

Butterfly Tray

Pat Otto



Colors I used*:

DecoArt Patio paint: Antique Mum,
Pine Cone Brown, Cloud White
DecoArt Gloss Enamel : Primary Yellow,
True Red
Ceramcoat: Pumpkin
DecoArt Americana: Lamp Black
Liquitex: Colored Gesso (Gray)

*NOTE; The colors I used are colors that happened to be out on my table as I was painting other things. You do not have to use Patio Paint or Gloss enamels - regular acrylic paint then a couple coats of varnish will work very well.

Other Supplies: Small sea sponge, blue tape, scotch tape, #8 flat brush, #1 liner, #1 striper liner, transfer paper, varnish of choice.

I based the tray in Gray Gesso. Let dry and sand. Repeat if necessary.
These instructions are for the inside base of the tray only.

I taped the outside edge with blue tape. I used 3/4 inch wide. I taped off the tiles with 1/2 inch tape. You can vary the size of the tiles and the amount of squares depending on your surface. I ran my fingernail over the edges of the tape to seal the tape from leakage.

I wet my sponge in clean water and squeezed it out. I sponged the area where I would apply the paint to lightly dampen. I then sponged Antique Mum over the whole area being careful to leave areas where the background showed through and areas where it was more opaque. I rinsed my sponge, squeezed it out and repeated with Cloud white. Using the striper liner filled with thinned Pinecone brown I rolled the brush between my fingers to simulate lines in marble. I went right across the tape in mostly diagonal lines creating thin-thick line. I smudges a few areas with my finger. I removed the tape.

I side-loaded Pinecone Brown on my #8 flat brush an went around each tile, keeping the paint on the tile, darker at the edge and lighter to the inside. When that was dry, I side-loaded black and went around the outside of the tile to simulate shadow on the grout.

When that was dry, I transferred the butterfly pattern on. I base-coated the butterfly wings with white, making sure there was good coverage over the seams between the tiles. I painted the colored sections of the butterfly (individually) primary yellow toward the outer edge of the wing and true red toward the body. I floated pumpkin orange where the two colors met. I color-book painted in the black area. I damped the area around the butterfly slightly to allow my to place the shadow on subtly. With my brush side-loaded in black I placed the shadow around the butterfly wings.