



Smithsonian Associates

Mosaic Flowers

Instructor: Bonnie Fitzgerald

Below is an outline of what materials, adhesive and substrate you will need depending on the mosaic material selection you make. It is essential you have an appropriate substrate. If thin-set mortar is your adhesive recommend Wedi Board or Hardie Backer Board. If using WeldBond PVA glue recommend medium density fiberboard (MDF) or a hard wood. Resource list includes several vendors for pre-made and already prepared framed substrates. Separate vendor resource list gives vendor information. Sent to students prior to first class, after sign up. Recommend you work in one square foot range. These works will be for interior display.

You DO NOT need your materials for the first class.

If using Stained Glass/Glass Tiles:

- Glass or Tiles (add 15% waste)
- WeldBond adhesive
- Glass cutting Tools (scorer, running plier)
- LePonitt Wheel nippers
- Substrate: MDF

If you have never worked in stained glass recommend you try glass tiles first.

If using Broken Dish, Mixed Materials: (ceramic, unglazed porcelain, doo dads)

- Thin-set mortar (pre-mixed ok)
- Tools to cut your materials (compound tile nipper, no hammers!)
- LePonitt Wheel nippers
- Substrate: Wediboard or Hardie Backerboard

If using Smalti:

- Note smalti is sold by the pound, 3 pounds equals one square foot.
- Thin set mortar
- Appropriate cutting tools: Hammer & Hardie, Monolith or LePonitt Wheel nippers

If you have never worked with smalti recommend select a different material for this workshop, smalti is expensive.

Continued on PG. 2

FACEBOOK: SMITHSONIAN STUDIO ARTS INSTAGRAM: @SMITHSONIANASSOCIATES

EMAIL: ASSOCIATES-STUDIOARTS@SI.EDU

If using Stone, Slate, Marble, Shells”

- Note stone is sold by the pound, carefully read vendor notes about coverage
- Other mosaic material such as pebbles, natural materials all good
- Thin set mortar
- Appropriate cutting tools: Hammer & Hardie, Monolith or LePonnit Wheel nippers. Note most stone cuts best with hammer & hardie

Also at the ready you will need:

- Small spatulas to spread adhesives
- Tweezers, bamboo sticks (for picking)
- Paper Towels
- Safety Glasses
- Mask (if mixing thin-set mortar)

A note about setting up your workspace for class: Please DO NOT use your phone as the primary viewing of the Zoom class, desk computer, lap top or tablet will give you a more pleasurable experience. A desk lamp will be helpful.

To work along during class you will need a covered flat surface and your supplies handy. This can be a temporary set up if you are doing this from your home office, cover your desk top with newspaper. You need enough space to accommodate your substrate, some elbow room for cutting and if using nasty adhesives (like epoxy) then well ventilated.

Any questions or concerns feel free to drop me a note: bonnie@maverickmosaics.com