

Updated Silverplate

A Fresh Look for an Old Pot



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By Bob Pennycook

Paint:

DecoArt Americana Acrylics

Butter

Lamp Black

Reindeer Moss Green

Yellow Ochre

Other Supplies:

DecoArt Traditions extender

DecoArt Multi-Purpose Sealer

Sandpaper – a coarse grit, around 80 grit

White vinegar

Shop towels

Brushes:

A 1" flat was used to basecoat and to paint the top trim. The design outline was painted with a #1 liner and the flowers/leaves were loosely painted using a #4 round. A second dry, clean, 1" flat is necessary to apply the extender.

Painting:

The most difficult part of this design is cleaning the silverplate. I found this piece in a local thrift shop, covered with grime and difficult to see that it was actually silverplate.

I cleaned it with vinegar and a wire brush to get rid of the grime. Then I sanded it, washed off the debris, washed again with vinegar and let it dry. Then I layered on two coats of multi-purpose sealer letting the first coat dry before applying the second.

Here's a link to a site that gives you a few more tips for cleaning metal:

<http://www.howtodothings.com/hobbies/how-to-prepare-metal-for-painting>

The sealer I used acts as a primer. You could also use a commercial metal primer for this but I prefer to use products that I know are compatible such as acrylic paint with a waterbased sealer/primer. Let the coffeepot site a few days to cure before starting to paint.

1. After you've primed your metal, base the entire coffee pot with Butter.
2. Using a clean, flat 1" brush, apply Extender to the entire pot. You only want a thin layer of Extender otherwise the product will run. The entire surface should appear a little shiny. Using a clean brush, apply Yellow Ochre to the entire pot. Wipe back gently with a shop towel removing some of the Yellow Ochre. The goal is to have a slightly mottled look to the surface.
3. Dry the pot well. Paint lid design with a combination of Zinc (the dark bands) and Lamp Black and Yellow Ochre dots. Use the wooden end of a paintbrush, or use a tooth pick, to apply the dots. The bands are about 1/2" wide on the lid and about 3/4" wide on the vertical. I used Yellow Ochre and a rubber stamp to apply some texture to the vertical Zinc band. You could use anything you have to create texture, tines of a non-food fork; string dipped in paint; a piece of gouged Styrofoam meat tray, etc. When dry, transfer the design
4. Thin Lamp Black to an inky consistency (use water or Extender) and loosely and roughly outline the flower design using a liner brush.
5. Use a round brush to loosely paint in the color of the petals and leaves. Petals are Yellow Ochre with a touch of Zinc mixed in to dull and leaves, stems and flower centers are Reindeer Moss Green with a touch of Zinc to dull
6. Mix a little more Zinc into each color to darken and brush a little of this mix on the petal where the petals join the flower center and on the leaves where the leaves join the stem to create a bit of shade.
7. Brush Extender thinly over the pot legs. Brush Lamp Black over the wet Extender and wipe back with a shop towel. You want to leave the black just in the crevasses. Repeat with the spout, handle and lid ornament, this time using Zinc instead of Lamp Black.
8. If you find the color is too dark on the legs, spout, handle and lid ornament, wait until the Extender is dry (you can force dry with a hair dryer) and drybrush these areas with a little Yellow Ochre.
9. Let cure for a few days then topcoat with your favourite varnish for protection.

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