

## TECHNIQUE #3 – ALTERED JIGSAW PIN

### REQUIREMENTS.

- Child's jigsaw puzzle bits (you can usually pick these up cheap in the Oppies... (Thrift shops)
- 2-3 acrylic paints (I like Lumiere but you can use any paint)
- 1/2" Flat brush
- Black Ink pad (doesn't matter if its dye or solvent ink)
- Collage type Rubber Stamp
- Beading wire in a colour to match your paint
- Jump Rings
- Charms
- Beads
- Pin back or magnet
- Micro Beads
- Dimensional Magic
- Strong Glue
- Darning Needle
- Needle nose pliers



1. Rummage through your box of puzzle bits and choose a few shapes that appeal to you. Consider how they will look when you put them 'right way up'



2. Paint the right side of each piece with two coats of Gesso. You just need a couple of light coats to give the paint something to stick to - doesn't have to totally cover the image...

The 'right side' is the image side.. the image side will always have the nicer, smoother edge to it because of the way they are die cut when manufactured

3. Take your Lumiere paints (or whatever you have chosen) and with your flat brush 'pounce' one colour of the paints onto the jigsaw bits in a couple of patches. It needs to go on a little heavier than normal...and you do need to pounce it on.. just painting in strokes as you would normally would make it streaky.. pouncing it gives it a bit more texture and ensures a good solid coat.



**TIP:** *When painting or gluing I use an old phone book under my work - then I can just rip the sticky/messy page off and have a clean palette to paint the next ones..*

*No transferring paint from one job to another...*



4. Now just wipe the excess paint off the brush and dip it into the second colour and pounce that in the remaining white areas.

5. Next, WITHOUT cleaning or wiping the brush off, dip the tip of it back into the first colour and dab/pounce where the two colours meet to blend/mottle the edges.



6. Paint all your pieces and allow to dry thoroughly.

I have used all Lumiere's here:

- Citrine with Sunset Gold
- Rust with Burnt Orange
- Purple with Turquoise

7. Next, take your stamp and black ink and stamp on each piece.





I have used a collage type stamp that is a mix of swirls and text. You need one that is bigger than your puzzle bit so you don't get the entire design on it - just a section of it.

8. When all your pieces are stamped, decide which way up they are going to be.. and with your Japanese Screw Punch or Crop-a-dile, punch holes in the bottoms of each piece.

You can see here that some have only one hole, while others have two or three. You can also punch a hole in the sides that stick out if you like. Where ever you punch a hole, we will be adding a charm and jump ring later.. so visualise where you want your danglies :-)



9. Next, take your dimensional magic and go all around the edges, then fill in the middle.

You can use a glossy varnish but the dimensional magic does look a lot better. One of the good things about the Dimensional Magic is it stays exactly where you put it.. doesn't run over the edges like varnish would and doesn't clog up your holes, but sits nicely on top.

**NOTE:** Never shake Dimensional Magic.. that will puts little bubbles in it that are hard to get rid of. If you do get a bigger

air bubble when you are using it pop it with a pin.

**TIP:**

*I have two bottles of Dimensional Magic on the go at a time.. one of them I have snipped the top down a little to allow it to flow faster, I have marked the bottle with an \* so I know its the bigger opening and use this for bigger jobs like this.*



10. Now, gather your beading wire, charms, beads, jump rings, metal bits etc.,

There is no hard and fast you step by step here.. you have to go with the flow of what works for the piece you have vbg. The only main rule is bear in mind where you are going to put the pin or magnet, and don't have wire going across this spot.. it needs to be flat to give you good grip when you add the pin/magnet

Some things I like to do:

1. Wind the wire around a couple of times and on the last pass add a bead.
2. Thread some seed beads onto beading wire and add them across a corner
3. Wind some wire around a darning needle to create a coil, then thread some beads onto the straight end, add to the puzzle piece and send your wire ends to the back

I have used one long piece here.....



I did the coil, taped the wire to the back (coil end) with some

masking tape, added the beads, passed it to the back, wound it a couple of times around the right hand top corner, added another bead, wound it to the back again, came out on the other side, threaded some seed beads on and went to the back again. Then I lifted the making tape off, twisted the two ends of the wire together with the needle nose pliers and added some fresh tape over the ends so that it wouldn't catch on clothing.

When I had added beads, wire etc., to all my pieces, I added a few micro beads here and there (with Dimensional Magic as a glue). When your beads are dry, hang the charms off the pieces with a jump ring.

And finally... with good strong glue (I use Weldbond its brilliant) glue the pin or magnet to the back of your pieces.

**Tip:** *Open the jump rings with your needle nose pliers by twisting the ends apart, one end towards you, one end away from you. Never PULL them apart. They will close up much neater if you just twist them apart. Once they are pulled apart with a gap in the centre, it's hard to keep them round.*

