

Chartiers Creek

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Your Art Kit

Fluid Acrylic Paint Pouring on Coasters

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This free form organic painting style uses a combination of acrylic paint and pouring medium to create abstract paintings rich in colorful swirls, swooshes and lines. The paint is thinner than what you might use with a paint brush, as it is designed to move and flow across the canvas.

The techniques for mixing the paints, layering the colors, pouring the paint and moving it across the surface are endless. We'll start with a few basics.

Get Ready

First, wear your favorite paint clothes (paint usually doesn't come out), and put on your apron and gloves. Cover your work surface with plastic, and/or stage your workspace inside of a big cardboard box or plastic storage bin (about 1.5 - 2 x's the size of the pieces you'll be working on), with low sides so that you can easily work with the canvas, including lifting and tilting the the pieces without going outside of your designated space. If you decide to use a plastic storage bin, please understand, you will absolutely get paint on it.

Your kit includes 8 ceramic tiles, 4 bottle caps, a few stir sticks, 4 small cups, 2 larger cups, and 6 bottles of premium quality premixed paint. This paint is just perfect as is and you can get results without doing anything else to your paints. However, as you become experienced in fluid art, you will discover that you can mix other additives for different effects.

The bottle caps are used to lift the coasters off of the bottom of your work surface, to allow the paint to drip off. Position the bottle caps on your (protected) table or workspace so that they are under the center of the coasters. Next, set your coasters on top of the caps, and continue reading below.

The Colors in Your Painting

Your kit contains the following colors: Black, white, red, yellow, green and blue, small cups and stir sticks.

Think about the colors you want to see in your painting. You can use the paint as is, or you can mix them together to create different colors or different shades of the existing colors

Using the small cups and stir sticks, you can create new colors using the color mixing ratio guidelines described below. Feel free to adjust anything as you want to be darker, lighter, deeper or pastel. This is YOUR painting!

Shade Variations

A simple trick to shade variations is to always start with the lightest color and add the darker colors in small quantities. It's much harder to make a light or medium hue when you start with a very dark color. You'll end up wasting all of your white.

To create lighter shades	To create darker shades
Using a smaller cup, add more white and a dab of the color you wish to get a lighter shade of. It is always best to start with white or the lightest color and add more of the darker color in small quantities.	Using a smaller cup, add more of the color you wish to get a darker shade of, and a dab of black, stir, and continue adding small amounts of black until you are happy with the color.. When creating darker shades, it is always best to start with the lightest color and add black or another darker color in small quantities.

Here are some colors we mixed up in our art studio using the same colors in your kit:



Color Matrix

Mixing colors to get new colors is a hoot, and you can have lots of fun experimenting! Below is a guide to creating new colors by mixing the paints in your kit. Adjust as needed.

Teal	=	$\frac{1}{2}$ blue	$\frac{1}{2}$ green
Orange	=	$\frac{2}{3}$ yellow	$\frac{1}{3}$ red
Purple	=	$\frac{1}{2}$ blue	$\frac{1}{2}$ red
Deep Green	=	$\frac{1}{2}$ blue	$\frac{1}{2}$ yellow
Gray	=	$\frac{9}{10}$ white	$\frac{1}{10}$ black
Using the new colors you created above, you can also get these new colors			
Red violet	=	$\frac{3}{4}$ red	$\frac{1}{4}$ blue
Red orange	=	$\frac{3}{4}$ orange	$\frac{1}{4}$ red
Yellow orange	=	$\frac{1}{2}$ yellow	$\frac{1}{4}$ orange
Yellow green	=	$\frac{1}{2}$ light green	$\frac{1}{2}$ yellow
Blue violet	=	$\frac{3}{4}$ blue	$\frac{1}{4}$ red
Golden Yellow/Brown	=	$\frac{1}{2}$ yellow	$\frac{1}{4}$ red + $\frac{1}{4}$ deep green

Pouring Techniques

Pouring paint onto coasters involves mixing your paint colors to your liking, and also layering your paints in the cup and/or on the coasters. Your kit is designed to use with multiple pouring techniques. We will discuss the the Dirty Pour and the Ring Pour/Straight Pour.

The Dirty Pour and Ring Pour

Start with the same steps for adding paint to the cup

The difference between the dirty pour and the ring pour is in the process of transferring the paint from the cup to the coasters. The initial steps (mixing the colors and filling the paint cup) as well as the final steps (moving the paint around the canvas) are the same. For coasters, you will use different size cups depending on which technique you are using. When doing the dirty pour on coasters, you will need only the smaller 3.5 oz cups, filling them less than half full.

1. Starting with white, since it is the heaviest color and will sink to the bottom. Add enough to completely cover the bottom of the 5 oz cup, about $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ " high.
2. Gently pour your other colors on top of the white paint, one color at a time.
 - a. Pour directly into the middle, or
 - b. Drizzle each paint color on top of the one below, or
 - c. Lean the cup and pour down the inside wall of the cup.
3. Continue pouring your paints until your cup is nearly full. In the example here, we used option C above, leaning the cup slightly as we poured the paint colors, one at a time, down the inside wall of the cup.



4. Next, choose between the Dirty Pour or the Ring Pour (review the steps to see which one appeals to you more).

Proceed with the dirty pour:

Ask a family member or friend to assist you with this step, and practice with an empty cup to get the hang of it. You should attempt to do only one coaster at a time during this step.

1. While you have one hand firmly holding the filled cup of paint, place your coaster on top of the cup, with the shiny side touching the cup. Place your other hand firmly against the back of the coaster, so that you are able to maintain the opening of the cup/ shiny side of the coaster connection.
2. In one single motion, keeping the cup attached to the coaster top with your hands in place as described in the step above, flip the cup and coaster together so that the cup is upside down on the coaster. Your small cups are 3.5 ounces, so you'll need to fill them up a little less than half way. In the example below, we filled each cup individually and

then designated a coaster for each one.

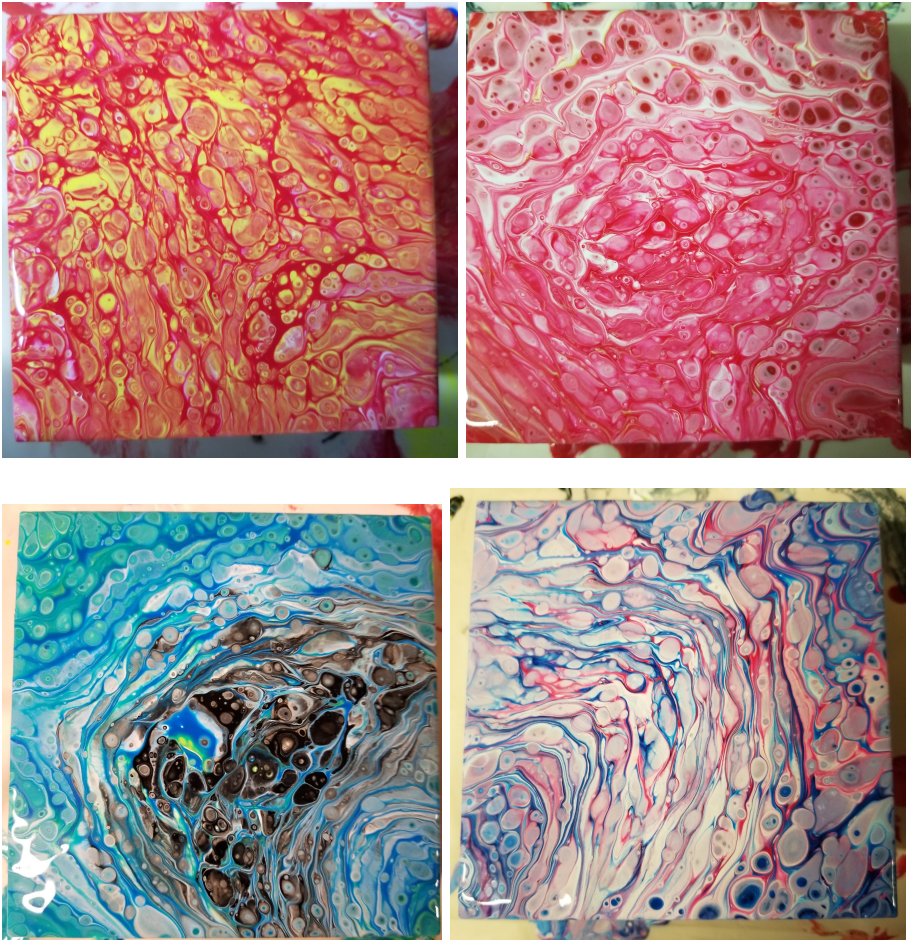


3. Let the paint in the cup settle to the bottom. It's ok if a little seeps out while it is settling, or if a little came out when you flipped it.
4. It's time to pull the cup away! Oh boy! You want to gently lift and pull the cup away at an angle - and do it quickly. Once you do this, the paint will pour out, forming a big heap in the middle of the coaster. That's ok, that's what it should be doing.
5. Gently tilt the coasters until the paint has leveled and you are happy with the composition

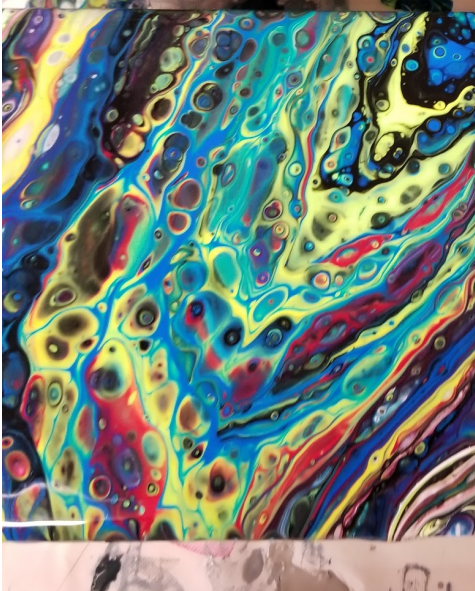
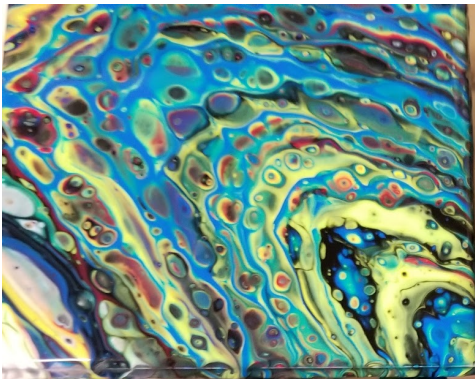


Proceed with the ring pour:

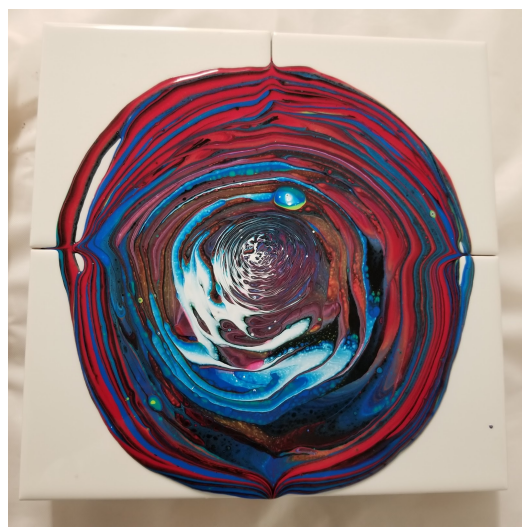
1. Have you ever poured pancake batter into a hot pan? You pour it slowly, and as it touches the surface, it pushes the other pancake batter further out. If you pour paint onto a painting surface in the same way, this technique is called a “straight pour”. You just pour it and it layers automatically. A ring pour is a slight deviation from the straight pour in that you move your wrist in a steady circular motion in the center of the canvas. As you pour, it creates new rings as the paint reaches the canvas. Continue doing this slowly, until all of the paint has been emptied from the cup.
2. Coasters are a uniquely interesting surface for ring pours because you can do them in two ways. First, you can pour them individually, filling the smaller cups less than half full, and pouring the paint each cup into the middle of each coaster. Small ring pours on each coaster can look similar to these: (Continue below to the Final steps for Dirty Pour and Ring Pour.)



Alternatively, you can push the coasters together so that there is no space between them (elevated with bottle caps or small cups), and then pour using the larger cup, as if the four coasters made up a single canvas. (Continue below to the Final steps for Dirty Pour and Ring Pour.)



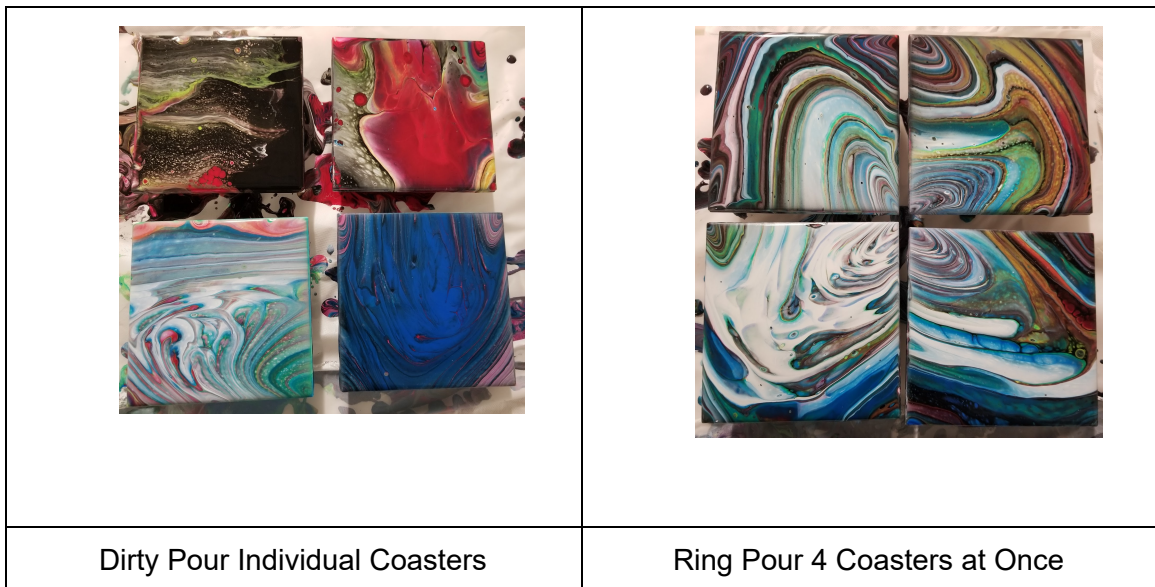
And these:



Final steps for Dirty Pour and Ring Pour

1. Regardless of which pour method you chose, once you pour the paint, let the paint rest for about 1-3 minutes (not longer). You'll see cells beginning to form. Once the paint appears to have leveled out a bit, it's time to start titling!
2. If you poured with the coasters pushed together, carefully slide the cups underneath to move them apart. Paint will drip off, this is to be expected.

Gently lift a coaster, holding underneath to avoid having your hands interfere with the flow of the paint, though sometimes it will happen anyway. That's ok, it's how this art works sometimes. Tilt the coaster so that the paint goes from the center towards one of the corners. It's ok if a little paint goes off the coaster during this phase. However, you don't want to lose all of your paint in the first corner you tilt towards, so go slowly and intentionally. Once the paint nears or goes over the corner edge, gently tilt the weight of the paint back towards the center. Repeat with each corner until your canvas is covered to your liking. Sometimes you may want to tilt a little more in one or two directions to completely cover the surface, or to get a composition you are happy with.



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