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## **Paint and Stamp on a Silk Blouse** with Anna Joyce

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### **Chapter 1 - Introduction**

#### Overview

(upbeat music) - Hi, I'm Anna Joyce. I'm a textile designer, printmaker, artist, and author of Stamp Stencil Paint. And today, I'm gonna be showing you how to paint and print on a silk tank. I'm gonna show you how to prepare the tank for painting and printing, mix custom colors, and then stamp on top of your pattern. We're also gonna eat set the tank top, and make it wearable. This hand-painted and printed tank is a richly patterned piece that you can do in an afternoon, and will be a fantastic edition to your wardrobe.

### **Chapter 2 - Materials**

#### Materials

- For this project you'll need a silk tank top, either that you buy new or from your wardrobe or a thrift store. We'll be using Jacquard Dye-Na-Flow in a variety of colors, some that we'll use directly from the jar, and some that we're going to mix. Some small paintbrushes, one with a flat edge and one with a rounded edge, some water for cleaning our brushes, a Yellow Owl Workshop or another stamp pad that can be used on fabric permanently, a geometric stamp that's about an inch wide, a piece of canvas to put inside the tank, a little bit of tape to keep everything secure, a palette for your paint. I like to have some swatches for testing my materials, and also a ruler for keeping your pattern steady. A rag, since we'll be working with water and paint. An iron and ironing surface for heat setting your finished tank top to make it permanent and washable. And also, I like to cover the surface that I'm working on with a piece of artist canvas. It's a fantastic surface. It is absorbent, and also protects your table from spills.

### **Chapter 3 - Building a Pattern on Silk**

#### Testing dye on a silk swatch

- I'm gonna be mixing some custom colors for my painted tank top and I'm starting with this Jacquard Dye-Na-Flow paint. It is a free-flowing paint that is perfect for painting on silk. So, I'm gonna shake it well to make sure that there is no pigment left at the bottom. I'm gonna add a little bit of the Jacquard Dye-Na-Flow in Emerald Green to the white and I'm using my round tipped brush for this and I do mean just a very, very little bit. I'm just dipping the end of my brush and then mixing it into the white. When you're mixing colors, always start with a light color and add dark to it. So that you don't end up with too much paint when you're coming up with the perfect shade. I think I'm gonna add just a tiny bit more before I test it. One more dip into the green and that is about the kind of minty color that I want. I'm gonna pick up a little bit of the paint and test it out and I like the way that that looks. It's always good to mix just a little bit more paint than you think you're gonna need because sometimes it's hard to match the color later. Alright, so I like that. I think that that's gonna work just fine. Now, I'm gonna move on to, this is the pink that we're gonna be using. It's straight from the jar. I'm just dipping the tip of the bristles into the jar and I'm gonna paint a couple of stripes next to the green to make sure that it's the color combination that I want. I'll actually pour some of this into my paint pallet so I can see all the colors together. Use your rag to clean up any spills because you don't want to get that on your finished project. So, now I'm gonna mix the yellow. I'm gonna clean my brush. Make sure there's no pink left in it and make sure it's dry on my rag. So,

I'm gonna pour out some of this golden yellow into one of the wells. I'm gonna add a little bit of a color called Brass to the yellow, just to bring a little bit more depth and have it be a little bit more of a yellow ocher. Instead of it being quite so sunny. This color pallet is already very springy and I think that having a yellow that has a little bit more depth of color adds sophistication to the pattern. I'm just gently dipping my brush into the Brass and adding very little bits at a time into the yellow and I'm gonna test it out and see how it looks. Alright, I am satisfied with that color. It's warm and sunny, but has just a little bit of a yellow ocher depth that I think looks good. So, I'm gonna do a stripe of the yellow on my test also, a stripe of the aqua and I think I might want to add just a little bit more green. This aqua's feeling a little bit pale to me. There we go. Just a little bit brighter. It's very subtle, but it makes a difference. Now I'm gonna rinse my brush and put a stripe of pink. Make sure all the colors are playing well together. It's a really springy pallet. When you're using textile paint and especially the Jacquard Dye-Na-Flo in particular, you do wanna make sure that you let your test swatch dry before you decide on a finished color. The colors can dry up to one or two shades lighter as the water evaporates. I'm also gonna test my stamp over here. I'm using a Yellow Owl Workshop Stamp in black. It can be used for fabric and heat set to be permanent. I just wanna charge up my stamp with ink by gently tapping it on the surface. I'm not using very much pressure and just making sure that my geometric shape is covered with ink. Then I'll come over here and gently press with even, firm pressure on the silk. I'm just slightly overlapping the stamp to create a little three piece pattern right here. I'm gonna come over and add black on top of the color that I already painted just to make sure that everything is working just the way I want it to be. These colors look great and I think I'm ready to start painting on my blouse.

#### Aqua paint pattern

- Before I begin painting and adding pattern to my tank top, I'm going to slip a piece of canvas inside to protect the underside from paint bleeding through. Depending on the size and style of your shirt, you'll need to cut and measure a piece of canvas to fit inside of it. I'm just kind of slipping this in almost like you would a hanger. Then smoothing out any wrinkles. Fold it, just have everything even on the canvas. Once all that's in place I'm gonna take a piece of this Martha Stewart stencil tape which is available at Michael's. Just tape the tank top and the canvas in place so it doesn't shift around while I'm painting. You can also use masking tape or artist's tape. Definitely test on top of your blouse to make sure that the tape that you use doesn't leave any residue. Alright now everything's taped in place. I'm ready to start painting. I'm gonna use an acrylic ruler. Acrylic rulers are nice because you can see through on to the surface below. It gives you a really accurate picture of your pattern. I'm gonna start my pattern somewhat down on the blouse. I can get a really nice accurate line going at about 45 degrees here. I'll fill in the pattern up top later after I have established my lines. I'm gonna start with the aqua. We're gonna build the pattern on the tank top in four layers. Aqua is the first layer. This round-tipped brush, I'm just gonna drop it down and kind of pick it up quickly leaving a little mark that looks like a teardrop. I'm gonna lift up my ruler, set it down and use it as my guide, trying not to get too much paint on the ruler, since it might transfer when I'm shifting it. Any place that you put down your brush the first time after it's been in the paint, the ink is going to pool slightly and create a thicker juicier line. Sometimes I like to spread those out so they're not all concentrated on one spot on the blouse. I may start my pattern in the center one time then move it over to the edge. I've left this part of the tank top intentionally blank, also the straps. I wanted to establish the angle of my lines. I'm just gonna continue moving down the tank, doing my little aqua teardrop shapes. Then I will come up and finish this once it's had a chance

to dry. I'm dipping the tip of my paintbrush into the ink and wiping off any excess. When I'm painting on the blouse just dabbing the brush down slowly, almost in a running line. I'm not applying very much pressure. I encourage you to be confident while you're painting this, you'll be able to tell in the quality of your lines if you were inspired and feeling good. While you're painting the stripes, it may take a little while. Just be relaxed while you're doing it. Maybe take some inspiration from music. Just continue painting your lines. Don't worry too much if a little bit of ink drips or spills. It's just going to add to the beautiful unique quality of your tank top. It's already hand-painted. You're making a creation from scratch. It's just lines. Nothing difficult here. You can just follow the ruler. Just continue dabbing your paint. Now that this is dried on the tank top, I'm gonna line up my ruler with this top painted line and continue the pattern up over the straps. I've moved the ruler about 3/4 inch. I'm gonna be painting upwards instead of down now. The acrylic ruler is really, really nice when you're working this way, so you can see through to the pattern underneath and make sure that everything is in line. Now I'm gonna move the ruler again so I can really see what I'm doing and make sure these straps look just as lovely as the rest of the tank top. Just continue my pattern. If the tape gets in your way you can gently remove it and freehand it up there. I'm gonna use the ruler for the rest of this part right here. Alright that's good. Now I'm gonna look at the painted lines of my pattern and make sure there aren't any empty spots or places that feel bare. I found one over here and I'm gonna add a little bit of a line to it. I'm just gonna do this freehand. This is really just about balance. Making sure that you're not having any breaks in the pattern, or places that feel heavy and catch your eye. I'm gonna let this dry. Then I'm going to move on to the next layer of our pattern which is going to be the paint stripes.

#### Pink paint pattern

- [Instructor] The next color that we're going to put on the tank top is pink. We're going to be doing some pink horizontal lines. I'm going to use my ruler just to line everything up and make sure it's in the right spot. Just like I did before with the diagonal lines, I'm going to start kind of over in the top left-hand corner to establish the pattern and then I'll move down and then also up. Make sure to wipe off your ruler in case there's any paint leftover from the last layer so that you don't transfer it onto your tank top. Just going to pick up a little bit of the pink, wipe off the excess, and start my pattern. It's going to be three lines, approximately two and a half to three inches long. Very simple patterns and geometric shapes layered to create something not-so-simple. Then I'm going to leave about two inches and paint another set of my three lines. Don't worry if some of the lines are a little bit closer than others or they're slightly off-kilter. This piece will flow over the body and look really nice and it's those little imperfections that make it special. I really love how the Dye-Na-Flow works on silk. The bottom layer colors will kind of slowly bring up the pattern through the stripes, creating a really lovely watercolor effect. When you get over here to the corner and you're working with a seam, I like to take my brush and continue the pattern on as if there were not a seam there. It makes it look as though the tank was made out of an original textile, and not simply had a pattern applied to it. Going to also do the same for this side over here. Now I'm going to move my ruler down. Continue painting, and this time I'm going to do my lines in the space that's left blank, to create kind of a checkerboard pattern. If you want to go over another line because it's not quite long enough or not quite dark enough, you can just add a little bit more paint and that line will have a little bit more pigment to it. I'm letting the width of this flat brush create the line and not using very much pressure or very much pigment. This nice flat brush creates a really pretty line. Continue painting this striped checkerboard pattern in pink down the length of your tank top. As we did with the

green pattern before, we're going to do the straps last, since we've got the pink lines established. It's easier to make sure that your pattern's equal once you start getting into the neckline, since this is broken up and it's not a vast expanse of silk. It's sometimes a little bit harder to make a pattern that's going to be consistent if you start from the top. So I'm going to now go in and fill it in. I'm working my way up the blouse. Looking for that checkerboard. And right here, when I come to the seam at the neckline and at the arm hole, just going to paint and continue it as if this were cut from whole cloth. We're going to let this pink layer dry, and then we'll move on to the yellow.

#### Bronze paint pattern

- You could stop here if you wanted with the aqua and the pink lines but I think I'm going to add a little bit of yellow to this pattern. So to make this a little cross hatch pattern, I'm going to use the end of my brush. Holding the brush up at a 90 degree angle, I'm going to fill in one of the blank spots right here in between the pink lines. And going at a diagonal, I'm just going to dot my brush to create these little lines and just filling in this square that was left by the pink. And there's nothing too precise about it. I like to start in the middle and then work my way out. It helps keep things just a little bit more even. But there's no precise science. If one patch of yellow is a little bit larger than the other one it doesn't matter. This is an organic pattern. I'm going to use my fingers to make sure this is flat. And you don't need to dip your brush into too much paint for this part. Now that I've got that top row done. I'm going to move on to the rest of the tank top. For this painted tank, since it's such a summery piece, I went with a color story that felt really like summer and spring to me with the light pink and the sky blue and kind of a yellow oker. It reminds me of flowers. I draw a lot of inspiration from nature. But I think that this pattern would look just as beautiful in neutrals, you could do it in a charcoal gray with brown or another color that you are inspired by. You could do all of the same colors, like light green, dark green, any of those would be just fine. I encourage you to play around with color and find something that you really like. The Dye-Na-flow mixes really well so you can mix custom shades that are perfect just for you. And just really have fun with it. I love using the Jacquard Dye-Na-Flow on silk because it has an incredible water color quality. It's really like wearing a piece of art. Silk has a really nice hand, it's very tightly woven oftentimes and you can cover it with an all over pattern and have it look really, really sophisticated. It's a lovely fabric to wear year round. So this piece can be really seasonless. I also find that you can find a lot of really, really nice silk pieces at thrift stores, making your hand painted wardrobe a little bit more affordable. Now that the pattern has been established, I'm going to move up to the top of the tank, where the straps are and fill everything in. I find that on garments, the arm holes and the neck line can be kind of confusing sometimes. Just to find out where everything is and make sure you're putting your pattern in the right spot. So I like to do it last, after I feel really comfortable with what I'm painting. And if you do happen to make a mistake with your pattern, and something is just a little bit off, don't worry. So I'm going to let this dry thoroughly before I begin the last part of the pattern, which is the stamp.

#### Stamp hexagon pattern

- To finish off the tank top, I'm going to add a layer of stamped pattern. I have a Yellow Owl Workshop stamp pad. It's great because it's all surface, so it can go on fabric and become permanent after it's heat set. And I have this little geometric stamp that I picked up at a kids store. You can find all sorts of different patterns, all sorts of different stamps at art supply stores and online and you may choose that you want to do a floral or a geometric or whatever you like. You can also carve your own stamp. I chose a little pentagon here. All right so I'm just loading up the

stamp. It's called charging, I'm just slowly kind of just lightly dabbing it, making sure that there is an even layer of ink. And I'm going to come up here again in the top left hand corner to establish my pattern and I'm just going to stamp pressing lightly, but with kind of firm, even pressure. And overlap this little hexagon. And I'm going to do it again over here. And you don't need to worry about being too precise. It's actually preferable if it's a little bit random. Sometimes I'll move my stamp pad around or my stamp around. And again, I'm going to do a grid shape, echoing the grid that we did with the yellow and the pink. I love how the fine lines printed in black add a nice geometric contrast and overlay to the hand painted more water color like surface below on this design. When I'm using the stamp, I'm also going off the edge of the tank when it comes to the seams just so that that pattern has a really continuous look and it doesn't look as though these stamps were just applied to the top of a tank but more that this is a finished piece made from yardage. I've completed all four layers of my pattern. I'm going to flip this over and repeat all of the steps on the back side of the tank. And then heat set it so it's wearable.

#### **Chapter 4 - Finishing the Silk Garment**

##### Heat setting

- Now that I've painted and printed pattern on both sides of my tank top, I'm gonna heat-set it so it becomes permanent and I can wear it. So this is set to silk. You definitely want to make sure that your iron is on the low silk setting so you don't burn your garment. I have an ironing pad underneath it to protect my table; don't iron directly on your table. You could also use an ironing board for this. And I'm just gonna slowly moving it across the surface of the tank top. When I'm heat setting I don't like to use steam. Irons can have a tendency to spit and they'll drip water onto your finished project, and especially when you're working with silk, even something like water can have a tendency to stain. So once you've covered your entire project with heat and set the inks, I'm gonna flip it over to make sure that I get the back as well. And now that I've heat-set the entire garment, it is ready to wear. I definitely recommend hand-washing or dry-cleaning this; don't throw it in the washer and dryer. I have a variation here. I found this silk T-shirt at a thrift store and decided to paint and stamp on it. I used a little bit more of a neutral color palette. Again this is painting with the brass that we used before for the yellow here, and then also black stamping on top. Right here, I originally thought that I wanted to do a diamond pattern, but then decided I didn't really like it that much and switched to circles. I left it because there wasn't really anything I could do because I had already stamped it, and I actually, I don't think that it has any detriment to the overall piece. I think it looks really nice. If you end up making a mistake or you start with something you don't like, you can always keep going. I definitely encourage you to finish your piece. If I'd stopped right here, I would've ruined something that's really wearable and really really cute. And I also have this piece which is painted on cotton. It's the same technique that I showed you before. It's hand-painted cotton with the stamp overlay, three colors, and then the black. But I wanted to show you that you can also use the Jacquard Dye-Na-Flow on cotton garments as well, not just silk. As you can see, it didn't take very long to create a beautiful painted and printed pattern on a garment. Definitely look around for pieces at thrift stores, in your own closet for inspiration, or shop off the rack. You can create a gorgeous statement piece in just a short amount of time.