



## How to Paint Your Custom Shoes!

### Supplies:

- Canvas shoe
- Painter's tape
- Primer (Gesso)
- Acrylic paint
- Palette
- Paint brushes
- Matte finish
- Cup of water (not included in kit)

### Step 1: Masking (10 minutes)



a. Begin by cutting 5 small pieces (about 0.5" long) from the masking tape and place them along the front. This will save you time and is much easier than trying to use one long strip.



b. Use longer strips to go around the sides and the back. Do your best to get the tape right up to the edge of where the canvas meets the rubber sole.



c. Use any size tape strips you prefer to cover the bottom edge.

### Step 2: Priming (5 minutes + 1 hour dry)



Use a thick brush and gesso to prime the canvas areas that you will be painting. You want to put on a good layer, but not so much that it adds thickness to the canvas. The primer will allow the paint to stick to the canvas better and minimize cracking after the paint dries. Allow to dry for about 1 hour (or 20 minutes if you're in a hurry).

### Step 3: Paint/ draw your designs (time varies by difficulty)



a. First paint the background colors you want on each section of the shoe. Let that dry for about an hour (but 15 minutes is fine if you're in a hurry).



b. Next, you can sketch on the shoe very lightly with a pencil or go straight painting your designs. It's best to use lighter colors first. Allow to dry for 1-2 hours.

### Step 4: Finishing (10 minutes and 24 hours to dry)



There are a lot of possible finishers you can use, but gloss or matte are the most popular. Gloss will give your shoes a shiny look and matte will keep most of the texture of the canvas. To apply, use a thin coat of finisher (two coats if you feel like it) on all painted areas. For matte finish, try to make sure there are no white streaks. The gloss finish may appear white as it is applied, but it will dry clear, so don't worry if your shoe looks like it has white streaks at first. Allow to dry for 24 hours. Remove masking tape.

### Tips:

- Don't worry about creating the perfect shoe. Mistakes also make your shoe unique!
- Using a fine brush to cover every nook-and-cranny that is supposed to have paint will make your shoes look much more professional!
- Remove any excess paint that might have gotten on the rubber sole by using isopropyl alcohol or nail polish remover and a butter knife or other scraping tool. Dip a Q-tip or cotton pad in isopropyl alcohol and hold it in place for 15 minutes for difficult to remove paint. Repeat if necessary, some paint will come off each time.