



Smithsonian Associates

Contemporary Mosaics Abstraction

Instructor: Bonnie Fitzgerald

bonnie@maverickmosaics.com

From Bonnie:

SUPPLY LIST, HOW TO PREPARE, WHAT TO EXPECT

In the first class we will review materials, substrates, adhesives and embark on a new creative adventure. Exactly what tools you need will be dictated by what materials you are working with. At the end of this document are photos and descriptions of common tools and what materials they are used for.

This is a new class and consequently lots of experimentation. Come to class with an open mind, prepared to work along. Each class will begin with student work in progress review and group discussion followed by demonstrations and working in class. Because students are responsible for supplying all materials there will be a lot of learning for everyone. I believe students learn best from each other.

For first class you will need some initial materials, a substrate, appropriate adhesive and hand tools. Uploaded separately to SI site is "Bonnie's Favorite Vendor List", this is completely biased, nonetheless comprehensive and covers most materials. During class #1 there will be a review of mosaic materials.

Brand new to mosaics? Think about found objects, broken dishes and doo dads for 1st class. Recommend you work an area MAXIMUM one square foot range, does not matter if square or rectangle. Helpful to have your substrate for first class and some materials and cutting tools.

Work in progress and internal, student to student class communications will be facilitated by a private Facebook group. That invitation will go to everyone after the first class.

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FACEBOOK: SMITHSONIAN STUDIO ARTS INSTAGRAM: @SMITHSONIANASSOCIATES

EMAIL: ASSOCIATES-STUDIOARTS@SI.EDU

Students provide:

- Appropriate substrate (prepared MDF, WediBoard or HardieBacker Board) *
- Thin-set mortar. Either powder form or Home Depot's "Simple set" **
- Weldbond
- Tile Nippers if you have ceramic tiles
- LePonnit Wheel nippers if you have glass materials
- Small spatulas to spread adhesives
- Tweezers, bamboo sticks (for picking)
- Paper Towels
- Safety Glasses
- Mosaic Materials: shells, pebbles, recycled stuff odd metal and rusty butts, tile, ceramic, smalti, broken dishes.
- Grout—recommend you WAIT to purchase until after 1st class

*SUBSTRATE OPTION: <https://witsendmosaic.com/mosaic-bases-frames-substrates/ez-mosaic-frames.html>

*SUBSTRATE OPTION: <https://witsendmosaic.com/mosaic-bases-frames-substrates/misc-substrates.html>

**PRE-MIXED THIN SET MORTAR: <https://www.homedepot.com/p/Custom-Building-Products-SimpleSet-1-Gal-14-25-lbs-White-Pre-Mixed-Thin-Set-Mortar-STTSW1/100678075>

OR *POWDERED THIN-SET MORTAR (SMALL AMOUNT): <https://lunamosaicarts.com/collections/adhesives>

A note about adhesives: for stained glass WeldBond, for pebbles, mixed media, smalti you will need 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, laptop 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 desktop 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.



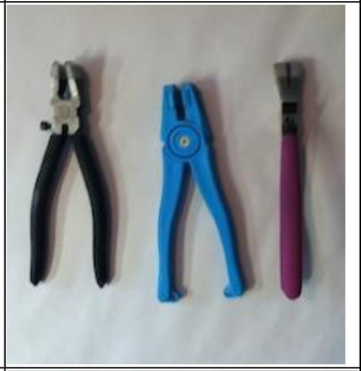

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What tools are needed for what materials.

COMMON TOOLS USED FOR WORKING IN CONTEMPORAY MOSAIC

<p>Wheel Tool For glass products, LePonitt is favorite brand. Plates should be secure. <i>Stained glass stores, on-line</i></p>	
<p>Glass Scorer For stained glass, carbide wheel scores glass, oil helps wheel score smoothly <i>Stained glass stores, on-line</i></p>	
<p>Running Plier For stained glass, “runs” the score <i>Stained glass stores, on-line</i></p>	
<p>Other: Tweezers, positioning tools (dental tools are great), palette knife, chip brush, felt tip marker <i>Michael's, Art Supply Store, Witsend Mosaic, Maryland Mosaics</i></p>	

Questions, concerns drop instructor a note bonnie@maverickmosaics.com

VALUABLE RESOURCE, both of Bonnie’s books: <https://maverickmosaics.com/about-us/books/>

MAKE IT MOSIACS YOUTUBE CHANNEL <http://www.youtube.com/c/MakeitMosaics>

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