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### Painting Tips (Aug. 06) *Courtesy of [i-craft.com](#)*

- Spread just a hint of color by dry brushing with an old paintbrush.
- When using metallic paint, brush one coat in one direction to cover. (The particles all lay in one direction.)
- For patio projects such as painting on concrete, use old brushes, then throw them away.
- Apply the lightest color first when stenciling and blend to create multiple color tones.
- Use as little paint as possible when stenciling. Less is more.
- Cover or rearrange sections of a stencil pattern with masking tape to create different patterns from one stencil.
- Use pre-moistened baby towelettes to clean acrylic paint off most surfaces before the paint dries.
- Make a paint wash by using two parts paint and eight parts water.
- Remove little "fuzzies" and bumps after your basecoat has dried by "sanding" your surface with a brown paper bag.
- Rub a fabric softener sheet all over your hands before using paint or glue to make cleanup easier. These sheets are also handy for cleaning glue guns after use.
- Think of household items to use when faux finishing...a feather duster makes a beautiful pattern, and crumpled up cellophane can create a marble effect.
- Use a turkey baster to move paint from a large container to a small container.
- Place your paint pallet on a damp washrag to slow the drying process.
- Use the laser side of junk mail CD's as a paint pallet. It has a finger hole to hold it and colors mix well, and wipe or rinse off easily.

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