



# Frequently Asked Questions

## How are FolkArt Enamel used?

Clean surface of glass or glazed ceramics using soap and water. Then, clean area to be painted with alcohol. Gently shake paint before applying. Paint design using a lot of paint on your brush. For best results use Clear Medium over your design after it has dried for 24 hours. This will act as a sealer and help ensure the design properly adheres to your surface. FolkArt Enamel Paints are bakeable on glass and ceramics for even more than their normal durability.

After curing, projects can be hand washed or clean in the top rack of your dishwasher

### **Cautions:**

Do not use in direct contact with food.

Do not paint within ¾" of top rim of glasses or mugs.

Reverse painting on the back of glass plates is recommended if plate is to be used with food.

Do not apply Clear Medium to the entire surface as streaks may appear. Only apply Clear Medium over your design.

Painted items are not microwaveable.

If hand washing, do not soak items.

## Can FolkArt Enamel be thinned with water?

**NO.** Thinning FolkArt Enamel with water ruins the integrity of the paint and prevents proper adhesion to the surface.

## While painting with FolkArt Enamel, how do I clean my brush between colors?

**DO NOT USE WATER.** Use a paper towel to pull out as much color as you can. If you would like to remove additional color, you may use the FolkArt Enamel Clear Medium instead of water and then use the paper towel to pull out excess color. Now you are ready to load the new color.

## How can I create a transparent look with FolkArt Enamel?

FolkArt Enamel dry to an opaque finish. However, if you'd like to create a more transparent look, combine one part FolkArt Enamel with one part FolkArt Enamel Clear Medium. Paint as normal. The FolkArt Enamel Clear Medium is used to create a transparent look without compromising the paint's adhesion. It can also be used with the double-load technique to achieve just the right paint consistency for effects such as shadows and shading.

## Does FolkArt Enamel work on plastic?

No, FolkArt Enamel do not work on plastic.

## What is the advantage of using FolkArt Enamel over Apple Barrel® Gloss™ on glass and ceramics?

FolkArt Enamel is a unique polymer blend that is specially formulated using a Plaid® patented resin system for use on glass and ceramics. They are highly pigmented for excellent opaque coverage. You can achieve a durable, opaque, glossy sheen in one step – there is no primer or finish needed. The paints can be mixed and blended, making them perfect for the One Stroke method. When dried and cured, projects painted with FolkArt Enamel are top-shelf dishwasher safe! When washed correctly, they will not chip, crack, or fade.

Apple Barrel Gloss is a standard pure acrylic system which is not designed for painting on glass and ceramics. It is a highly pigmented paint, but does not have the adhesion to glass that the FolkArt Enamel contain.

## Are FolkArt Enamel available in the One Stroke colors?

Yes, FolkArt Enamel are available in One Stroke colors. You will find them with the same names as regular FolkArt.

## How do I prepare my project for painting with FolkArt Enamel?

Wash with soap and water. Clean area to be painted with rubbing alcohol. Let surface completely dry for about 30 minutes before painting.

**Are items painted with Folk Art Enamel microwaveable?**

No.

**How do I cure projects painted with FolkArt Enamel?**

There are two types of curing methods that can be used with FolkArt Enamel, baking and air drying.

**Bake Method (recommended):**

Let your piece dry for 1 hour to be sure all layers of paint have dried. Place piece in a cool oven. Set oven temperature to 350 degrees F and bake project for 30 minutes. Glass must heat gradually with the oven to avoid breakage. Do not place glass in a hot oven. After 30 minutes, turn the oven off. Let glass cool completely in oven. Do not use for 72 hours.

**Air Dry Method:**

Air dry the project for 21 days before use.

**Are FolkArt Enamel really dishwasher safe?**

Yes, you can wash your pieces painted with FolkArt Enamel in the dishwasher without chipping, cracking, or fading. However, you must remember to place them on the top rack of your dishwasher. In addition, using the Clear Medium over your design will help ensure the longevity of your painting.

**How can I paint a glass plate so that I can eat on it?**

Even though FolkArt and FolkArt Enamel are non-toxic, the paint must never come into contact with food. When painting a plate for actual use, you must paint on the back using a method called reverse painting. You can also paint around the rim of a plate, but the painted area must be more than  $\frac{3}{4}$ " from any food. You can also use the painted plate as a charger.

**What is reverse painting?**

Reverse painting refers to the technique where painting is done on the back of clear glass (such as a plate), but is seen through the glass from the front. Therefore, the design is painted in reverse, with details applied first, and the basecoat last. When you paint a clear glass plate using this technique, food can be placed on the front of plate.

**How can I paint a glass so that I can drink from it?**

You can paint a glass and have it usable, but you need to keep the painted design more than  $\frac{3}{4}$ " (or 2 cm) from the lip of the glass.

**For more information: 800-842-4197**

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