and your form will be clear coated by an auto body shop.

Bondo Body Putty – This is ideal for making small repairs (Bondo fiberglass body repair kit is recommended for larger repairs). Available at NAPA auto supply stores, Pep Boys, and some home improvement stores.

Golden Polymer Medium-Gloss – This product is effective for decoupage and is available at Dick Blick. Use full strength to immerse paper in medium, apply it to the form, and remove all air bubbles with your hands. Remove excess medium with an almost-dry sponge. Allow to dry for several days before varnishing. We suggest making color copies of any images that you wish to use on a computer printer or photocopier as the inks are more permanent and the copy paper is more durable than photographic or magazine paper.

MagicSculp Epoxy Putty - This putty is great for altering the form's surface or adding sculptural elements. Complete directions for use will be found on these websites, along with ordering information: www.magicsculp.com and www.restorersupplies.com. MagicSculp will best adhere to the form if you give texture to the surface and drill a few small holes to fill with product. It is non-toxic, allows a couple of hours of working time before setting, and once dry (12 hours) and can be sanded if necessary and painted with ease.



For questions or additional information contact us at:
info@artful-gives.org or call (475) 215-5740.