

ESTHERS MINIATURES



PAINT YOUR TIFFANY SCONCES

Designer

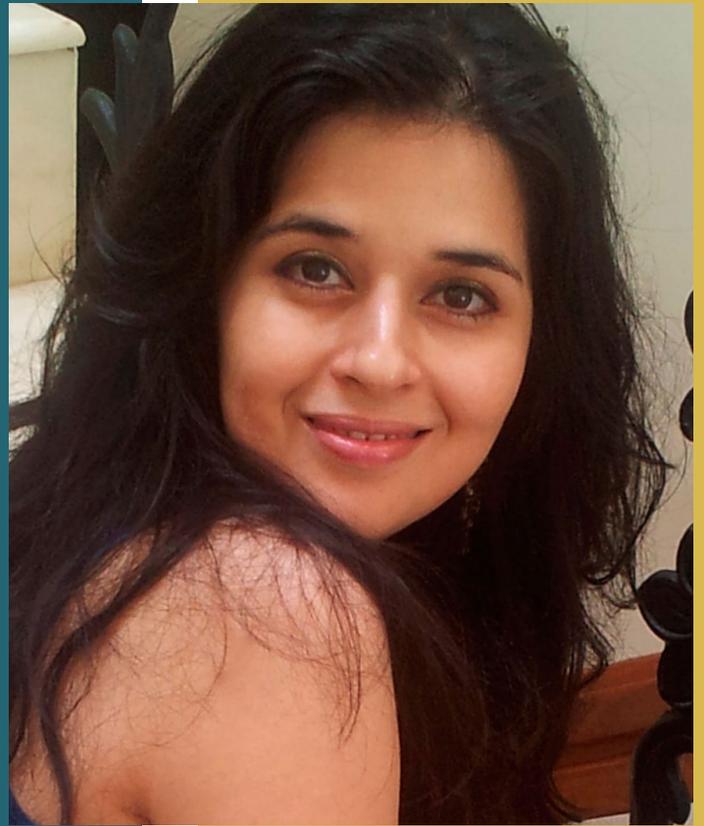
TIFFANY LAMPS HAVE FASCINATED ME FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER. THESE GORGEOUS COLORFUL LAMPS ARE ARTISTIC MARVELS AND I HAVE ALWAYS LONGED TO DUPLICATE THESE IN MINIATURE.

I've always been a creative person. Even though I spent several years as a Marine Lawyer, there was always an artist in there, waiting to get out. I've been recognized for my dollhouse miniatures and sculptures, and also dabbled in "Second Life" as a graphic artist.

When I discovered the joys of 3D printing, I tried to find a way to adapt this fascinating process to my workflow. An endless realm of possibilities opened up. I found I could use my knowledge of technology and the digital world to sculpt and model creations which could later be printed and brought into the real world. I am happy to now offer you 3D printed kits of my designs that you can paint, wire and use to decorate your dollhouses.

In these pages, I've put together tips on how you can paint and wire your Tiffany lamps. Feel free to experiment with color and a variety of finishes to make your own unique miniatures.

I wish you good luck and an abundance of creativity!



Esther Marker
designer **MAGIC MINIATURES**

Magic Miniatures (now Esthers Miniatures) is my personal brand and has been around since 2002. I make all sorts of miniatures for dollhouses. I've made Venetian masks, religious icons, furniture, dolls and more. Tiffany lamps are the recent addition to my store.

I got my IGMA Artisan Status in the category 3D Printing - Lighting in September 2021.

Kit Contents



Your kit will comprise of a pair of Tiffany style wall sconces. The sconces have built in lamp wiring channels to make it easy to wire and illuminate.

My designs are evolving and I am constantly looking for new ideas and styles whilst improving on my previous ones. I will be making these available to the community and I am always open to your ideas, suggestions and expertise on how we can make these even better.

Lamp Painting

I will be thoroughly cleaning, curing and removing supports from your kit. I will also be buffing the inside of the shade with a polishing compound to remove any scratches. In case I have missed something, you may need to go over the area with some fine sandpaper. A few sweeps should sort out any minor issues that remain.

Your sconces have raised areas that simulate Tiffany “leading” incorporated into the design. These should be colored black, pewter or even a metallic color if you like. After driving myself absolutely crazy trying to figure out a way to do this without spoiling the recessed areas, I discovered the BEST solution is to use a permanent marker. These come in different styles with different tip sizes and shapes. You may need to experiment with your sconce shades to find out which one works best for you. This would depend on how you hold the shade, the angle of your marker and how you tend to write in general. So there is no one size fits all here. Just get a marker that can do that job. Some of you would prefer a marker with a thin tip, others may prefer a chisel tip and still others may prefer a large broad tip. I am amongst those that prefers to work with a larger broad tip. I have recently discovered Sakrua’s Pentouch Calligraphy markers in size 1.8mm. These are fabulous and the black is metallic and dark. They have an awesome gold too.

You would also need quality glass paints. I use the ones by the French company Pebeo, but any good quality brand would do. Some of you may prefer to work with water based colors and others may prefer solvent based colors. Just make sure you do not get anything that requires heat to set as the resin will not fare well when heated to the high temperatures required to cure some paints.



NOTE: If you mess up whilst using the marker and smudge an area you shouldn't, you can take a cotton swab dipped in a little isopropyl alcohol to remove it. It may create some further frosting on the shade but this will not be noticeable after painting. Washing it immediately under running water will minimize this frosting as well. You may need to do this a few times to get rid of the smudge completely.

After outlining, I recommend priming the back, bulb holder and other parts of the sconce that will have a metallic finish. After priming, you can paint these parts in metallic acrylic paint or metallic wax. I am partial to the Badger series of primers. I use their Stynlrez primer in "Ebony" for all my lamps. It's a beautiful warm brown that lends itself well to a final finishing in metallic paint or wax. Once primed, you can enhance the back and bulb holder with metallic paint, wax or gilding to simulate aged metal. There are a variety of products out there you can experiment with, including those that could give you a natural patina on your bases. The metallic paint/wax is fairly fast drying. After it is dry, you can start painting the recesses with Pebeo Vitrail or other suitable glass paint.

Optional: The shade is not fully transparent as due to the sanding and buffing, it tends to be more translucent. To bring back the transparency of the shade, I use a product called ProtectaClear. It is a transparent air drying coating suitable for protecting metal from tarnish. Additionally it can smooth over scratches, sanding marks and scuffs, bringing back the transparency of your shades. Everbrite Coatings makes it. I use it on the underside of the shade only. This is the part that is most effected by support removal, sanding and tends to look not quite as nice. The ProtectaClear smooths over these parts and improves the finish considerably. I use it after my shade is painted. If you want a fully transparent effect, you would need to use ProtectaClear before starting to paint. Wait for it to dry thoroughly before you begin and test compatibility between your paint and the ProtectaClear before using it over the entire shade. If you don't have access to protecta clear, any clear coating should work or you can dispense with this step altogether.



Wiring your Lamp

The lamps are designed to be fully compatible with the “grain of rice” CK-1010 bulbs from Cir-Kit. That said, any suitable small bulb or LED that fits within the space of the lamp harp and does not burn too hot will work. The lamp is wired by inserting the bulb into the bulb holder and out from the back as shown. The bulb should seat itself inside the holder. The wire exiting from the back can be trimmed and inserted into your wall outlet.



Conclusion



I hope this tutorial was helpful and you enjoy this fabulous new hobby. I wish you many hours of creative pleasure. I will continue to add more lamp and other designs to my [Etsy page](#), so keep checking back for more.

Please consider joining my group on [Facebook](#) and following me on [Instagram](#) as I announce all new updates to my Etsy store there as well. My Facebook group is a community of artists that have purchased my finished pieces and kits and you can find inspiration, videos and tips in the group. I will be sharing my works in progress, new products used and discovered and much more to enhance your lamp making experience. You are welcome to add your finished lamp photos to the group as well to inspire others.

Thank you and have a fabulous day!