Wings

by Jean Bernard

Learn to create these leathery looking wings for all your creatures using my simple techniques. Add some fibers, change the colors, one never knows what fantasy creature will emerge.

Please read the entire lesson before you begin this project. You may be inspired to add your own colors or techniques you have acquired along the way.

Have fun!

Jean

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Supply List:

* Paper Umbrella (I found 2 sizes: 6” and 4” at a local party store)
* Acrylic Paints: Metallic Light Gold, Metallic Dark Gold, Metallic Copper, Dark Brown, Black, Interference Blue and White Gesso (optional)
  * Gloss Varnish (Sealer)
  * Paint Brushes
  * Aluminum foil
* Needle nose pliers (optional)
  * Scissors
HELPFUL HINT: Gesso the umbrellas inside and top to create a base coat if you choose to use lighter shades of paint. For example: white, ivory, tan, cream colors, etc. Let dry.

* Inside

* Top

We are ready to paint 😊

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Place the acrylic paints onto a sheet of aluminum foil. You may use a straight edge or angle brush for the next step. Dip one edge of the paintbrush into the light gold then dip the other edge into the dark gold paint. I love the natural colors you can achieve using this method. I do not wash my paintbrush for this project.

Open the umbrella. Lay it down on a piece of paper and gently apply your paints to the inside of the umbrella. When applying the paints I make one swipe down the paper vs. a back and forth motion which creates “mud.” Dip your brush into a different color combination of paints. Apply the paint overlapping the previously painted areas.
Paint the top of the umbrella. HELPFUL HINT: As you apply the paint, the paper will slump due to the moisture and weight of the paint. Rest the edge of the paper/umbrella on your hand just above the thumb knuckle. This creates a Nice solid surface to paint on ☺
Apply Glossy Varnish to the inside of the umbrella as well as the top. While the Varnish is wet gently close the umbrella.

Gently create folds into the painted paper using a paintbrush. The Varnish will work as a glue as it dries. The more pleats and folds add realism to the wings. Let dry.

Practice! There are truly no mistakes.

HELPFUL HINT: The inside of the umbrella will be the front of the wing 😊
Cut the umbrella into ¼ sections using scissors.

Cut the edges with scissors to create a scalloped effect. I used the tip of needle nose pliers to gently pull away paper to create an aged wing. Add additional paint to highlight.

Seal with Varnish. Let dry.

I love the inside of the umbrella! The pleats and texture of the paper looks more like a wing than the top. Your choice of course 😊
I hope you enjoyed my simple wing technique. Add fibers, create holes in the wings, add some bling, layer the wings...... So many possibilities.

Have a great day 😊 Jean

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