

Application of the It's So Chic Deluxe Decoupage Papers



Fool proof Easy Peasy Application Guide Summary



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Applying the PVA glue

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Sealing the paper



Apply a layer of cheap PVA glue (nothing fancy is needed) all over the surface spreading the glue to get a good thin coverage.

Ensure you don't have too much glue and that it is even as I find too much in one area is what causes the bubbles.



While you are working the glue, it is getting slightly tacky.

I like to very lightly spray mist the back of the paper with water before applying.

I find it helps if you need to reposition the piece as it doesn't stick firm straight away.

Guide the first edge of the paper onto your piece ensuring you have it straight. Reposition if needs be.





I use a felt edged squeegee to smooth the paper down as I go pushing any air and excess glue to the edges, reminding the back of the paper as I go.

Remist the back of the paper lightly as you get towards the end just to aid the application and to help if you need to lift up again to remove a bubble.



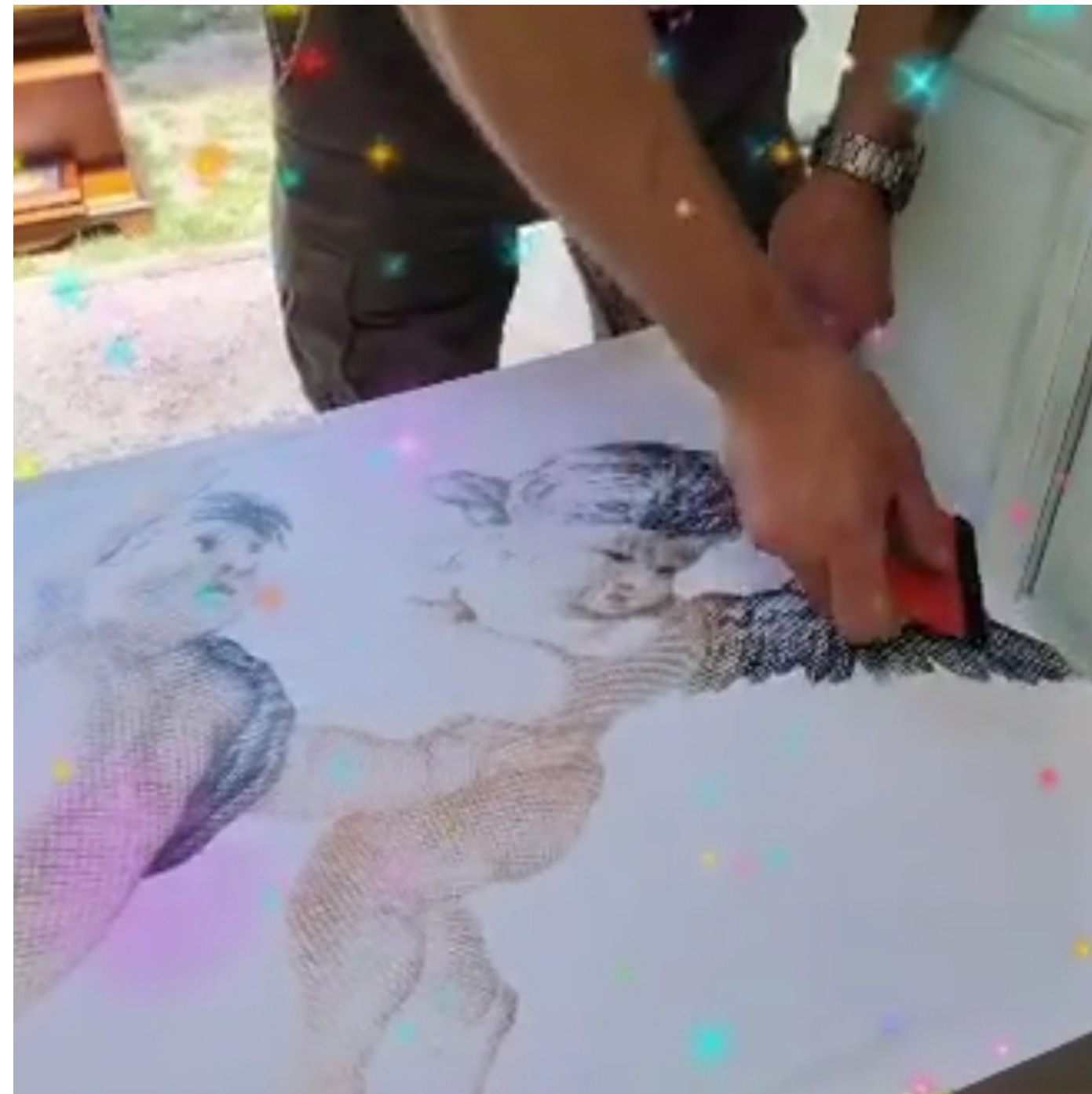


Unsure your edges are well adhered. Use the squeegee to push all the air to the edges and run it up and down the edges to seal down nice and firm.

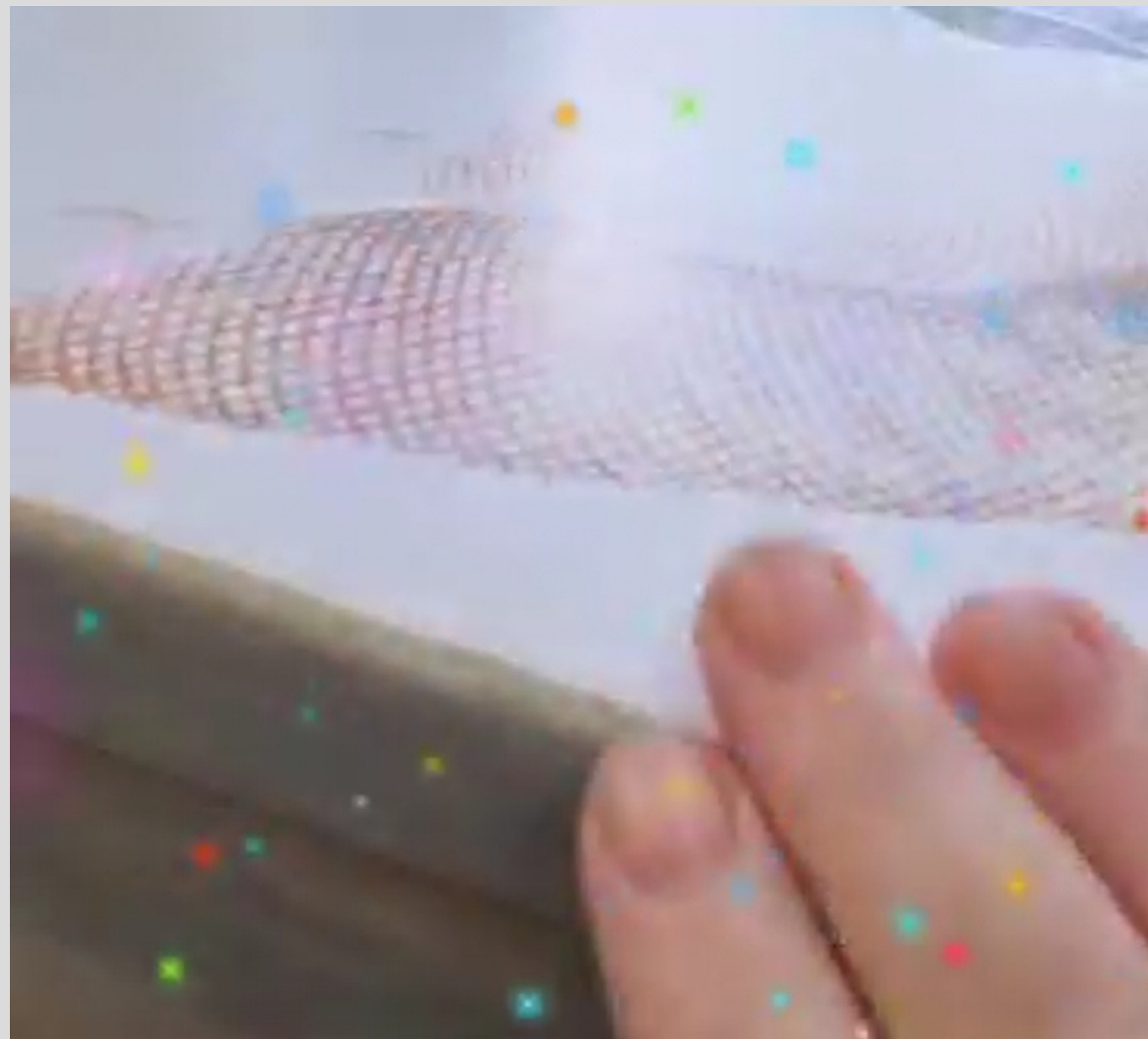
A fail safe method to getting a completely flat finish.

If you do get small air bubbles you probably had too much glue, leave it alone overnight and they should have shrunk back.

I leave overnight to make sure it's completely dry before sealing.



The next day you can trim your edges...



Use a very sharp blade at a 45 degree angle to the edge of the piece of furniture and glide the blade along. Cutting on the angle means that there won't be an edge to the paper that could get lifted.

Run your fingers up and down the edge, if you can feel it flicking up run the blade at 45 degrees again to trim off a little more.

If you are trimming the edge of a drawer etc I would say you will want a nice sharp edge to the decoupage paper, but if the edge is curved as in the blanket box lid, and you are blending your paint over the edge of the paper, I suggest cutting the edge slightly wavy.

Your eye can't follow a wavy line like it can a straight line so when blending your edge will hardly be noticed.

Seal the papers before blending your paint, just don't over wet the paper as you will run the risk of bubbles forming. A thin coat of varnish, let dry then lightly sand the papers edges to smooth down the transition from paper to surface, then blend your design.



I use Polyvine Decorators varnish to seal my papers as it was originally made to protect expensive wallpapers so perfect for the job.

It also dries in 15mins..... so it doesn't have time to make the paper too wet to reactivate the pva... which could cause bubbles to appear.

I apply 3 thin coats of the Decorators varnish, evenly and quite quickly.

And don't overload the brush so you don't apply too much varnish in one area....it's all about not over wetting the paper.



Wax can also be used to seal the papers. I used a couple of coats of clear wax and then added dark wax to age the piece buffing up to a nice sheen.



THE FINISHED PIECE.

