

VITREA 160 MOST ASKED QUESTIONS

1) Can you paint on china, metal, stainless steel, enamel, tin, and aluminum?

Vitreia 160 may be painted on ANY item that may be baked in an oven at 325° Fahrenheit for 40-45 minutes. It was developed to give the appearance of colored glass on any piece of glass or crystal. But it will also perform beautifully on metal, stainless steel (utensils), china, enamel, tin, aluminum etc.

Polymer clays – may be painted and baked according to required temperatures of 265-275° Fahrenheit. This makes the paint very permanent for decorative purposes – but not necessarily for dishwasher and solvent cleaners.

2) Can you bake more than once?

Yes, you may bake a piece as many as 3-4 times. The paint colors may begin to shift if a piece is baked more than that. It is convenient to paint a piece multiple times if a background color is being applied and then a design is being painted over it, or if a very detailed and layer project is being created. As well, it makes it easier for beginners.

3) How do you get rid of brushstrokes?

The Vitrea 160 paint was developed to give the appearance of true colored glass (on transparent surfaces); therefore the paint tends NOT to hold the brush strokes. To minimize the brush strokes even more, a natural hair brush is best (particularly a squirrel brush). Apply a fairly generous amount of paint to the brush in application. Also add a bit of Vitrea 160 Gloss Medium to the paint (approximately 1 part medium to 2 parts paint). Vitrea 160 Thinner (diluant) will assist in lessening the brush strokes. Water may be used to thin the paint up to 10 % (see Question #6).

To get rid of brush strokes completely use the Coulee Method. This is a squirt method using the Applicator bottles. First dilute the paint with 1/3-1/2 thinner (diluant) into an Applicator bottle and apply the paint by “squirting it” onto the surface of the glass. This allows the paint to “run” down the side of the glass item (wipe the excess off once paint drips to the bottom).

4) How do you prevent bubbling?

During painting:

Bubbling during painting normally occurs as a result of the paint bottles being shaken. It is best to mix the paint, or allow the paint to settle once it has been shaken. If bubble occur on the piece – they will not disappear in the baking process. Remove the bubbles immediately (while wet). Use a fine brush tip or a straight pin to pull them out and “off” of the piece.

During baking:

Bubbling only occurs when the paint has not dried completely. Typically, 24 hours is plenty of time for the paint to dry completely except under very humid climate or humid atmosphere in the room. Although, if paint has been applied thickly, it may take longer - allow 48 hour to be sure.

The Outliner Tubes may take longer to dry if applied thickly (up to a week if paint is very thick). Do not apply outliner very thickly as the outside “skin” will dry leaving the underneath paint to remain moist – it may never dry completely, and in this case it will produce bubbles at the baking no matter the drying time aloud.

5) Can you air brush with the paint?

Yes, Vitrea 160 airbrushes beautifully. Paint may need thinning with Vitrea 160 Thinner (diluant) to obtain

proper viscosity. Water may be used up to 20% (see Question # 6) for air brushing only. It is best to thin the paint to the consistency of milk for best results painting with an airbrush.

Layering may be used successfully to mix and blend colors.

6) How do you thin the paint?

The paint is fairly thick and tends to tack up rather quickly once placed on a palette, therefore, place only the paints to be used immediately on the palette.

Vitre 160 Thinner (diluant) allows for thinning the viscosity of the paint without lessening the durability of the paint, once baked.

The paint may be thinned with up to 10% water without affecting the unique qualities of Vitrea 160. If you use more than 10% water, the adherence and durability of the paint may be lessened.

7) How do you make the colors frost?

You may use the Frost Medium directly on the surface of the glass to get the appearance of frosted or etched glass. It may be painted with a brush or applied with an applicator sponge. There are also 10 frost colors available. To make a gloss color appear frost, simply mix it with 1/3 –1/2 Frost Medium, then apply with brush or sponge.

8) Do you have to bake it?

Yes, the unique qualities of Vitrea 160 can only be obtained with proper baking. The greatest brilliance and strongest durability are obtained when baking occurs at 325o F for 40 -45 minutes. No other heating process, such as a heat gun will give the same results. For the paints to resist dishwasher the above requirements must be met.

DO NOT BAKE AT TOO HIGH A TEMPERATURE - colors will burn and darken! If temperature gets very high, paint will eventually burn off.

If the piece is not baked, it will “harden” over time – but never to the degree required to make it resistant to dishwashing, dishwasher and solvents. If you are painting a decorative piece or an item that will not need be washed, you may be satisfied with the air-dry results. But, we ALWAYS recommend doing a test first!

9) Is it safe to bake glass?

Painting on glass with Vitrea 160 results in beautiful transparency. The trick to baking the glass is; to place your painted glass item in a cool oven, turn the oven to 325o F and set the timer to 40-45 minutes. When the time is up, turn the oven off, open the door and let the piece cool down with the oven. This process will prevent the possibility of the glass breaking due to extreme temperature changes.

10) Can you put food on the plate or drink from a painted rim of a glass?

It is recommended that you paint on the reverse side of a glass dinner plate. If you paint the center of the top of a the plate, a steak knife (or other utensil) could damage your design. If a painted design becomes damaged by a sharp object, rough edges may be left on the surface. If the plate is not cleaned properly food bacteria could adhere to these rough edges.

Simply paint on the reverse side of the plate.

Inadvertent contact with food or drink is not a health hazard.

PAINT CONTAINS NO LEAD OR CADMIUM, ONLY NON-TOXIC MATERIALS!