

Street Painting Workshop - Amazing Street Painting/Jennifer Chaparro

Where do I start?

1. Determine size

- Start small for your first time.
- Consider how long the event is, and how many people are on your team. 4' x 6' for one person at a two day event is usually a good estimate for a beginner.
- Also, remember that bad weather (heat, rain) can slow your progress.

2. Choose a piece of art

- Select the image you plan to re-create on the street surface. Traditional street painters sometimes select works from the old masters like Raphael or Michelangelo. However, you may want to re-create a modern piece or your own original artwork. Selecting a photograph is also popular.
- Pick something you like a lot, you will spend a lot of time with it.
- Consider enlarging part of a painting. Large is always more dramatic, and easier to complete.
- Consider doing your own art.
- Consider picking something bright, bold and colorful, with lots of contrast, enhancing a photo with color, or doing black and white. Soft, pastel pictures will look mushy.
- Stay away from cartoons with hard black lines. They are very difficult to execute cleanly.

3. Choosing transfer method - Template, Grid or Freehand.

• Template Method.

- Scan picture or find one on the internet
- Make a line drawing (either on your computer or with tissue paper and a light table) and add grid (1 inch = 1 foot) either by hand or on the computer.
- Enlarge with overhead projector or print out onto large paper (36" wide printer), the kind architecture & construction companies use.
- Punch holes with a skewer or tool. Holes must be large enough for chalk to go through.
- Sand the back lightly to remove hanging chads.

• Grid Method.

- Draw a grid over a photocopy using a ruler and thin marker. One inch squares are ideal (1 inch = 1 foot). (Ruler, pencil, eraser, marker, drawing board) Or do it on the computer and print off multiple copies. Write the name of the original artist on the copy.
- Make color photocopies of the selected image. Several copies will be needed, especially if more than one artist will be working on the piece. (Color copier, white paper)

- **Freehand.** Measure your area and mark edges with chalk or duct tape (if you are at a festival).

4. Preparing the surface

- Sweep area of debris.
- Measure with a measuring tape and chalk.
- Use masking tape or duct tape to the pavement along the chalk lines on the outside of the shape to help create sharp borders. (Masking tape, duct tape)
- Then go along each side and make a chalk mark at each foot. Use a carpenter's chalk line to mark straight lines on the pavement to create your grid. (tape measure, chalk, carpenter's chalk line)
- **Prepping the area with paint** - The main reason to do this is if the surface (asphalt) is very rough or slick. The tempera paint will help the chalk stick better, and make the colors more vibrant, so that you don't have to use so much chalk. Always check with the event beforehand to make sure they allow tempera paint.
 - Mix tempera paint with water (it needs to be about half and half). If it's too thick, it will take too much paint to cover. If it's too thin, it won't cover well enough.
 - Use paint roller to paint area with at least one coat.
 - Wait for it to completely dry.

- If you are using a template/pattern: Tape pattern down and use chalk or powdered chalk on the dotted lines, and push chalk through holes. Roll up pattern carefully, you may need it again. Connect the dotted lines, and darken them in.
- If you are using the grid method: use your copy with the grid, and sketch with chalk the outline of the image.

5. Painting or chalking your art

- Use your photocopy and grids to guide you as you chalk out a rough outline of the complete image you are painting. Then go in and darken up the major lines.
- Start from the middle or the top and work outward so you aren't sitting on the finished areas. Sitting on cardboard can help to keep it from getting smudged if you do have to sit on it.
- Don't rub or brush too hard, or you will push the chalk off the area. Push it into the pavement.
- Fill in the details of the image with Q-tips, fingers or small tools.
- Spray lightly with hairspray. Wait for it to dry before going back over it with more chalk.
- Remove the masking tape to reveal clean, crisp outlines.
- Sign your work. If you've reproduced an image originally created by another artist (living or deceased), give the artist credit. Have a friend take a photo of you near your painting.

Resources

- 3D software – BionWare online at www.bionware.com/3D.php.
- Soft pastels - Koss, Loew & Cornell, Reeve's, Dick Blick (student grade) buy at Michael's or any art store.
- Kid's sidewalk chalk – Crayola, Sargent – buy at Walmart or online.
- Eternity Arts – large, soft (order online at www.EternityArts.com).
- Street Stix – made by Jack Richeson, buy online at www.dickblick.com.
- Spray Chalk – Montana, Molotow (use with caution) – buy online.

Remember – YOU WILL GET DIRTY!

- Wear comfortable clothes that are washable! Darker chalk colors do not wash out of all fabrics.
- Dress for weather – lighter colors, lighter weight – is better on really hot days. The asphalt can add another 10 – 15 degrees in heat.

Be Prepared for Many Situations

- Weather – Heat & Rain
- Hunger – Pack some snacks. Bring a cooler with bottled water.
- Exhaustion – Take breaks. Art is hard work!
- Take lots of pictures during the process and at the end. It's all you will have at the end of the day to show for all your hard work!

Check List of Items to Bring for Street Painting

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Paper template | <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic cups (for painting) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laminated pictures | <input type="checkbox"/> Duct tape |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chalk | <input type="checkbox"/> Scissors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chalk line, tape measure | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen (30+) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tempera paint & jug of water | <input type="checkbox"/> Cooler with water/snacks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paint pan/roller/handle | <input type="checkbox"/> Headphones |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Knee pads/carpet/cardboard | <input type="checkbox"/> Camera/Phone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Latex gloves | <input type="checkbox"/> Hat & Sunglasses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hand wipes | <input type="checkbox"/> Rain jacket or poncho |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brushes/Sponges | <input type="checkbox"/> Portfolio/business cards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paper towels/towel | <input type="checkbox"/> Folding chairs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hairspray (cheap is good) | <input type="checkbox"/> Umbrella |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic tarps | <input type="checkbox"/> Ladder (for taking overhead pics) |