

Cabbage Roses

By Paula McCoy

Matching pieces
use stamping,
glass frit

Step 1: Clean greenware and fire to witness cone 04.

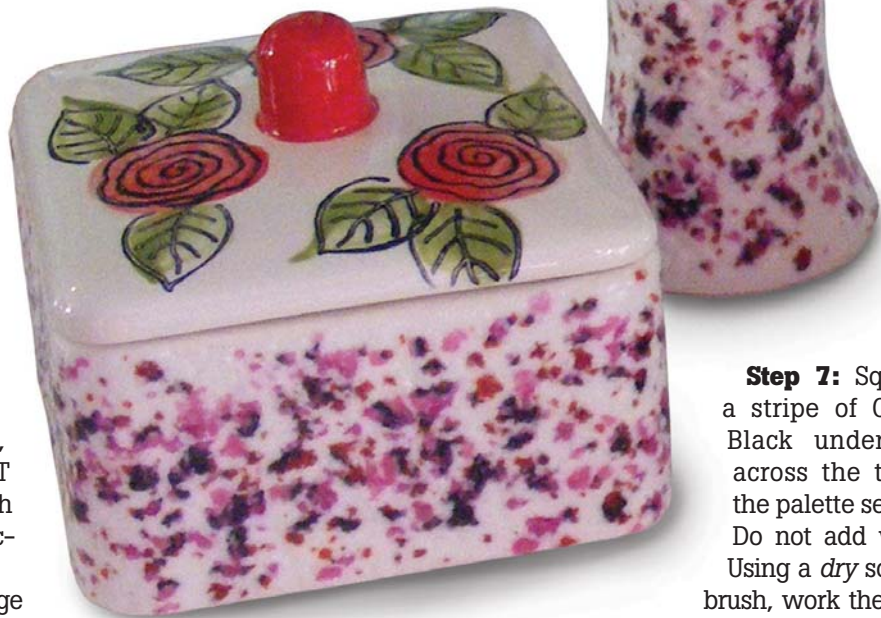
Step 2: With Rainbow Tape, create a wavy line around the vase about a third of the way down, allowing room for roses (see photo).

Step 3: Using the fan glaze brush, apply two coats of Gloss Medium NT Clear to the box (but not the lid), both inside and outside, and the lower section of the vase, including the bottom.

Step 4: Fully load the 1-inch sponge on a stick with Rose Madder and side load half the sponge with Red Alert. Decide where you are going to place roses on the box lid and top section of the vase, leaving room for leaves. Place the loaded sponge down on the bisque where you want a rose, gently swirl the sponge halfway around, and lift up. This will blend the two colors together. Reload and repeat for each rose so that the colors stay strong; apply two coats to each rose.

Step 5: Load the medium sumi brush with Leaf Green and tip into Cala Green. Starting at the edge of a rose, press down and pull out to a tip to create a leaf. Place two leaves on one side and one leaf on the other side of each rose (see photo). One coat is all that's needed. Allow roses and leaves to dry.

Step 6: Prepare a ceramic "stamp pad" by gluing a 2-inch-wide strip of felt down the right-hand side of the glazed ceramic tile. This should leave you with a palette surface that is 4 inches by 6 inches.



Step 7: Squeeze a stripe of Cobalt Black underglaze across the top of the palette section. Do not add water. Using a *dry* soft fan brush, work the color

in the gel state back and forth over the tile until you have a thin, almost transparent, smooth layer of color. Preparing your original palette of color can take as long as 35 seconds. If your brush is wet when you begin, it can cause the color to bead up on the tile, making it harder to create an ink-pad type of surface.

Press the rose stamp into the color. You do not have to press hard; in fact, the harder you press, the more you risk the stamp sliding and getting an unwanted color buildup in the stamp. One firm press is all that is required.

Note: When the condition of your color on the palette is correct, the stamp leaves a clear, crisp impression in the color. If the color begins to fill back in on the palette, it's probably too thin. Go back to your fan brush and continue to spread the color out more on your palette.

Press the "inked" rose stamp on top of one of the rose-colored areas on your bisque. When stamping the rounded surface of the vase, be sure to rock the stamp back and forth and from side to side to make sure the impression on the

surface is complete. Then immediately press the stamp on the tile's felt strip to remove excess color from the tool before reloading for the next rose.

When you reload the stamp, press it into color on the palette next to your previous impression — don't overlap the impressions. To get the most color out of your palette, try to work in a sequence and keep the impressions close together.

Repeat this step until all the rose areas have been stamped. If color builds up on the stamp, use a sponge to clean the surface of the stamp before continuing.

Step 8: Repeat Step 7 using the leaf stamp to outline all the rose leaves on both pieces.

Step 9: Use the small sumi brush to apply three coats of Red Alert to the knob on the box lid and add a band to the top of the vase.

Step 10: In this step, you'll be working on the areas of the box and vase that have already been coated with Gloss Medium NT Clear. Sponge two coats of White Foam on the sides of the box and the lower part of the vase up to the line of tape — avoid the very bottom of both pieces.

Step 11: Put one to two ounces of White Foam into a small cup (depending on the size piece you are working on), then add $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon of each of the four colors of glass frit. Mix the frit into the White Foam.

Sponge on one coat of the White Foam/frit mixture on the same areas, making sure that you pick up some of the frit each time you dip the sponge in. Try to get even coverage over both pieces.

Step 12: Remove the tape from the vase.

Step 13: Use the fan glaze brush to apply two coats of Gloss Medium NT Clear over the box lid and the top part of the vase, butting the glaze up next to the textured area. Roll some thinned Gloss Medium NT Clear inside the vase.

Step 14: Stilt the pieces and fire to witness cone 06. Place thin fire shelf paper on your shelf to protect it if you are uneasy about the glass falling off your pieces. It should not fall off unless the frit was applied too heavily in some areas. *FAC*



Materials

Suggested Ware by HK Enterprises

(www.HK Enterprises.org)

Vicki Mold Vase #V-135

Mayco Square Box #MO-1197/1&2

Colors by Colors for Earth

(www.colorsforearth.com)

Color Concentrates:

CC101 Cobalt Black

Color Strokes:

CS612 Red Alert

CS631 Rose Madder

CS661 Leaf Green

CS666 Cala Green

Specialty Products:

CSP42 White Foam

Glazes:

CSP01 Gloss Medium NT Clear

Stamps by Colors for Earth

SS21 Cabbage Rose (medium)

SS20 Leaf (medium)

Glass Frit

System 95 by Uroboros (www.uroboros.com)

F3-151-96-8 Cherry Red (medium)

F3-2502-96-8 Red Opal (medium)

Bullseye Glass Co. (www.bullseyeglass.com)

0301-92-F Pink (medium)

1332-0002-F Fuchsia (medium)

Brushes

#1 Liner

Fan Glaze brush

Small & Medium CFE Sumi brush

Miscellaneous

Sponge

Stylus

Water bowl

Paint well palette

Pencil

1-inch round sponge on a stick

Rainbow Tape

Glazed ceramic tile at least 6 inches square

White felt