

Paintertainment

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Don't be SCARED To ALTER Your Tools!

We've all been through the frustration of working with tools that just don't quite meet our expectations. Sure, there are pluses and minuses to most tools we work with, but a lot of those things we can change ourselves!

It may be my background in product design, but I am constantly altering the tools I use to fit my own style of working. Whether it's as big as building a whole kit from scratch or as small as re-potting paints into more efficient containers, I would like to encourage you to make your kit work for YOU!

Time and time again I have seen posts on Facebook from artists who have purchased jewelry trays and are terrified to start re-potting paints.



Don't be! Really, it's just paint! And if you find trays aren't for you, you can always scoop it out and put it back!

I keep my stencils in small photo books that I found at Goodwill. They fit my BAM stencils perfectly! However,



the sleeves were a little deep for my smaller TAP stencils. So, I altered my book to work for me by cutting a few of the pages in half, and taping the bottom edge of the top half closed. The result: two shallower pockets for easy access to smaller stencils!

Building a mini travel kit but your brushes are just a tad too long? Cut the handles! Wood handles are easiest to cut with a saw, and can be sanded smooth. I turned a set of brushes into super mini brushes doing this.

Got a nice brush wallet online but it won't fit your brushes with wider handles? No problem!! Just get out a seam ripper and widen a few pockets to fit your brushes!

I have these new collapsible brush wells available now in the shop (see page 2). I love them because I can fold them flat to stick into my small travel kit. However, I do not like the white nylon handles...they just get in the way and we all know they won't stay white. So, the first thing I did was cut them

off, trimming off the top edge with some fun duct tape! I also lay a perler bead tray in the bottom so I still get the cleaning ridges that I love from my bulkier Lowe-Cornell brush tub. The result...just what I need!

Don't like how ugly your used sponges look? Many artists dye their sponges black! Not happy with a color in one of your split cakes? Cut it out and replace it with one you like better!

I also like to use some fun duct tape to give all of my tools the look of a cohesive kit. There are so many fun patterns out there, and we even sell some in our shop. Pick a pattern that speaks to your own brand, and use it to tie the whole kit together! I have paint splatter duct tape wrapped around my spray bottles, the edges of my mirror, the covers of my stencil books, etc. A little duct tape trim is a great way to turn a hodge podge of tools into a cohesive, customized, and professional looking kit!

Check out my YouTube channel for in depth videos of my various kits for ideas to make your own. The important thing is to pay attention to how YOU work, take note of any frustrations you may have with your tools, and then do what you can to make your tools work better for you. So good luck, have fun, and don't be afraid to go all Dr. Frankenstein on your kit! Who knows, you may just stumble upon the next great idea! 🌟

What's News?



VAMPIRE BAT



Last Day to Shop for Halloween!
I'm flying to Belgium to teach at Jamvention!
So, the shop is CLOSED Oct 19-29...get in
your Halloween product orders TODAY!



NEW Products:

• Our awesome new 2" wide brush is taking split cakes by storm! Finally a brush big enough to load a large split cake. Find it in the brushes section!



Check out our new products, including this cool collapsible brush tub!



Contest Fun!

I was so honored to place 3rd in Illusion's Mask competition last month! Check out this month's theme and enter: SCARY Halloween!!

October Coupon Code!

10%
off

Enter code **SCARED** at checkout. Shopping cart must total \$25 or more before shipping and taxes. One coupon code redemption per customer. Offer expires 11/20/16.

