

Santa (with Gilders Paste®) by France Benoit

For beginners and intermediary

What You Will Need:

Woodburner (optional)
Q-tips
Alcohol
Kettle gourd
Mineral spirit or other type of odorless solvent
Soft shoe brush
Your fingers
A fine paint brush
Scott towel

If the gourd doesn't sit well:

Drill
Funnel
Sand
Wood filler

Gilders Paste Colors :

Sandalwood
Iris Blue
Patina
Black
Coral Red or Apricot
White
Rich Gold

If the gourd doesn't sit too well, you can drill a hole at the bottom and put sand in it through a funnel. You close the hole with a wood filler product.

Gilders Paste is easy to clean from the fingers with hot water and soap.

1.) Draw the design of the Santa on the gourd. You can woodburn the facial features (eyes nose, mouth and facial lines) and also burn the round of the hat, arm, the paper list and stars. Take off the pencil lines with alcohol after you finish burning. If you do not have a wood burner you can paint the features with the Sandalwood Gilders Paste.



2.) Apply the first coat of Iris Blue to the body and hat. I use my fingers and go in a circular motion because it's nicer to have a blended look to it. The circular motion is important or else you'll end up with lines and that's not the effect we want for this. Leave the beard, face and paper list blank for the moment. Let it dry for 12 hours and buff with a soft shoe brush.

3.) Put on a second coat. Be careful – do not rub too hard as it will take off the first coat. Go gently and let it dry again, buff with the shoe brush.

4.) Line the arms, the stars and under the fur with Black. Put Rich Gold on the mitts and stars. If the gourd has a stem, you can put Rich Gold on it too.

5.) Apply a first coat of Patina on the hat rim, arm's fur (cuffs), front fur and the middle of the arms with your finger or a Q-tip. Let dry.

6.) For the skin: You can use Apricot or put a grain of Coral Red on a very small amount of White until you have a skin-like color. Thin the color to a liquid with a little Mineral Spirits and apply to the face with your finger in a circular movement until it has a uniform color. The color of the gourd will help to get an interesting skin tone. Note: Don't use too much paste. You need very little to do the face.

7.) For the beard, moustache, hair: Mix a little Sandalwood and a bit of White. Apply the first coat with a Q-tip making a flowing hair movement. You can now let that all dry and brush with your soft shoe brush 12 hours later.

8.) Put White on the fur around the hat, cuffs and front. You can dabble it with Q-tips and spread a bit with your finger. Make hairs with a small brush. Don't put too much solvent on the Q-tip or you will lose the background color.



9.) Apply Coral Red to the lips and Sandalwood in the mouth. Add Sandalwood to the eyebrows and eyes after the skin is done. Put Black in the middle of the eye with the small brush.

10.) Put a first coat of White to do the beard. Put a second if you feel there is not enough hair volume. You can also put a bit of Sandalwood in your White to contrast.

11.) Color the paper list White with a downward movement to it. You can then add a bit of Sandalwood and make shades in the paper.

12.) Put a darker shade of Coral Red on the cheeks and pure Coral Red near the beard. You have to blend the color with your finger very delicately. Do the same with nose and eyes.

13.) Burn the facial lines you did first with the wood burner (or use the Sandalwood Gilders Paste). Set your burner on a low temperature.

14.) Put brown for the eyes and darken the edge with liquid black. It has to remain pale around the iris. Put little tiny dots of gold at the bottom of the eyes. Not too much. Put a touch of dirty white in the iris.

15.) Burn or outline the paper list again. Let dry and brush.

You can check on my website:

<http://fbcreations.com>

You can find Gilders Paste® :

<http://northerndipper.com>

<http://www.primitiveoriginals.com>

<http://gilderspaste.com>

<http://turtlefeathers.com>

