

Pat McClendon
Porcelain Artist

Using Fools Gold



Pat McClendon's Fools Gold is a great alternative to the expensive liquid bright or roman gold. It looks similar to Roman gold after firing. It comes in powder form. You can mix the whole jar or the amount you need. You can paint on fired gold to get the effect of painting on gold, you can also use it as a raised paste, you can use it to paint on top of fired paints, you can paint over luster that has dried then fire together and you can thin to use in a pen. Clean up is simple, just use soap and water.

Instructions for use:

Remove the amount of powdered gold, place on a clean tile, using a palette knife, mix with mineral oil to the consistency of a very thin cream. Thin so it will flow through a soft brush. After firing and a second coat is needed, just apply a thin coat over the first coat and fire again. If you apply the gold too thick, it will have a build up and be rough or it may look like dark yellow-brown. Don't panic, just apply another thin coat of Fools Gold and fire to 018. I have experimented with this, and I have applied 2 to 3 thin coats, and fired after each coat. If you apply your first coat thin and fire; then you can apply another coat and you will be very pleased. Clean brushes with soap and water. If you apply your first coat thin and fire; then you can apply another coat and you will be very pleased. A teacher friend of mine told me that she mixes the gold with mineral oil, and used the turpenoid natural as a medium in her brush and the gold went on very smooth. I keep the gold mixed up in a jar very thin and apply from there. I don't even clean my brushes. I just stand them up in a container and use them as needed.

Fire Fools Gold between cone 018 and 016. If desired, you can re-apply after firing, and fire again.

Do not sand. You may sometimes have a little residue that will rub off, but don't be alarmed, this is normal. I put this gold on a small piece of china fired it and tried to remove it with Whink and it took me many tries before I was able to get it off. I did this for an experiment just to see how durable it is. The Fools Gold is dishwasher safe and microwave safe.

If you desire to use it in a pen, mix very thin. If you wish, you can mix the whole amount and store in the jar. It keeps great, and will be ready to use as you wish. Be sure to stir before using. When applying, do not play in it. Try to use one stroke. If you see small grains in your copper, it needs to be mixed more. Be careful and wash your hands before eating. Keep out of reach of children and avoid inhalation of the powder and dust.

Using as a base for painting. If you like to paint on gold. Apply the Fools Gold onto your subject, fire. With your regular china paints, you can now paint in the details on top of the gold. This is a beautiful effect. Fools Gold makes your highlights sparkle. This is one of my favorite things to do.

Using with rubber stamps. For rubber stamps just mix as though you are going to paint with it and paint across the rubber stamp being careful and not get it down into the grooves. Clean your rubber stamps with soapy water.

Using with stencils: I like to take out some powder and mix it with fat oil until it can be applied with a sponge.

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Using with lusters: Paint the luster on your piece and let it dry completely then you can apply Red Metallic Luster on top of the dried luster and fire in one fire.

Fools Gold can be used on glass as well as ceramics or bisque. Just be sure and fire glass to 022. Properly-fired Fools Gold is dishwasher and microwave safe.

If you would like to arrange a seminar with Pat McClendon to learn first-hand techniques for painting on gold and using Fools Gold, contact Pat to discuss details and schedules.

To order: www.PatsFoolsGold.com

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