

MOD PODGE TILE – ALTERED ARTS PROJECT

By Kim Hill

If you have any questions about this altered arts project, please feel free to contact me at kim@cgeentials.com

This project takes a good 24 hours from start to completion, so be sure you don't cut yourself short on time if it's a gift. LOL

SUPPLIES YOU WILL NEED:

Photo or scrapbook layout printed on photo paper
Plain ceramic tile
60 grit sandpaper
Small bottle of Mod Podge
Small bottle of Glaze – matte, sparkle, antique (your choice)
Sponge-type paint brush
Brayer (small roller used for wallpapering)
Scissors and photo trimmer



WHERE TO GET YOUR SUPPLIES:

Ceramic tiles can be purchased at any home improvement center. I went to Lowes and they carry 4x4, 6x6, 8x8, 8x10, and 12x12. The tiles are actually slightly bigger than stated. For instance, I measured the 4x4 tiles to actually be 4.25 x 4.25. It's best to work with a very basic tile which has a smooth surface.

Sandpaper is usually located in the paint section of most home improvement stores. I used 60 grit, which is meant for removing paint from wood or metal. It is very coarse.

Mod Podge, glaze, sponge brush, brayer, scissors and photo trimmer can be purchased at most craft stores. I went to Michael's Craft Store.

DIRECTIONS:

Be sure your tile is clean and dry. Line up your photo and trim as needed so that it covers the tile completely. You may need to trim it a bit smaller than the actual tile if the tile edges are uneven or slightly slanted.

If your tile is super glossy, rough it up with some sandpaper. This will make your photo adhere more easily and not just slide around on the tile. Now lay the tile on your work space and use your sponge brush to lay on a thin coat of Mod Podge. Brush it evenly in one direction.



Carefully lay your photo on top of the mod podged tile. You have some time to fiddle with the placement. Just be sure your hands are clean so that you are not transferring anything onto the top of your photo. Position the photo and press down firmly. Use the brayer (mini roller) to smooth out the photo and remove any bubbles. Once it is nice and smooth, walk away and take a break for 20 to 30 minutes. This will allow time for the photo to adhere to the tile.

Once the 30 minutes has elapsed, check the edges and corners to see that they are firmly secured to the tile. If the edges are curled or not firmly attached, add a small amount of mod podge to those areas and press down firmly. You may need to hold it in place with your hands, so be sure your fingers are clean.



Next, you will be laying on a coat of mod podge directly on top of your photo. Spread it evenly and not too thick. Brush it all in one direction. Wait about 10-15 minutes for it to dry. Once it is dry, you can lay on a second coat of mod podge. If you brush in the opposite direction as the first coat, you will get a nice textured look to your finished piece. If you don't want that effect, then simply brush it on in the same direction as your first coat. Let it dry for 15-20 minutes.



The final step is to apply a glaze to the top. There are several types available, depending on the finished look you want. A clear matte glaze will give you a smooth finish. A sparkle glaze has glitter mixed in and will add some sparkle to your finished piece. There are also antique/aged glazes which are more brown and will add that vintage look. Whatever you choose, I recommend you try it out on something other than your project **FIRST** to see if you will be happy with it.

For my project, I chose a sparkle glaze. Shake it up really well to help distribute the glitter. Then just brush it on the same way you did the mod podge. Let it sit for 15-20 minutes. Personally, I wasn't happy with the sparkle glaze for this particular layout. I think if it had been an artsy layout without photos of people, it would've looked fine. To me, the sparkle just looks weird on our faces. So I'm going to do this again with a matte glaze instead.



You can brush on a second coat after the first is dry (if you want). And then your project is done. If you get one of those plate display holders, you can set it up on your desk like this. Trust me when I say it looks better in real life than it does in this photo. LOL

FAMILY



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How do you tell someone you love them? I mean, **REALLY** love them. Sometimes the feeling is so intense that you just can't put it into words as words wouldn't possibly do justice to the feeling. Just know that we love you more than words could ever describe.

Feb. 2006