



ISLAND POTTERY PAINTING

A GUIDE TO PAINTING YOUR POTTERY

Plan • Paint • Glaze • Create

1 Getting Started

Before you begin, set out your coloured glazes, palette, water pots, paintbrushes and any other painting equipment.

If you're unsure what design you'd like to create, have a look online for inspiration before you start painting. Pinterest is great for ideas, or try a simple Google image search.

TOP TIP

Lightly sketch your design onto the pottery using a pencil. Pencil marks will burn away during firing, so they won't be visible on your finished piece. Just avoid pressing too hard.

2 Painting Tools

A variety of tools are provided to help you create different effects:

- Fine brushes — perfect for detailed work.
- Larger brushes — ideal for broader areas of colour.
- Dotting tools — great for dots and decorative patterns.
- Sponges — useful for adding texture and creative effects.

If you make a mistake with pencil, simply rub it out or wipe it away with a damp cloth before painting.

3 Choosing Your Colours

The colours in the glaze pots may look quite different from the finished colour samples on the colour tile provided in your hire kit. This is completely normal: during firing, the glaze develops and becomes much more vibrant.

COLOUR RULE

Always use the fired colour tiles as your guide rather than judging the colour by the glaze in the pot.



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4 Applying Glaze

The number of coats you apply will affect the final appearance:

1 COAT More translucent finish	2 COATS Stronger colour coverage	3 COATS Solid, vibrant finish RECOMMENDED
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For best results, allow each coat to dry before applying the next.

5 Using Glaze Efficiently

A LITTLE GOES A LONG WAY

You only need a small amount of glaze in your palette to achieve good coverage. As glaze is an expensive material, we'd really appreciate it if you only use what you need.

6 Important Information Before Firing

The very bottom edge — or foot ring — of your pottery must remain free of glaze. This is the area that sits directly on the kiln shelf during firing.

- The underside of plates and bowls can be glazed.
- Only the section that comes into contact with the kiln shelf must remain glaze-free.
- Before firing, we will wipe this area clean if necessary.

WHY?

Glaze melts during firing. If glaze is left on the foot ring, your pottery can stick to the kiln shelf.

YOU'RE READY TO BEGIN!

Relax, get creative and most importantly, enjoy the experience.
Happy painting!