



## Marbled Kindness Rocks



*Marbled endpaper in a book in the Senator John Brown Library & Archives*

Many books in the library at Liberty Hall have marbled paper glued inside the cover. To make the paper, artisans stirred drops of paint floating in a pan of water mixed with a special solution. Then they placed a sheet of paper on the surface of the water to transfer the paint to the paper. You can create a marbled look on a smooth rock by using the *acrylic pour* technique.

### Supplies and equipment

- Plastic drop-cloth or other disposable table covering
- White glue
- 6-or 8-oz. disposable plastic cup
- 2-oz. clear plastic shot glass cups
- Wooden craft sticks
- Matte acrylic craft paints

- Disposable aluminum baking sheet
- Smooth, uncoated rocks, rinsed and dried
- Black fine-tipped paint pen
- Spray glaze (such as Krylon Triple-Thick Crystal Clear Glaze)

### Instructions

1. Cover your work surface with the disposable drop-cloth. Acrylic paint is water-soluble but messy!
2. Mix one shot glass of white glue and one shot glass of water in the plastic cup. Stir with a craft stick until thoroughly mixed.
3. Using a separate glass for each color, pour about 1/2 inch of paint into the shot glasses.
4. Add about 1/2 inch of glue mixture to each glass and stir with a craft stick until thoroughly mixed. The paint-and-glue mixture should be



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about as thick as buttermilk.

5. To make the pour mixture, pour or drip one color at a time into one shot glass. With a clean craft stick, gently draw an “x” through the layered paint, but do not stir it.
6. Place the rocks on the baking sheet and pour the paint mixture back and forth across them, one at a time. Allow the marbled rocks to dry for several hours.
7. When the rocks are dry enough to touch, turn them over and place them on a clean section of the baking sheet so the bottoms can dry. You can also use clean shot glasses as stands for drying the rocks.
8. When the paint is completely dry, make a kindness rock by writing a message on the marbled rock with the paint pen.
9. Allow the message to dry, then spray the tops of the rocks with the glaze. When the tops have dried, turn over the rocks and spray the bottoms.

### Resources

Check out these and other YouTube videos to learn more about the acrylic pour technique:

- Acrylic Pour Painting for Beginners  
<http://www.kbecca.com/acrylic-pour-painting-beginners-step-step-tutorial-video/>
- Paint Pouring on Rocks Made Easy  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UhKDC-X41Vo>

To learn about the Kindness Rocks Project, go to:

<https://www.thekindnessrocksproject.com/>