

Pens & Paints

How To Make Painting Detail Easier Than Ever Using Paint Pens

LIZ HAAS, RAYZIST PHOTOMASK



FIGURE 1

Add a little color to your sandcarved items quickly and easily with paint pens! I am a fan of adding color to etched areas; although I typically achieve this by spray- or hand-painting the area, using a paint pen enables you to add a spot of color to enhance or bring contrast to a certain area without having to do the whole the process of spray painting.

There are many different types of paint options available, but for this tutorial I'm using Belton Molotov paint pens, which come in several different colors and tip sizes. Paint pens are no substitute for spray- or hand-painting when you're working with large areas, but they are ideal for adding a hint of color to small details, such as small fonts or delicate lines, in your sandcarved product.

For this project I have painted a "happy birthday" image on a wine bottle. Although it is a simple one-color image, when I add multiple colors, it changes the look of the design entirely.



FIGURE 2



FIGURE 3



This design first was sandcarved on the wine bottle using SR3000™ Self-Stick film 5Mil. I then used Belton Molotow spray paint for the main image area. Once the spray paint was dry, I removed the photomask and cleaned the bottle.

Step One

Using the paint pen is simple. First, shake the paint pen; it is similar to a rattle can. Then, press tip of paint pen down on a paper towel several times until you see paint (FIGURE 1). The paint on the tip is all you need. A 2 mm tip was used on this project. I personally do not like using anything larger than a 2 mm tip because the paint pens are only recommended for small areas.

Step Two

Next, carefully add color to the desired portions of the etched area with paint pen (FIGURE 2). Note: Do not press down on paint pen to activate more flow on the project. Activate the paint flow on the paper towel only to avoid a messy situation and eventual clean up.

Step Three

Once you have painted all of the desired areas, examine the paint coverage. Confirm you have paint on the sides of the etched area, as well.

Step Four

Allow paint to dry; using a hair dryer will help speed up drying time.

Step Five

Once fully dry, use a clean razor to scrap off excess paint (FIGURE 3). The razor should be held at an angle to ensure no paint is scratched. A plastic razor can also be used

Step Six

Clean surface with a slightly damp cloth.

This type of paint is not recommended for barware or drinking tumblers, but it is perfect for use on glass and crystal awards or wine or spirit bottles, and it is quicker to use than setting up and covering your project for spray-painting for adding color to a small area.



Liz Haas is a sales representative at Rayzist Photomask, Inc., a leading manufacturer of photoresist films and sandcarving equipment. Visit www.rayzist.com for more information on Rayzist and sandcarving or to shop in Rayzist's online store.