How to Paint Rocks to Achieve Success

Here are my favourite tips for achieving the best painted rocks:

1. Pick smooth, flat rocks. You can decorate any rock, but it's harder to decorate ones with ridges.

2. Wash the rocks before decorating them. You want to remove dirt so that it doesn't mess your design. You can wash several at once with dish soap and leave in a colander to drain and dry.

3. Prime the rocks with white paint to help the colours that you paint on top appear more vibrant.

4. Paint your design on top and use several coats . . . let dry between layers. Use an outdoor or multi-surface paint to help them hold up to the elements.

5. Use small brushes or cocktail sticks / cotton buds to make small details and/or dots.

6. Use a permanent pen to write on your rocks. These work the best for me! Just make sure to let fully dry before any writing.

7. Finish off your rocks with a coat (or two or three) of clear glue. This will help protect your beautiful painted rocks from the elements.

And my favorite tip: if you mess up, wipe it off or wash it away while the paint is still wet. You can dab a corner of a paper towel in water and do it quickly and easily. Trust me . . . we've all had to do it. You'll have a blast learning how to paint rocks!

Rock Painting