

INSTRUCTION SHEET

“EGG BRETAGNE” 6

By Patrick Le Coustumer

Brittany is virtually surrounded by the sea and it's residents, the Breton, are known for their skills in the fishing and shipping industries as well as the travels around the world by such characters as Tabbarly & other round the world sailors.

When thinking about this beautiful province of France, what could be a better way than to find an idea that would represent what is such an important part of the life of its people.

The idea of traveling and discovering better lands is what I have tried to put into this egg as well as making a liaison with the roots of the Bretons.

Another relationship I allude to with this egg is the way the people use the gold, stones, and velvet that are so much part of the traditional costumes from the province.

Lastly this egg was made primarily for my mother, another fanatic of the sea. The overall effect is soft and delicate but very much masculine in its approach. It is the type of egg that is usually very much appreciated by men and women alike.



Materials

481 Stand x 1
Black velvet cloth (possible to find sticky back velvet)
Boat (the one from glass bottles are usually the most practical)
2400 Hinge x 1
AF 27 Filigrees x 2 (cut in half)
4219 Filigree x 2 (need roughly 10 depending on the size of the egg)
4255 Filigree x 2
4295 Filigree x 1
Crystal bid
Rhinestone or Crystal chain 50 cm x black and pearl or black and clear
Picot 1m-x black and gold
Narrow twist gold cord (119) x 1m
Black paint, & Sky blue
Angel dust
Varnish

Usual tacky glue, supper glue, and epoxy glue

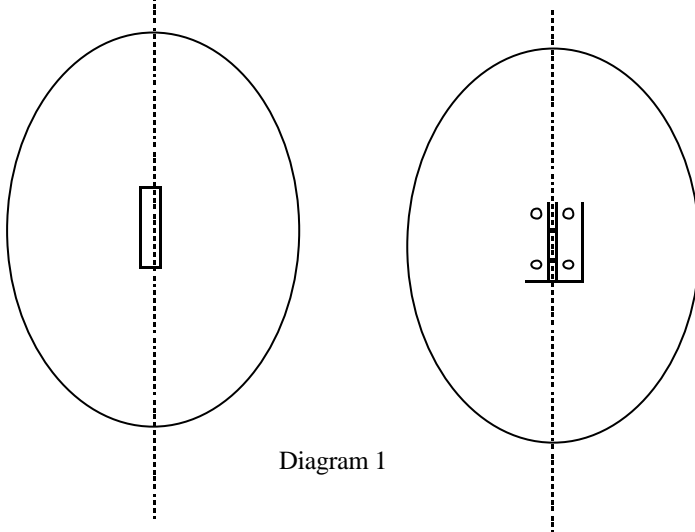
N.B. References are taken from extravaganza (UK) catalogue

How its done

Step 1

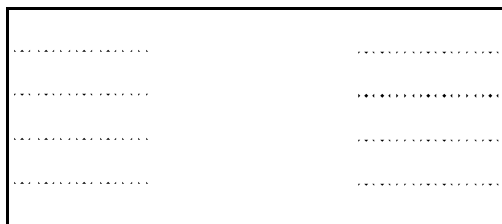
Try to find a goose egg that has a lot of body like a rugby ball, not too elongated or having one end a lot smaller than the other, (aesthetic). Sand it smooth and divided in two as per diagram 1- marking the place for the hinge.

Make the insertion for the hinge then glue it to place on the top half of the egg only. Carry on cutting the rest of the egg as per diagram.

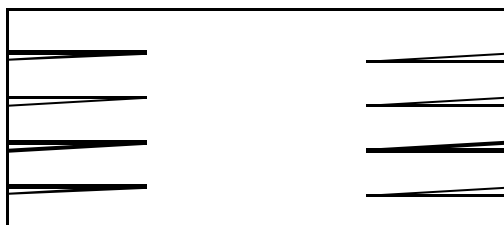


Sand the edges of the two halves

Step 2



Cut two rectangular shapes from the black velvet cloth having dimensions so as to wrap around the egg halves in both directions. Diagram 2 With scalpel, make a fine cross cut on the back sticky plastic to make sure that you will be able to peel the back from the centre of the rectangle.

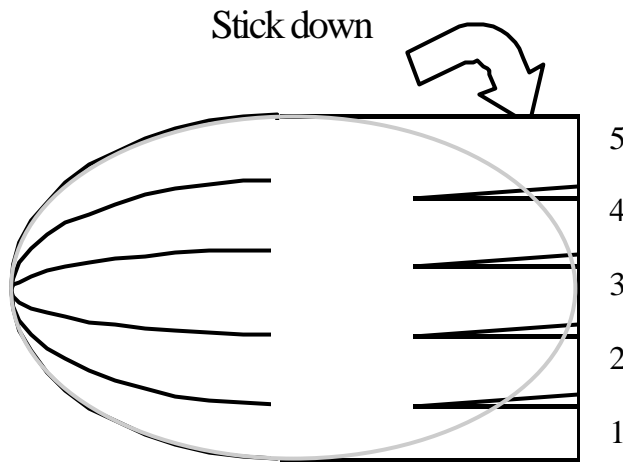


Cut the velvet as shown on diagram 3

It is now time to start fixing the stick-on-velvet on to one half of the egg. (I will suggest that you start with the bottom part because if you make any mistakes, it will be mostly hidden by the stand

Setting the egg flat in front of you, place the

velvet on it. Remove 1st a bit of the centre part, the side then glue the other as from outside to inside as diagram 4



When this done remove & unglue the overlapping parts, trace a line with pencil and then cut with sharp scissors and glue them back on the egg. (The velvet should stretch a bit so you can get the two edges exactly next to each other.

Tip: if there is a slight gap, touch in the gap with black paint.

Diagram 4

Trim the side of surrounding of the egg with a clean sharp scalpel. Do the same for the top part, which has the hinge glued to it. Do as before and cover the hinge with the velvet.

Step3

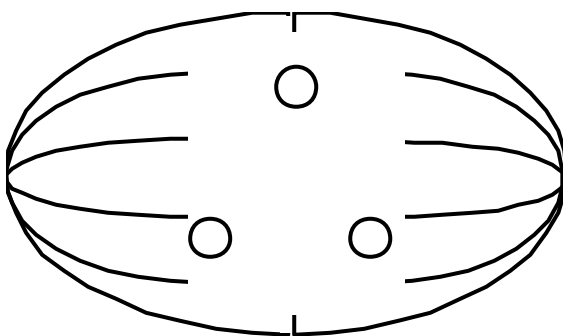


Diagram 5

With the two halves covered with black velvet, in front of you- take the bottom part.

Mark the placement of the stand on the velvet, then with sharp scalpel cut and remove the velvet, (the velvet will dissolve in contact with epoxy glue or super glue, (and as you have done such a nice job so far it will be a shame to spoil it) diagram 5

These removed, use the glue of your choice (I personally prefer super glue for although tricky to work with, it dries so rapidly that there is a definite advantage to make sure that the egg stay nicely flat on the base.

It is now time to tackle the Ship part. If you are using a ship from a bottle- carefully break the glass, remove the ship and clean all glass dust off with a brush. Don't forget to use you safety equipment when doing this!

Some ships will have to be painted and although it could be a challenge to some, it also gives a real personal touch to the creation.

Next, try to place the ship inside the egg. Part of the imitation sea might have to be removed. This can easily be done using a drill or scalpel.

When it does fit nicely, using epoxy or super glue, glue the boat scenery into place. (You might found that gaps have not been filled with all the scenery, So, using your imagination, a bit of stone, or "paper mache" you can create a rock or a bit of land.

Finally give a light coat of varnish to seal all the part of the scenery. Take care not to get glue and varnish on the velvet.

Leave it a side for the moment; we will come back to it later.

Take the top part:

(The skin or membrane can be removed if loose, Then paint the inner surface with sky blue paint. When dry, finely paint some tacky glue and sprinkle some angel dust on it. Fix the little filigrees. (three should be enough)

Alternatively, try your painting skill and create a sky scene in oil paint or acrylic

This is very effective and makes it even more personal.

Give a light coat of varnish to seal it all.

Now it's time to fix the top part to the base. Unglue a bit of the velvet and glue the hinge in the right place using super strong glue. (Do not use too much as the glue may melt the velvet)



That done, stick the velvet previously unglued back into place.

Obviously, we cannot shut the egg, and it could be disastrous to leave the top loose, so using a bit of super glue, stabilise the hinge to the appropriate position.

All you nee to do now is to glue the cords, the rhinestones, the filigrees etc.

Job done

It should look something like the one on the left.

This type of design could also been done in rhea, ostrich or emus eggs. If you have any queries email me Patrick@onehope.com