



SHABBY ART BOUTIQUE

by Woodberry Designs

Fall Owls & Pumpkins

© Kerryanne English 2015



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Owl measures - 12 cm H x 8cm W,

Pumpkin & Owl measures 17.5 cm H x 11 cm W

Please read all instructions before beginning this project.

Materials

Scroll saw and dust mask,

16mm MDF & fine sandpaper,

Tracing paper, pencil, graphite paper and stylus,

Normal painting supplies.

Paint:

DecoArt Americana 2oz acrylics: Warm White, Titanium White, Light Mocha, Soft Black, Lamp Black, Honey Brown, Mink Tan, Burnt Umber, Yellow Ochre, French Vanilla.

Matt spray varnish.

Brushes:

1/4" and 1/2" flat brushes, 1/4" angel shader, No 2 round brushes, fine liner brush, Athena Chezza Fur Brush - 1/4 inch.

Preparations

Trace the patterns from the pattern sheet onto tracing paper and transfer onto MDF using your graphite paper. Cut the designs out using a scroll saw - always wear a mask when cutting and sanding MDF.

Sand your wooden pieces and wipe clean.

Techniques

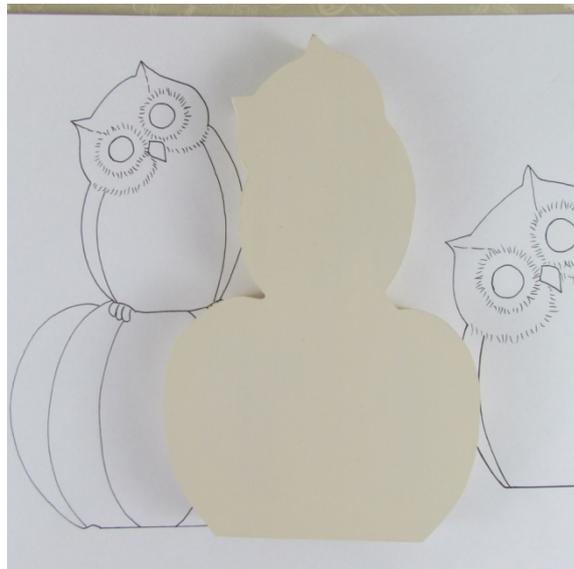
Basecoat: Cover the area to be base coated with 2 smooth, even coats of paint using a large flat brush for large areas and a smaller flat brush or round brush for small areas. Allow paint to dry thoroughly between coats. A hairdryer can help speed up the drying process.

Side Load/wash: Dampen shader (or dagger) brush with clean water. Dip point of brush into paint and blend on the palette. The paint should not travel completely across the brush. The paint should appear darkest at the loaded corner and gradually fade to clear water.

This technique is used for all shading and highlighting in this project.

Painting Instructions

Preparation - Paint a basecoat of Light Mocha on all wood surfaces. When dry, sand lightly with fine sandpaper.



Transfer the design details to the front of the project using the pattern tracing and the graphite paper.

When finished, flip the pattern over and trace design to back of cut-outs.

Shade inside wings, around eyes and under head and pumpkin using a side-load of Mink Tan - see photo.

Painting the Pumpkin: Enhance shading in divisions of pumpkin with Burnt Umber. To soften the appearance, wash a light coat of watered down Warm White over the entire pumpkin. On your palette, add water to Titanium White to make an ink-like consistency. Using the No 2 round brush loaded with the watery paint, paint vertical strokes in a slip slap way to highlight the left side of the first 2 segments from left side of pumpkin. Next, continue highlighting on the right side of the centre segment and the 2 segments to the right of this. It should be a light casual stroke that allows some of the other colours to show through.



Spattering (Flyspecking): For this technique you use an old toothbrush. Dip the brush into water and flick the bristles with your thumb to remove surplus water. Then dip the toothbrush into Burnt Umber and rotate the brush on your palette to work up the paint on the bristles. Run either your thumb or the end of a paintbrush over the bristles of the toothbrush to splatter the paint - practice on a scrap piece of paper before flyspecking the pumpkin. I suggest covering the owl with a piece of scrap paper to protect it.

Painting the owl feathers: I used a Chezza Fur Brush to paint the feathers, but you could also use a fine liner brush with the same effect.

The paint will need to be thinned with water to a consistency slightly thicker than ink. To load the brush and spread the bristles, dip in the paint puddle and press the bristles down a little, then swizzle the bristles back and forth by rolling the handle between the thumb and forefinger. Once the brush is loaded, blot the bristles on a piece of paper towel to remove excess paint, then gently stroke on your palette until you are happy with the look of the lines.



The feathers are built up by painting thin layers of paint using the 3 different colours, ranging from dark to light (allowing some of the previous colour to show through). The first feather colour sequence is: Light Mocha, Warm White and Titanium White.

Start by turning your piece around and pull the feather strokes from between the eyes. Make sure each layer is dry before proceeding to the next colour.

Next paint the body/wing feathers and then finally the feathers around the eyes.

Beak: block in beak using Yellow Ochre. Shade the left side using Honey Brown. Highlight the right side using French Vanilla. Further enhance right side with a highlight of Warm White.

Feet: Block in with Yellow Ochre. Shade first on left side with Honey Brown and highlight right side of each claw using French Vanilla. When feet are complete, float a stroke of Soft Black under the belly of the owl and over top of feet.

Second application of feathers: Apply a wash of Burnt Umber in the shaded area over the feathers. Re-establish the shading around the eyes and under the beak using Soft Black.



Paint the second sequence of feathers using the same three colours, starting with the darkest and ending with Titanium White. Be careful with the placement of the feathers, ensuring that some of the underneath layers showed through.



When all the feathers are complete, you can shade around the eye area again... we will be adding more feathers to this area once the eye detail is complete.

Eyes: Paint the owls' eyes by blocking in with Soft Black. Shade the top of the eyes first with a side-load of Lamp Black. Wash and reload angle sander with Yellow Ochre and float colour over the lower half of eye. Highlight the top of eye with Warm White. When dry, add a dot of Titanium white using the end of your stylus.



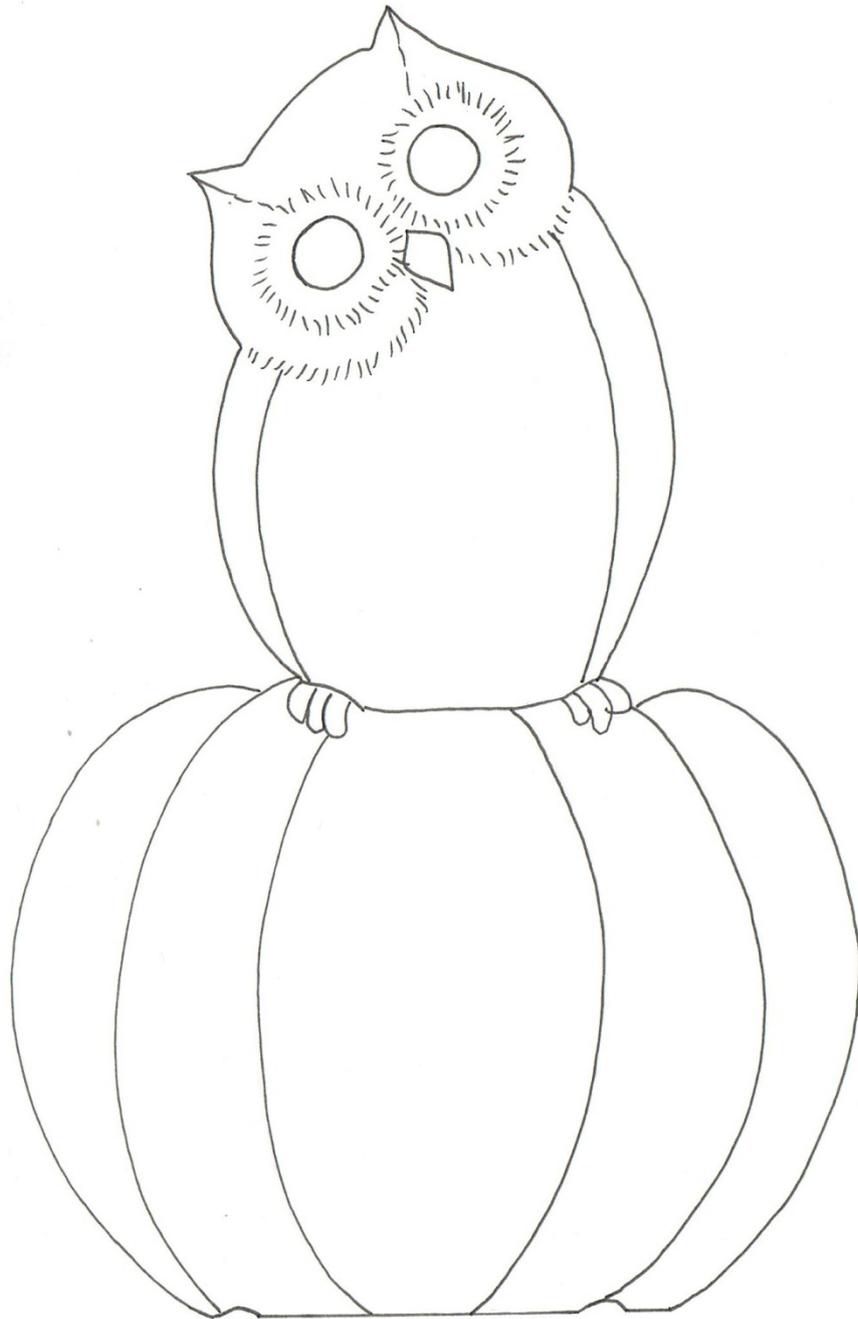
Finishing

Seal projects with a light coat of matt spray varnish.

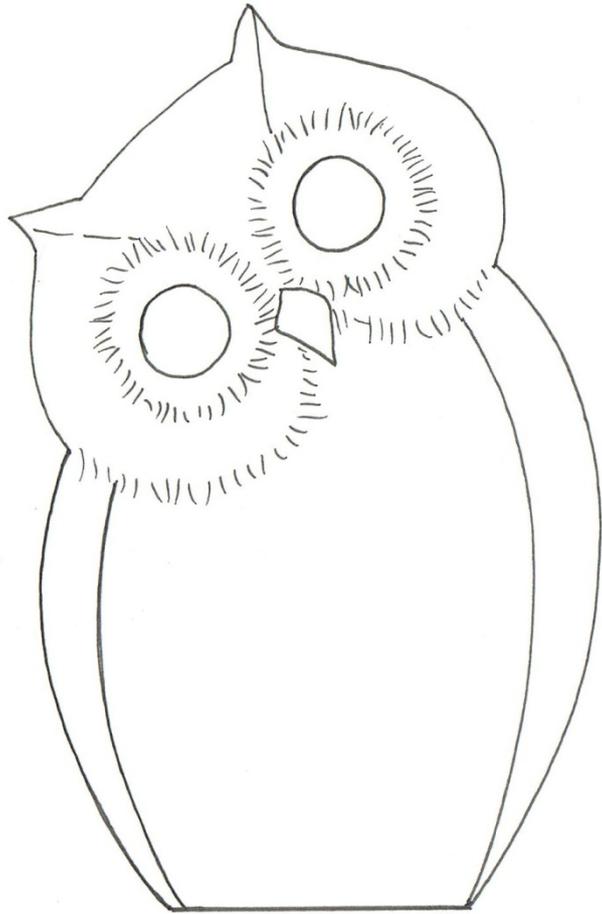
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Owl on Pumpkin design © Kerryanne English 2015



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