

DECORATING ON SOFT-FIRED STONEWARE BISQUE

Vine Design Majolica Plate and Tumbler

By Larry Knight



An old Scandinavian folk art design inspired Larry Knight to the simple and beautiful decoration of Seeleys soft-fired Rimmed Dinner Plate and Tumbler. Make a set for 12, add blue or red napkins to enhance the design, and you'll be ready for some great stoneware dining. Duplicate the vine on any stoneware piece to match your setting. Skip the banding if you wish.

Materials Needed:

Seeley's Soft Fired Stoneware

Bisque:

13 oz. Tumbler, SF203S

10½" Rimmed Dinner Plate, SF 5005S

Seeley's Brushes

SBR63 No. 6 Round

SBR64 10/0 Liner

SBR65 Fan Glaze

Seeley's Galaxy Glaze

GGL101 Milky Way

Translucent Underglaze

Red

Dark Blue

Red Brown

Green

Miscellaneous

Pencil

Banding Wheel

Sponge

Instructions

1. Use a dampened sponge to wipe dust and to condition surface of ware.
2. With the SBR65 Fan Glaze, apply 3 coats of GGL101 Milky Way to plate and tumbler making sure to dry-foot* both pieces. Let dry.
3. Place all translucent underglazes on palette.
4. Use pencil to divide plate and tumbler into 4 equal sections.
5. Load the SBR63 No 6 Round with Red and pull in two press-pull-and-lift comma strokes side by side to form bud. Repeat in alternating sections.
6. Repeat Step 5 in remaining sections loading brush with Dark Blue.
7. Pull in stems with SBR64 10/0 Liner and Red Brown.
8. Pull in comma stroke leaves with the 10/0 Liner and Green.
9. Center piece on banding wheel and band the inside edge of the rim with Red Brown and the 10/0 liner. Band the top rim on the tumbler.
10. Using the handle end of brush add dots of Red Brown to base of each bud and the stems.
11. When dry, fire to shelf cone 6.

*Editors note: DRY-FOOTING:

Since stoneware and porcelain pieces are impervious to water, the bottom, or part of the bottom (if there is a ring), can be left without any glaze. Many stoneware and porcelain pieces have a ring, or "foot" on the bottom. That ring should be left "dry", meaning without glaze. The area inside the ring can be glazed. If there is no ring/foot, the entire bottom must be clear of glaze, or the piece will attach itself to the shelf during firing. If some glaze is present on the part of the bottom that comes into contact with the shelf, simply wipe it off with a moist sponge.

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