Memory Box – “Sweet Nest”  
By Phyllis Tilford, CDA  
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PALETTE BY DELTA CERAMCOAT
- Autumn Brown,
- Black Cherry,
- Burnt Umber,
- Bubble Gum Pink,
- Chamomile,
- Deep Lilac,
- Eggshell White,
- English Yew Green,
- Mocha Brown (this is a discontinued color, but can be made from Terra Cotta + Autumn Brown 3:1. This is one of my favorite colors and I will not be, or do, without it.)
- Moss Green
- Spice Tan
- Terra Cotta – optional...only if mixing for Mocha
- White

BRUSHES by Loew-Cornell
#2, #6 & #10 Filberts, series 7500
#6 Liner, series 7350

SUPPLIES
Clear, plastic graphic ruler,
Piece of sharpened chalk
Round, yellow hydra sponge
Final Coat or any water base acrylic varnish. The Low Gloss was used here for a “matte” finish
Super Blue Chacopaper Transfer paper
PM Box: This size is 8” x 11” x 5”, however the design can be easily adapted for any size

PREPARATION
None is needed when painting on papier mache

INSTRUCTIONS
Using the round sponge, apply Moss Green. Transfer just the outline for the wreath.

NOTE:
This is not a difficult design to paint. Even a beginner can paint it if they follow the instructions as written, and in the order given. Transfer the designs while painting the objects, in the steps instructed as well. Don’t transfer the entire pattern all at the same time. Please refer to the illustrations for step-by-steps of certain subjects.
1. **WREATH**
   Using the #6 liner, well loaded and blended with fairly thin Autumn Brown, apply one long main twig, then go back and repeat more, intertwining over and under the main, and subsequent twigs. Bear in mind, twigs aren’t really curved or rounded—they angle out at a joint. After the first color has been applied to the entire wreath, add a bit of Burnt Umber to the dirty brush (brush with Autumn Brown still in it) and over and under stroke some more twigs and branches. Don’t allow it to become too dark.

2. **LARGE DARK LEAVES**
   #6 Filbert: English Yew Green:
   a. Add a sideload highlight of Spice Tan on one side of each leaf.
   b. Veins are English Yew + Moss Green, using the #6 liner brush, just light enough to show up and appear soft.

3. **IVY**
   #2 Filbert: Brush mix English Yew + Moss Green...about 2:1.
   a. These are just a series of two comma strokes and one large comma stroke. (See illustration) Even though the leaves range from large to small, the same brush is used for all of them. Veins are made with the #6 liner, using more Moss Green than the base color.

4. **ALL STEMS**
   #6 Liner: English Yew...fairly thin.

5. **ROUND DOTS ON LID:**
   #2 Filbert: brush mix Eggshell White + Deep Lilac for a light lilac.
   Apply one side, then the other.
   When dry, place a float of transparent Deep Lilac on the weaker side to round the circle out. These are placed randomly on the outside of the wreath and the side of the lid.

6. **RIBBON:** Transfer the bird at this time also so you can shade behind it.

**NOTE:** All shading & highlighting floats are blended thoroughly on the palette first, after side loading each given color, on the same side of the brush in order to achieve fairly transparent floats of color. It is built up gradually in layers, not with heavy floats.

#6 Filbert: Paint Spice Tan:
   a. 1st shade: Spice Tan + Mocha Brown
   b. 2nd shade: Mocha Brown + Autumn Brown
   c. 3rd shade: Autumn Brown + Burnt Umber
   d. 4th shade: Burnt Umber + Black Cherry

**Highlights are:**
   e. Spice Tan + Chamomile
   f. Chamomile + Eggshell White
   g. Eggshell
   h. Final shine = more Eggshell if needed.
7. **BIRD**
   #2 & #6 Filberts: Paint 2 – 3 coats of Eggshell White for opaque coverage. Highlight upper edges, beak and tail feathers with White floats. Eye is a dot of Burnt Umber, using the brush tip of the liner brush. Add a smaller dot of White for a shine in the eye if you’d like.

   Shade with sheer, transparent floats of Moss Green to separate the head and wing from body.

8. **PINE BRANCHES**
   #6 Liner: Moss Green + English Yew. (See illustration) If some fall over the dots or the bird, it’s not a problem.

9. **PURPLE FLOWERS**
   #2 filbert:
   a. Load the tip of the brush with Deep Lilac, and standing the brush straight up on the chisel edge, apply the first step as directed in the illustrations.
   b. Add a bit of White to the tip of the brush and begin to highlight some areas.
   c. Add more White to the tip of the brush and begin adding some flower clusters.
   d. Add Spice Tan centers to some of the cluster.

10. **DAISIES**
    #2 Filbert:
    a. Paint the centers Spice Tan.
    b. Highlight the outer edge with Spice Tan + Eggshell.
    c. Shade the lower petal edge of the center with Autumn Brown.
    d. Petals are White, pulled from the tip of the petal toward the center.

11. **STRIPING ON LID:**
    #10 Filbert: Sideload generously into Spice Tan, and apply the color side of the brush to the border letting the clean side of the brush hang off the bottom of the side, going from left to right, if right handed, or right to left, if left handed. It’s easier to get a straight line with a S/L filbert than to try to paint it with the liner.

12. **SIDE OF BOX**
    Measure off 4 – 5” in the center of the box front and back, using the clear graph ruler, and strike off with chalk. Keep the lid on the box when doing this. Lay the ruler horizontally from lower left corner to upper right corner (bottom of lid) and chalk the line. Then chalk off 1” intervals. Remove the lid and continue up the side of the box. This will keep the lid from cutting off the lower design on the side of the box, but the design will continue when the lid is removed.

    All lines are Bubble Gum Pink, using the #6 liner. Each comma is made with the #2 filbert, using English Yew Green. The center dot is Spice Tan, made with the wood end of the liner brush.

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13. LEAF DESIGN

Leaves are filled in, either randomly, or evenly, on each side separating the front design from the back. Use the #6 filbert, with Moss Green + English Yew...just dark enough to be seen as a contrast on the background. Stems and scrolls are the same colors, using the liner brush with thinned paint.

Use the clean dampened sponge and wipe over the entire surface to remove any tracings or chalk. Dry.

Any of the colors may be used on the inside of the box, as well as a metallic gold, which would look nice with the palette as well.

Varnish with at least 2 applications of Final Coat, using the round sponge, or with your favorite varnish. If a high gloss shine is desired use the Final Coat bottle that is not marked “Low Gloss”, as this will only give you a matte finish. To achieve a high gloss, numerous applications are needed. The more applications...the higher the gloss.
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