

Moxie University

Faux Stained Glass

Everybody enjoys the sun shining through windows. Isn't the purpose of windows to bring light into a building? Stained glass windows have a completely different purpose. It is not for the purpose of seeing outside but rather, to enhance the beauty of buildings, control the light that enters the building, and often to tell a story. In fact, many people during the Middle Ages could not read. Stained glass windows helped people learn stories of the Bible. This is the story of "The



Wedding at Cana" at Chartres Cathedral in France. Pope Gregory urged artists to use stained glass stories to educate the public.

Stained glass is a form of painting that began over 1,000 years ago and it is still essentially made the same way now. Look back at the two paintings on page 2 in this manual. The one on the left was made almost 900 years ago and the one on the right was made just 3 years ago!

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In the 17th Century, after the glass pieces were cut and shaped, they were painted with pigment by mixing iron oxide and ground copper with powdered glass.

Then...

Wine, urine, or vinegar was added to help apply pigment to the glass. Once painted, the separate pieces of glass were placed in a wood-fired oven called a kiln. The heat of the kiln causes the vitreous paint to fuse permanently to the surface of the glass.



<https://www.etsy.com/listing/450989082/>