

Girls Just Want To Have Fun..... On Halloween!
Holly McDonald – for NWDA Sept. 2022

Pumpkins with shoes? Witches playing hide & seek? “Brew tasting” witches? It must be the magic of Halloween!

Project size: 11 x 14

If you choose to do this smaller, you can totally simplify the design, ie: put in fewer trees etc. As far as colors go, use what you have, you don't have to have exact matches to mine. I'll list what the colors are used for in case you choose to alternate.

Palette: Americana (DecoArt)

Purple Cow (Background)
Diox Purple (Background and some detail work)
Payne's Gray (Cottage)
Prussian Blue (Cottage)
Graphite (trees and detail work)
Zinc (trees and detail)
Slate Gray (trees, yard sign)
Burnt Sienna (stairs)
Burnt Umber (stairs and sign on cottage)
Hauser Med. (ground)
Hauser Dark (ground)
Yellow Ochre or Marigold (moon, windows)
Moon Yellow (inside of pumpkin faces)

Royal Fuchsia (Pumpkin 1)
Turquoise Blue (Pumpkin 2)
Jack O'Lantern (Pumpkin 3)
Kelly Green (Pumpkin 4, lettering)
Sunny Day (Pumpkin 5)

Black (some shading and darkening)
White (some lightening)

I also used Glamour Dust paints all around, here and there, just to sparkle it up.

PREP: 1. Base the board with Purple Cow

2. Next take a dollop (dime size?) of each, **BRUSH MIX! NOT** mixed together: Diox and Payne's Gray.

With a large brush, (1" or so) start from the outer corners working in from the edges, leaving a light circle in the center. Adjust the darkness in the corners with your Payne's Gray and the purple. Towards the center it should be straight Diox. (no PG) Focus on the upper half of the piece for this - Darker in the corners and outer edges, working to light. No hard edges. Don't stress as much about the bottom half – it's covered with grass.



Now you can put your pattern on: Outline of the cottage and roof, ground lines, trees, Moon.

Please let me know if you have any questions! (don't sell this to telemarketers.... ☺)

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Painting instructions:

BACKGROUND: (Pic. #1) Base whole board in Purple Cow, good coverage. When dry, with a large brush (1" or so) brush mix some Diox Purple with some Paynes Gray. Starting at the outer corners, slip slap and work your way in towards the center BUT LEAVE A LARGE OVAL of your Purple Cow showing! Object is to darken up the purple a bit and make it more "night sky" looking rather than blaring purple. Adjust the darker edges with the PG, and as you move towards the center you want the mix to be mostly Diox. If your center circle gets too small, just slip slap some Purple Cow back outwards over the dark some.

Put your outlines on for the cottage, trees and ground line. On the line drawing you'll see the trees are of different values – we want the trees in the background to be shadowy – and these are largely freehand, so just make lines where you want trees.

MOON: (Pic. #2) Paint the moon in with Moon Yellow, and with a dry brush we'll create a shadow / halo around the moon. Wipe your drybrush and pick up a little and lighten with Moon Yellow + White on the upper right side, say 11:00 to 3:00. Wipe your brush again and pick up your base color and at tch. Of Burnt Sienna - and dry brush some shading on the left side of the moon, say 5:00 over to 9:00.

TREES: (Pic. #3) I used 3 colors on the trees to try to gain depth and distance. Ok if they're a little streaky, creates "bark."

BACK TREES: (black lines on the line drawing): can be based in Slate Gray. Keep them light – they are not the focal point. As with any plant/tree etc. start at the trunk or base, and pull outward to get nice, thin, wispy branches.

MIDDLE TREES: (blue on the line drawing): painted with Zinc. These are a little closer so darker and more dense. Same technique to paint, starting at the trunk and work outwards.

FRONT TREES: (dark ones on the line drawing): Painted with Graphite, this color has a bit more brown in it and you should see some good distinction from your middle trees.

GROUND: (Pic. #4) Base a loose coat of Hauser Medium Green. Skips and unevens are ok – we're going to stipple over it. Just creating a base.

BACK HILL: When it's dried a bit, stipple Hauser Dark starting at the back of the picture bringing down to the second (middle) ground line.

MIDDLE HILL: As you move down the picture, pick up some Hauser Med with the dark in your brush and stipple in the middle "rise" bringing this down to the top of the first (lowest) ground line.

FRONT HILL: Next pick up some Hauser Med and a tch of Moon Yellow (or whatever yellow you have – or Hauser Light although it's not listed in the color palette)

After you've filled in the front hill, use some of this mix to lighten the tops of your other hills where the moonlight would be hitting.

We'll go back over this many times, lightening/darkening and around the bases of the trees.

WISPY FOG: (Pic. #5) Clean out your stipple brush (or grab another) and thin down a touch of Purple Cow with water. Pick this up in your stencil, ringer, or stipple brush, but rub on your paper towel to get most of the water out. We're going to create some "fog" amongst the trees – doing horizontal lines. I recommend starting at the back or even "test" behind the cottage til you get a look you like. You can do as much or as little as you like.

If your background is too light and your fog doesn't show, try using slate gray instead. If grass is too bright, "fog it up!"

COTTAGE: (Pic. #6)

Base the cottage walls (not the windows) with Zinc. Straight lines are NOT necessary, this is a witch's cottage!

When dry, we'll shade the left and right side of the walls with Prussian Blue. There is a lot of gray in this picture and this helps cut the gray some. When those two sides are dry, you can shade under the roof with same.

Chisel float (again using the brush almost on edge as opposed to flat) with Prussian Blue on the walls of the house – **these go horizontally** and again, shaky, uneven lines are good! This should be a narrow float but nothing as solid as using a liner brush. Don't forget to do the right of the doorway!

ROOF - (Pic. #6)

Base with Graphite – (again, crooked lines are good) saggy roof etc. Chimney is optional.

Roof is now shaded on the left and right sides with Black. I see that is not listed in our palette, but everyone has black and white in their staples, right? ;-)

Chisel float horizontal lines with Black and make "shingles" with some vertical lines, movie-theater-seat style. Or, you may choose to do "scallop" on the roof as in the line drawing.

DOORWAY -(Pic. #6)

Narrowly shade around the outside of door with Prussian Blue (this is with the shade brush held at an angle, not flat out like we do for most shading.) Now do the same kind of float about 1/8" on the inside of the doorway to create the inset of the door and give it depth.

Same chisel float technique for the door but these will go **vertically** using Prussian Blue. Create a round doorknob with Black (thin it if it's too dark against your door)

WINDOWS (Pic #7) are based in with Marigold.

When dry, shade the left side of each window with Burnt Sienna.

Window Frames and panes are Diox Purple,

When dry – put your pattern on and trace the outlines for the sign on the cottage, sign in the yard, witches in window, the stairs, and pumpkin outlines and base as follows:

SIGN ON HOUSE: (Pic #7) Based with Burnt Umber

Shade with BU + tch Black, around the outside of sign, and when dry, under the "lip" of the cauldron lip

Lettering with liner brush and Kelly Green

Outline of cat face Slate Gray or you could do a green snake, or a frog, or bat – your choice!

STAIRS: (Pic #8) Top of stairs, Burnt Sienna, shaded along back edge with BU

Face of stairs and left side of porch- based Burnt Umber + tch. Black – want this dark like they're hollow stairs.

Add creepy eyes to the dark face front of the stairs, like there's something lurking! I used Moon Yellow with Jack o'Lantern eyeballs.

YARD SIGN: Slate Gray shaded with Zinc. Chisel side load some wood grain. Lettering is liner brush and Black.

BUSHES ON SIDE OF PORCH: (Pic #8) You should have gray 'wall' color there but you can add green to it. I just put in black thorny bushes in this area, but you could add some greens to it if you like.

WITCHES IN WINDOW: (Pic #7) These girls are doing some "brew tasting." Cheers! They are silhouettes done with Charcoal. (Go ahead and paint over your purple panes, you can repaint.)

PUMPKINS: (Pic 9) Let's talk pumpkins. Just realized my pumpkin colors didn't translate to the prep sheet. Sorry! You have options - you can do:

- a. Traditional orange pumpkins
- b. 5 different colors like I did
- c. Zentangle your pumpkins, or do faces
- d. Add shoes or leave sitting on the ground
- e. You can add arms if you like

Here's how I did my pumpkins: starting left to right, #1-5 (and if you feel these are too bright, add a pinprick of Black to your base) On my final, I have 4 pumpkins on the ground with the 5th green pumpkin on the hill. The pattern translated a little differently so these instructions are written to that line drawing.

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|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. <u>Royal Fuchsia</u> - shaded with same + tch. Black | Shoes/boots – Burnt Umber |
| 2. <u>Turquoise Blue</u> – Shaded same with a tch. Of Black | Tennies: Sunny Day, soles White |
| 3. <u>Jack-o'Lantern</u> – Shaded with Burnt Umber | Pumps: Purple Cow |
| 4. <u>Kelly Green</u> – shaded with same + tch. Black | Loafers: Royal Fuchsia |
| 5. <u>Sunny Day</u> – Shaded with Jack o'Lantern | Tennies: Periwinkle blue, white soles |

I thought shoes were fun and add to the "magic" of Halloween night!

Faces were done with Moon Yellow, accented with Jack o'Lantern. Outline/detail work done with Burnt Umber.

Detail on the shoes are done with liner and Black.

Create some vines and a couple of leaves with your Hauser Med + tch Moon Yellow.

Finishing - If you want some witches playing hide & seek, (these didn't come over on the line drawing) see **(Pic. #10)** They are silhouettes with washy/thinned Zinc or Black.

You can also add some spooky owls in a tree – create a hole in the trunk and put orange eyes.

Last but not least – glitz this thing up!!! I used Glamour Dust paints in according colors and put it virtually everywhere. I used Black on the dark trees in front, the witches, and the roof of the cottage. I used pink, blue, orange, yellow, green on the pumpkins, I used clear ice on the gray trees and gray sign, I used orange in the moon, and on the stairs and brown sign, and in the windows. There's no "wrong" in this!

Hope you enjoyed these girls having fun, and that you yourself have a magical Halloween!

Pic 1 – background



Pic 2 – Moon and pattern basics (lines for trees)



Pic 3 – with trees and ground based in loosely



Pic 4 – ground with darks/light



Pic 5 – wispy fog (picture shows lighter than real life)



Pic 6 – cottage based and shaded



Pic 7 – Windows (with witches) and sign



Pic 8 – Sign and stairs



Pic 9 – Pumpkins



Pic 10 –Hide & seek witches (these are a darker than in my final for photo purposes. They should be washy shadows)





