

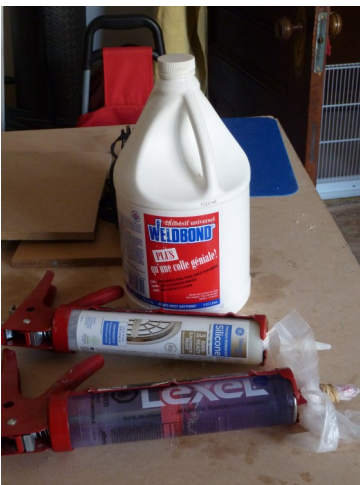
Glass On Glass Mosaic Process

I have recently been doing glass on glass work...ie using glass tiles and gluing them to a base that is also glass. You might use glass secured into a picture frame, a window, or cut sections of thicker glass as I show here. I used 5mm clear glass that had been ground on the edges to be rounded and hazy looking and safe to touch!

These photos lead you through the process I used to create the CAFE Awards. This is not the ONLY way to do glass on glass; just a way.



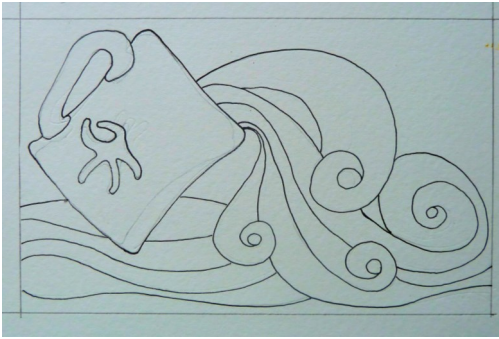
I had glass pieces cut to my needs at a local glass business.



For this project I used a clear adhesive called LEXEL but in the past I have also used WELDBOND (lovely non-toxic / non-smelly stuff) and GEII Clear Silicone.



Water colour plan



Line drawing to scale



Choosing the tiles for the pieces



Cut tile laid onto paper designs sprayed with repositionable adhesive.



Main sections cut and sticking onto temporary tacky sketch surface .



The Mac-Tac is a clear plastic roll with one side very sticky and I use this to place over the right side of the mosaic once all of the design is cut. That ensures the pieces stay put while you flip the piece over and peel the sticky sketch paper off of the back. To flip the design I place a piece of board or a large ceramic tile over

and under the design making a mosaic sandwich and then squeezing it all together I gently flip over the sandwich and take off the board now facing up. Your piece should now be upside down and you will be looking at the back of the sketch paper. Then comes the tricky part - peeling back the paper off of the back of the design. Have your tweezers ready to tease off any bits that feel they would rather stay stuck to the paper than to the mac-tac. Go S>>L>>O>>W>>L>>Y peeling straight back, NOT pulling up. Then you are ready to adhere the base with your adhesive.

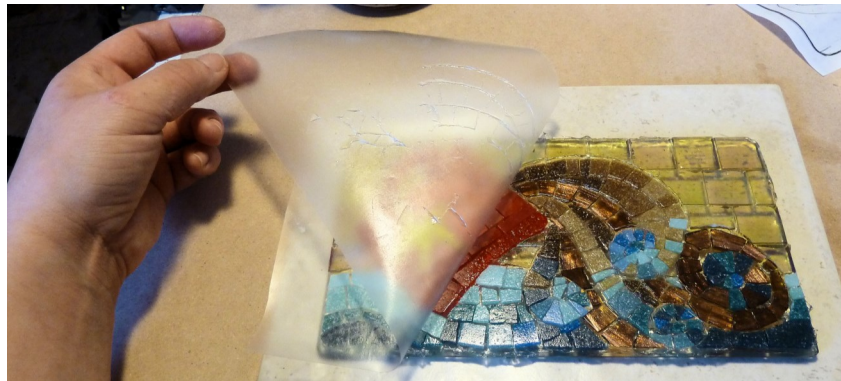


Design seen from the backside



For this project I spread a layer of Lexel all over the surface of the glass. Make sure the glue really makes contact with the full surface or grout may bleed in under the tiles later and the mosaic will look messy. I wanted it thick enough to hold the tiles and come up a bit in between

but not to completely fill the crevices between tiles. The grout has to fit in there. To bring the base and mosaic together I kept the design upside down and flipped the glass base glue side down over the back of the mosaic and gently pushed down. This is a good way to make sure there is a finished flat surface to your mosaic.



You can let it sit for a bit to start setting and then sandwich it again between two boards and gently turn it over so the mosaic is right side up and gently peel back the Mac-tac. If any tiles shift, get your tweezers in there and put it right back where you want it!



Different adhesives have different drying times so read the instructions. Grout when the adhesive is dry. That may mean waiting several days to over a week.



Cleaned up and shining!