

Glass / Ceramic Painting - Risk Assessment

Cuts

Hazards: Breakages during handling; sharp edges; shards during clean-up.

Who's at risk: Participants, host, venue staff.

Controls:

- Use good-quality items; check for chips/cracks before session.
- Brief participants on careful handling; no "clinking" glasses/items.
- If breakage occurs: stop activity in area; host cleans up only.
- Dispose of broken items safely (double-bag; label if needed); do not use venue vacuum unless venue approves (shards can damage vacuums).

Residual risk: Low-Medium.

Slips, Trips and Falls

Hazards: Water spills, paint spills, bags under tables.

Who's at risk: Everyone.

Controls:

- Keep walkways clear; designate bag area.
- Keep water pots stable and away from table edges; use table coverings.
- Clean spills immediately; keep paper towels/wipes accessible.

Residual risk: Low.

Exposure of Paints

Hazards: Acrylics/ceramic paints, glass paints, paint pens.

Who's at risk: Participants and host (especially sensitive individuals).

Controls:

- Use water-based, non-toxic products where possible.
- Ensure good ventilation (open windows/doors where possible).
- Eye contact: have clean water access for rinsing; advise participants not to touch face/eyes.

Residual risk: Low-Medium (depends on products used).

Allergies / Sensitivities

Hazards: Reaction to paint ingredients, glove materials, cleaning products.

Who's at risk: Participants with allergies/asthma/sensitivities.

Controls:

- Avoid strongly fragranced cleaners; use mild, food-safe wipes where possible.
- Keep participants informed of materials being used.

Residual risk: Low-Medium.

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Ingestion Risk

Hazards: Accidental ingestion of paint/chemicals.

Who's at risk: Participants.

Controls:

- No eating while actively painting; keep drinks away from paint area.
- Handwashing/sanitiser available; remind participants to wash hands before eating.
- Keep paint containers closed when not in use; supervise children if present.

Residual risk: Low.

Manual Handling

Hazards: Strains/sprains from lifting stock and equipment.

Who's at risk: Host/instructor primarily.

Controls:

- Use wheeled bags/trolleys where possible; split loads into smaller boxes.
- Use correct lifting technique; ask venue staff for help with heavy items.
- Allow enough setup time to avoid rushing.

Residual risk: Low.

Table Protection

Hazards: Paint staining tables/floors; water damage; paint on soft furnishings.

Who's at risk: Venue (property), host (liability), participants (personal items).

Controls:

- Use table coverings and/or disposable mats; keep wipes handy.
- Set up a controlled "paint station" area; keep lids on paints when not in use.
- Brief participants to keep personal items off the table edges; provide a side table for coats/bags.

Residual risk: Low.

Behavioral Risks

Hazards: Breakages, spills, injuries if participants are careless (especially with glassware).

Who's at risk: Everyone.

Controls:

- Clear start-of-session briefing; host has authority to pause/stop activity.
- If alcohol is present, keep glass items controlled.
- Maintain appropriate supervision ratio for group size.

Residual risk: Medium (depends on group).