

THE LAB



Record Experiments

Keeping a journal or a collection of sample boards from your experiments will eventually become your personal treasure trove. Always record your results in writing along with your samples. Note both positive and negative results from your experiment. Even negative results can be very useful. Just as a positive result will tell you what will work for a given application does not necessarily mean that it will work for another. The same is true for a negative result. Both types of results can come in handy when you need to reference a topic. Your journal and sample boards can come in handy when suffering from a case of artist block too. They are a great source to depend on when seeking even a little inspiration. Too many creative ideas and useful information has slipped away only because there was nothing there to remind us of what was once envisioned. The creative spirit tends to fly in a hundred different directions at any given time. What the artist has forgotten is lost forever.



Safety Comes First

Always read the manufacturer's instructions and take safety warnings seriously. Some rules are made to be broken, but not when it comes to our safety. The ability to manipulate mediums is one of the things that we artists do best. Get to know your materials and supplies. Think wisely, use caution and common sense, and listen to your instincts. You were blessed with them for a reason. When in doubt or when not familiar with any materials or supplies you are using then seek more information and contact the manufacturer for further details if necessary. You may learn something that may lead to new discoveries.

Have proper ventilation available, wear a mask, safety glasses, and gloves if suggested by a manufacturer or whenever experimenting with the unknown. Remember to listen when your instincts are calling you out on something. Children and pets should never be close to your working area whenever safety is even the smallest issue.

Wishing you a day full of inspiration and creative visions!

C J