

# Tapestry Painting Instructions

## Swords with Order of the Golden Rapier

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 red
  - 1 medium blue
  - 1 gold
  - 1 yellow
  - 1 magenta
  - 1 light blue
  - 1 white
  - 1 brown
  - 1 black
  - 1 medium green
  - 1 sap green
  - 1 dark grey
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- 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.

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 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.

Sword uses the following colors:

Swords Color Chart

Versatex		Rapier
5 Red	red	woman's gown, blue man's hat, gown lining, magenta man's hose
24 Ultra Blue	medium blue	man's gown, OGR, border
31 Met. Gold	gold (medium brown)	crest, sword trim, buckler, border
11 Ochre	yellow	OGR, arches
9 Magenta	magenta	man's gown, woman's gown, arches, blue man's hose
24 Ultra Blue, mixed	light blue	arches
46 Super Opaque White	white	veil, coif, fur on hat, gloves, gown trim, crest balls
14 Brown	brown	hair
28 Black	black	lines, shoes, architecture
15 Yellow Green	medium green	woman's gown, columns, man's gown lining, woman's hat
15 Yellow Green, mixed	sap green	grass
Black/White, Mixed	dark grey	crenelations, helm

## 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. Then paint from the bottom layer upwards, leaving the border for last.

NOTE: all of the leaves in the border of the original are gold. Some of them were accidentally left white in the color cartoon. I think it looks pretty cool either way, so it's up to you.

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.