

# ..... Stained Glass 101 .....

## *hands-on info for the hobbyist*

by Brian McMillan

### Painting on Glass: Part Two

Last time (SGN #80), we introduced you to painting on glass. We talked about the uses for paint stain, the forms in which you will find the stains, the mixing medium and ideal mixing technique, how to apply the paints, and some firing suggestions. This time, we'd like to discuss some additional techniques that you can use to enhance your painted design. While you can use each technique independently, many also work in layers or together.

*Brian McMillan*

Brian has been involved in the stained glass industry as an instructor, designer, supplier, studio owner, author, and publisher for over 25 years. He and his family publish a series of pattern books under the name Walrus Publications.

### Applying paint

Using a natural bristle flat brush, apply an even layer of paint to the glass. The fewer strokes, the better, as the paint does not like to be reworked.



### Blending

While the paint is still wet, use a Badger blender to blend the paint. Using light and broad brush strokes, blend the paint from one side of the glass to the next, then repeat this motion across the original blend in a crisscross pattern. This will create an even layer of paint to work with.



### Stipling

A stiff bristle stippler, or a hog's hair brush, is now used in specific areas to remove some of the paint. Using the stippler, tamp the glass sections in an up-and-down motion. This will remove the paint in these sections, allowing the glass to pop through, giving you a very nice three dimensional effect. Paint can be removed when wet or dry. Always wear a face mask while working with dry paint.



### Scraping

Using a bamboo skewer, or the handle of a paint brush sharpened to a point, you can add another design element to your painted piece. By running the scraper through the paint while it is dry, you can create a very interesting scratched design in the paint, which complements the shaded areas.



### A Tip For Cleaning Your Glass



Hot water and soap may not rid the glass of oil from your hands, adhesive from stickers, etc. Instead, try using a cloth dipped into the wet paint. Rub the paint into the surface of the glass. The slight abrasive texture of the paint does a great job of cleaning the glass.

*Brian*



You can write to Brian at  
Brian McMillan  
c/o Stained Glass News  
PO Box 922 • Newaygo, MI 49337  
or at  
Brian@StainedGlassNews.com