

Floral Vases

Add colorful accent pieces to your décor!

By Karen Willes



Step 1: Clean the greenware and remove all dust.

Step 2: Create a flower by drawing the center circle and adding five petals (see diagram). If you're not comfortable drawing one freehand, you can use the provided flower pattern.

Step 3: Use the handle of a paintbrush to place some Bright Violet dots in the center of each flower on the larger vase and allow them to dry. Use Deep Cranberry for the dots on the smaller vase.

Step 4: Condition a #2 Taklon liner with dish soap and apply one generous coat of wax resist to the outline of the flower. Remember, how hard you press with the brush bristles will control the width of your line. It should be about 1/8 to 1/4 inch wide. When the dots are dry, cover the flower centers and the lines of the flowers with one coat of wax resist. Allow to dry.

Materials

Molds from Macky Molds

(www.mackymolds.com)

#1111 Large Bottle Vase by Crest Molds

#1641 Weed Pocket Vase by Boothe Molds

Colors by Colors for Earth

(www.colorsforearth.com)

CC101 Cobalt Black

CC130 Blush Cabernet

CC131 Cabernet

CC132 Deep Cranberry

CC136 Purple Sage

CC137 Bright Violet

CG900 Crystal Clear

CGE501 Black Patent

Brushes

#2 Taklon Liner

#6 Fan Glaze

Misc. Tools & Supplies

SY547 Wax Resist from Duncan Ceramics

(www.ilovetocreate.com)

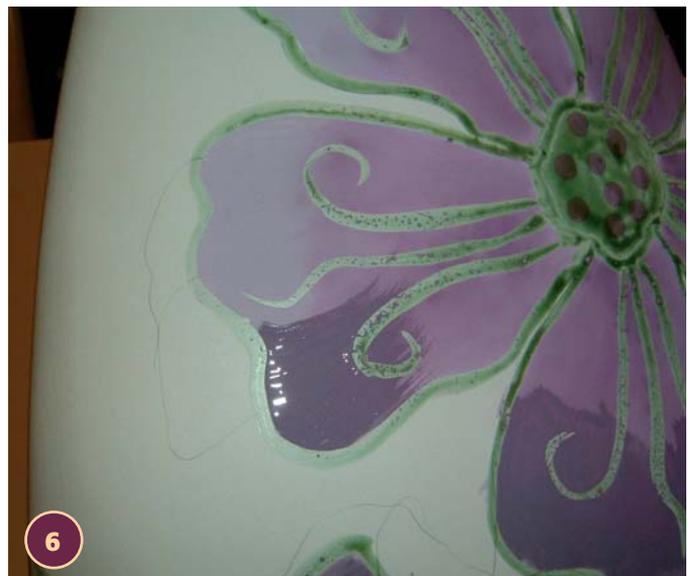
K23 Clean-up tool from Kemper

(www.kempertools.com)

#2 Pencil



Step 5: With a #6 fan glaze brush, apply one coat of Bright Violet to the inner portion of each petal on the large vase, beginning at the edge of the flower center and brushing outward to about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the length of the petal. Repeat this step on the smaller vase using Cabernet.



Step 6: Beginning at the outer edge of each petal on the large vase, apply a coat of Purple Sage and brush toward the Bright Violet, blending the colors where they overlap. Repeat this step on the small vase using Blush Cabernet.

Step 7: Repeat Steps 5 and 6 twice more for all petals.

Step 8: Apply three coats of Cobalt Black around the flowers on the front of each vase and out to about one inch on the sides. Allow to dry.

Step 9: Fire to Cone 04.

Step 10: Use a clean-up tool to remove any colors from the lines that were covered with wax resist.

Step 11: Roll the inside of each vase with Black Patent, thinning it 3:1 with water. Apply three to four coats of undiluted Black Patent to the back of the vases.

Step 12: With the fan glaze brush, apply two coats of Crystal Clear to the front of the vases.

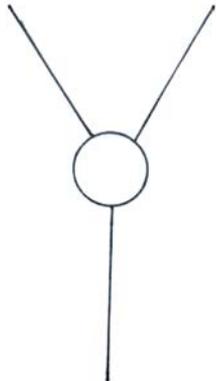
Step 13: Allow glazes to dry. Stilt and fire to Cone 06. Enjoy! *FAC*



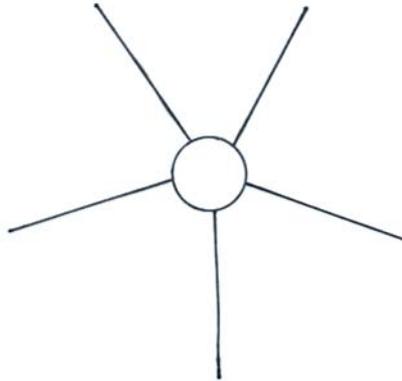
How to create a 5 petal flower.



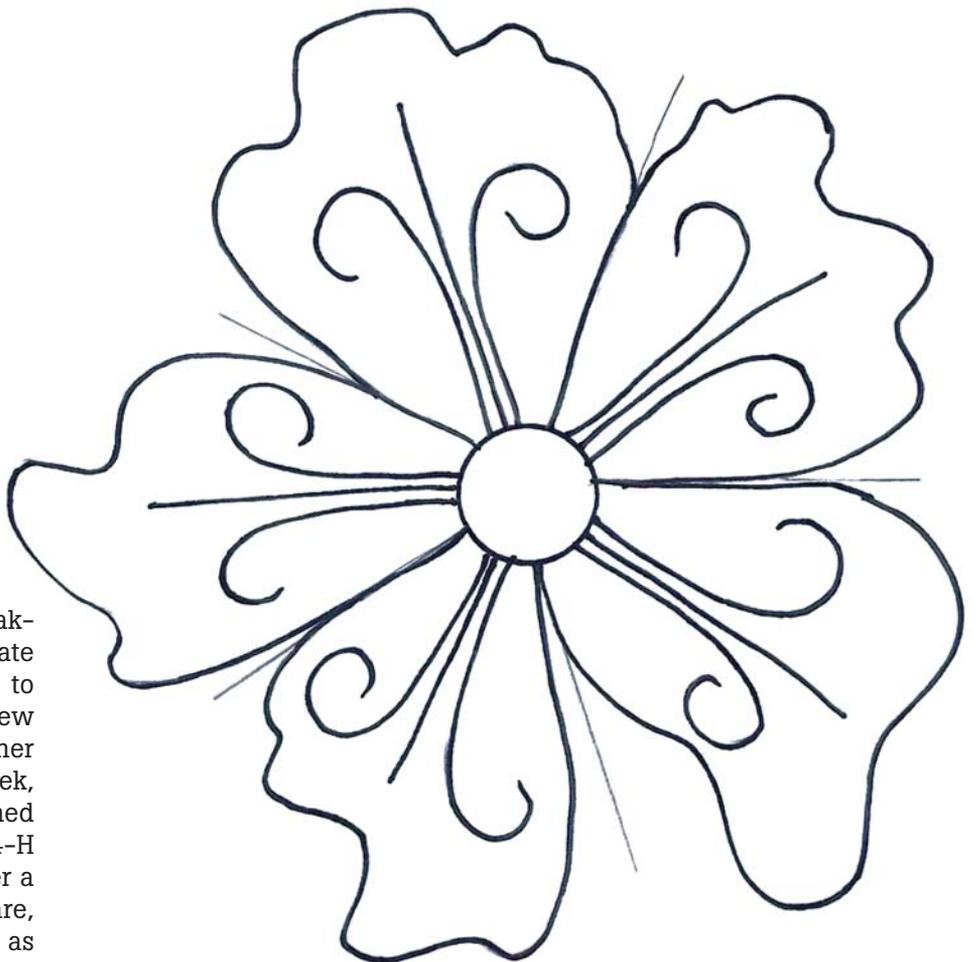
Draw a circle.



Make a "Y"



Divide large sections in half. Now you have a 5 petal flower. Create the shape of the petals in each section.



About the artist: "The purpose of taking a class is twofold. One is to create a piece of beauty, and the other is to learn something new and generate new ideas," said Karen Willes, the co-owner of Country Ceramics in Queen Creek, Ariz. Karen and Alvin Willes opened their business in 1986 to teach 4-H and Girl Scouts, and continues to offer a range of classes along with greenware, colors, and other ceramics supplies as well as glass supplies. Find out more at www.countryceramicsinaz.com.

Pattern for Flower Vase by Karen Willes