

Greek Vase-Inspired Ornaments

Pottery is important to archaeologists who study life in ancient Greece. Styles and designs changed over time, so archaeologists can use them to create a chronological understanding of the culture who made them. The painted designs and scenes often illustrate the myths and legends which were important to the ancient Greeks. Sometimes, the characters on pottery were labeled, so that can be used to reconstruct scenes from stories, plays, and myths that were lost over time. They also provide important sources, showing clothing and objects of everyday life.



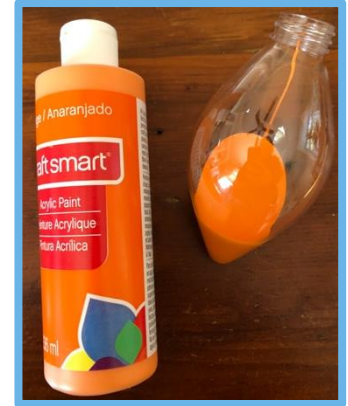
MATERIALS:

<p>Clear Plastic Ornaments*</p> 	<p>Orange and/or Black Paint</p> 	<p>Paintbrush</p> 	<p>Black Sharpie</p> 
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*Other ideas include: painting the outside of ornaments you have, create-your-own out of paper mache, or use construction paper to make flat versions. Just adjust the steps below as necessary.

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STEP ONE: If you are using a clear ornament, add a few drops of orange paint to the inside. Swirl it around (adding more if necessary) until it is completely covered. Allow to dry completely.

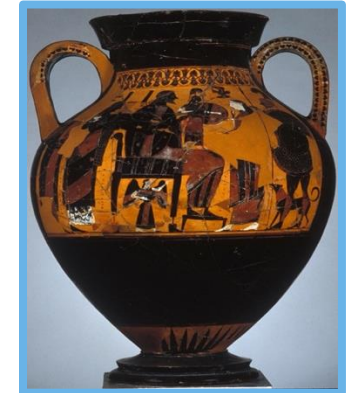


OR

You can use your paintbrush to paint around the outside. This will give a chalky-finish to your ornament. Allow to dry completely.



STEP TWO: Get inspiration! We loved the [geometric designs](#) from the Penn Museum's collection, but you might also consider the figural examples [here](#). This Digital Daily Dig, created by curator Ann Brownlee, has some stunning examples of [vase covers](#). These work particularly well if you are drawing on flat ornaments/paper.



STEP THREE: Using the black sharpie or paint, draw your design onto your ornament. We used a sharpie-paint marker to achieve the paint effect. Once fully dry, find a place to display your creations!

