



FolkArt Pouring Medium Frequently Asked Questions

What is FolkArt Pouring Medium?

FolkArt Pouring Medium is a high quality, water-based, non-toxic, acrylic medium that has been formulated to mix well with most acrylic paints. Simply mix one part Pouring Medium with one part FolkArt Acrylic paint, stirring gently until completely incorporated. Once mixed, these mixtures are perfect to use as pourable paints for most fluid art techniques. When mixed with FolkArt Acrylic paints, FolkArt Pouring Medium will enable you to pour layers of colors to create a marbled effect without any paint colors overmixing, changing values or becoming muddy. And FolkArt Pouring Medium will dry to a satin finish. Craft enthusiasts, fluid artists, as well as DIYers are able to create easy-to-achieve marbled effects over a variety of surfaces using two or more mixed acrylic paint colors.

On what types of surfaces can I use FolkArt Pouring Medium?

Many surfaces can be decorated with FolkArt Pouring Medium, when premixed with FolkArt Acrylic paints, such as wood, papier mache, paper (for notecards), canvas, metal, and terra cotta. If attempting to marbleize a sealed surface such as glassware, glazed ceramics, or hard plastic, please note that the surface should be kept as a “decorative use only” surface as it will not be able to be washed. The same goes for marbleizing fabric surfaces such as a tote bag; FolkArt Pouring Medium is not washable on a fabric surface.

What makes FolkArt Pouring Medium different from other craft mediums?

FolkArt Pouring Medium is specifically formulated as a fluid paint medium designed to be used with fluid art techniques.

How should I prepare surfaces before painting with FolkArt Pouring Medium?

FolkArt Pouring Medium does not require a lot of surface prep. The main concern is to have the surface thoroughly cleaned well prior to painting. You may also find it easier to create a marbled effect over a surface that has been basecoated with FolkArt Acrylic Paint.

Wood – If desired, sand smooth any rough areas prior to painting.

Terra Cotta – Wipe to remove dust. If the terra cotta has been previously used, be sure to thoroughly clean in warm soapy water to remove all dirt deposits and allow to dry completely. If the terra cotta flower pot will be used with a live plant, seal interior prior to planting so water does not seep through possibly blistering exterior paint.

Metal and Tinware – Metal that has been enameled or sealed should be washed in warm soapy water, dried and then wiped with rubbing alcohol to remove remaining grease or soap residue.

Canvas – No prep required prior to painting on canvas.

Papier Mache – Wipe over surface with dry paper towel to remove dust.

Glass and Ceramics – Wash surface well in warm soapy water, rinse and allow to dry thoroughly. Wipe over surface with rubbing alcohol to remove remaining soap or grease residue.

Bisque or Unglazed Ceramics – Wipe to remove dust or loose dirt.

Do I need to mix or shake FolkArt Pouring Medium before using it?

No, shaking FolkArt Marbling Medium may only introduce air bubbles into the product. It is best not to shake before using.

How shall I mix FolkArt Pouring Medium with FolkArt Acrylics Paints? What is the best ratio of paint / medium?

Begin by pouring equal amounts of FolkArt Pouring Medium and a FolkArt Acrylic Paint color into a small cup or container. Mix by gently stirring using a plastic spoon or wood Popsicle stick until thoroughly mixed. Continue for each desired color.

What types of pouring techniques can be used with FolkArt Pouring Medium?

FolkArt Pouring Medium can be used to decorate surfaces using many different methods, two basic techniques are: Direct Pour Method or the Dirty Pour Method.

Direct Pour Method: Do NOT shake the Pouring Medium bottle which will introduce air bubbles. NOTE: it is best to work over a protected area or inside a cardboard box lid larger than the project surface. Using two or more colors, create fluid art paint mixtures by equally mixing FolkArt Pouring Medium with FolkArt Acrylic Paint colors. These mixed paints can be poured in puddles, swirled into designs or even striped in straight lines. Once the colors have been applied to the surface so that most of the top surface area is covered, lift the surface and tilt it slightly allowing the paints to flow or run into one another. Change the tilt pattern continually to allow paint to flow in all directions. NOTE: Additional swirling effects can also be added with light pressure while using a toothpick, wood skewer, or point of a stylus.

Dirty Pour Method: Do NOT shake the Pouring Medium bottle which will introduce air bubbles. NOTE: it is best to work over a protected area or inside a cardboard box lid larger than the project surface. Using two or more colors, create fluid art paint mixtures by equally mixing FolkArt Pouring Medium with FolkArt Acrylic Paint colors. Working one color at a time, pour several premixed colors into a plastic cup, layering one at a time. Paints can be added in any desired color order and amount. Once enough paint (to cover the project surface) has been added to the cup, insert a popsicle stick or wood skewer into the cup and give the paint one quick stir then simply pour the cupful of paint over the surface. Then lift the surface and tilt it slightly allowing the paints to flow or run over the

surface and mingle with one another. NOTE: Using this Dirty Pour Method, you can also complete a Flip Cup by placing the surface (such as a canvas) over the filled cup then flipping the cup and surface over. Once the cup has been lifted, the mixture of paints will flow over the surface.

Important: With all methods listed above, it is most helpful to keep the project surface raised above the work surface and allow excess paint to drip. One way is to raise the project surface keeping it elevated over a tin can. Another would be to place push pins into the surface back in all four corners which will keep it raised.

Does FolkArt Color Pouring Medium hold up well on outdoor surfaces?

No, FolkArt Pouring Medium should be used on indoor surfaces only, as it is not designed to be permanent outdoor without an outdoor sealer or varnish applied. When decorating an outdoor surface with FolkArt Pouring Medium mixed with FolkArt acrylic paints, the completed project should be varnished with an outdoor varnish such as FolkArt Outdoor Sealers available in Matte, Satin or Gloss finishes.

Can I use water to thin FolkArt Pouring Medium?

Thinning FolkArt Pouring Medium is not necessary, as it is manufactured to the perfect consistency to create a variety of marbled effects using either the Direct Pour Method, the Dirty Pour Method, or the Flip Cup Method.

Can FolkArt Pouring Medium be used with FolkArt Marbling Paints or FolkArt Pre-mixed Pouring Paint?

No, direct mixing of FolkArt Pouring Medium with FolkArt Marbling Paint or FolkArt Pre-mixed Pouring Paint is not necessary as FolkArt Marbling Paints are already premixed with the necessary amount of Pouring Medium and no mixing is required. NOTE: FolkArt Marbling Paint or Pre-mixed Pouring Paint (paint that does not need to be mixed with Pouring Medium) can, however, be used as one of the desired colors when creating a fluid art project along with FolkArt Acrylic Paints (that do need to be mixed with Pouring Medium.)

What are the best tools to use when working with FolkArt Pouring Medium?

A variety of miscellaneous tools can be used to create marbled effects using FolkArt Pouring Medium and FolkArt Acrylic Paints. Tools to swirl paints such as: Popsicle sticks, wood skewers, an artist stylus, etc. are all helpful. Push pins, raised platforms, or tin cans or bottles can all be used as risers to keep the project surface off of the work table and allow excess paint to drip freely. And lastly, tools to use on the work surface such as cardboard box lids, or aluminum pans can be used on the work surface to catch excess paint drips.

How should I clean my tools after using FolkArt Pouring Medium?

Because FolkArt Pouring Medium and FolkArt Acrylic Paints are water-based products rather than solvent-based products, cleanup is easy using soap and water.

How long does it take FolkArt Pouring Medium to dry?

Although the mixture of FolkArt Pouring Medium and FolkArt Acrylic Paints begins to set up soon after marbling and may be dry to the touch within approximately 1 hour, the project

surface may not be completely dried until 24 hours after the pour. Variables such as the type of surface being marbled, the thickness of paint application and the humidity of the work area will all affect the individual drying time of each marbled project.

How long does it take FolkArt Pouring Medium to cure?

FolkArt Pouring Medium when mixed with FolkArt Acrylic Paints will dry to the touch within 24 hours, however, it will take approximately 48 hours before it is cured to the surface.

Is a project created using FolkArt Pouring Medium dishwasher safe?

No, unfortunately, all projects created with FolkArt Pouring Medium are not dishwasher safe, nor should they be immersed in water. These marbled surfaces should be used for decorative purposes only.

Is it necessary to seal or varnish a project created using FolkArt Pouring Medium?

Projects created using FolkArt Pouring Medium mixed with FolkArt Acrylic Paints MUST be sealed. Project surfaces can be spray sealed using FolkArt Acrylic Lacquers (Matte, Satin, or Gloss Finishes) or brushed with FolkArt Artists' Varnish (Satin or Gloss). NOTE: Before storing finished marbled projects, surfaces should be sealed to keep projects from sticking to one another.