

“Mr. & Mrs. H. Dumpty”

List of supplies

- 2 - unfinished wood eggs
- 2 - unfinished wood egg cups
- gesso
- JW etc. Right Step Sealer
- sandpaper & tack cloth
- low tack tape (I used stencil tape)
- pencil & eraser
- small round, flat & liner brushes of your choice (choose size that best fits area)
- brush for stippling on egg cup (I used an old bristle brush)
- 1/4" angular shader
- JW etc. Right Step Satin Varnish

Liquitex Medium Viscosity Artist's Colors

Baltic Blue (TCS: BG-2-4-9)
Cadmium Yellow Medium Hue (TCS: YE-5-1-7)
Chromium Oxide Green (TCS: GR-8-6-6)
Naphthol Crimson (TCS: RE-6-2-7)

Raw Umber (TCS: BR-8-6-8)

Red Oxide (TCS: RE-4-6-5)
Swedish Blue (TCS: BG-1-3-8)
Titanium White (TCS: WH-5-1-1)

Decoart Americana

Neutral Grey
Slate Grey

Jo Sonja

Carbon Black

Prepare the wood for painting

- sand all wood lightly - remove dust with a tack cloth
- the **egg cups** are sealed with 2 coats of acrylic gesso, when dry lightly sand again & remove dust with tack cloth
- the **eggs** are sealed with Right Step Wood Sealer mixed with the blue base color

mix.

I used 2 coats for full coverage.

Mixing instructions

I have given the TCS codes for the Liquitex paints as they are not widely used. Feel free to substitute another brand and/or color. The ratio's given for the paint mixes are approximate - I mix by eye - and after adding "a bit of this n' that" to get the color I want - I sometimes forget exactly how much of certain color I used.

For this design there are 3 main color mixes:

- **The blue base coat for the eggs** (a blue-green like turquoise)
Titanium white + swedish blue + baltic blue (approx. 2:1:T)
- **The white base coat for the eggs** (a tinted eggshell white)
Titanium white + chromium oxide green (T)
- **The red accent color for the eggs** (a dull red-orange)
Napthol crimson + neutral grey + cadmium yellow med. + white (2:1:T:T)

Paint the eggs

I drew the design directly on the eggs with pencil - you can use the pattern as a guide and do the same - try it! The shapes are simple & it's a lot easier than trying to transfer onto a round surface with tracing & transfer paper!

The egg heads are based with a mix of titanium white + chromium green oxide (T). I used a small flat brush to apply approx. 3 coats to get even coverage over the blue base. For the details I used a small round brush except where noted.

Mr. H. Dumpty is painted as follows:

- **collar, sleeves, hands & belt** are painted with titanium white
- **tie** is base coated with the red mix - when dry add titanium white spots
- **shoes** are based with black, then the soles are added with a mix of slate grey + white
- **eyes** - first paint a circle of raw umber for the iris, when dry - add a smaller circle of raw umber + white inside the first one. When dry add a small black circle for the pupil - when that dries - add a small white highlight dot. Let dry.
- **face details** - use a liner brush to add the facial features with thinned carbon black
when the lines dry - thin some of the red mix and add blush to the cheeks, and lightly add color to the lips.
- **shading** - Use the angular shader & thinned Liquid Shadow to float shading below the collar & arms, around the outer edge of the shoes. Also shade under the knot of the tie & along the right side.

Mrs. H. Dumpty is painted as follows:

- **collar, buttons, hands & belt** are painted titanium white
- **purse** is based titanium white - then detail is added with the red mix. I used a small liner brush to add "weaving" to the bag. When dry - shade lightly with slate grey.
- **eyes** - first paint a circle of raw umber for the iris, when dry - add a smaller circle of raw umber + white inside the first one. When dry add a small black circle for the pupil - when that dries - add a small white highlight dot. Let dry.
- **face details** - use a liner brush to add the facial features with thinned carbon black
when the lines dry - thin some of the red mix and add blush to the cheeks, and lightly add color to the lips. I used some of the blue egg base color to add eyeshadow!
- **shading** - Use the angular shader & thinned Liquid Shadow to float shading below the collar & arms, around the outer edge of the shoes. Add some shading around the purse - underneath & on the right. Shade around the right side of the buttons.

Painting the egg cups: (do not let the length of the following instructions discourage you! The egg cups are painted entirely with stippling - and take longer to explain than to do!)

- **base for outside of cup** - was stippled with the bristle brush & a mix of neutral grey + titanium white (approx. 2:1). When dry - stipple again lightly with the eggshell base mix.
(When stippling use a light "pouncing" motion - you do not want a solid coat of color)
- **bricks** -
- before you paint the bricks - cut 4 strips of stencil tape (or other low tack tape) you will use this to mask out the horizontal grout lines. You need one wide piece to mask the top of the wall (a little larger than 1/4" wide). And you need 3 thin pieces for the grout between the 4 layers of brick. Apply the tape completely around the egg cup.
- When you have finished taping - stipple onto the open areas with the bristle brush & red oxide. Use a small amount of paint - pounce first onto scrap paper or paper towel - you want an even not solid coat of color. Letting some of the base color show will add to the illusion of brick.. When this dries - stipple lightly & randomly with the eggshell base mix to add a little contrast.
- before removing the tape - add the vertical brick lines with either a liner or small round brush. Use a brush mix of neutral grey + white. Start with the top row -

go around the entire cup painting the vertical lines to make each brick.. When doing the rows underneath - stagger your lines so that the end of each brick is in the middle of the brick above. (Refer to photo - this is easier to do than to explain!). Let dry then remove tape.

- **egg cup base (grass area)** - holding the cup upside down - stipple the entire base with thinned raw umber & the bristle brush. When dry - stipple again with chromium oxide green (do not completely cover the brown). While this is still wet - add a little white & stipple this into the wet green paint. The result is a kind of mottled green/brown.
- With a liner brush - add some blades of grass where base meets the wall.
- **inside the cups** - are painted a solid titanium white.

Finishing the eggs and egg cups

When the eggs are completely dry - finish with 2-3 coats of Right Step Satin Varnish. You can use a wipe on varnish if you prefer. I placed the eggs on unfinished wood napkin rings I had laying around to dry. Since it was not a tight fit - the eggs did not adhere to the napkin rings while drying with the Right Step. When they were completely dry I added a light coat of clear shoe polish - this has held up well to handling & dropping! The egg cups were also given 2-3 coats of Right Step Satin Varnish - (I did not add shoe polish to the egg cups).

I hope you have fun painting your eggs! These were the first I did - I'd love to hear any comments or suggestions you may have! You can e-mail me at: info@robynwarne.com



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