

Draw Big, Paint Big

Part One: How to make your own Sidewalk Chalk Paint

Drawing and Painting can help us see the world around. When we draw, we do more than just glance at the world, we take our time and observe the world, we really see. When we Draw Big we often see things differently and see something new in nature, ourselves and others. Drawing Big creates space between the artist and their work. Drawing Big allows the artist to spend more time with their work, expand their abilities and learn new techniques. Drawing Big allows artists to see the world and ourselves in a new way. Drawing and Painting Big allows artists and students to use materials and supplies in a new way, too. Art is a great way to engage with the world and learn from others.

Instructional videos available at:

Making your own Sidewalk Chalk Paint is really fun and super easy. You only need a few ingredients. Sidewalk Chalk Paint can be used on pavement or even thick paper, like paper bags. The food coloring used in this paint is non-toxic, but can stain your clothes and hands. So be careful. I advise using gloves and wearing an apron. When you go outside to test your colors, make sure you and your grown up find a super safe place for you to paint. Safety is super important when painting and drawing outside. You may also want to sweep the pavement to make sure the area is clean to work at, you can also cool down the pavement with water. You can use a bucket or plastic bowl or hose. To test your paint, use your spoon to apply the paint to the pavement, then use your brush to move the paint around. Don't dip your brush into your paint after brushing on the pavement, the brush will collect the dirt on the pavement. After you finish up, make sure you don't leave your supplies outside and clean up your area! The sidewalk chalk paint you made is non-toxic and won't hurt the environment. You can leave your art on the pavement and let the rain wash away all the paint. The food coloring will not stain the pavement. I hope you have a great time making your own paint.

Make your own Sidewalk chalk paint to take outside and paint on pavement. The more colors you make the better.

Sidewalk Chalk Paint Recipe:

Ingredients

3 cups corn starch

2 - 6 drops food coloring, various colors

3 cups water, use more or less depending on desired consistency

Equipment

Big Bowl

Big Spoon

4-6 plastic containers with sealable lids (or a 6-cup muffin pan works great as a paint tray)

Food coloring

Small spoons

Optional: gloves, apron

Directions

This recipe can be made with smaller amounts too, using equal parts of cornstarch and water. Using a large mixing bowl, add the water to the cornstarch and mix well until clumps are gone. Divide equal amounts into your separate bowls, add a few drops of food colouring to each bowl to create your colours, mixing well.

While painting you'll want to keep your colours looking vibrant, use your small spoon to give the paint a stir as the cornstarch will settle on the bottom.

The colors will look more brilliant as the paint dries. Works great on all types of pavement (try painting some garden rocks, too). Clean-up is super easy, washes away with water, or you can allow the rain to take care of it. This sidewalk chalk paint is non-toxic and safe for the gardens, it will actually help the soil retain moisture better!

Storage: can be stored in jars or plastic containers with lids for a few days. If your paint dries out, just add water and your paint will be just fine.

Collect the following to take outside to test your paint:

Your sidewalk chalk paint, food coloring, spoons

Extra supplies: old paint brushes, sponge brush or sponge, container with water to clean your brushes in, apron, yoga mat or towel to sit on (the pavement can be hot and scratchy), spray bottle with only water in it. A broom to sweep your area. A bucket or plastic bowl or hose to cool your area.

Supplies to keep you safe from the sun:

water bottle for you, sunglasses, hat and don't forget to wear sunscreen!

You can place all your art supplies in a box or basket, you don't want to run back and forth to get all your art supplies.

Grab your grown up and find a safe pavement area for you to work at. You can cool the pavement with water, a hose, large bucket, plastic bowl or spray bottle will work.

Test your colors. If you want your colors to be more vibrant, add more food coloring at this time.

After you finish testing your colors, make sure and collect everything and clean up your area. Don't leave a mess!

Content created by M. V. Moran

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Part Two: Draw Big with Sidewalk Chalk

Drawing and Painting can help us see the world around. When we draw, we do more than just glance at the world, we take our time and observe the world, we really see. When we Draw Big we often see things differently and see something new in nature, ourselves and others. Drawing Big creates space between the artist and their work. Drawing Big allows the artist to spend more time with their work, expand their abilities and learn new techniques. Drawing Big allows artists to see the world and ourselves in a new way. Drawing and Painting Big allows artists and students to use materials and supplies in a new way, too. Art is a great way to engage with the world and learn from others.

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Drawing with sidewalk chalk is really fun. You can purchase sidewalk chalk pretty much anywhere. I like to have lots of colors, so I purchased the 24 color pack and I had plenty of colors to choose from. I will also list some other supplies to take outside with you to make your outdoor art adventure as fun as possible. But, really all you need to make a big pavement drawing is sidewalk chalk. Also, the pavement can get really hot, so I also recommend cooling the pavement with water, you can use a bucket, hose or even a plastic bowl to cool your work area. And, before I cool my area, I even sweep where I am going to work. I like a clean area to work on. You may also want to take a spray bottle with you to keep the pavement cool and a small amount of water will help your sidewalk chalk to stick to the pavement even better. I am now going to list a few items for you to collect:

Supplies: sidewalk chalk

Extra supplies: apron, yoga mat or towel to sit on (the pavement can be hot and scratchy), spray bottle with only water in it, garden gloves. A broom to sweep your area. A bucket or plastic bowl or hose to cool your area.

Supplies to keep you safe from the sun:
water bottle for you, sunglasses, hat and don't forget to wear sunscreen!

You can place all your art supplies in a box or basket, you don't want to run back and forth to get all your art supplies.

Grab your grown up and find a safe pavement area for you to work at. Sweep your area, and then cool off the pavement with water. You can cool the pavement with water, a hose, large bucket, plastic bowl or spray bottle will work. Place your yoga mat or towel near your work area. Draw a BIG rectangle and work in that area. Please note, this is, of course, optional. I like to start in a rectangle because this gives me a work area and a starting point. I often go outside of the rectangle after I figure out what I want to draw. I start most drawings with geometric shapes. Then I look around and am inspired by the world around me. I will then add shapes I see, such as leaves, flowers, grass. I often look at fruit and vegetables as well. I like to draw from nature. When I don't want to draw from observation (what I see) I will start drawing simple shapes and then create something abstract. Abstract means I don't draw what I see, I draw what I feel with

lines, shapes and colors. Draw what you like. Draw as much as you can. The more you draw, the more you will figure out if you like to draw from nature or if you prefer to draw abstractly.

When drawing with sidewalk chalk your fingers can get scratched by the pavement, especially when the sidewalk chalk becomes a small piece. So I recommend wearing garden gloves (not plastic gloves). I like to use all of my chalk, so wearing garden gloves allows me to use the chalk all up. When you start drawing, use lighter colors to darker colors. Also, start your drawing in the middle of the rectangle and work your way out to the ends. If you draw on the edges first, you may get chalk all over you when you reach for the middle, plus when you draw from the center out it can help have a balanced design. The best way to learn about sidewalk chalk is to draw and draw. The more you draw the more you will learn what you like to draw and you will get better and better.

When you finish your drawing make sure and document your work (take a picture)! Your sidewalk chalk drawing will not last very long, so having a picture will be a way you can keep your drawing safe. When you get ready to go back inside, don't forget to clean up your supplies and don't leave anything on the pavement. So basically, clean up! The rain will clean up the drawing and plus, it will give others a chance to see your cool art, so leave your drawing for others to enjoy.

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Part Three: Draw Big with Sidewalk Chalk and Sidewalk Chalk Paint

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Drawing with sidewalk chalk and sidewalk chalk paint is another fun way to draw and paint outside. Safety is super important when painting and drawing outside. You may want to sweep the pavement to make sure it is a clean area to work, you can also cool down the pavement with water. You can use a bucket or plastic bowl or hose. Using both sidewalk chalk and sidewalk chalk paint together allows the chalk adhere to the pavement even better. The paint can be used as a primer on the pavement. Sidewalk chalk is a rather loose material and so the paint helps the chalk really stick to the surface. You can also add paint to the surface of your drawing. But, I don't recommend bruising the surface, you will wipe away the chalk. Also, don't dip your brush into your paint after brushing on the pavement, the brush will collect the dirt on the pavement. After you finish up, make sure you don't leave your supplies outside and clean up your area! The sidewalk chalk paint you made is non-toxic and won't hurt the environment. You can leave your art on the pavement and let the rain wash away all the paint. The food coloring will not stain the pavement nor will typical sidewalk chalk. I hope you have a great time drawing and painting outside!

Supplies: sidewalk chalk

If you do not have the sidewalk chalk paint, don't worry, you can draw instead. No worries.

Extra supplies: your sidewalk chalk paint (if you made it), spoons, old paint brushes, sponge brush or sponge, container with water to clean your brushes in, apron, yoga mat or towel to sit on (the pavement can be hot and scratchy), spray bottle with only water in it. A broom to sweep your area. A bucket or plastic bowl or hose to cool your area.

Supplies to keep you safe from the sun:

water bottle for you, sunglasses, hat and don't forget to wear sunscreen!

You can place all your art supplies in a box or basket, you don't want to run back and forth to get all your art supplies.

Grab your grown up and find a safe pavement area for you to work at. You can cool the pavement with water, a hose, large bucket, plastic bowl or spray bottle will work.

Please remember to leave your area clean!

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Draw Big, Paint Big

Part Four: How to Draw Big on your DIY Big Paper

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Making your own big paper is super fun. All you need is paper and tape. I recommend using paper bags, copy paper and/or newspapers. You can use all three kinds of paper to make one big paper, but I like to use one kind of paper to make really big paper. I like using either masking tape, blue tape (painter's tape) or scotch tape. To make big paper out of copy paper, take individual pieces and tape together. I suggest using scotch tape on the copy paper. Copy paper and scotch tape is a great material for markers.

If using paper bags, disassemble the paper bag at the seams. Remove the handles and flatten the paper with your hand. You can use pretty much any kind of medium on paper bags. You can even use your sidewalk chalk paint. Paper bags really like masking tape. Masking tape sticks to the paper bags really well.

For newsprint and newspapers, I recommend using painter tape or masking tape. Newspaper is fragile paper, so you may have to tape up tears. But the blue tape looks really cool on the black and white print. I recommend using charcoal or sidewalk chalk on newspapers. You can work indoors or outside for this project, just make sure you have a flat surface to work on. The floor works great.

Supplies: markers, crayons, colored pencils, graphite pencils, sidewalk chalk, pastels, charcoal or any other kind of drawing material. Paper bags, newspapers, newsprint, cardboard, copy paper, any kind of paper. Masking tape, scotch tape, painter's tape or even glue.

When drawing big, start in the middle and work around the paper. And, leave room at the bottom, sides and top of the paper. If you leave room around the edges it helps keep the drawing inside your paper.

You can share with our community. Have your grown up tag Lane Arts Council in FB or Instagram or you can email pictures to LAC. We would love to see your paintings and drawings!