

Congratulations on your purchase of Glow in the Dark Paint. A fantastic acrylic paint that goes on off white and glows in either green, blue, aqua, white, orange, yellow or red.

Please read the following to get the very best from your Glow in the Dark Paint...

A quick word about glow in the dark...

Glow in the dark pigment or paint is not a light bulb and will not behave in the same way; please do not expect glow in the dark paints or powders to be as bright as LED's a torch or a light bulb. Glow in the dark is a pigment and therefore does not have this ability.

Once well charged, glow in the dark pigment and paints will glow at their brightest for around five to twenty minutes depending upon the colour; green and aqua typically glow brightest.

After this initial bright period, the pigment will settle down to a duller glow that can last for several hours again depending upon the colour.

When functioning at this level, the glow can only be seen in total darkness, any ambient light such as streetlights, vehicle lights, external house lights or even strong moonlight will detract from the glow.

How to achieve a bright glow...

Glow in the dark products require a charge from light before they will glow. Sunlight and UV blacklight work best. Other strong light sources will also work, but take longer to charge.

Glow in the dark products are best viewed in very dark conditions, totally in the dark works best to see the glow.

Ambient light will very much reduce the effect of the glow. For best effects glow in the dark paint should be painted onto a white background. Try The Glow Company's 30ml base paint as an undercoat. Always ensure that paint is well mixed before application. More than one layer of paint works best.

Brightness and charging information...

The strength, brightness and length of the time of the glow is determined by two aspects:

1. Light source for charging (IMPORTANT)
2. Colour selection

1. Light Source for Charging (VERY IMPORTANT)

To achieve a good brightness in the shortest timescale (approximately one minute)

- Direct sunlight (*pure and not through a glass window or reflected*)
- Blacklight tube (*long traditional tube or new energy saving ultraviolet type*)
- UV LED's
- Cold cathode UV tubes

To achieve reasonable results after a long charge time (*10-20 minutes*)

- Fluorescent bulbs (*long standard common tubes*)
- Compact fluorescent or CFL – spiral, tube (*common power saving bulbs*)

Takes a very long time to charge with poor results: not recommended

- Incandescent standard light bulb (*not the power saving kind*)
- Blue/purple LED's (*not ultraviolet specific ones*)
- White or coloured LED's

Very good results can be achieved with UV blacklight low energy bulbs that plug into a standard light fitting. These are available from www.glow.co.uk

2. Colour Selection

The colour of the glow affects the brightness and length of the glow that you see. The colours are listed in order of brightness and length of glow below...

Green (*considerably brighter than other colours*), **Aqua, Yellow, Orange, Blue, White** and **Red**.

All colours have a well defined colour and work effectively. Each colour can be seen in total darkness when charged and the viewer's eyes and brain are accustomed to the level of light.

Your glow in the dark paint will show at its brightest for up to twenty minutes once charged in the best possible light depending upon the colour, and will gradually fade to a duller brightness for hours. Once the first stage of initial brightness has been completed, the glow will be evident in a totally darkened room.

Ambient Light

Any ambient light in the room including streetlight, outdoor house lights and even strong moonlight will hugely interfere with the human eye's perception of glow.

When the human eye moves from a light room into a dark room, the glow will not appear as bright as if you had moved from a dimly lit room into a darkened room, this is because the brain takes a moment to adjust to the difference.

It's advised to use blacklight bulbs as no major light change is experienced by the eye between the light being turned on and off again.

Pigment Particles

Some pigment particles and background dots can be seen when your paint is glowing in the dark.

This is because the glow in the dark pigment particles remain as particles or crystals in the paint and do not dye the carrier liquid or paint. The glow in the dark pigment particles do not dissolve in the paint.

Bright white backgrounds are less likely to show the dotted appearance that can occur as a result of the pigment particles and so try a coat of The Glow Company's white base paint first in your desired area to help disguise the speckled effect.

The white background will also reflect the glow which improves the overall performance of the glow in the dark paint.

Apply multiple layers of the glow in the dark paint to help fill in the pigment particle gaps.

Try to avoid using glow in the dark paint on dark backgrounds as poor results will occur.

Acrylic Paint

Your glow in the dark paint is an acrylic paint containing coloured glow in the dark pigment. Acrylic paint...

- A popular craft paint with a water based medium
- Low odour and non yellowing. Quick drying
- Provides a smooth and hard wearing coating
- Paint is naturally milky white but will dry clear
- Can be thinned with up to 10% water to make it flow easily. You may require extra coats.
- Clean brushes in warm soapy water immediately after use.
- Avoid contact with the skin and eyes
- In case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice
- After contact with skin, wash immediately with plenty of soapy water or recognised skin cleaner
- Low VOC content (*Volatile Organic Compound*)

And finally...

- To see glow you must charge it with light first
- Sunlight and UV blacklight work best. Other strong light will work, but will take longer to charge.
- Glow in the dark pigments and paints are at their very best when viewed in absolute darkness.
- Ambient light will very much reduce the glow in the dark effect.
- Glow in the dark paint should be painted over a white background such as The Glow Company's White Base Paint for the brightest glow.
- Always ensure that paint is mixed well before application.
- Apply more than one coat for best effects.