

Color Strokes
(Underglaze for Bisque or Greenware)

Application On Ware Comparisons

Concepts

Stroke-n-Coats

Fun Strokes

Florentines

Color Codes

What are Color Strokes:

Although, Color Strokes are considered an Underglaze Color, it is actually a type of glaze. It is Frit based but matt in finish unless glazed over. This means that lids can not be fired in place if the color is where the rims touch. While there are special techniques, the main purpose is to add color to bisque or greenware by applying a pattern, brush-strokes, three brushed coats for opaque coverage or flooding color for pattern base coats. Cover with Transparent or Clear Glaze by brushing or dipping and fire to cone 05-06.

When used on greenware avoid the bottom of pieces unless you are tilting the piece. Fire to 04, some areas may gloss, when glaze is applied it will require a longer drying time for glaze in those areas.

You can use them straight from the bottle:

- As a one-stroke coverage on bisque.
- 3 or more coats can be applied for opaque coverage to block in patterns on bisque.
- Can be used for antiquing on bisque.
- Left unglazed can be used as a chalkboard.
- Finger Painting or hand printing on bisque.
- Stamping
- Sponging
- Bubble Painting
- Air Brushing (Dilute 50/50 with Water)
- With 2 oz. bottles with Cap and Writer tips to do outlining, lettering, line work and flooding of color.
- Majolica techniques over non-moving glazes.
- Over Neutral Clay Dimension (Piping) designs.

Brushing:

- **Brushstrokes:** Shake well and squeeze out for brush application. Using a brush, 1 coat is transparent, 3 coats results in solid coverage. The more coats you apply the more opaque the color will appear.
- **Three Coat Coverage:** Squeeze out color for brush application. You should use the largest brush possible for the size of the area you are covering. The larger the brush the softer/smoothier the application of color. One color will cover another with a 3-coat application.
- **Banding:** Banding is where a band of color is applied to a piece with the aid of a Banding Wheel. When banding it is generally necessary to thin all colors with a little water before banding. More moisture than usual allows the colors to flow onto the piece readily. *Note: Condition ware with one coat of water before banding colors.* Begin the wheel rotating and set the brush down so the color is being dispersed evenly. Remove the brush from the piece before the wheel stops turning.

High Firing:

The Color Strokes when high fired will tend to have a slightly glazed look when multiple coats are applied. If you want a glossy look you can add CSP01 Gloss Medium to the color (up to 50%). The Gloss Medium is a non-moving gloss glaze.

NOTE: This hybrid color is lightly fritted. Clear glaze should be applied on top of Color Stroke/PSP color application when working on low fire ware before firing. If working on high fire clay body DO NOT use CG900 Clear Brushing. It will cause the color to bleed as it moves in the firing at a cone 6 temperature. Colors can be mixed together to achieve additional colors. The firing range is cone 6 through 05. All but CS630, 631, 636 will fire to a cone 6.

Shading:

When shading Color Strokes/PSP's on any clay base you need to let them completely dry before doing your shading. They have enough Designer Glaze Medium in them that they stay slick and won't allow the shading color to absorb until it is dry.

Color Strokes/PSP Specked Base:

This is a Specked base that is clear and can be added to any of the Color Strokes/PSP colors. Add 1 part Speck Base to 1 part Color Stroke/PSP Color to custom blend a Speckled Underglaze for bisque. Best results are achieved when medium dark to light colors are used, as the base will tone down colors a bit.

Color Concentrates can be added to the speck base to create many additional colors. The ratio is 1 part CC to 3 parts Speck Base. Apply 3 coats of color to bisque, then glaze and fire.

Do NOT add Color Stroke/PSP Speck to Clear glaze. It will cloud the design under it.

On-line individual storyboards can be viewed for each Color Stroke/PSP at: <http://www.colorsforearth.com/PSP/ChipChart.htm>

Visit the Colors for Earths web site "Classroom" for projects and decorating techniques with Color Strokes/PSP's.

Sample Storyboard shown here.



Color Strokes/PSP's	Comments
Underglaze for Bisque or Greenware.	Color Strokes/PSP's are considered an Underglaze color, it is actually a type of glaze. It is Frit based, but matt in finish unless glazed over. Apply 3-4 coats for opaque coverage
Decorating Uses	Brush, sponge, band, etc. Use applicator cap and tip to do line work.
Finishing.	Unglazed it is a durable background and can be left unglazed for decorative uses. Or, in most cases it is covered with a clear or semi-transparent glaze.
Firing Range is Cone 05 - Cone 6. (Cone 06 with 20 minute hold or 05 1/2 cone in a manual kiln to achieve the cone 06 with hold.)	When high fired to cone 6, some pink and purples may burn out or fade in color. The heavier the color is applied the colors will look as if they are glazed.
Majolica work.	Color can be applied by brush or sponge for Majolica work on top of a matt or non-moving glaze. View web site classroom for more technique specifics.
Tinted Glaze.	Mix with CG900 Clear Brush, CGE502 Ultra White and other light colored glazes for a colored glaze. Testing is still being done on all possibilities.