

# Tapestry Painting Instructions

## Tree with King's & Queen's Arms

Thank you for volunteering to paint! This packet should contain all the information needed for this project but feel free to contact me (Mistress Eleanor fitzPatrick) at any time with questions or suggestions. I can be reached at 603-318-1898, [trish@joustinghill.org](mailto:trish@joustinghill.org) or on Facebook (Patricia Cross). The artist who converted the originals for this project is Baroness Cassandra Böll von Bayer, to whom I am much indebted.

### Included in this kit:

- 1 pre-hemmed canvas with the design traced on with pencil
- 1 set of brushes
- 2 bottles of Versatex "No Heat" fixative
- 1 medium jar of red paint
- 1 medium jar of blue paint
- 1 medium jar of gold paint
- 1 small jar of yellow paint
- 1 small jar of magenta paint
- 1 extra small jar of purple paint
- 1 medium jar of dark green paint
- 1 small jar of white paint
- 1 tiny jar of brown paint
- 1 large jar of black paint
- 1 tiny jar of green paint
- 1 set of instructions with painting order notes
- 1 full sheet color image
- 1 full sheet line drawing image that may not contain ALL the detail of the color image
- several scraps of canvas for practice/testing

### Instructions:

Below you will see the original Manesse Codex page, the color "cartooned" version modified with East Kingdom features, and the line drawing version. For various reasons, the line drawings do not always contain the full detail of the color cartoon, so always refer to both images. Larger copies of these images will be found at the back of this packet. Please note that the gold leaf in the original has been represented as medium brown in the cartoons. This was done to distinguish between shiny gold and regular old yellow. The yellow background of

the cartoon represents the natural color of the canvas. You will not be painting the background, only the elements.



Feel free to apply some artistic interpretation, but please stay within the color palette provided so that the paintings are a cohesive set.

This paint (Versatex Printing Ink) is a very thick paint, about the consistency of mayonnaise. It does not soak into the fabric much and it seldom bleeds through. It does cover very thoroughly, much more so than a cheap acrylic from the craft store. You'll want to brush it out thinly, not leave it thick or lumpy in any one spot. You won't need a second coat unless you're trying to cover a dark color with a light one.

Versatex CANNOT be allowed to freeze. It's the one big drawback to an otherwise fabulous paint. Do not leave it in out in your car!

All of the paint requires the addition of a fixative. In this kit is a couple of bottles of Versatex "No Heat" Fixative. This is used to make the paint colorfast INSTEAD of ironing or heat-setting it. I've used it on several pavilions, including my own, the Royal pavilion and the EK Gate pavilion at Pennsic. I promise it works if you follow the directions.

To use it, add a small amount (1-3%, or 1/2 - 1 1/2 tsp per 8 oz. of paint) of this fixative to your paint and mix well. It lasts for about 4-6 hours in the wet paint, then you have to add more. In practice what this means is that every time you sit down to paint, you probably need to add fixative. Don't get carried away adding it - you really do only need 1% to 3%. For the tiny jars, that's a few drops. For the medium jars, it's 1/2 tsp.

If you run out of a color, you can either order it from Dharma Trading Company (<http://www.dharmatrading.com/paints/versatex-printing-ink.html>) using the color information in the third column of the chart below or contact me for more. I made my best guess at amounts needed for the tapestry but I'm used to painting large pavilions not small detailed jobs. Do not

substitute another brand of paint without talking to me first - it may not have the same colorfast properties or the same hand or sheen on the fabric.

The Tree uses the following colors:

Tree Color Chart

red	border, flowers, seat trim, bottom arch panel	5 Red
medium blue	man's gown, woman's sleeves, border	24 Ultra Blue
gold (medium brown)	border, clothing trim, K&Q's arms	31 Metallic Gold
yellow	seat, flower centers	11 Ochre
magenta	woman's gown	9 Magenta
purple	K&Q's arms	27 Violet
dark green	border, seat, tree, man's sleeves & undergown	16 Green
white	woman's headdress, woman's gown trim, man's gown trim, paper, seat trim	46 Super Opaque White
brown	hair	14 Brown
black	outlines, man's shoes	28 Black
medium green	wreath on King's arms.	15 Yellow Green

## Painting Order:

The artist suggested the following painting order so that the edges overlap well, but feel free to work in whatever order makes the most sense to you.

First do all the black outlines.

1. paint tree, flowers
2. paint shield
3. paint bench
4. paint clothing
5. paint hair
6. paint headdresses
7. paint border last
8. paint cursed white lines on architecture, red ones too
9. do/redo internal costume black lines

Note that faces/hands are left unpainted, with the canvas color showing through.

For the vast majority of the project you should be able to work in small sections (less than the size of a card table) without ending up with a “dry line” in the paint as you move from one section to the next. The tree might be an exception.

The Queen’s arms on the paper are so small that I did not attempt to trace the actual roses. Feel free to add as much or as little detail to those as you wish.







