

Nasco ARTWORKS

Creating a Canvas Floor Cloth

Remember how much fun you had as a kid with a big box of crayons and some paper?

Experience the fun again - "color" a canvas floor cloth!

Materials Needed:

Canvas floor cloth,
approximately 24" x 36" (97 13017)
Shiva® Paintstiks™ (97 05084 set/12 Assorted)
1 pair of latex gloves
"Heavy duty" hole punch
1 quart polyurethane varnish or spray
(semigloss)
3-4 pairs of old denim jeans
Roll of lavender cotton carpet warp or
similar sturdy thread
Rotary cutter or scissors
Paper

Objectives:

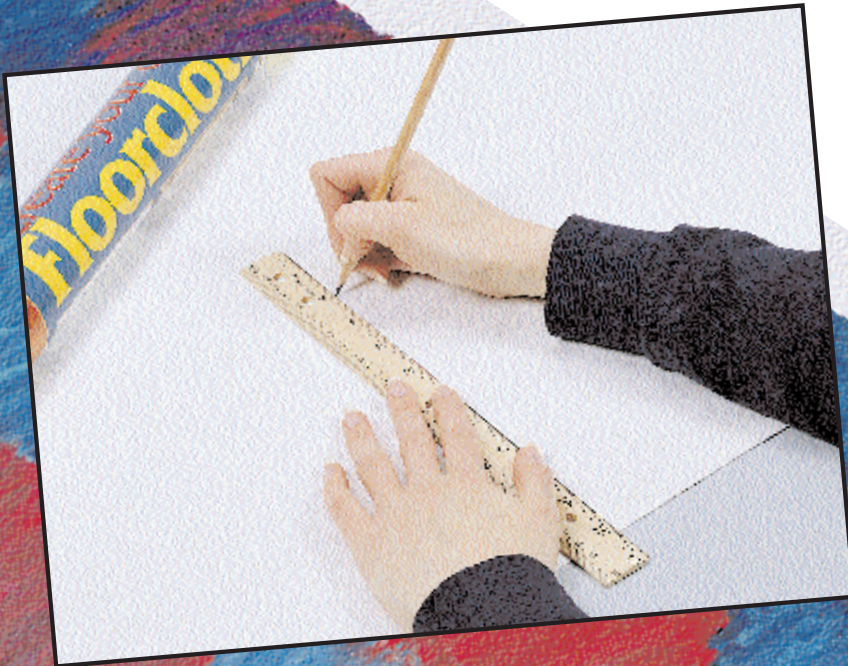
Students will

- learn about color blending, texture, and patterns.
- learn and create impressionistic designs.
- create their own unique, hand-decorated floor cloth or wall hanging.



Introduction and Preparation:

1. Cover a flat surface with paper. Unroll your floor cloth, with double-primed side up.
2. Remove "skin" from each Paintstik™ and set them aside on a piece of paper towel.



3. Divide your cloth into half, then half again, continuing until you have sixteen rectangles. Use a pencil to create your design — keep it simple.

4. Apply colors directly from the Paintstiks™. Be sure to wear latex gloves — the process is rather messy. Have fun! Pretend you're five years old again and color with enthusiasm! Start with lighter colors, then apply color after color, working right over the existing paint. This layering technique will allow you to go back and scratch the colors to create texture. Use your fingers, knives, combs...any tool that will scrape away layers of paint. Continue by repeating colors, using more of the color you want to highlight.

5. You may complete your painting in one sitting, or continue working on it for several days. The paint will dry in 3-4 days.



6. When the rug is dry, punch holes into the ends for fringe. If you are using yarn for fringe, punch a hole every inch approximately one inch in from the side. If you are using denim, punch two overlapping holes in the same manner (make sure the circles join).



7. If you plan to use the piece as a floor rug, apply two or three coats of polyurethane. Avoid varnishing the fringe holes. If you will be using the rug as a wall hanging, no finish is necessary.



8. To make denim fringe, first trim off the side seams of your jeans. Use a rotary cutter to make strips 1/2" wide and 12" long.



9. Fold each denim strip in half. Put the fold end through the hole about an inch. Thread the two ends through the folded loop you have created. Pull tight. Be consistent in how tight and in which direction you pull.

10. Wrap carpet warp around the denim close to the knot. Cut and let ends hang as part of the fringe.

11. If you're going to use your rug as a wall hanging, you may want to add decorative beads, buttons, or yarn.



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