

Acrylic Pours

This technique is, by all accounts, a-mazing! Not only can you create interesting drip patterns, marbling and dapppling, you'll also learn new ways to use and adapt what you create.

Acrylic pours are indeed versatile. Perhaps you'll apply them directly to a surface or maybe you'll dry them and use them as collage elements. In any event, the authors of *Surface Treatment Workshop* will show you how, along with a multitude of variations that will allow you to personalize your art even more!

To learn more about or purchase *Surface Treatment Workshop* by Darlene Olivia McElroy and Sandra Duran Wilson, [click here](#).

www.CreateMixedMedia.com



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Acrylic pours and drips can be used in many different ways: Pours can be cut into shapes and used as collage elements; you can mix different mediums to get runs and drips; and you can create marbled effects with pours.

MATERIALS + TOOLS

- surface
- fluid acrylic paint
- palette knife
- Golden GAC 800
- cups for mixing (yogurt containers with lids work well)
- Liquitex Pouring Medium
- disposable plate
- plastic lid
- scissors

SURFACES

- canvas
- panel
- plastic
- watercolor paper

ARCHIVAL QUALITY

Excellent

TIPS

To keep paint colors pure, let each color pour or drip dry before adding the next one.

Golden GAC 500, alcohol and water are also good additives to get paint you pour to run.

Trash bags and plastic drop cloths are the type of plastic acrylic won't stick to, and most plastic food lids will also release the acrylic.



1 Choose your surface and colors. Using the palette knife, mix one fluid acrylic paint color (we chose blue) with Golden GAC 800 in a small container. Clean the palette knife and mix another fluid acrylic paint (we chose white) with Liquitex Pouring Medium in different container.

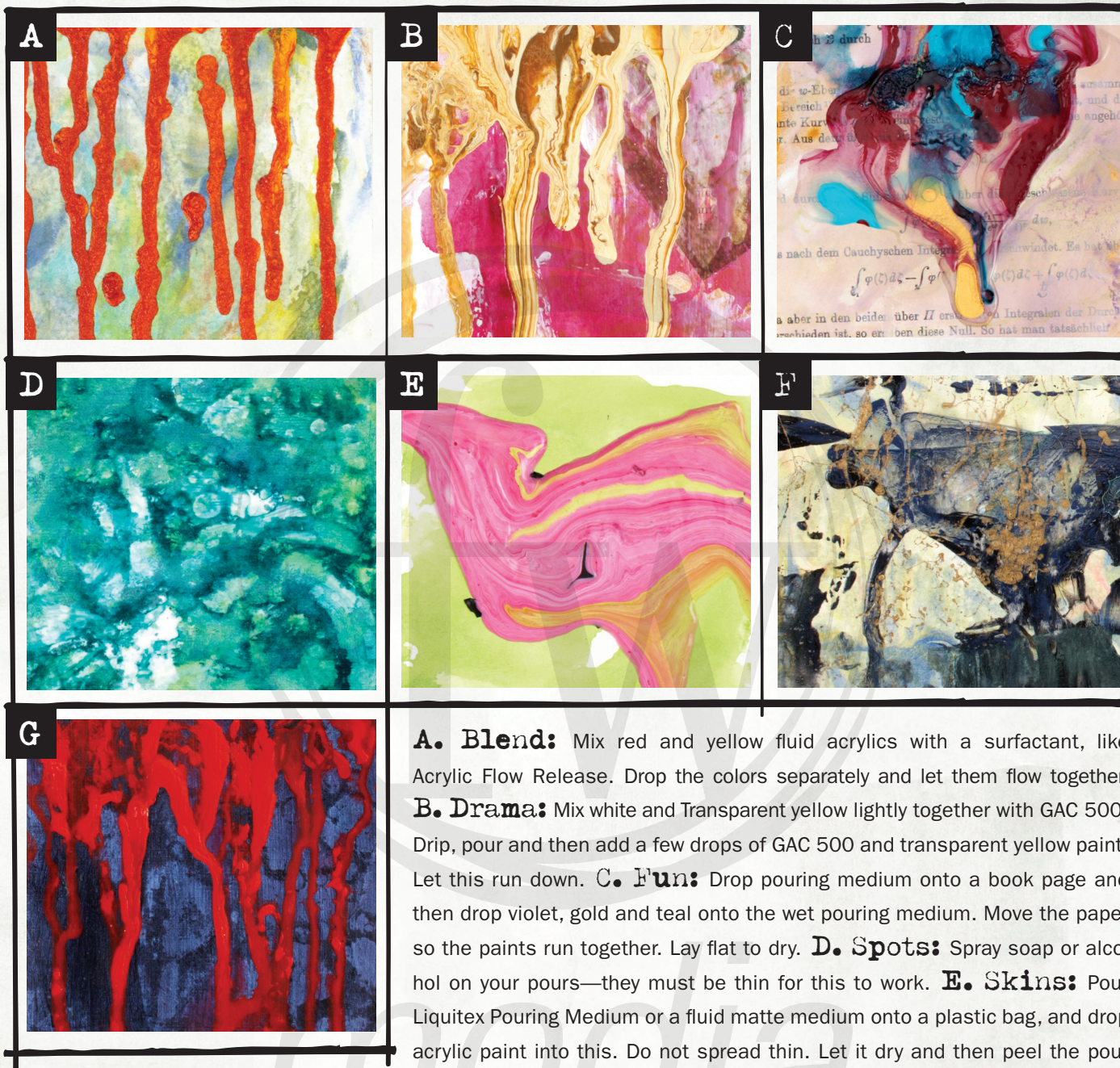
2 Drip or pour a small amount of each mixture at the top of the surface. Hold the surface over a disposable plate or container, and tilt and move it to get the paint to flow. You may also spritz on water to increase the flow. Let it dry.



3 Pour Liquitex Pouring Medium into the plastic lid—enough to cover the bottom. While the pouring medium is still wet, drop the desired colors of fluid acrylic paints in separate drops. Take a toothpick and swirl the colors. Allow the pouring medium to dry (this could take several days, depending on the thickness). It will be clear, not cloudy, when dry.

4 Pop the pour out of the lid. You can cut the pour into shapes using scissors.

VARIATIONS



- A. Blend:** Mix red and yellow fluid acrylics with a surfactant, like Acrylic Flow Release. Drip the colors separately and let them flow together.
- B. Drama:** Mix white and Transparent yellow lightly together with GAC 500. Drip, pour and then add a few drops of GAC 500 and transparent yellow paint. Let this run down.
- C. Fun:** Drop pouring medium onto a book page and then drop violet, gold and teal onto the wet pouring medium. Move the paper so the paints run together. Lay flat to dry.
- D. Spots:** Spray soap or alcohol on your pours—they must be thin for this to work.
- E. Skins:** Pour Liquitex Pouring Medium or a fluid matte medium onto a plastic bag, and drop acrylic paint into this. Do not spread thin. Let it dry and then peel the pour off. This is like a skin.
- F. Webs:** Use spray webbing on a pouring medium.
- G. Runs:** Dilute the paint with a little water. Apply it to the surface and spray it with alcohol to get it to run.



TROUBLESHOOTING

If you end up with a muddy mess while pouring on a surface, you have used too many colors at once. Try using one or two colors at a time, and let these dry before adding more. If the paint is still wet when the mess happens, try wiping it off with water or alcohol and then start the process again.