

Gold Fish Door Harp

Materials:

Wooden Door Harp, Tracing Paper, Grey Saral Transfer Paper, Wet & Dry Sandpaper 400 & 800 grain, Stylus, Kneadable Art Eraser, Plastic Wrap, Cotton Buds, Sea Sponge, Hair Dryer

Matisse Mediums - MM12 Clear Sealer, MM3 Surface Tension Breaker, MM7 Polymer Gloss Varnish.

Brushes – 1” Flat Base Coating Brush, ¼” Flat, #3 Round, 0/5 Liner.

Matisse Flow Professional Artists Acrylics – Titanium White, Ultramarine Blue, Prussian Blue, Phthalo Green, Brilliant Alizarin, Cadmium Yellow Medium, Cadmium Red Medium, Metallic Light Gold.

Preparation:

Seal wood piece with MM12 Clear Sealer, let dry and sand with 400 grain Wet & Dry Sandpaper.

Trace pattern onto tracing paper.

Using 1” Flat brush, load in Titanium White and base coat wood piece, let dry. About 4 light coats of Titanium White will be needed to give a good Opaque coverage, sand between each coat.

Using the Grey Saral Transfer Paper and Stylus, lightly trace on the pattern.

Pebbles and Stones:

Mix (1:1) Brilliant Alizarin + Phthalo Green to make a dark grey, lighten colour with a touch of Titanium White. Roughly paint in larger stones, use Titanium White to lighten some areas on the stones to give form, let the paint dry.

(2)

To paint in the smaller stones and gravel between and around the large stones, wet a cotton bud and loosen the cotton a little with your fingers, dip the cotton bud into the mix used for the larger stones and dab at random, adding more Brilliant Alizarin to the mix to vary the colour. Using dirty cotton bud, dip into Titanium White and dab at random, using your finger lightly to smudge the paint.

Weed:

Long Weed – make a washy mix of Phthalo Green + Cadmium Yellow Medium and lighten with a touch of Titanium White. Load #3 Round brush in mix and paint long “S” strokes. Clean brush, add a touch of Prussian Blue to the mix for the shade colour and add touches of shadow.

Bushy Weed – Mix Phthalo Green + Cadmium Yellow Medium (1:3), using the tip of the round brush, paint feathery strokes from the centre to the outside edges, add a touch of Prussian Blue to the colour and paint the stems, let dry. Wet a cotton bud and lightly wipe it horizontally over the weed to give a light distressed look.

Background:

Dampen the background area with water, using a damp Sea Sponge dip into a small amount of Ultramarine Blue, this colour needs to be very washy, dab sponge on the palette to blend and lightly dab over the back ground area. It doesn't matter if it goes onto the tails or fins, wipe any off the body area with a cotton bud and let dry.

Gold Fish:

Keep the small centre Goldfish a lighter colour as it is in the distance. Using a ¼” flat brush and block the goldfish in with a coat of washy Cadmium Yellow Medium, let dry. Apply another coat of Washy Cadmium Yellow Medium, when dry, **shade** around the gills, under stomach, mouth, eye and fins with a Bright Orange Mix (1:4) Brilliant Alizarin + Cadmium Yellow Medium.

(3)

Make streaky strokes using the chisel edge of the brush on the fins and tail to represent veins. Add a touch of Prussian Blue to the Brilliant Alizarin (dark shading colour) make a washy consistency and deepen the shaded areas, let dry. Wash fish with a damp flat brush, using a damp sea sponge pick up a small amount of the dark shading colour and lightly dab over the body and head to represent scales. Using liner brush, lightly highlight the lips with Titanium White. Block the eye in with Titanium White, mix (2:1) Prussian Blue + Brilliant Alizarin to make a black and paint a dark circle for the pupil in the eye. When dry add a tiny Titanium White comma stroke with the liner brush for the highlight.

When the paint is completely dry, using 1" Flat brush dip in water bucket with 5 drops of Surface Tension Breaker MM3 and paint a light coat of water over the painting. Working quickly, pick up a touch of Prussian Blue and paint at random over the water area. Clean brush, load in water and pick up a touch of Ultramarine Blue and paint at random. Repeat with the Phthalo Green, take a piece of Plastic Wrap and place over the wet paint and push around with your fingers in a horizontal direction and lift off. This will leave the effect of water swirls, let dry. For a quick dry, blow with a hair dryer. If the colour is too dark when the paint dries, give it a wash with Titanium White to set the colour back.

Border, Chime studs and Balls:

Using ¼" Flat brush load in Metallic Light Gold and paint two coats.

Finish:

Erase all visible pattern lines and varnish with MM7 Polymer Gloss Varnish, let dry.

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