

Try It Tuesdays: Week 6 - Easy Rusted Background

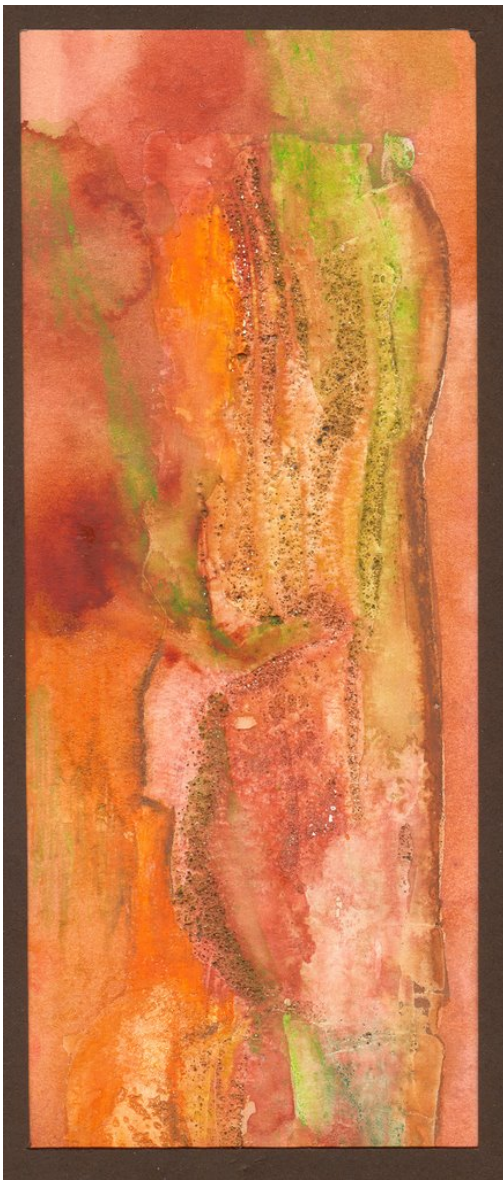
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Approx. Time Involved: 20 -25 minutes + Drying Time

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After working for 25 years in the beauty industry, artist [Judy Scott](#) has finally taken the time to devote herself to what she's been passionate about while balancing, work, family & parenthood. Creating! Though she has yet to fulfill her dream of attending art school, she has taken many workshops, and was awarded Student of the Year at Lauder College in Scotland, for City and Guilds Creative Embroidery. A member of [ZNE](#), [Judy](#) loves creating with fibers, fabric, paper & paint and exploring all kinds of mediums. Patchwork quilting, church banners, embroidery both by machine and hand, fabric art cards, fabric postcards, altered art, collage and her doll house miniatures are just some of the things she loves to do... most of all she loves COLOR!



Materials List:

- **Quality Cardstock or Cartridge Paper**
- **Gesso**
- **Salt**
- **Sugar or Sand**
- **Silver Foil** (*aluminum foil or foil from sweets*)
- **Spatula**
- **Assorted inks, Watercolors, Acrylic Paints**
- **Paint Brushes**
- **Mixing Plate**
- **Water**

Photo Example uses orange, green, and brown watercolor paint

Prep:

- Tear or cut foil into small strips.

Let's Play!:

1. Using the spatula apply gesso generously over the cardstock.

TIP!! *Don't make it smooth all over, give the gesso some peaks by lifting the spatula upwards from the gesso, make some areas smooth, and others textured.*

2. Lay small strips of foil into the gesso.
3. Apply just enough gesso to cover the foil at the edges.

TIP!! *Just Experiment with the amount of gesso and foil!*

4. Apply salt in some areas, and sugar or sand in others (*experiment with amounts*) but also leave some areas free.
5. Now leave to dry thoroughly.

TIP!! *It will be quite heavy so I suggest you leave it overnight to dry.*

6. Once the gesso is dry you can start to apply the inks & paints (*You can use brown, orange and blue and a green but be adventurous, experiment just remember what rust looks like*). Using paintbrushes, apply your colors - you'll notice how they merge beautifully into the salt. Just allow the color to build up until you are happy. If you are unsure stop what you are doing and come back to it.

TIP!! *Inks are good for a really vibrant color, but if you only have watercolor or acrylic paints - don't worry these will work as well. If you are using acrylic paint make it a thin consistency like ink would be.*

Allow to dry, and there you have it! A simple, yet *oh so rich* in texture, color and character background! This technique allows a lot of freedom, so have fun with it.. experiment and see where it takes you!

For more inspiration, be sure to visit [Judy's Blog](#) and [Flick'r photostream](#)!

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