

# How to Colorwash Needlepoint Canvas



My supplies selections from my LNS (Local Needlework Store). Love the color of the Elegance thread! Great color, but no coordinating canvas is available, so I'm colorwashing my own. I'm using 18-ct mono canvas.



Close-up of the Elegance thread. (Both cards are the same color.)



My coordinating choices of Kreinik braid. (Sorry, I don't have the numbers.)

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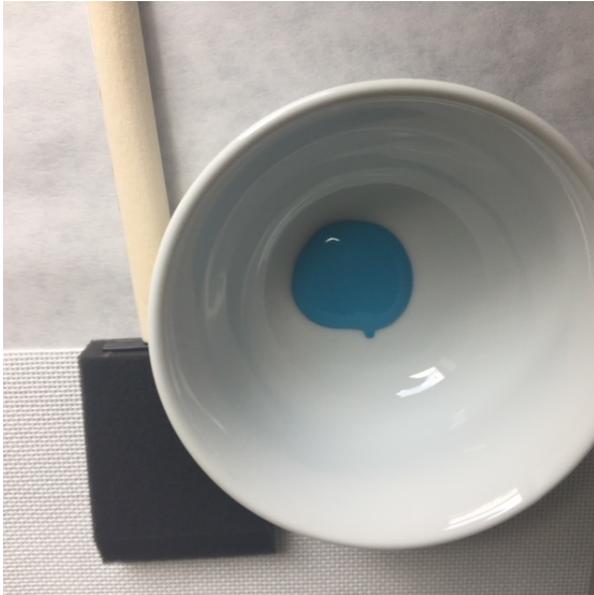


## Basic supplies:

1. Blank 18-ct mono canvas. Cut size of the canvas is the same as called for in the instructions for my project.
2. Parchment paper (or waxed paper) to protect my work surface.
3. Painters' Tape (or other method) to hold the canvas stable while painting.
4. Disposable foam brush.
5. Craft paint in a color to match my project. (The craft paint does NOT have to be the same quality as a professional canvas painter would use. We're just applying some general color to the canvas.)

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Prepping your paint:



1. Start with a small dollop of craft paint. Bowl is only 4" across. You don't need much paint.



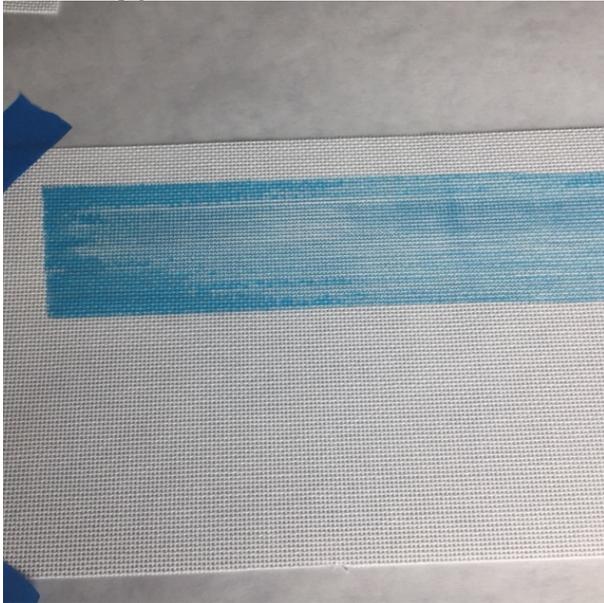
2. Add water.



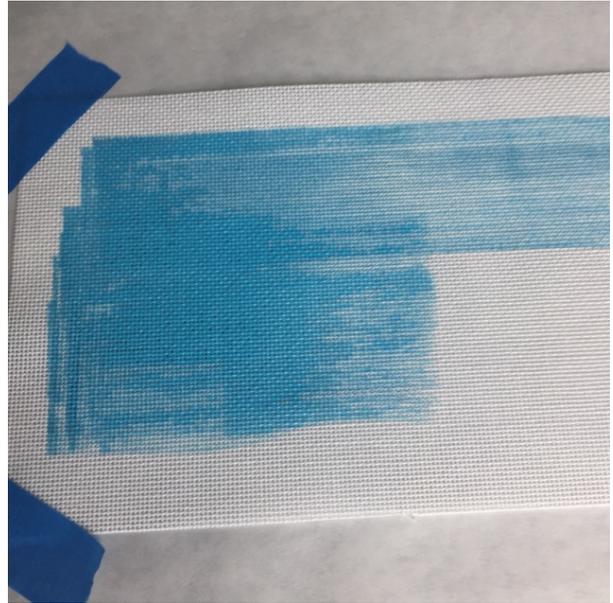
3. Mix to make a thin paint solution.

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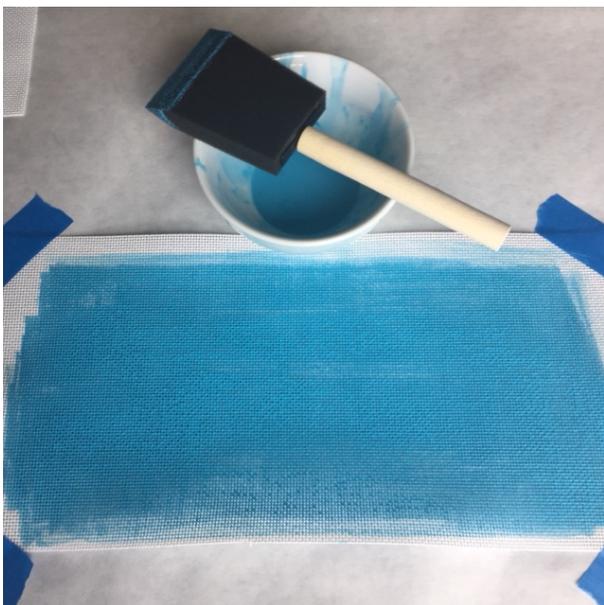
Painting your canvas:



1. Using the disposable foam brush, wash a width of color across your canvas. It won't be solid at first.



2. Additional brushes of color. Take care not to saturate the canvas. You don't want to get it really wet because you want to retain the sizing. Sizing keeps the canvas stiff.



3. Canvas is fully colorwashed. Note that the color is not 100% even. I like that versus a solidly painted surface. Let it dry before removing tape.



4. Canvas is now dry. I gave the canvas a light press with an iron (no steam) using a pressing cloth. Ready for stretcher bars.