## **Pottery to Go Painting Instructions**

- Start by washing your hands before handling the pottery
- Wipe any dust or dirt off your piece with a damp sponge or cloth
- When you are ready to paint, remember these helpful tips:
  - Only use the paints you purchased from Paint the Town. Using acrylic or other paints will cause the paints to melt in the kiln, ruining the finished product.
  - Brushing on just one coat of paint will result in a translucent effect where your brush strokes will show up on your fired piece.
  - Applying three coats of a color will ensure it shows up bright and solid/opaque.
  - Allow the paint to dry between coats, which only takes a couple of minutes. The paint will appear chalky when it's time to apply the next coat.
  - Light colors do not show up well over dark colors, even when you apply 3 coats. If you are going to paint a background, it's best to start with a light color and put darker colors on top.
  - Any areas you do not paint will turn out white and shiny. We will dip your item in a clear glaze before firing.
  - Rinse your brush in water and dab it onto a sponge or paper towel in between colors.
  - You can create new colors by combining the ones you have on a palette and mixing thoroughly. Just remember that the paint changes dramatically in the firing process, so you won't know exactly what your mixed colors will look like until your piece is fired.

## **PAINT PENS**

- Before using a paint pen please note:
  - Always keep the pin in the tip when the pen is not in use to prevent clogging.
  - Use paint pens at the end of your project to add fine lines, details, words, etc.
  - Paint applied with a paint pen will show up on top of any other color. For example, you can paint light dots/designs on top of a darker color!
  - You only need one coat of paint when using a paint pen since it goes on thicker than with a brush, and it will always be opaque.
- To use a paint pen:
  - It's a good idea to practice on a plate or piece of paper first.
  - Pull out the pin and shake the bottle upside down so the paint goes into the tip.
  - Lightly touch the tip to your piece while squeezing gently.
  - If the paint isn't coming out, do NOT squeeze hard or you may end up with a mess on your piece. Insert the pin into the tip to unclog it.
- Be sure to paint your name or initials somewhere on your piece.
- Allow your piece to dry completely before wrapping it up and bringing it back to us for firing.
- Our regular turnaround time for firing is 7 days, but we can do a 4-day rush for an additional fee.
- For questions please call (206) 527-8554 or email us at paintthetown.info@gmail.com

## **HAPPY PAINTING!**