

Wood Sprite Face Painting....

Begin! **Grin**



Alrighty – your painting supplies....

A pallet – you can use a ‘professional’ pallet or a wax coated paper plate, or, pretty much any hard surface you don’t mind having paint on. I recommend the paper plates, you can just toss them instead of mucking about cleaning the suckers!

Paint brushes – the one with the white handle is a 20/0 liner (Micro-mark, link in the links section) – the black handled is actually a 2/0 great big sucker!

Water color pencil (optional, to sketch in eyebrows)

Paint: Mars black, Titanium White, Burnt Sienna. (the burnt umber is a reddish medium brown)

Wrapped toothpicks

Rag towel or paper towel (I keep mine on my lap)

Water glass – I generally use a shot glass

Oh yeah – the DOLL of course! **Grin**



Paint pallet... one drop of paint, one drop of Extender (which, of course, I forgot to take a pic of) ½ a brush of water, mixed well. SMALL dab of black mixed with the white so it's just barely gray.



Using the 2/0 fill in the whites of the eyes – if you get lumps/bumps/paint strokes, your paint is too thick, if the paint beads off, just add more, it'll be fine. Notice, please, I didn't follow the mold outlines – the eye whites are inside both the top & bottom of the actual mold. For a Fae this isn't really necessary, since they're generally depicted with big ole eyes, but..... It's normally what I do, so I thought I'd go ahead and use it for the tutorial.



Eyes and teeth filled in – all with that light gray – kinda rough around the edges, but this is the first coat. – Use the 20/0 to fill in the teeth!! (also, it'd be a really good idea if you were neater than I was – taking pictures while I'm painting is really distracting?)



SO – while we wait for the paint to dry (and isn't THAT fun?) – I sketched in the eyebrows with the 20/0 and the burnt sienna (can you tell I'm right handed?)



I've got the second coat of 'white' on the eyes and teeth now... And... I'm starting to play with the lips. Think of this as lip-liner and/or an underpainting – everything you do here will be covered by her eventual lip color – but it will make a BIG difference in the way her final lips look. SO – using the 20/0 brush, dark line where lip meets teeth, feathered out across the bottom lip. – To soften the lines/edges just barely dip your brush

in your water and drag it across your towel brush across the hard edges, they'll soften up nicely.



Same thing across the upper lip



Hee! – an actual lip outline! (on the bottom lip I also feathered the outer line in to meet the inner shading). You can make the outline even if you like, but since we were talking about smirks this morning.... The one side is a TAD fuller toward center, a tad narrower at the corner, and there's that “no really it's just a paint stroke” as a ‘dimple’. Make your stroke, wipe your brush on a towel, dip it in your water glass as though it were paint, brush over it – it will keep your lines soft. If it's still too much, try barely touching it with your finger to ‘smudge’ it.

Also here I've broken out the burnt umber (dark brown) and gone over her eyebrows with an almost dry brush (very lightly touch the 20/0 to the paint, then touch it to... Your pallet, a paper towel, or, if you're odd like me, your thumb.



Lipstick! – or..... how to make a translucent gloss.... This particular color is a drop of 'flesh', two brushfuls of burnt Sienna, two brushfuls of a brick red. I put a drop of extender on the palett all by it's lonesome and added a healthy brush full of my lipstick color. – fill in your lips with the 20/0 (it's shiny because it's still wet, no, I haven't put gloss on it yet, I promise)

OH! – how I hold the doll.... (shaky SHAKY hands have I, being up since 2:30 this morning and having a pot & ½ of coffee isn't helping much either! LOL) – the index finger is under the hair, thumb holding the head in place, middle finger OVER the hair (I make a little ponytail with my fingers, keeps the stuff out of my way)



I've decided I'm not happy with the eyebrows, so I'm going to take them off and start again..... Stay tuned!