

“Birthday Bear Ornament”

List of supplies

flat porcelain bisque ornaments (available at the Artist's Club)

- gesso
- sandpaper & tack cloth
- Saral white transfer paper & stylus
- makeup sponge (optional - to paint edges of ornament)
- Delta Exterior/Interior Varnish - Satin

Brushes

#10 flat

#5 bristle brush

#2 flat

#5 round

worn out #2 round for stippling detail (optional)

1/4" angular shader

1/4" Royal Soft Grip Natural hair fitch deerfoot series (SG393)

#2 Silver Cole Dry Blending brush

3/0 spotter

10/0 script liner

Liquitex Medium Viscosity Artist's Colors

Bright Aqua Green (BG-4-1-4)

Burnt Siena (BR-6-2-3)

Burnt Umber (BR-7-6-9)

Dioxazine Purple (VI-5-1-9)

Naphthol Crimson (RE-6-2-7)

Phthalo Blue (BL-5-1-5)

Raw Siena (BR-1-2-5)

Soft White (Beige) (WH-8-2-2)

Titanium White (WH-5-1-1)

Decoart Americana

French Grey Blue (BL-5-7-4)

Folk Art

Red Violet (RV-5-2-7)

Jo Sonja

Carbon Black (BK-5-1-9)

Rich Gold (TCS # not assigned)

Prepare the ornament for painting

- sand lightly - remove dust with a tack cloth
- seal with 1 coat of acrylic gesso - let cure for 24 hours - then lightly sand again & remove dust with tack cloth

Base coat the ornament

- the front and back of the ornament is based with a mix of: **red violet + white** - use 2 coats for even coverage
- when dry - stipple with **soft white** using the bristle brush - use a light touch & stipple evenly over the surface - you can stipple more over the center of the ornament to make lighter (I did this on the front of the ornament only)
- when dry - use a #2 flat shader to add checks around the outside border - the checks are painted with a mix of **dioxazine purple + french grey blue + soft white (1:1:T)** - the checks are the width of the brush - I painted them freehand
- once the checks are dry - the edges were painted with 3 coats of **rich gold** - I used a makeup sponge, apply the paint to the flat surface of the sponge - blot off any excess, and lightly wipe onto the edge of the ornament - try not to press the sponge against the ornament or too much paint will go onto the front and back. If you prefer - you can use a small brush to apply the gold paint to the edges.
- let the ornament dry completely before transferring the design - let cure for 24 hours if possible
- use white Saral transfer paper to transfer the bear to the ornament - see photo for placement - the space below the bear is left to add a name/date to personalize the ornament. You do not need to transfer face details yet.

Paint the bear

- before painting the bear - I mixed my fur colors (ratios are approx. 1:1 - you want to have a light/med/dark of the colors you use!)

fur base : **raw siena + soft white**
fur shade: **base color + burnt siena**
fur highlight: **base + soft white**

- use the **fur base color** & the 1/4" Royal SG393 to stipple the bear's head and arms
- when dry use the 1/4" angular shader and the **fur shade color** to float shading around the outside of arms & head - around muzzle, bottom & inside the ears & under the bow.
- when dry - you can transfer the face details before painting - or paint free hand.

Use the 3/0 spotter & **carbon black** for eyes & nose - use the script liner & thinned **burnt umber** for the mouth lines.

- use the 1/4" Royal SG393 & the **highlight fur color** - lightly pounce over the head & arms - go over the shaded areas, but do not fully cover - do not worry about going over eyes & nose, they will be touched up later. - let dry - then use **soft white** with the same brush to add lighter areas to the tops of the ears, head & arms.
- when dry - I used a worn out #2 round brush & the **fur shading color** to stipple over the darker areas of shading - around the muzzle, bottoms & insides of ears, on arms under the dress sleeves, crease of arm, bottom of face & around the eyes.
- when dry - touch up eyes, nose & mouth lines - add white highlights to eyes & nose with the 3/0 spotter & **white**.

Paint the dress

- the dress is based with a mix of **bright aqua green + white + phthalo blue (1:1:T)** and the #5 round brush. You may need 2 coats to cover.
- shading is the **dress base mix + french grey blue** - use the 1/4" angular shader to float around the outsides of sleeves, add some fabric creases to sleeves & bottom of dress - darker shading is added with thinned **french grey blue** - under the collar, under the arms & present & insides of sleeves - you can use a mop brush to soften edges - if too dark, go back over with some of the thinned **dress base mix**.
- the bow is shaded with the same colors as the dress - use the **shade mix** to shade around the bow to add dimension - then **french grey blue** on the bottom of the bow. Add details with the liner & **french grey blue**.
- highlights on the dress & bow were done with a mix of **dress base mix + soft white (1:1)** - use the dry #2 Silver Cole Dry Blender - lightly dab into the paint, rub most of it off onto a paper towel - then apply to the dress on the sleeves & top of the bow (see photo for placement). Highlights can be strengthened with the same brush & **soft white** if needed.
- the collar is based with **white** & #5 round brush - 2 coats. Add white bands to dress sleeves & dots around collar with the liner brush. Mix a **light grey shade (white + touch of black)** to float shading on collar under face.

Paint the present

- base with a mix of **white + naphthol crimson (T)** & #5 round brush - use 2 coats to cover. The shading was done with the **ornament background base color**.
- the ribbon and bow are a darker mix of **white + naphthol crimson(drop)** - shading is the **ribbon base color + black (T)** - highlights on bow are done with the

present base mix. Add brighter highlights to the ribbon with **white**.

Finishing

- if needed - add more highlights to the bear fur with **soft white** & 1/4" SG393 - apply sparingly, if the bear looks too white - go over with a little of the **fur base color**.
- the lettering was done with **white** & 3/0 spotter - I freehanded the lettering - transfer from pattern if you need to. Add a name/date under the bear with **white** to personalize.
- let dry & cure 24 hours - then apply 2 coats of your favorite varnish - I used Delta's Satin Exterior/Interior Varnish.

Enjoy! I hope you enjoy painting this design - I have included a boy line drawing you can try - some color ideas for a boy's ornament are on the color sheet. You can change the look of the design by altering the color palette - use pastel colors for a baby gift - or use the birthday child's favorite colors for the dress & background! Experiment & have fun!

I would love to see what you do with this design - if you post pictures online - let me know! You can e-mail me at: info@robynwarne.com

A note on mixing color

I like mixing my own colors - I find it easier to add a little of "this or that" when painting. I have included a copy of the sheet I used to save my color swatches on. You can use this as a guide for mixing or choosing alternate bottled color.

